56a-1945

Negro Aviators

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh Pennsylvania

Now that the country is at peace and the reorganization of the Armed Forces is in process, Negroes note with considerable apprehension that the Army is planning to move all Negro aviators and enlisted Air Force personnel to the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

It is reported that President F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee is pressing this change upon the War Department, although the Negro Newspaper Publishers have recently passed a resolution condemning the proposed change.

9-29-45

If these reports are true and the Army plans to concentrate the Negroes in the Air Force at Tuskegee, it would indicate that the Army has either learned nothing from the recent war for democracy, or that it is determined to perpetuate the system of segregation which gnaws at the very vitals of democracy and tends to hamper that sense of unity so necessary in this country if it is to retain its position as the leading nation on earth.

The bulk of our white people are not demanding any such step and have never demanded it, while the Negroes are unalterably opposed to any such perpetuation of the jim-crow military system.

The Negro aviators are one hundred per cent opposed to the proposed change, especially those who are not stationed at Tuskegee, and we feel that they have earned the right to protest.

During the war, both the Army and Navy top officials contended that they could not establish mixed units because they were engaged in fighting a war and not in solving the race problem; but now the war is over, they can go a long way towards solving the race problem in the Armed Forces without any delay if they are sincere about wanting to establish a sense of national homogeneity.

The Negroes in the Air Forces should be distributed throughout the Air Force just like other Americans.

All separate Negro units should be disbanded forthwith and their personnel transferred to so-called white units, or whites placed in the "Negro" units, both officers and enlisted men.

If the Brazilians can do this, then the North Americans can also do it.

There is no real opposition to it except from top officials and a few professional Nordics.

In order to retain its position as the greatest world power the United States is now dependent upon all of the peoples of the Western Hemisphere. Doing away with the color line in the Armed Forces would be more effective than any other measure in reassuring colored Americans on both continents of the Western World that the United States is sincere in its profession of full equality and opportunity for all.

AIR CORPS TO KEEP 3 SQUADRONS IN SERVICE

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

9-29-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Army Air Forces will retain separate Negro combat units in the post-war army, the War Department announces this week. The number of such units will be reduced in the same proportion as whites. The present proposal, set forth by the Air Force and approved by the War Department, waits only for the final decision by Congress as to the strength of the Army and the size of the air forces.

This announcement is in sharp contrast with recent forecasts that mixed air units were being considered by the War Department, following the close of the Tuskegee contract for the preliminary training of Negro pilots.

TWO COMBAT UNITS

A strict mathematical reduction of the Negro units in proportion to the whites would mean that there would be more than one and less than two Negro squadrons. To implement this the Army Air Force recommends that there should be kept a Negro Group Headquarters, one Fighter Squadron, one Bomber Squadron, and one Air Service Squadron.

The present Negro units in the Air Force include the 332nd Fighter Group, which recently received a Presidential Citation for its work in the Mediterranean theatre, and which, originally composed of four squadrons, now has only two; the 477th Composite Group, composed of one fighter squadron, the re-organized famed Ninety-ninth, and two bomber squadrons. Both groups have their attendant headquarters and service units. There is also a replacement squadron—the 553rd, at Walterboro, S. C.—and the units in training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

ARMY WILL CLOSE TUSKEGEE PROGRAM

The entrance of Negroes into the

Aviators

Army Air Force occurred as a result of pressure by various Negro groups, particularly the Negro press, in 1940, which brought about the opening of the civilian aeronautics program and training at Tuskegee. In 1942 the Ninety-ninth Fighter Squadron was activated, which marked the actual entrance of Negroes into the Army Air Forces.

The closing of the Tuskegee contract for primary training has resulted in dangerous overloading of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, which must now conduct all four phases of training—basic, advanced, tactical and liaison — at one field, contrary to Army policy. It was this fact that led to speculation that the Army would end its segregated policy in order to permit the training of Negro pilots at the various air fields throughout the Nation.

John H. Young, in an article in last week's Courier, pointed out, however, that "narrow-minded and impractical officers of the air staff are advancing the theory that no cost in safety, efficiency and money is too high to pay for the maintenance of segregation." It is this group that has apparently won out.

REDUCTIONS MUST AWAIT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

Attendant upon the announcement that the Army's intention of retaining its segregated policy are rumors that the 477th Composite Group will be moved from Godman Field, Ky., to Selfridge Field in Michigan. Basis of this rumor is the overcrowding at the Tuskegee Field which will force the Army to use Godman as a training field.

The extent of reductions of personnel in the existing units will be influenced by the availability of trained men desiring to remain in the Air Force. The last notable reduction was the deactivation of the 302nd Fighter Squadron which produced such heroes as Capt. Luke Weathers and Major Edward Gleed during the midst of the Italian campaign.

The reason given for the reduction at that time was that the table of organization for the 332nd Group called for three squadrons instead of the four it had.

Connected with the full story of the Negro in the Air Force is the name of Col. B. O. Davis Jr., who commanded the Ninety-ninth at its activation and took it overseas, went on to head the 332nd Fighter Group and now commands the 477th Composite Group and Godman Field.

Negro Air Force Cut To One Unit

The Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

Combine 99th, 477th; 332nd Eliminated

9-29-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Army Air Force has recommended that Negro combat units be reduced to a single composite group to be composed of one fighter and one bomber squadron.

Dr. Patterson

As reported exclusively by the Defender, two weeks ago, the 332nd Fighter Group will go by the board. The 99th Pursuit and the 477th Bomber Squadrons will make up the new group. The group designation will probably continue as the 477th Composite Group.

The future base location for the unit has not yet been determined. It is understood that Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, is exerting tremendous pressure to have it installed at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. However, equally strong pressure is coming from the men presently attached to these squadrons who do not want to go to Tuskegee. It is known that racial tensions in Macon County, in which Tuskegee is located, are high.

Negro Nurse Beaten

A year ago when a Defender representative visited the installation it was learned that the town of Tuskegee approximately twelve miles from the base, and Montgomery some 52 miles away, had been temporarily declared out of bounds for the men. Being barred from these towns imposed a decided restriction.

One Negro nurse had just prior to that time been severely beaten by a bus driver in Montgomery and more than one other serious incident had occurred in the same town in which Negro service men were involved.

This much is known, when the group is designated it will not operate from Godman Field in Kentucky.

Army Air Forces has further recommended that existing Negro Combat personnel be retained at Group Headquarters, and that a supporting Air Service Squadron be maintained. The establishment of Group Headquarters will make possible the retention of overhead Negro executive personnel in high rank. Without this provision, there would be an elimination of high ranking Negro Army Air Force officers, since the squadron could be officered by men of less rank and still conform with AAF regulations.

Congress To Act

The maintenance of an Air Service Squadron will provide for Negro repairmen and mechanics continuing in the service.

The extent of the reduction of the personnel in these units, according to AAF, will be influenced by the availability of trained men desiring to remain in the Army Air Force.

The whole program as recommended has not been finally acted on. In the last analysis the ultimate decision must await the determination as to the strength of the Army and the size of the Air Forces. This determination will be made after Congress has acted.

25h-1945

Tuskegee Prexy Drops Bid For Jim-Crow Base

The Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois
10-6-45

Shuns Segregation Plan Of Air Corps After NAACP Blast

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—In a telegram to Gen. George C. Marshall this week, F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute, withdrew his previous suggestion that a proposed jim-crow U. S. Air Corps "composite group" of Negro peacetime fliers be based at Tuskegee Army Air field.

F. D. Patterson

The Patterson wire came after a steady barrage of criticism had been leveled at him by the National Association for Advancement of Colored People and other outstanding Negro and liberal white groups for suggesting that the War Department's jim-crow plan be co-operated with "until such time as the army develops a policy of integration."

In his message to Gen. Marshall, the Tuskegee president stated that he did not believe that it would be to the best interests of the Negro in the Army Air Forces to station such a group in the Alabama community if the personnel of said group was displeased with the location. Negro airmen to be included in the setup had previously protested when they learned that they might be assigned to the Tuskegee base.

The Tuskegee Air Base is located in the heart of one of the most prejudiced areas of the south. Macon county, Ala. From the time of its inception, the whole project has met almost continued opposition from numerous Negro groups. Stemming mainly from an averseness to a segregated facility in the first place, the opposition was further heightened by the fact that Negro airmen from all over the United States were subjected to gross indignations which many believed was taking unfair advantage of their initial opportunity in the Army Air Forces.

Foolhardy Bias Hit

With the war ended, there is widespread opinion that it would be foolhardy for the War department to continue in peacetime the mistake it made during the war. Moreover, it is felt that Negro airmen should not be compelled again to face the indignities which they bore as a war sacrifice.

The Army Air Force has recommended for the peacetime Army a single Negro composite group comprised of 1 fighter squadron, 1 bomber squadron, a service squadron, and a group headquarters. With a comparable reduction in the entire Air Force a large number of A-1 fields will be maintained where it is advocated that Negro airmen should be installed on a completely non-segregated basis. Aside from this fact, the Tuskegee field is reportedly in bad condition. According to reports, only this past week one of the runways was completely submerged.

While it is known that the 447th Composite Group presently stationed at Godman Field, Ky., must vacate shortly, many feel that there is no justification for any support that these men should be moved to Tuskegee.

Lashing out against the Tuskegee proposal, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People told Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson: "We are unalterably opposed to segregation in the postwar Air Force or Army. The United States has an excellent example of successful integration in the experience of the 332nd Fighter Group, and particularly of the 99th Pursuit Squadron in North Africa and Italy which served without friction or difficulty with white fighters, many of them from the deep south.

(2) The racial atmosphere of Alabama is such that no self-respecting Negro member of the Air Force could serve there without the risk of clashes with the dominant community pattern of anti-Negroism. In the reduction of the Air Force there will be many excellent fields far better equipped and suited for bomber and fighter training than is the field at Tuskegee, which fields are located in areas where Negro fliers would not be subjected to constant humiliation. Tuskegee Field does not at present have adequate housing and other facilities for officers and enlisted personnel. We realize that such facilities can be created by the expenditure of considerable money. But fields already created could be used and thus avoid uneconomical spending of money for the erection of additional facilities at Tuskegee."

"Composite" Called Alibi

Hitting at the Army Air Force proposal to dump all Negro squadrons into a composite group, White declared: "We understand that the proposed establishment of a composite group for the training of Negro fighters and bombers applies only to Negroes, being a device to combine the two merely to segregate Negroes in one group."

The subject of reactionary policies and discriminating practices of the Army Air Forces precipitated the resignation of Judge William H. Hastie as civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Expressing himself on the collaboration which Tuskegee institute gave to the establishment of the jim crow army air field in the first place, Hastie had this to say: "When we find Tuskegee institute working hand in glove with the Army Air Command to establish, intrench, and extend a jim crow air training program at Tuskegee, such conduct should be exposed and condemned. It is an object lesson of selfish and shortsighted scheming for immediate personal advantage with cynical disregard for the larger interests of the Negro and the nation."

10-6-45

Hastie said that early in the history of the Tuskegee project a Negro sentry guarding a warehouse was disarmed and arrested by civilian authorities because he had challenged a white civilian. Because the commanding officer opposed such outrageous interference, he was removed. His successor, catering to local prejudices, disarmed Negro military policemen assigned to patrol duty in the town of Tuskegee. When a Defender representative visited the installation a year ago MPs were still prohibited from carrying arms, although it meant that often their own lives were endangered.

When one of the Negro nurses from the air base was badly beaten by a policeman in Montgomery, Ala., because she insisted upon riding a bus when there were enough white passengers waiting to fill the entire vehicle, "the only concern of the post commander was to keep the incident quiet," Hastie said.

Hospital Also Jim Crow

With the recent voting case filed on behalf of William P. Mitchell against the local registrars of Macon county, in which Judge "Speed" Callaghan who presided in the Scottsboro trials is serving as counsel for the registrars, those close to the heart of the problem feel that even the personal safety of Negro airmen would be jeopardized by their retention at Tuskegee.

Nor has Dr. Patterson confined himself to recommending the retention of the segregated Tuskegee air field. It is known that the Tuskegee prexy is supporting the construction of a jim crow 300-bed veterans hospital at Hobson City, an all Negro community adjacent to Anniston, Ala.

Proposed by the local chamber of commerce, the project has the support of Harry M. Ayers, editor of the Anniston Star.

When a similar proposal was made for an all-Negro veterans hospital by two Mississippi congressmen to be located at Mound Bayou, Miss., the Negro citizenry expressed themselves as unequivocally opposed to such a segregated facility in Mississippi or elsewhere throughout the United States.

NAACP Lays Down 3 Point Opposition To Secretary Of War

New Orleans, Louisiana
10-6-45
Louisiana Weekly

New York, Oct. 3.—Unqualified opposition to the proposed Army Air Force plan to establish a "composite group" of Negro bombers and fighters as a segregated unit at the Tuskegee Air Field was voiced today to Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, by the NAACP.

The Association's stand is based upon three points, Walter White, secretary, informed the Secretary of War.

"(1) We are unalterably opposed to segregation in the postwar Air Force or Army. The United States has an excellent example of successful integration in the experience of the 332nd Fighter Group, and particularly of the 99th Pursuit Squadron in North Africa and Italy which served without friction or difficulty with white fighters, many of them from the Deep South.

"(2) The racial atmosphere of Alabama is such that no self-respecting Negro member of the Air Force could serve there without the risk of clashes with the dominant community pattern of anti-Negroism. In the reduction of the Air Force there will be many excellent fields far better equipped and suited for bomber and fighter training than is the field at Tuskegee, which fields are located in areas where Negro fliers would not be subjected to constant humiliation. Tuskegee Field does not at present have adequate facilities for training command or tactical units. Nor does it have adequate housing and other facilities for officers and enlisted personnel. We realize that such facilities can be created by the expenditure of considerable money. But fields already created could be used and thus avoid uneconomical spending of money for the erection of additional facilities at Tuskegee.

"(3) We understand that the proposed establishment of a composite group for the training of Negro fighters and bombers applies only to Negroes, being a device to combine all training of Negro fliers in one place. White fighter units will be assigned to one field and white bomber units to another under different commands. We do not believe that the same excellence and efficiency can be attained by attempting to combine the two merely to segregate Negroes in one composite group."

56a-1945

Bombardiers

New Yorkers Graduate As Bombardiers At Midway Army Air Field

1-27-45

N.Y.

New York Amsterdam News

CARL O. ROACH

LE ROY H. FREEMAN

CHAS. E. JONES

CYRIL DYER

HERBERT C. THORPE

HARRY R. DICKENSON

ALTON A. BURTON

VICTOR L. RANSOM

MIDLAND ARMY AIR FIELD, Midland, Texas.—Another class of Negro Aircrew members on December 30th finished the toughest eighteen weeks prescribed by the Army Air Forces Training Command. At this key bombardier school they received their commissions as second lieutenants and appointments as flight officers from Colonel J. W. White, commanding officer. Among the new officers were several New Yorkers. New York men who were graduated as bombardiers from Midland Army Air Field were from these cities: BRONX—First Lt. Carl O. Roach, son of Mrs. Blanche Roach of 796 E. 163rd St. He attended the City College of New York. LeRoy H. Freeman, son of Mr. LeRoy Freeman of 1041 E. 217th St. Harry R. Dickenson, son of Mrs. Rose Dickenson of 1003 Tinton Ave. (Flight Officer). BROOKLYN—Thomas D. Harris Jr., son of Mrs. Leila B. Harris of 597 Halsey St. (Flight Officer). Alvin B. Steele Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin B. Steele Sr., of 251 Stuyvesant Ave. He attended Hampton Institute at Hampton, Virginia. (Flight Officer). Herbert C. Thorpe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Denzil Thorpe of 47 Chester. NEW YORK CITY—Charles E. Jones, son of Mr. Percival N. Jones of 192 Martine Ave. and Mrs. Alma P. Jones of 504 Linn Ave. He attended the City College of New York. (Flight Officer). Cyril Dyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter F. Dyer of 557 W. 144 St. Victor L. Ransom, son of Mr. and Mrs. Llewellyn Ransom of 442 W. 160. He attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Cambridge, Mass. Alton A. Burton, son of Mr. Alfred M. Burton of 101 W. 143rd St. and Mrs. Mary Burton of 72 Macon St. Sayville, L. I., N. Y.

1-27-45

Already skilled as aerial gunners, the graduates are real triple-threat members of the deadly aerial combat teams. In their study and practice of dead-reckoning navigation they have learned its application to the problem of bombing enemy targets and how it can aid in making evasive action more effective. They have become as familiar with aerial reconnaissance photographs of enemy installations as with the road map of Texas. They have learned camouflage and how to detect it; they have studied the weak points of enemy ships; they have learned to identify enemy aircraft. They are bombardment experts. . . . Now these young bombardier-navigators are ready for the final phase of their combat training in which they will take their places as key men in the aerial combat teams of the Army Air Forces.

Bomber Group Removed After Release Of Arrested Air Officers

Savannah Tribune - Ga.

THREE OFFICERS STILL UNDER CONFINEMENT

Savannah, Ga.

Men Had Refused To Sign Statement

NAACP Investigating The Case

5-3-45

CINCINNATI, Ohio — Tewenty- four hours after 101 Negro flying officers were ordered released from confinement at Godman Field, Kentuck, the 477th Bombardment group, a Negro medium bomber outfit, had been ordered away from Freeman Field at Seymour, Indiana, it was announced this week by Theodore M. Berry of the Cincinnati NAACP. The destination of the bombardment group is unknown. The order took effect at noon April 26.

5-3-45

The release of the 101 officers who were being held because they refused to sign a statement segregating them in a jim crow officers' club house after protests had flooded the war department, including a wire from Congresswoman Helen G. Douglas of California Representative Douglas wired Secretary Stimson urging immediate release of the men.

The mass release leaves only three men still under arrest, Lieutenants Shirley B Clinton, Roger C. Terry and Marsden A. Thomason. The NAACP, thru its Washington bureau, its Cincinnati and Indianapolis branches and its national headquarters in New York, is pressing for the release of the three men and indicated that if they are brought to trial legal counsel will be supplied by the association. Judge William H. Hastie will be chief counsel for the men and Theodore Berry of the Cincinnati NAACP will be associate counsel.

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

7 Killed In Bomber Crash In Alabama

The Chicago Defender
Chicago - ILL

GUNTER FIELD, Ala. — Two Chicago pilots were among seven Negro fliers killed Tuesday night when their B-25 training bomber crashed 3½ miles east of this field while on a routine flight from Godman Field, Ky.

The dead were:

Flight Officer Charles E. Wilson, 1214 W. 52nd street, Chicago.

Flight Officer Edward Glover, 5843 S. State street, Chicago.

Flight Officer Raymond F. Noches, Junction City, Kansas.

Flight Officer Denny C. Jefferson, North Little Rock, Ark.

Cpl. Henry H. Valentine, 323 Walnut street, Rockford, Ill.

Cpl. Luther A. Cox, Detroit, Mich.

Pvt. James H. Ewing, Springfield, Ohio. 6-16-45

Sole survivor of the crash was Cpl. Selvin J. Wilson, whose home city was not immediately available. He is in serious condition at the army base hospital here.

The crash, one of the first for a crew of the 477th Bombardment Squadron based at the air base near Ft. Knox, Ky., occurred after the big B-25 had gassed up at Gunter Field for a return flight to the Kentucky airfield. The plane crashed in a swamp near here shortly after the takeoff.

Cause of the crackup was not determined and an investigating board was named by Col. Raymond L. Winn, commanding officer here.

56a-1945

Bombardiers

NEW CROP OF PILOTS FOR BILLY MITCHELL BOMBERS

Black Dispatch - Okla. City - Oklahoma

2-10-45

Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations

January graduates of the B-25 pilot transition class at Douglas Army Air Field, Arizona, are pictured following congratulations tendered by Colonel Harvey F. Dyer (center), commanding officer of DAAF. Left to right: Second Lieutenants James W. Brown, Detroit, Mich.; James R. Chichester, Los Angeles, Calif.; Theodore O. Mason, Cadiz, Ohio; Colonel Dyer; First Lieutenant Paul T. Anderson, Woodbine, N. J., and Second Lieutenants Joseph E. Jenkins, Norristown, Pa., and Silas M. Jenkins, Lansing, Mich. All are graduates of the advanced flying school at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama. Next, they will go to Godman Field, Ky., for combat tactical instruction before being assigned to the 477th Bombardment Group. (Photo by Army Air Forces from BPR.)

56a-1945

Cadet

George M. Wharton Outstanding Cadet At Moton Field

Nashville Globe Tenn. 4-6-45

Moton Field, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—Outstanding Cadet for Class 45-E, which graduated from Primary flight training at the 2164th AAF Base Unit, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., this week, was A-C George M. Wharton, son of Mrs. Cordella H. Wharton, 1924 11th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

A-C Wharton was awarded a $25.00 War Bond as Outstanding Cadet, a rating based on military bearing, leadership ability, PT ability, general attitude, etc. He was also awarded a $10.00 GI War Bond, for having attained the highest Ground School average for the class. His average, one of the highest ever made at this school, was 92.5. The Ground School average is based on average grades made in all subjects contained in the Ground School course. 4-6-45

A-C Wharton is a graduate of Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., and also attended Temple University at Philadelphia. His wife, Mrs. Dorothy E. Wharton, lives at 236 W. 150th St., New York City.

Difficulty In Getting Cadets For Air Is Told

Atlanta World 3-30-45

Atlanta Ga.

Barely Enough To Compose A Class Is Found

CHICAGO — (ANP) — It is almost impossible at present to find colored youth capable of qualifying for training as army aviators in the country. Reports from recent efforts to secure enough young colored men to fill the quota for the current class at Tuskegee almost met with failure.

After routine recruiting methods had failed, army air forces which have 67,000 Negroes in their ranks still in the United States, ordered every commander to screen his men for qualified students or for volunteers. 3-30-45

Later an effort was made in the ground forces among the men still in this country. Out of all this effort barely 20 men were secured not enough to fill the quota but enough to compose a class.

Because of the need for replacements in the 332d squadron, now in Italy, the TAAF training program has been kept going at full speed. A large number of the veterans in Italy have been returned to this country and are now being used to train the new classes at Tuskegee.

The school, at Tuskegee is barely able to keep up with the necessary flow of replacements. Some 20 veterans have returned recently to take places as instructors at the Alabama airfield. 3-30-45

The general air training program for white fliers has been reduced 90 percent. A year and a half ago white fliers were being trained at the rate of 100,000 per year. This has been reduced until only 10,000 a year are being trained now.

The output from Tuskegee averages roughly, 10 percent of the total flying program now being conducted by the Army. Youthful volunteers who can make the grade can apply at their recruiting stations or can write Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Pilot Training To Be Continued At 'Skegee Field

56A. Memphis World - Tenn. 5-22-45

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — Brown Americans will continue to engage brown Japs in the air, but in greater numbers, it was learned this week as swift upon the heels of the war department's announcement that cadet training at army air bases would be discontinued, came news that Negroes will still receive training as cadets at Tuskegee Army Air field. It is highly probable that Tuskegee will be the only installation of its type in the country giving this kind or training.

In a statement to assembled personnel at TAAF on V-E day, Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer, said that presumably Tuskegee would be the only primary field in the eastern flying training command that would continue in their training of pilots.

The field, which is famous as being the starting point of 13 colored pilots, later known as the 99th Pursuit squadron, graduated its 36th class May 15.

AIR FORCE STILL WANTS NEGROES 5-22-45

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — In spite of cutbacks in the army air forces' aviation cadet program, announced last week, the problem of Negro replacements in the AAF is still "acute," an informed source has disclosed.

The cutback announcement affects pre-aviation cadets and students known collectively as pre-air crew trainees, and members of the air corps enlisted reserve who are on inactive status as civilians until eligible for call to active duty within the six month period following their 18th birthday.

However, Negroes will not fall into this category. Anybody who can qualify for service in the air forces should continue to apply, it was said unofficially.

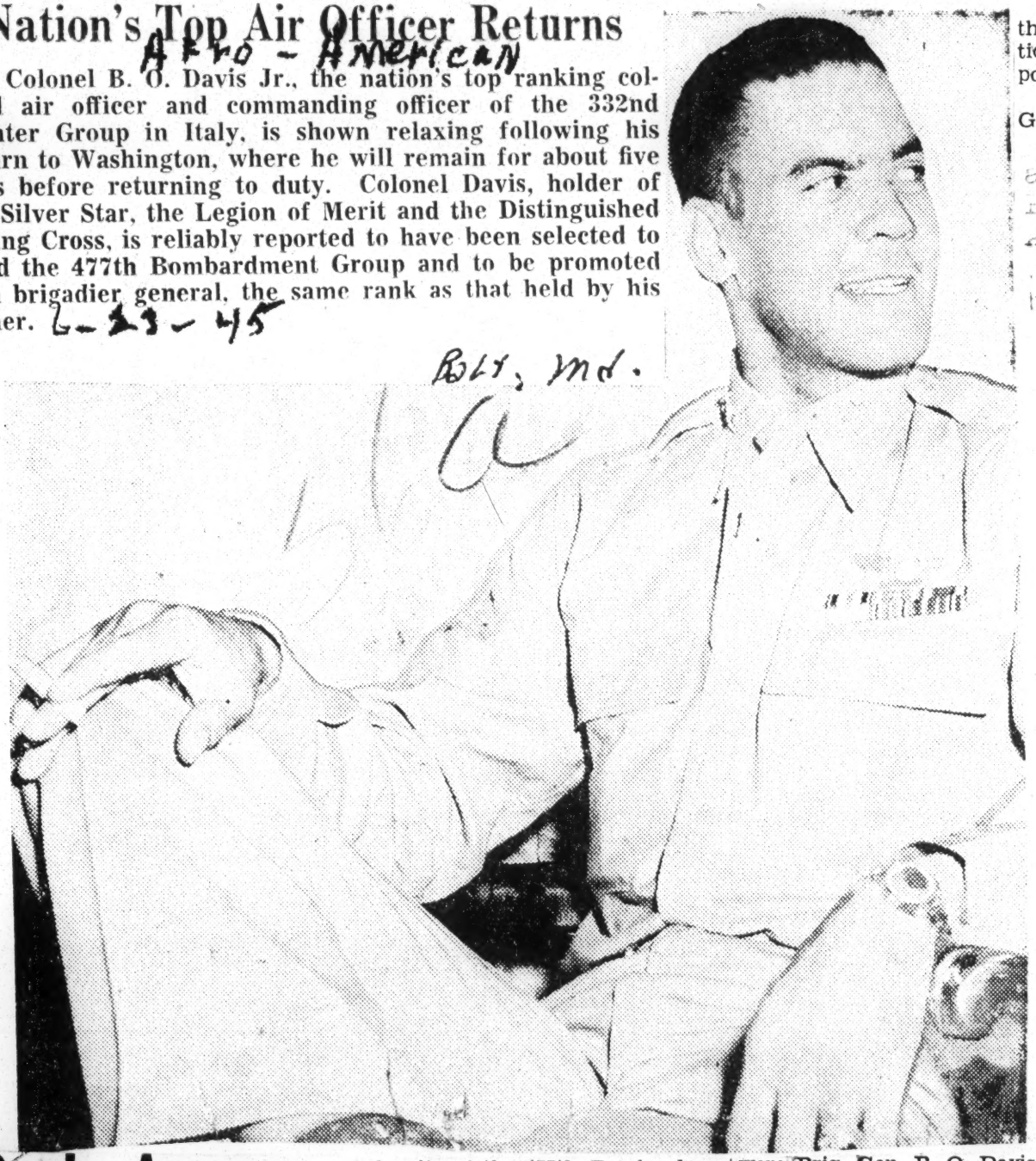
56a-1945 Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr.

Nation's Top Air Officer Returns

Afro-American

Colonel B. O. Davis Jr., the nation's top ranking colored air officer and commanding officer of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, is shown relaxing following his return to Washington, where he will remain for about five days before returning to duty. Colonel Davis, holder of the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Flying Cross, is reliably reported to have been selected to head the 477th Bombardment Group and to be promoted to a brigadier general, the same rank as that held by his father. 6-23-45

Balt., Md.



Davis Assumes Command Of Godman Group

Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Daily World

Change Welcomed By Men; Cases Watched, However

6-22-45

By HARRY McALPIN

GOODMAN FIELD, Ky. — With impressive ceremonies, Col. B. O. Davis Thursday assumed command of 477th Composite group, composed of units of the 477th Bombardment Group and the 332nd Fighter Group at Godman Field Ky. He replaced Col. Robert Selway as commander.

The ceremonies were presided over by Lt. Gen. Ira Eaker, acting chief of the Army Air Force, under whom Col. Davis served for a time in the Italian Theatre while part of the 12th Fighter Command.

When the troops at the base were reviewed Wednesday in honor of Gen. Eaker and Col. Davis, the reviewing party included Negroes for the first time since before 477th Bombardment Group was activated. The troops were led in parade by Negro officers, also for the first time. Col. Selway, the removed commander, issued an order Wednesday after 5:00 o'clock that all troops on parade would be led by Negro officers.

Included in the reiewing party beside Gen. Eaker and Col. Davis were Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, father of the new group commander, and Truman Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Col. Davis is expected to become Post Commander as well as Group Commander, but this change has not been made yet. Col. Selway is on the post and is still Post Commander. This arrangement, it was reported at the base from where I left by plane Thursday afternoon, will last until Selway can properly turn over all material and equipment to Col. Davis.

Many of the problems of the base are still unsettled. The three officers arrested for entering the white officers' club at Freeman Field are still under technical arrest. While welcoming the change of command to a Negro officer the men at the post are reluctant about becoming too jubilant or satisfied until they know what is to be the outcome of this long pending case. No indication was given Thursday of its disposition.

The group was told Thursday by Gen. Eaker, they definitely will be assigned to fight in the Pacific and that Gen. MacArthur has stated that he wants every unit that has been properly trained.

5

Hats Off!

P.M. N.Y.

Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., of New York, son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, the only Negro general officer in the U. S. Army, has made an enviable record in the war. As commander of the 332d Mustang Fighter Group, Col. Davis ran his flying string up to 60 combat missions in the European war. Last Apr. 16, he led a strafing attack on railway targets in Austria, remaining in the danger area for an hour to destroy locomotives and rolling stock. The action won him the Silver Star for gallantry—the first time it has been awarded to a Negro fighter pilot in the Army. Davis, who also holds the Legion of Merit, took over last week as commander of the 477th Composite Air Group at Godman Field, Ky.

6-27-45

Hats Off!

COLONEL DAVIS HONORS MISSING GI'S WIFE—Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the 477th Composite Group, presents the Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster to Mrs. Mattie L. Kantlehner during "Air Force Day" ceremonies at Godman Field, Ky. Mrs. Kantlehner's husband, S/Sgt. William A. Kantlehner, an Eighth Air Force gunner, is listed as missing in action. The Kantlehner's three-year-old daughter, Jane, is in the center.

56a-1945

Col. Benjamin Davis Jr.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD-TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023

JUN 20 1945

Negro Pilot Gets Silver Star

New York Colonel Cited for Attack on Austrian Targets

ROME, June 19 (AP).—Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, jr., commander of the Negro 332d Mustang Fighter Group, received the Silver Star today for gallantry in action. It was the first award of this medal to a Negro pilot.

Davis, of 527 West 137th Street, New York, was cited for leading a fighter group on April 15 in a strafing attack on rail targets in Austria. He also holds the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Service Cross, the latter pinned on him by his father, Brigadier General B. O. Davis sr., of Washington.

Col. Benjamin O. Davis To Head 477th Group

Richmond Times Dispatch

WASHINGTON, June 21—(AP)—Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, former commander of the 332nd Fighter Squadron in Italy, has been assigned to command the newly organized 477th Composite Group, an all-Negro outfit, the War Department announced today.

Colonel Davis has arrived at Godman Field, Ky., to take over command of the new fighter-bomber unit, presently equipped with B-25 medium bombers and P-47 fighters, Under-Secretary of War Patterson said. The 477th is destined for Pacific service.

Ace Negro Flier Takes Command Of 477th Group At Godman Field

Louisville, Kentucky

Courier Journal

Replaces Center Of Racial Row

6-22-45

Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., outstanding Negro flier and winner of four medals in Italy, yesterday took command of the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, adjacent to Fort Knox, replacing Col. Robert R. Selway, Jr., who was the center of a recent racial controversy at Freeman Field, near Seymour, Ind.

A Washington Associated Press dispatch said the War Department announced that Selway retains command of Godman Field, but it was reported in the Capitol that Davis eventually will take over that post, too.

In ceremonies attended by high-ranking Army officers, the 33-year-old Davis, former commander of the famed 332d Fighter Group in Italy, was presented to his new command by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, acting commanding general of the Army Air Forces.

Among officers at the review was Davis' father, Brig. Gen. Ben O. Davis, Sr., only Negro general in the U. S. Army.

The 477th is an all-Negro command recommissioned from the 477th Bombardment Group and contains two B-25 medium bomber squadrons and a fighter squadron. Godman Field at one time was the home base of the former 477th Bombardment Group.

Won Wings In Alabama.

Davis, it was reported at Godman Field yesterday, plans to name as key staff officers men who served under him in Italy.

A native of Washington, D. C., and a 1936 U. S. Military Academy graduate, Davis won his pilot wings at Tuskegee, Ala., air field in 1942 and went overseas in 1943 in command of the 99th Fighter Squadron. He took command of the 332d fighter group in October, 1943. He has won the Legion of Merit, Silver Star Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. 6-22-45

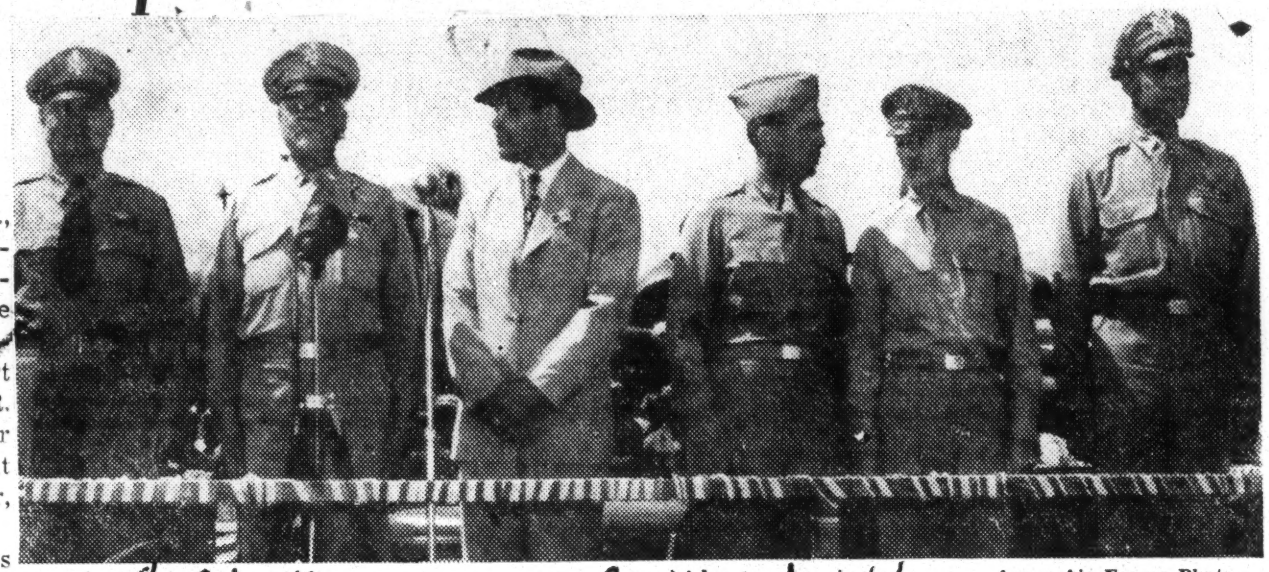
Investigation Continues.

In an address to the men of the 477th, General Eaker told them that Colonel Davis will choose his own staff and "those among you who are ambitious, can go as far as your ability and performance will take you."

The racial dispute in which Selway was involved flared up at Freeman Field early in April after Negro officer students sought to visit a club which Selway had planned to set aside for the post's white instructors and administrative personnel. A separate club was maintained for the Negro officers. 6-22-45

The dispute spread over several days and 101 officers were confined to quarters, but all subsequently were released except three. The trio was charged with jostling a military policeman. The disturbance still is under investigation, according to the War Department.

Selway and the 477th later were transferred to Godman Field.



6-22-45 Courier Journal Army Air Forces Photo.

WELCOMED TO GODMAN FIELD as commander of the 447th Composite Group is Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., right. Others in the reviewing party are, from left, Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., father of Colonel Davis; Truman Gibson, Col. Robert R. Selway and Brig. Gen. Edgar E. Glenn.

Col. Davis Gets Godman Field Post, Replaces Jimcrow Officer

Daily Worker 6-22-45

N.Y.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy until his return home a few weeks ago, today became commander of the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Ky.

Col. Davis is reliably reported in line for promotion to brigadier general, with ceremonies scheduled for next Thursday. 6-22-45

Col. Selway, whom Davis succeeds, is the white officer reportedly responsible for a series of incidents involving Negro officers under his command. The latest was the arrest of 101 Air Force officers who had refused to accept a jimcrow setup in an officer's club at Freeman Field, Ind. He had earlier been accused of "abusing" Negro officers at Selfridge Field, Mich., and at Godman Field.

Col. Davis, holder of the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal, was awarded the Silver Star just before his departure from Italy for gallantry in action as pilot and leader of a group of P51 aircraft on a mission strafing enemy rail targets April 15.

ONLY 33 YEARS OLD

Col. Davis' promotion would mean two Negro brigadier generals in the United States Army in the same family. His father, Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., is the only Negro at present holding that rank. Col. Davis, Jr., will be 33 years old next December. 6-22-45

He was graduated from West Point in 1936 and was promoted three years later to first lieutenant. He became a captain in 1940. On the same day, March 1, 1942, he was successively promoted to major and lieutenant colonel. He was promoted to colonel last June, while commanding the 332nd Fighter Group on the Italian Front.

His first assignment was with the famous Negro outfit, the 24th Infantry, at Ft. Benning, Ga. He later served as professor of military science at Tuskegee Institute, Ala. Davis was assigned to the Air Corps graduating at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in the first class of Negro pilots.

Col. Davis was told by Air Corps Commander Lt. Gen. Ira Eaker, who flew with him today from Washington to Godman Field, to choose his own staff. 6-22-45

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

Col. Davis Gets Post Command

Heads Mixed Group After Jim Crow Protest

By United Press

WASHINGTON, June 22.—A recent conflict between white and Negro Army Air Force officers over use of an Officers' Club at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind., prompted the War Dept. to place Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., a Negro, in command of the 477th Composite Group, it has been disclosed here.

Largely composed of Negroes, the 477th formerly was commanded by Col. Robert B. Selway, Jr., and other white staff officers. It had been stationed at Freeman Field until its recent transfer to Godman Field, Ky.

Davis, accompanied by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, flew from here to take over his new assignment.

He formerly commanded the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, which flew as part of the 12th Fighter Command under the overall command of Eaker. A West Point graduate, he is 32 and the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., the only Negro officer of star rank in the Army.

The Freeman Field incident arose when the Officers' Club was reserved for use of the base staff and instructors. This, in effect, restricted it for white officers and barred Negro officer trainees.

Three trainees who attempted to enter the club were arrested for jostling a provost marshal, and 101 of the trainees were confined to quarters for a short time—tantamount to technical arrest.

Negro trainees who attempted to visit the club pointed out that Army regulations require that any such quarters maintained on Army property must be available for all officer personnel on the post.

Eaker instructed Davis to choose his own staff. He will take command of Godwin after a brief transition interval.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD-TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023
Also see 56
JUN 22 1945

Negro Colonel Gets Command Of Air Group

Eaker Puts Davis in Charge of 477th; Replaces Selway, Center of Racial Dispute

WASHINGTON, June 21 (AP).—Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, jr., crack Negro flyer, today took command of the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Ky., replacing Colonel Robert R. Selway jr., who was the center of a recent racial controversy at Freeman Field, Ind.

While the War Department said that Colonel Selway retains command of Godman Field, it was expected that Colonel Davis also eventually will take over that post, too.

The racial dispute in which Colonel Selway was involved flared up at Freeman Field in April after Negro-officer students sought to visit a club which Colonel Selway had set aside for the use of the post's white instructors and administrative personnel. A separate club was maintained for the Negro officers.

A War Department spokesman said at the time of the disturbance that separate clubs for instructors and for trainees is customary in the training command whether or not there is any racial difference between the two groups. The idea, he said, is to discourage social contacts between instructors and trainees and prevent any possible favoritism toward students.

As the result of the dispute, which spread over several days, 101 officers were confined to quarters, bu all were released, with the exception of three. These were charged with jostling a military policeman at the door of the instructors' club.

Colonel Selway and the 477th, formerly known as the 477th Bombardment Group, subsequently were transferred from Freeman Field to Godman. Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, who announced Colonel Davis's appointment today, said the disturbance still is under investigation.

The thirty-three-year-old Colonel Davis, son of Brigadier General B. O. Davis, highest ranking Negro in the Army, formerly commanded the 332d Fighter Group in Italy. Lieutenant General Ira C. Eaker, deputy chief of the Army Air Forces and former commander of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, was at Godman Field today to install Colonel Davis in his new command. The 477th, as reconstituted, will include two medium bombe rskuadrons and one fighter squadron.

In an address to the men of the 477th, General Eaker told them that Colonel Davis will choose his own staff and therefore "those among you who are ambitious, can go as far as your ability and performance will take you."

Takes a New Command

Associated Press

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis jr.

Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr.

1 568-1945

NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292

JUN 21 1945

Remove Colonel Who Backed 'Jim Crow' For Negro Pilots

By OLIVER PILAT
Post Staff Correspondent

Washington, June 21—Col. Robert B. Selway Jr., white commander of the all-Negro 477th Composite (bomber and fighter) Group, whose racial policy aroused a national controversy 2 months ago, was replaced today by a Negro officer.

His successor was Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., former commander of the 332d fighter group.

News of the change of command in the 477th Composite Group, which wil soon leave the U. S. to join in the all-out bombing of Japan, came out today during the joint press conference here of Undersecretary of War Patterson and Lt. Gen. Doolittle, commander of the 8th Air Force.

No new assignment has been given Col. Selway as yet, Patterson said, revealing that Lt. Gen. Eaker, deputy commander of the Army Air Forces, was making a visit today to Godman Field, near Louisville, Ky., to install Col. Davis and address the Negro aerial warriors.

Asked about reports that three Negro officers arrested by Col. Selway on Apr. 6 after they protested segregation of facilities for white instructors and Negro trainees at Freeman Field, Ind., would be restored shortly to active duty, Patterson said: "The whole matter is still under study."

[Conditions at Freeman Field which resulted in the arrest of the three and the temporary detention of nearly 100 other officers were revealed exclusively by The Post.]

Doolittle on Japan

Gen. Doolittle, who will visit several airplane plants in the U. S. before leaving for the Pacific to take over the all-out Japanese bombing of the 8th Air Force, said he expected Japan to bow more easily to air blows than Germany.

"Japan has a greater concentration of industry, it is more highly inflammable, it has not as much recuperative power as Germany and it will not have time to get underground as Germany was rapidly doing," he said.

Japan has been bombed effectively only three months, he pointed out, whereas effective bombing of Germany lasted fully five years, Gen. Doolittle said, refusing to specify how long the aerial job would take with Japan.

B-29s and "such other ships as are necessary" will carry out the 8th Air Force missions in the Pacific, he said.

Making up the revised 8th Air Force, said Gen. Doolittle, will be three groups, veterans from Europe, parts of the 20th Air Force with B-29 experience, and men without previous combat experience.

Gen. Doolittle led the first U. S. bombing attack on Tokyo on Apr. 18, 1942. He would like to repeat the performance, but his superiors have ruled that his possible capture would be too dangerous in view of his knowledge of long-range plans, he said today.

Finished West Point in 1936

Colonel Davis, who was graduated from West Point in 1936, was promoted to first lieutenant in 1939, elevated to captain in 1940, to major in March 1, 1942, and to lieutenant colonel the same day, received his promotion to colonel last June 1, while serving overseas with the 332nd.

His first assignment was at Fort Benning, Ga., with the 24th Infantry, where he served until 1937. Later he served as professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee, remaining in that capacity until February, 1941, when he was assigned as aide to his father at Fort Riley, Kans.

With Air Corps 4 Years

In May, 1941, he was assigned to the Air Corps, graduating in the first class of colored pilots from Tuskegee Army Air Field, March, 1942. He assumed command of the 99th Fighter Squadron in August of the same year.

Colonel Davis led the 99th through the Tunisian campaign, and was recalled to the States in September, 1943, to take command of the 332nd Fighter Group at Selfridge Field, Mich.

The 332nd went overseas under his command in Jan. 1944, and he has been its commanding officer througohut the Italian campaign in which the group registered 105 victories over German aircraft, destroyed over 300 more on the ground, and won high praise as an escort group for the bombers of the 15th Air Force.

His parting words when he left the group in Italy ten days ago ot return for his new assignment were, "Our mission here has been completed. We have fought the war and I think the group has done very well." 6-25-45

Dad a Washingtonian

Brigadier General Davis Sr., a Washingtonian by birth, was educated in the District public schools and Howard University. His military career began in 1899, when he joined the Ninth Cavalry, in which he rose from private to the rank of second lieutenant in three years.

In 1902, he was promoted to first lieutenant, elevated to captain in 1915, and to major in 1917, the latter a temporary rank. In 1920, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and in 1930 made a full colonel in the U.S. Army.

Made General in 1940

In 1940, he was promoted to the rank of brigadier general, the first colored person to receive the high Army rank.

Prior to his present position in the Inspector Genreal's office, General Davis, who will celebrate his sixty-eighth birthday on July 1, served as commander officer of the 369th Infantry, N.Y. National Guard.

He formerly served with the Tenth Cavalry in Samar and Panay, was military attache in Monrovia, Liberia in 1911-12; served as military instructor, Ohio National Guard and professor of military sicence and tactics at Wilberforce and Tuskegee, and during 1930-33, accompanied six parties of Gold Star mothers on pilgrimages to the cemeteries of Europe.

Truman, Gibson to Be Present

The Thursday ceremonies, which promise to be impressive, will also throw the spotlight on Lt. Gen. Ira Eaker, commanding general of the Allied Air Forces in the Mediterranean Theatre, hwere the 332nd Fighter Group fought with distinction, and on Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, both of whom will be present.

It was Lt. Gen. Eaker who said of the 332nd: "Put them in P-51's, the last word in power—they belong." He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal "for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service."

Responsibility for many of the advances in the War Department's racial policies is traceable to Mr. Gibson, who besides being a member of the McCloy Committee to eliminate discrimination in the armed forces had a big part in in the preparation of manuals and pamphlets aimed at a better understanding among all soldiers and officers. 6-23-45

Ceremony to Take Place on Thursday

AFRO-American 6-23-45

Will Assume Command of 477th Bomber Group

DAD GENERAL, TOO

Balt., Md.

Elevation Begins Long String of "Firsts"

(Special to the AFRO)

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, will be made a brigadier general at ceremonies to be held here on Thursday.

The AFRO has learned on credible, though unofficial authority that he will also head the 477th Bombardment Group now in training here, replacing Col. Robert Selway, who has been a storm center of protest because of his attitude toward colored personnel.

Long String of "Firsts"

The elevation of Colonel Davis who will not be 33 until December, will set in motion a series of "firsts" in our history. It marks not only the first time a colored officer has held this rank in the Air Corps, but the first time that one on active combat duty has been so advanced.

The promotion also marks the first time in our history that there have been two generals in one family. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., of the Inspector General's Office, who recently returned from an assignment in Europe, has been, until now, the race's top-ranking officer.

Father and Son Rise to Highest Rank in U.S. Army

AFRO-AMERICAN

2d Lt, MN.

COL. BENJ. O. DAVIS JR.
Replaces white commander

The Davises, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., and his son, Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group, may be the only family in America to produce two generals if young Davis is promoted to the rank of brigadier general as reported. Here is a pictorial review of the Davises' climb up the military ladder. On left, Davis Sr., as a colonel; at top center, the father as a cadet at the Old M Street High School (Washington); and below as brigadier general. On the right, at top is Col. Davis, the son, as a lieutenant shortly after graduation from West Point, and below, young Davis during his training days at West Point. (See front page story and picture for more details).

564-1945

3 Godman Field Officers Vindicated

AFRO-AMERICAN
Balt., Md.

Two Cleared, Third Forfeits $150 Pay

DAVIS EXCUSED

7-14-45

Case Involved Effort to Use 'White' Club

By HERBERT M. FRISBY

AFRO War Correspondent

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—Two of the three 477th Bombardment Group officers facing Army jim-crow charges here were exonerated Monday by an all-colored court martial.

The third officer, 2nd Lt. Roger C. Terry of Los Angeles, was exonerated on Tuesday of a charge of refusing to obey a superior officer's command, but convicted of using violence by pushing aside 1st Lt. Joseph D. Rogers, white military police officer.

Lieutenant Terry's penalty was forfeiture of $50 pay for three months.

Cleared at Monday's session were 2nd Lts. Marsden Thompson of Los Angeles and Shirley Clinton of Camden, N.J.

They were charged with "jostling" an officer, in alleged violation of the 64th Article of War, in an attempt to enter "white" officers' club at Freeman Field, Ind., on April 5, and with refusing to submit to arrest in violation of the 67th Article of War.

Col. B. O. Davis Jr., who last week was installed as commander of the group, and Capt. Charles R. Stanton were excused from participation in the court-martial through peremptory challenges by the defense and prosecution, respectively.

The prosecution contended that the defendants willfully disobeyed an order of a superior officer not to enter the club, used violence in entering, and acted disorderly.

Defense's Stand

The defense maintained that the evidence did not substantiate the second charge, and that the order ment regulation and hence the was inviolation of a War Departmen could not be found guilty on the first count.

7-14-45

Col. Robert Selway, then commander of the group, under whose orders the officers' club segregation policy was invoked, appeared evasive in answering questions of the defense counsel aimed at establishing his responsibility for the practice.

Knew About Anti-Bias Order

Under cross-examination by Theodore Berry, civilian associate defense counsel on Tuesday, Colonel Selway finally admitted that he was aware of the War Department order against discrimination in officers' clubs but added that his orders were "never negative but always positive."

He said that there was nothing in them to restrict the use of the club to any particular group of officers but that the enforcement of the orders by his subordinates was restrictive.

"Hostile Witness"

The colonel was forced to testify after a court ruling that he was a "hostile witness." This ruling was requested by Mr. Berry when the officer told the court that he would object to any questions asked by the defense counsel.

Under direct examination, Lieutenant Terry testified that he was already in the club when the alleged order of the MP officer for him not to enter was given.

When asked by the prosecutor if he knew that disobeying an order of a superior officer not to enter the building carried a penalty, the lieutenant replied in the negative.

Lieutenants Thompson and Clinton were among the original group of 63 officers arrested for attempting to use the "white" club.

7-14-45

They testified that they sought entrance in accordance with provisions of a War Department circular, Regulation 210-10, Paragraph 19, which prohibits discrimination in recreational facilities at Army posts.

When they were denied entrance by a military police officer on the ground that the facilities were reserved for base personnel, they were arrested and placed under restriction.

Colonel Selway's contention had been that the "white" club was for instructors and the club set aside for the colored officers was for trainees.

Under cross-examination, however, the MP officer admitted that only colored officers had been denied entrance to the "white" club.

All witnesses, prior to being sworn, saluted the court as per Army regulations, except Colonel Selway, who confined his salute to the flag.

When called to testify the second day of the trial, Colonel Selway saluted the court only after ordered to do so by Capt. George L. Knox, president of the court.

477th

477th Bomb Group Not Likely To Be Sent To Pacific Now

Journal & Guide Va.

Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—While an official decision and announcement on the future disposition of the 477th Composite Fighter-Bombardment Group will continue to be considered a military secret until after the Japanese surrender becomes official, advises from high government sources in Washington indicate that it is a fairly safe conjecture that the medium bombardment group, now commanded by Col. B. O. Davis Jr., will not be sent to the Pacific in event the war ends this week.

8-18-45

Originally scheduled to be committed to action in the Pacific by October at the latest, the sudden end of the war, which was expected momentarily as we went to press, is expected to cancel shipment plans for this air group.

8-18-45

Lt. General Ira C. Eaker, deputy commanding general of the Army Air Forces, revealed in late June that the 477th would complete its training and embark for bases on Okinawa by October.

Efforts made by the Guide Tuesday morning to get an official decision on the disposition of this unit were stymied by the fact that the War Department still considered itself at war with Japan and information regarding plans for disposition of troops was still veiled in military security.

However, reliable sources in the War Department regard it as fairly safe to speculate that the 477th will not be committed to a foreign assignment in view of the expected end of hostilities in the Pacific.

"Transfers" Are Not Enough

AFRO-AMERICAN - Balt., Md.

It is ironical, to say the least, that some of the news from the home front these days is considerably more disturbing than some of the reports from overseas.

We are thinking particularly of the attempt of high Army officials at Freeman Field in Indiana to impose a pattern of rank segregation upon the officers of the 477th Bombardment Group. 4-28-45

According to allegations, yet undenied, these officers not only have been denied command posts in their unit but they have been barred from the "white" officers' club by an order which is a direct violation of the War Department's stated regulations and policies.

An immediate, thorough-going investigation — not a whitewash — of these reported attempts at segregation is certainly in order in view of the mass protest against existing conditions. Not only are the rights of more than one hundred men affected, but the rights and privileges of countless others if such conditions are permitted to continue.

Accused of creating these conditions are Col. Robert R. Selway, Jr., and Major General Frank O. P. Hunter, who, if found guilty as charged, should be subjected to appropriate disciplinary action.

Fear of a whitewash in the Freeman Field case is heightened by the knowledge of the manner in which the Army recently handled the case of Col. Walter M. Crandall, commander of Lovell General Hospital at Fort Devens, Mass.

Col. Crandall had been accused of telling colored Wacs at Devens that he did not want "any black Wacs" as hospital technicians or in the motor pool at Devens. These charges were made under oath during the court martial proceedings against four of the one hundred Wacs who staged a sit-down strike in protest against the assignment of a disproportionate share of "dirty" work at the hospital.

While the Wacs were later cleared of charges and reinstated, the only thing that happened to Col. Crandall was his transfer from the post. A War Department spokesman says that "the incident is now considered closed."

It seems rather clear that if the War Department is at all serious in its avowal to enforce a non-discrimination policy where there is credible evidence of violation at its disposal, it should act in the case of Col. Crandall and in the case of the two officers at Freeman Field. 4-28-45

If it isn't serious, then its directives are mere platitudes not worth the paper on which they are written.

An inter-organizational conference, scheduled for this week-end at Butler, N.J., is expected to take some action toward eliminating bias in the Army and Navy. It may well address itself to the proposition of seeing that disciplinary action is taken upon the perpetrators of segregation and discrimination as well as upon those who rebel against it.

The reported transfer last week of Commander J. P. MacBean of the 34th Seabee Battalion in California, the transfer of Col. Crandall and the possible transfer of Col. Selway offer but temporary relief for the persons subjected to their abuse. Such action is not corrective or punitive as far as these officers are concerned. Unless more drastic disciplinary action is taken in their cases there is always reason to believe that these officers will bob up again somewhere in the same roles.

We demand an end to this type of "investigation" and to these face-saving transfers.

Still Bone Of Contention

477th Wants Selway Removed; New Order Limits Promotions

Pittsburgh Courier 6-2-45

Pgh. Pa.

NEW YORK—Realizing that they are behind the proverbial "eight ball," officers of the 477th Bombardment Group, currently stationed at Godman Field, Ky., last week voiced their demands, through The Pittsburgh Courier, to the War Department to "remove Colonel Selway from his present position as commanding officer of the group and release of three officers who are being held for court-martial."

They know, too, that their position is a precarious one and being "clamped down by Army Regulation" they cannot openly demand an investigation by Congress which they believe is the only way that the unhappy affair, now existing at Godman, can be "satisfactorily ironed out."

SECRET LETTER

The officer, acting as spokesman for the group, said they had been moved to Godman Field with the understanding that the unit was to be commanded by Negroes, but a few days ago they seized an official secret letter dated April 27, addressed to Colonel Selway, "Subject: Authorized White Officer Personnel." 6-2-45

The letter stated that there would be no white officers below the rank of major and no Negro officer above that rank, which means, the men said, that the group commander and squadron commanders and all key operation positions will be held by white officers, automatically eliminating the possibility of any Negro officer being in a position to give orders.

The young officers also stated that Colonel Selway is responsible for the rumor that Negroes would man the group, despite the fact that he and several other officers (white) are known to have issued the unjustifiable statement that Negroes were unprepared and incapable of handling the command of a bomber group.

Although there have been no accidents during the regular period of operational training he (Selway) continues to maintain this view. He draws the conclusion, that there have been no accidents in the group, because it is being commanded by white officers.

All the men in the group are agreed on three demands, which are:

That the three officers now being held be released.

That Selway be relieved of his duties.

That the War Department eliminate discrimination.

"We all want to know," one of the officers declared, "will the War Department decide whether we are first-rate or second-rate soldiers—or if there is going to be any differentiation, come clean and assert themselves."

What of Col. Selway--Courier . . . "Be Patient with Us!"--Patterson

WASHINGTON—When told by The Courier that it was believed to be general Army policy that whenever a superior lost the respect and cooperation of his subordinates, the superior was removed from command, and asked why Colonel Selway was still in command of the 477th Bombardment Group at Freeman Field, Under-Secretary of War Patterson, in his regular Thursday press conference said that this was the same question he had been asked in a different form last week.

Referring to the report, still withheld, of the Inspector General's department, he said that nothing had been decided in the Freeman Field case.

"You will just have to be patient with us," he added.

Protests made to Stimson over mistreatment of 447th

Los Angeles Tribune - Calif.

NEW YORK—Despite the fact that it has been activated for more than a year and a quarter, that its Negro officers each have on a average more than 700 flying hours to their credit, that the group has been alerted for overseas duty, the 447th Bombardment Group's Negro officers are still being kept without any command fuctions, and deliberately so, it was charged this week by the NAACP in a letter to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

No Negro officer exercises any command function, all positions requiring such authority in each of the four squadrons have been filled by white personnel, the letter stated. Complaints from men in the group and the wholesale arrest of 101 Negro officers for 'trespassing' on a 'white only' officers' club on the post touched off the NAACP investigation of conditions at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind., where the 447th is stationed at present. 4-30-45

The investigation was made by Leslie Perry, NAACP, Washington bureau, and his report was the basis of the letter of protest. According to Perry, the 447th has boiled with dissatisfaction almost since the beginning. For more than a year it has tried diligently for an investigation of the manner in which it has been commanded. In particular, most of the 447's bitterness has stemmed from the unending, humiliating policy of keeping "Negroes in their place," constantly enforced by commanding officers Col. Robt. R. Selway and Maj. Gen. Frank O. P. Hunter. 4-30-45

The cup of bitterness overran last week with the arrest of 101 of the 447th's Negro officers and the contemplated arrest of more for entering Freeman Field's 'white' officers' club against the specific orders of the C.O.'s.

NAACP's letter of protest demanded immediate, straight-forward, and thorough-going investigation of Col. Selway and Maj. Gen. Hunter, their discriminatory policies which conflict with the recent War Department directive banning post segregation, the obviously unfair denial of command positions for Negro officers, the release of the arrested officers, and dismissal of contemplated charges against others.

The letter was signed by NAACP secretary Walter White, who in closing stated that "for violation of regulations and policies . . ." the commanding officers should be subjected to appropriate disciplinary action.

Two Of Three Accused Godman Field Officers Freed By Court-Martial In One Day; Terry's Trial Tuesday

Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

Special to Journal and Guide

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—2nd Lt. Shirley R. Clinton, of Camden, N. J., and 2nd Lt. Marsden Thompson, of Los Angeles, two of the three accused 477th Composite Group officers in the "infamous" Freeman Field officers's club incident, were acquitted of all charges and specifications in a court martial trial here at Godman Field on Monday.

The third officer, 2nd Lt. Roger Terry of Los Angeles, was not tried Monday and was to be tried when the court reconvened on Tuesday, at 1 p. m. 7-7-45

The general court convened at 8 a. m. Monday with Col. B. O. Davis Jr., new commanding officer of the 477th Composite Fighter-Bomber Group, as the president of the court. The defense preemptorily challenged Col. Davis and he was excused from the court. Captain George L. Knox, the senior officer, became president. 7-7-45

Also challenged by the trial judge advocate was the presence of Captain Charles R. Stanton on the court. He was excused by Col. Davis.

CIVILIAN COUNSEL

The two officers, who had been confined to quarters for 88 days following their arrest April 5, along with 160 other Negro officers for attempting to enter an officers club which the white command had tried to set aside for the exclusive use of white officers, were defended by two civilian attorneys in addition to their own Army defense counsel. The civilian lawyers were: Theodore Berry, of Cincinnati, and Harold Tyler of Chicago.

The hearings for these two men on charges of violating the 64th and 68th articles of war were held in open court with a packed courtroom and representatives of the press on hand.

SEPERATE TRIAL

Lt. Terry was charged with of war and is to be tried separ- of war and is to be tried seperately. A bomber pilot, he is not actually an officer of the 477th. He is a replacement pilot undergoing training in the combat crew training squadron which was Squadron "E" of the 118th Base Service unit. This unit was transferred to Walterboro Air Field in South Carolina immediately after Col. Davis assumed command at Godman.

The charges against all three men had been instituted by Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., who was commanding officer of the 477th and Godman Field before Col. Davis took over both commands.

The first witness called was 1st Lt. Joseph E. Rogers, white, who was acting as assistant provost marshal at Freman Field on April 5 with orders to prevent the entrance of trainee personnel and non-members to the officers club. This order was issued by Col. Selway in violation of a specific War Department directive, signed by Major General Ulio, Army adjutant general which provided that no discrimination should be shown in the use of recreational facilities on an Army post.

Lt. Rogers' testimony was followed by that of Major Andrew M. White, also white, who was club officer at the time of the incident at Freeman.

His testimony was followed by Captain Anthony Chiappe, commanding officer of "E" squadron and a witness to the alleged incident. 7-7-45

MOVE FOR DISMISSAL

At the conclusion of the testimony by the prosecution witnesses, the defense moved for a dismissal of the charges alleging that the trial judge advocate had failed to prove, by his witnesses, the charges as set forth. The motion for dismissal was denied and the defense proceeded with its case.

The defense called as its first witnesses 1st Lt. William F. Parks Jr., and Lt. Col. John B. Pattison Jr., deputy group commander at the time of the alleged offense.

A noon recess was taken and the court reconvened at 1 p. m. Lt. Col. Pattison was recalled first. He was followed by Col. Selway. Lt. Col. Pattison was recalled again.

FELLOW OFFICERS TAKE STAND

Following his testimony, fellow officers of the accused testified as to the happenings of the day of the incident.

Lts. Clinton and Thompson testified in their own behalf. The court took the evidence under advisement at 4:48 p. m.

The court's verdict acquitted the two officers of all charges and specifications.

2 Freed In Courtmartial

St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis Argus

BULLETIN!

FORT KNOX, Ky.—(Special)—Two of the men under charges have been acquitted by the all-Negro Court Martial, over which Col. Benj. O. Davis Jr., presided. They are: Lieuts. Marsden Thompson and Rodger Terry, both of Los Angeles, Calif.

7-6-45

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—Lieutenants Marsden Thompson, Shirley Clinton and Roger Terry, the three Negro officers of the 477th Bombardment Group being held here for entering a white officers' club will be represented by the NAACP in a court martial trial, Monday, July 2. Attorney Theodore M. Berry, president of the Cincinnati branch NAACP will defend the men who are charged on the following four counts with violation of the 64th Article of war:

(1) Disobeying lawful command of the superior officer who ordered them not to enter the Officers' Club.

(2) Offering violence to a superior officer by the use of physical force when such officer was carrying out his duties.

(3) Disobeying a lawful command by a superior officer to leave the club.

(4) Disobeying an order by a superior officer placing them under arrest.

The officers were originally confined with 98 others at Freeman Field, Seymour, Indiana. Release of the latter group however, was effected after investigation at the field and vigorous protests to the War Department on the part of the NAACP and other groups.

First Lieutenant William Robert Ming, JAG, of Chicago, Illinois, a former Assistant Attorney General for the State of Illinois, will be the law member of the court.

A graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, and a member of the Order of Crof. National Honorary Legal Society, Lieutenant Ming was designated as Base Legal Officer for Godman Field on June 23. 7-6-45

Verdict Clears Negro Officer

P.M. N.Y. 7-5-45

Lt. Roger Terry, of Los Angeles, last of Negro officers to be tried on charges of disobedience in connection with their attempt to enter a white officers' club at Freeman Field, Ind., last April, has been cleared by court-martial at Goodman Field, Fort Knox, Ky.

The all-Negro courtmartial at the same time found Terry guilty of "offering violence to a military police officer." He faces a $150 fine on this charge.

Two other lieutenants were acquitted earlier in the week in a similar trial and 98 others, detained after the incident, were released earlier after a protest to the War Dept. by the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People which assisted in the defense at the Louisville trials. 7-5-45

Third Officer Convicted in Negro Court Martial

Chicago Daily Tribune

Fort Knox, Ky., July 4—Second Lt. Roger Terry, Los Angeles, Cal., the last of three Negro army air force officers tried before a general court martial at Goodman field, was found guilty of offering violence to a military policeman and was fined $150. He was acquitted of a second charge of disobedience of a direct order. The two other Negro officers, 2d Lt. Marsden Thompson, Los Angeles, Cal., and Shirley Clinton, Camden, N. J., yesterday were acquitted of charges of disobeying a direct order. 7-5-45

56a-1945

Morale Of 447th Revealed As Low

Atlanta World 4-28-45

Atlanta, Ga.

SEYMOUR, Ind. — (ANP)—High officers of the U. S. Army air force were charged with sponsoring race hatred that has resulted in the arrest of 162 Negro flyers here at Freedman field. Negro pilots, members of the 477th Bombardment group, who have signed pledges that they will not again try to enter white officers clubs, statements said to have been prepared by white supremacy proponents, are regretting they were not among the 162 that refused "to accept Nazism here" and point a finger of contempt at Col. Robert Selway for permitting such an undemocratic practice against American soldiers.

FORCED PLEDGES

Statements on the forced pledges read, "I understand what I am doing." One Negro officer attempted to amend it to read, "I do not understand what I am doing." He was prevailed upon to sign another unaltered pledge instead.

General Arnold, the men charge, is aware of the whole situation. Some say the head of America's air forces condones jimcrow principles by pointing out that he had taken no definite stand against "the outrageous situation."

Meanwhile, the Negro airmen who refused to sign the prepared pledges are to enter white officers clubs are being detained. Some will be castigated as "leaders" on a frame-up mutiny charge, the men here predict. The bulk of them will be freed. That is the system of intimidation employed against Negroes in the armed forces when they defy jimcrow, they say.

CLUB NOW CLOSED

The white officers' club, the superficial bone of contention that led up to the publicized mass arrest is now closed pending a decision in an investigation by the war department. Newspapermen are barred but it was learned that a party of officers from Washington, including a general, has already visited the field. 4-28-45

The 477th Bombardment group may now be considered veterans in the fight against army jimcrow. They faced the same anti-Negro situation at Selfridge Field, Mich., and were ousted to Goodman Field, Ky., and Walterboro, S. C., reputed to be the two worst jimcrow spots in the country.

"That was the army's race haters way of teaching us not to protest racial discrimination and segregation," one of the pilots observed.

The morale of the men is decidedly low. Some of them are said to have been in training for as long as three years and are rated as accomplished pilots, navigators and bombardiers. But their depressed morale is keeping them from overseas duty. 4-28-45

TENSION MISSING

The high racial tensions that fill the air around Freedman field here is totally missing in the civilian section where whites and Negroes live peacably together in the huge government Ridgeview housing project. Negroes occupy 22 of the 50 one-story apartment buildings. The buildings are together. Whites occupy their own chester. The whites are composed of army families and civilian workers while the bulk of the Negro residents are officers and their families.

They share the project's recreational facilities but there is a tendency for the races not to mix. There has been no trouble, according to the residents and housing officials.

Plane Crash Kills Seven In Alabama On Return Flight To Godman Field

Journal & Guide 6-23-45

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Shortly after taking off from Gunter Field, Ala., Wednesday morning of last week seven members of the 477th Bombardment Group were killed near here when their B-25 training plane crashed in a swamp.

Members of the group were on a return flight to their base at Godman Field, Ky., when the crash occurred. It was the first 477th fatal accident for the group.

The dead included four flight officers and three enlisted men. They are:

F/O Denny C. Jefferson, North Little Rock, Ark.; F/O Edward Glover, Chicago, Ill.; F/O Raymond F. Noches, Junction City, Kans.; F/O Charles E. Wilson, Chicago; Cpl. Henry H. Valentine, Kansas City, Mo.; Cpl. Luther A. Cox, Jackson, Ga., and Pvt. James R. Ewing, Springfield, Ohio. 6-23-45

The lone survivor of the crash, Cpl. Selwyn Wilson was said to be in serious condition at the Gunter Field Hospital but he is expected to recover.

The victims were all members of the 619th Bombardment Squadron except F/O Jefferson and Pvt. Ewing who are attached to 118th Base Unit of E.W. Squadron.

N. Y. Pilot Among Three Army Flyers Killed In B-25 Crash

New York, N.Y. age 7-24-45

FORT KNOX, Ky. — Three Negro Army flyers were killed Sunday and two others were injured when the B-25 Mitchell bomber they were flying crashed into the Ohio River near Madison, Ind., Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of the 477th Composite Group, announced.

The dead were identified as Lieutenant Samuel A. Black, of Plainfield, N. J., pilot; Second Lieut. Stephen Hotsec, of New York City, co-pilot; and Flight Officer Glen W. Bullien, of Los Angeles, Calif., navigator.

3 Godman Airmen Killed As B-25 Falls Into Ohio

Louisville, Ky. Courier Journal

Victims Were Officers In All-Negro Unit; 2 Crewmen, Thrown Clear, Survive Crash

7-9-45

Three officers of the all-Negro 477th Composite Group, Godman Field, were killed and two crewmen were injured when the B-25 Mitchell bomber in which they were flying crashed into the Ohio River at 10:05 a.m. yesterday approximately five miles west of Vevay, Ind., near Madison, Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., base commanding officer, announced.

The dead were First Lt. Samuel A. Black, Plainfield, N. J., pilot; Second Lt. Stephen Hotesse, New York, N. Y., copilot, and F/O Glen W. Pulliam, Los Angeles, Cal., navigator.

One Swims to Shore. Norfolk, Va

The two airmen who were thrown clear of the plane when it crashed were Cpl. Isaiah Grice, Jacksonville, Fla., engineer-gunner, and Pvt. Napoleon Gibbon, Chattanooga, Tenn. One of the fliers swam to shore where he was able to obtain assistance, Godman Field authorities reported. Both survivors, now under treatment at Godman Field hospital, were too dazed from shock last night to give details of the accident.

Colonel Davis said the crew was on a combat training flight when the crash occurred. A board of Army officers will be named to investigate and determine the cause of the crash, he said.

2 Bodies Recovered.

Joe Brady, a diver from Mark-and Dam, recovered two of the bodies. He said the third was still in the plane which could not be entered becaused of its wrecked condition. Parts of the wrecked plane floated away.

Members of the Coast Guard and Indiana State Police, and some U. S. engineers and workers at the Jefferson Proving Ground went to the scene of the wreck to aid in the rescue and salvage work.

3 Godman Field Officers Meet Death In Crash

Philadelphia Phil. Pa. Bulletin

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—(ANP)— Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of Godman field, announced Sunday that an army twin-engine Mitchell bomber crashed killing three officers, members of the five-man crew. The plane was on a combat training flight and crashed while flying over the Ohio river approximately five miles west of Vevay, Ind., near Madison, Ky.

Two crew members were thrown clear of the wreckage and escaped with minor injuries. 7-21-45

A board of qualified army officers will investigate and determine the exact cause.

The dead were 1st Lt. Samuel A. Black, pilot, Plainfield, N. J., 2nd Lt. Stephen Hotesse, co-pilot, New York, and F/O Glen W. Pulliam, navigator, Los Angeles. Phil. Pa

Survivors are Cpl. Isiah Grice, engineer gunner, Jacksonille, Fla., and Pvt. Napoleon Gibbons, Armorer-gunner, of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va 7-21-45

TWIN-ENGINE PILOT — Flight Officer Calvin M. Knight, member of the most recent graduating class of pilots receiving wings and commissions at Tuskegee Army Air Field, is one of six assigned to twin-engine training, presumably for eventual assignment to a B-25 bomber Squadron in the 477th Composite Group. A native Norfolkian, F/O Knight lives at 854 Lexington Street.

Bomber Pilots Headed For Pacific

Chicago Defender. 6-30-45

By JAMES APPERSON
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—The promise of a chance to blast Japan's key cities from B-25 bombers under a Negro commander skyrocketed morale throughout the 477th Bombardment Group here this week.

The 477th fliers, previously excluded from combat service, despite 300 flying hours, were placed under the command of Col. B. O. Davis Jr., in an impressive ceremony here last Thursday. At that time Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, acting air corps commander and principal speaker at the installation ceremony, told the men that they would be sent to the Pacific air base closest to the Japanese homeland late this summer or early in the fall. Others present as Davis assumed command were Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., of the Inspector General's Department, father of the 477th's new C.O.; Brig. Gen. Edgar Glenn, chief of staff, 1st Air Force; Col. Robert Selway Jr., whom Davis succeeded and Truman Gibson Jr., civilian aide to Secretary of War.

According to Gen. Eaker, the 477th will be merged with part of Col. Davis' old overseas command, the 332nd Mustang Fighter Group, to form the 477th Composite Group, flying B-25 bombers. Slated to make the Pacific trip with the group is the all-Negro 387th Air Service Group, also stationed at Godman, which will handle the supply, administration and maintenance end of the assignment.

It is expected that Col. Davis will draw heavily on 332nd personnel for his staff officers. A report that the 32-year-old Davis will take over as base commander in July has not been confirmed. Col. Selway, who, as commander of the 477th, consistently opposed the fight waged by its Negro officers and men against discrimination not only here but also at Freeman Field, Ind., is the present base commander.

6-30-45

The appointment of Davis, Gen. Eaker's "personal choice in whom he has every confidence," was a definite shot in the arm for the group's morale. The men, their nerves frayed by the "overseer" methods of Selway, have a great deal of faith in the determined-visaged Davis who personally led his 332nd fighters on 20 missions in the Mediterranean.

Even the 101 officers, who had their military records needlessly stained with arrest for entering a "white" officers' club at Freeman Field, were optimistic about the future of the group now that the War Department's action seems to indicate "soldierly" treatment. The cases of three of the officers, still held in arrest because of the Freeman Field incident, are expected to be passed upon some time this week by the new commander.

Throughout the Kentucky camp, the 477th pilots, held so long in combat check, even though they have more practice flying time than most combat fliers, welcomed the opportunity to meet the enemy so long denied them because of their color.

Father and son hold high ranks together

Los Angeles Tribune - Calif.

(Exclusive to the Tribune)

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—In ceremonies held here Thursday, Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., former commander of the 332nd Fighter group in Italy, was promoted to brigadier general, to become the second Negro in the history of the Army to attain so high a rank.

7-6-45

Earlier in the week, General Davis had assumed command of the 477th Bombardment group, in training here, replacing Colonel Robert Selway, white, whose policies had precipitated the scandalous arrest of 110 flying officers who refused to submit to jim crow treatment at the 447th's previous base, Freeman Field, Ind.

West Point trained General Davis is the son of Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., 69-year-old regular Army man who rose through the ranks to become the nation's highest ranking Negro officer. The two form the only father-son brigadier general team in the Army.

Returned from Europe to command the 477th which will shortly be shipped to the Pacific theatre, General Davis, it is reported in reliable circles, may soon hold the position of highest ranking active Negro Army officer by himself. There are rumors current that his father, serving now in the inspector general's office, will retire a second time, this time making the retirement stick. He was recalled into active service early in the war after he had previously withdrawn.

REARED ON ARMY POSTS

Young General Davis, reared on Army posts and trained in Army traditions by his father, was graduated from West Point in 1936 and promoted to first lieutenant in 1939. He was elevated to captain in 1940, to major in 1942 and to lieutenant colonel the same day. He was promoted to colonel June 1, 1944, while leading the 332nd overseas.

Chicago, Ill.

His first assignment following graduation was at Fort Benning, Ga., where he served with the 24th Infantry until 1937. Later he was professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee, remaining there until 1941 when he was made an aide to his father at Fort Riley, Kas.

In May, 1941, he was assigned to the Air Corps and graduated with the first class of Negro pilots from Tuskegee Army Air Field. He took command of the 99th Fighter squadron that same year, 1942.

7-6-45

Colonel Davis led the 99th through the Tunisian campaign before being recalled to the United States in 1943 to take command of the 332nd Fighter group at Selfridge Field, Mich. Under his command, the 332nd went overseas in 1944 and he commanded it throughout the Italian campaign, during which the group registered 105 victories over German aircraft, destroying over 300 more on the ground, and winning high praise as an escort group for bombers of the 15th Air Force.

Three Negro Flyers Killed in Plane Crash

New York, N.Y.

People Voice

Special

FORT KNOX, Ky.—The first stunning tragedy since Col. Benjamin O. Davis took over command of the 477th Bombardment Group at Godman Field occurred Sunday when three of his flyers—one of them from New York—were killed, and two others injured when the B-25 Mitchell Bomber they were flying crashed into the Ohio River near Madison, Ind.

The news that Lt. Samuel A. Black of Plainfield, N. J., pilot, Second Lt. Stephen Hotesse of New York City, co-pilot, and Flight Officer Glen W. Bullien of Los Angeles, navigator, met their deaths in a test flight Sunday, threw a pall over the field when Col. Davis made the announcement. The commanding officer, himself a crack flyer who had often flown with his men, was visibly moved when he announced the tragedy.

The 477th Bombardment Group is rapidly becoming one of the prize outfits of the Army Air Force under the expert guidance of Col. Davis, who recently replaced Col. Robert B. Selway, jr, white, against whom Negroes had lodged protests for unwarranted discriminatory treatment of Negro servicemen.

7-14-45

Although the outfit is not all-Negro—some of its higher ranking officers being white—it is expected that white officers will gradually be replaced by Negroes in keeping with the Army jimcro policy of not allowing white officers to serve under Negroes.

The appointment of Col. Davis, however, was looked upon among progressive circles throughout the country, as a healthy sign, since he was given more authority than any other Negro appointee in the Army Air Force.

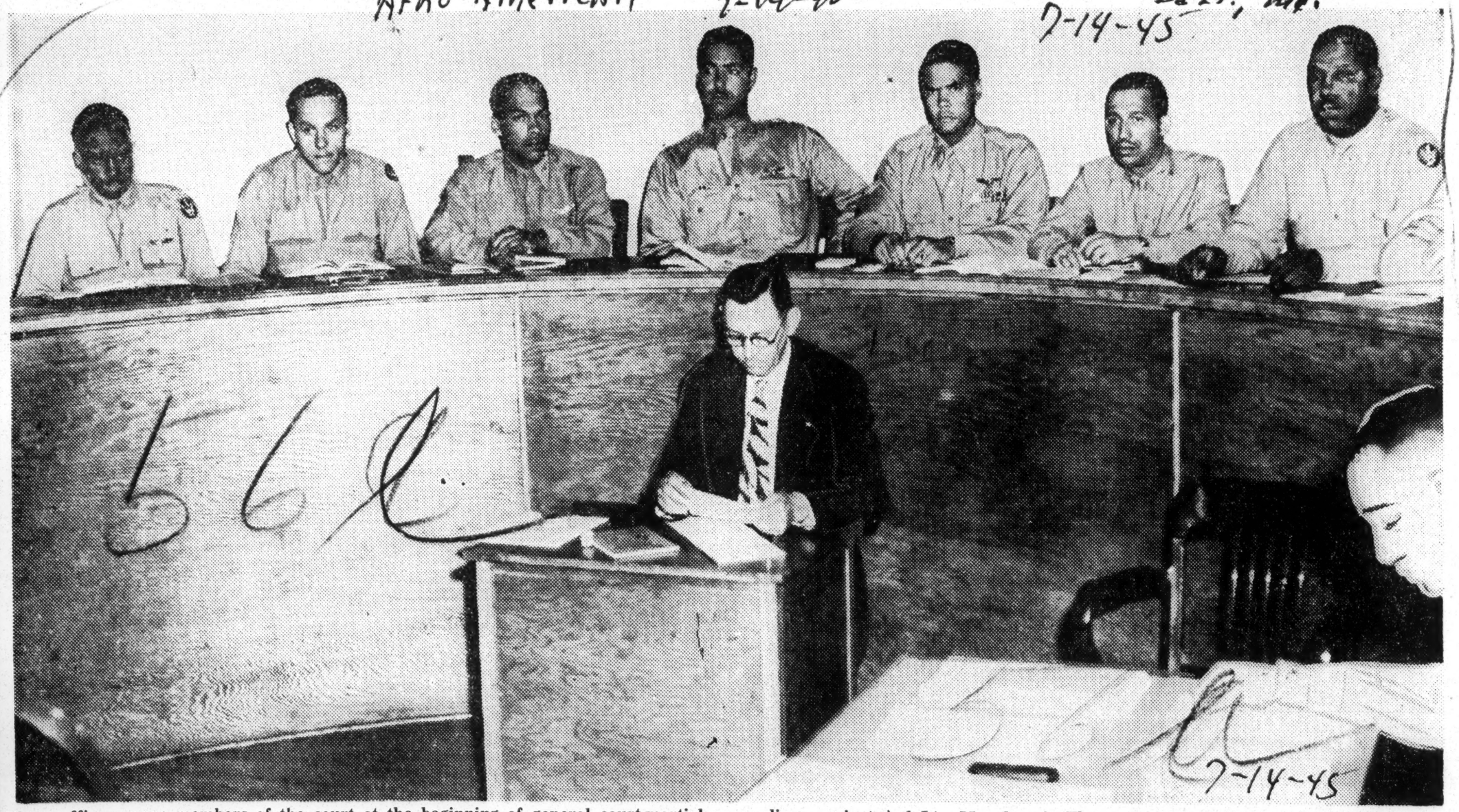
His appointment come upon the heels of the conflict between Col. Selway and Negro flyers at Freeman Field in Seymour, Ind., in April, when 101 officers of the 477th Group were arrested and later released, for refusing to sign a paper, issued by Selway, stating that they would not attempt to use an officers' club, which, they contended, had been set aside for white officer personnel, in violation of War Department regulation. The last of the three officers where cleared last week by an all-Negro tribunal.

561-1945

477th

Godman Field Court-Martial Scene Where 3 Were Vindicated

AFRO-AMERICAN 7-14-45 Balt., Md.



These officers were members of the court at the beginning of general court-martial proceedings against 2nd Lts. Marsden A. Thompson of Los Angeles and Shirley R. Clinton of Camden, N.J., at Godman Field, Ky., last week. Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. (third from right), commanding officer of of the 477th Composite Group and of the field, was excused on a challenge, as was Capt. Charles R. Stanton (not shown), and Capt. George L. Knox (on Colonel Davis's right) served as president of the court. Also shown are 1st Lt. James Y. Carter, Capt. Fitzroy Newsom, Capt. James T. Wiley, 1st Lt. William R. Ming, Jr., law member, and Capt. John H. Duren. Lieutenants Thompson and Clinton were exonerated of charges growing out of their refusal to obey an order not to enter an officers' club at Freeman Field, Ind., illegally reserved for white officers. So was 2nd Lt. Roger C. Terry of Los Angeles, tried later, but he was fined$$150 for alegedly shoving the white military police officer who sought to bar them.

Record of Court-Martial of Godman Field Officers Reads Like a Novel

AFRO-AMERICAN 7-14-45 Balt., Md.

By HERBERT M. FRISBY

AFRO War Correspondent

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — The case of the government vs Second Lts. Marsden A. Thompson of Los Angeles, and Shirley R. Clinton of Camden, N.J., members of the 477th Composite Group and tried jointly for violations of the 64th and 68th Articles of War, presented several interesting aspects, namely:

1. The charges were preferred by a former commanding officer of the Composite Group, Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., (white), now succeeded by Col. Benjamin O Davis Jr.
2. This historic meeting of the court occurred on the second day of Colonel Davis's actual command of the 477th.

Issues Clearly Defined

3. The issues were clearly defined—the prosecution contending that an order of a superior officer must be obeyed and that's all; with the defense charging that obedience to an order is justified only if same is legal, basing its arguments on the interpretation by the codefendants of a War Department circular (210-10) which prohibits racial discrimination in officers' clubs and recreational facilities at Army posts.

Personnel of the Court

THE COURT — This included Capt. George L. Knox as president, James T. Wiley, John H. Duren, William T. Yates, Elmore M. Kennedy, Fitzroy Newsum and First Lts. William R. Ming as law member and James Y. Carter.

Colonel Davis, commanding officer of the 477th and Capt. Charles R. Stanton were excused by peremptory challenges from defense and prosecution council, respectively. 7-14-45

Capt. James W. Redden and First Lt. Charles R. Hall served as trial judge advocates, while defense counsel included Lts. William T. Coleman and Edward Nichols, military representatives, and Theodore M. Berry, Cincinnati, and M. Tyler of Chicago, attorney.

History of the Case

THE CASE—The incident referred to occured on the night of April 5, 1945, when a group of colored officers sought and were denied entrance to an officers' club at Freeman Field, Semour, Ind.

The prosecution first presented First Lt. Joseph D. Rogers, who testified that he was assigned as assistant provost marshall to guard the entrance of the club to keep non-members and trainees from entering.

He said that when the accused men and 17 others attempted to enter, he gave them direct order not to enter the club; that Lieutenant Thompson asked why he could not enter.

He told Lieutenant Thompson to step outside and he would tell him, he said, adding, that his explanation was that he was under orders to keep trainees out and that Lieutenant Thompson then pushed him aside and entered the club along with the others.

2nd Prosecution Witness

Major Andrew M. White, second witness for the prosecution, testified that he ordered the group of officers (colored) to leave the club and upon their refusal, placed them in arrest and ordered them confined to their quarters.

Therefore, he said, the other men quietly left the club. On cross-examination he denied saying to the group, including Lieutenants Thompson and Clinton, "Let's be frank fellows, the club isn't open to colored officers."

Charge Bias Planned

THE DEFENSE—Defense counsel announced in their opening statement that they would show through the testimony of their witnesses that there was a plan emanating from the former commanding officer of this unit to exclude certain officers from certain facilities of the post in direct violation of:

1. War Department Order 210-10, paragraph 19, which prohibits discrimination in officers' clubs on account of race.
2. A. G. letter 353.8, March 5, 1943, to the effect that all personnel, regardless of race, shall enjoy equal facilities at all Army posts.
3. That contrary to Army regulations, certain officers were refused service at certain mess halls and clubs at Freeman Field.
4. That the accused would testify that they acted under the assumption they were base personnel and entitled to all facilities.
5. That the orders given by Lt. Rogers and Captain White were illegal.

Protest Letter Cited

First Lt. William J. Parks, Asbury Park, testified that on March 9, 1945, he addressed a letter to Colonel Selway, protesting against the exclusion of colored officers from the officers' club, and asked for clarification of the policy with respect to its use by officer personnel at the post.

He added that he was later ordered to attend a meeting for all-colored officers at Freeman Field; that Lt. Col. John B. Patterson, former deputy commander of the 477th, presided and discussed certain memorando alleged to have been made in reply to Lieutenant Park's letter of request for clarification.

Selway Insults Court

Colonel Selway, former commanding officer, when called before the court, avoided saluting the court as required by Army Regulations. He saluted the flag. His testimony was characterized by evasiveness and frequent exceptions to the defense's questioning procedures.

He admitted that he had ordered his subordinate officers to enforce all standing orders; that he was aware of Order 210-10; that his orders relative to the use of buildings were positive and carried no negative restrictions.

Colonel Patterson, recalled and questioned as to how "trainee" is defined, left the impression that "a trainee is anybody called a trainee."

The testimony of the other witnesses for the defense was generally that:

Summary of Testimony

1. The colored officers were ordered not to enter the club.
2. They did enter the club.
3. They interpreted the denial of entrance as discrimination and a violation of W. D. Order 210-10.
4. The officers left the club after being ordered under arrest.
5. There was no violence on the part of the officers accused.
6. The officers did not resist arrest.

Under Arrest for 89 Days

Those testifying to the above were Second Lts. Robert S. Payton, Coleman A. Young, Clifford C. Jarrett, F/O Harold Storey, the accused, Second Lts. Clinton and Thompson.

The accused testified that they had been in arrest and confined to quarters for 89 days before trial and that they were notified of trial June 25.

The defense rested its case; the prosecution waived opening argument. The defense then announced waiver of closing argument, thereby preventing any closing argument by the prosecution.

The verdict of the court: That Second Lts. Thompson and Clinton are acquitted of all charges and specifications.

Smooth Trial

Fine Bomber Officer $150; Two Cleared

Pitt. Pa.

Courier

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—(ANP)—The last of the three flying officers, involved in a racial incident that grew out of a jim-crow officers' club at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind., last spring, was found guilty of "offering violence" by a general court-martial here last week and fined $150.

The officer, Second Lieut. Roger Terry of Los Angeles, Calif., was acquitted on the first specification and found guilty on the second. On the guilty charge, he is to forfeit $50 a month for three months, beginning July and ending in September.

7-14-45

"SMOOTH TESTIMONY"

His pals, Second Lieuts. Marsden Thompson, Los Angeles, Calif., and Shirley Clinton, Camden, N. J., have already been cleared of charges of disobeying a direct order. According to John H. Foranfle, white court reporter, who took the testimony at the trials, the proceedings were the "smoothest conducted" in his memory.

Other courts had more experienced men, he said, but this one had "a good legal officer" in Lieut. William Robert Ming of Chicago, which is "a great help in any trial."

The three officers, attached to the 477th bombardment group, were among those who attempted to visit a club the commanding officer had set aside for white officers.

Both Col. B. O. Davis Jr., present commanding officer of the 477th composite group, and Capt. Charles R. Stanton, were excused from the all-Negro board of officers.

DAY LONG TESTIMONY

Lieuts. Marsden Thompson and Shirley Clinton, the defendants, were charged with violating the fifty-fourth Article of War by inciting a melee through jostling the provost marshal in an attempt to enter the officers club. In addition, there were two violations of the sixty-eighth Article of War ~~[illegible]~~ against them, which included refusal to obey a direct order of the superior officer and refusal to go under arrest when ordered.

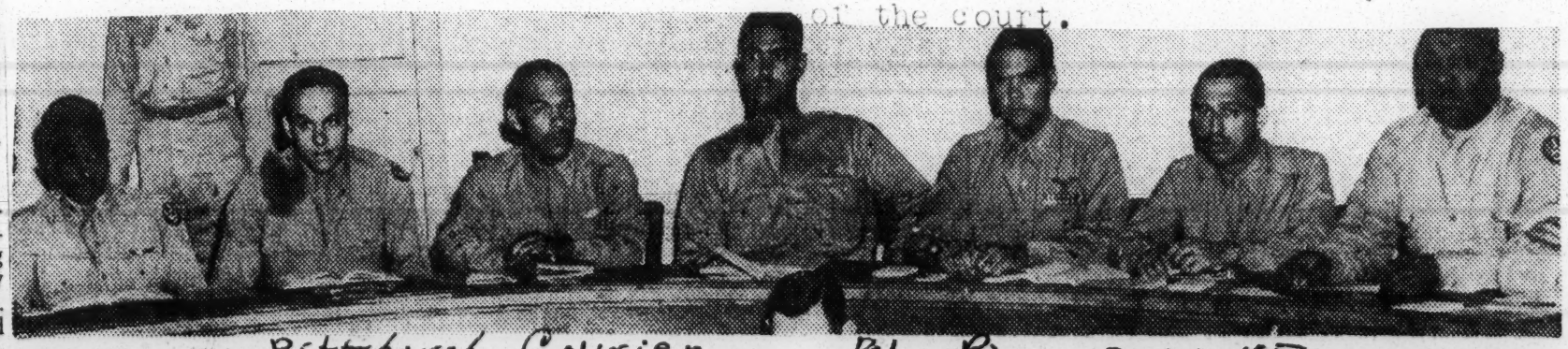
The board reached its verdicts after an hour and forty-five minutes of deliberation following a day of testimony by Lieut. William J. Parks Jr., Lieut. Col. John B. Pattison Jr., deputy group commander at the time of the alleged offense, and Lieut. Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., former group and base commander of Godman Field, Ky. and Freeman Field, Ind., who has since been replaced by Colonel Davis.

Others who testified beside the accused were Maj. Andrew M. White, club officer at the time of the incident; Capt. Anthony Chiappe, commanding officer of the "L" squadron, and a witness to the alleged incident, and Lieut. Joseph E. Rogers, who was acting as assistant provost marshal, with orders to prevent the entrance of trainee personne; and non- members to the officer's club.

CAPTAIN KNOX PRESIDENT

Defense of the jim-crow officers club was based on the army policy to keep students and instructors apart while off duty. All Negro officers were classed as students.

Capt. George L. Knox was president of the court.



Pittsburgh Courier

THEY WEIGHED FATE OF THREE OFFICERS—This picture was snapped as officers began general court-martial proceedings at Godman Field, Ky., against 2nd Lieuts. Marsden A. Thompson, Los Angeles, and Shirley R. Clinton, Camden, N. J., both members of the new 477th Composite Group. Left to right: Capt. Fitzroy Newsom, Capt. William T. Yates, Capt. James T. Wiley, Capt. George L. Knox, Col. B. O. Davis Jr., 1st Lieut. William R. Ming Jr., law member, and Capt. John H. Durdan.

Pitt. Pa. 7-14-45

Colonel Davis later was dismissed as a member of the court, after a challenge, and Captain Knox succeeded him as president. Thompson and Clinton were acquitted of all charges and specifications growing out of a controversy over use of certain officers' club facilities at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind. The third officer tried by the court was fined $150. He is 2nd Lieut. Roger C. Terry, Los Angeles.—Army Air Forces Photo.

Colored Pilot Has Now Completed 50 Missions!

The Union Cinn. Ohio

2-8-45

LUCKY LANDING SAVES LIFE—

Veteran of more than 300 hours of operational flying in Italy and 50 missions as a bomber escort, Lt. John H. Leahr, Cincinnati's first Negro fighter pilot to return home, smilingly asserted Monday he felt he was living "on borrowed time."

"My closest call came right over our own field in Italy," said Lt. Leahr 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leahr, 5409 Ward Street, Madisonville.

2-8-45

"I was coming back from an escort mission when my P-39 ran out of gas and the engine conked out 400 feet over the field," Lt. Leahr stated. "It sounds fantastic, but I made a turn, came in and landed. Ten times out of ten when your engine quits at that height your plane goes straight down and if you try to turn you fall off in a spin. I was lucky that day."

Lt. Leahr, who is with the Fifteenth Air Force, enlisted in November, 1942, won his wings at Tuskegee, Ala., and got fighter pilot training at Selfridge Field, Mich. He went overseas early in 1944 and was first attached to the Twelfth Air Force. He flew costal and harbor patrols, strafing missions at Anzio and Cassino, and escort for ship convoys. After a few months he and his squadron were attached to the Fifteenth Air Force and began their escort work.

2-8-45

(Lt. William T. Gilbert, Hyde Park, bomber pilot in the Fifteenth, whose story appeared in Friday's Times-Star, said the All-Negro squadron to which Lt. Leahr was attached, flew escort for him on many missions and did a wonderful job.)

July 25 stands out vividly in Lt. Leahr's memory.

"Eight of us were attacked by 50 ME-109's. We had been watching the vapor trails of enemy planes above us and keeping them off the bombers when the next thing we knew 20 m. m. bullets were bursting in our formation. They came from planes which had sneaked in below us and we had failed to see them because they were not leaving vapor trails," Lt. Leahr said.

"The formation split up," Lt. Leahr continued, "and I found myself with another man right in the middle. He shot down one and hit another, but my guns froze and an enemy plane got on my tail. I turned into him and he broke off, but my guns were still frozen and by that time the formation was out of sight. I fought my way out by bluffing, climbing to 33,000 feet and opened that Mustang up."

Lt. Leahr has been over Bucharest, Greece, Rumania, Hungary, Poland, Austria, Germany, Yugoslavia and the Ploesti oil fields six times.

"That flak is really tough around Ploesti," he said. 2-8-45

* * *

On one occasion Lt. Leahr and even of his squadron mates encountered a German jet-propelled plane.

"We were above it and all eight of us made a pass at it, but never got near enough for a shot," he said, adding that he thought the jet-propelled plane could do approximately 00 miles an hour.

Wearer of the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the European theatre ribbon with three battle stars, Lt. Leahr is a graduate of Withrow High School and had attended Wilberforce University for a year and the University of Cincinnati for a year before enlsting in the Air Force. Followng his furlough, he will report to Atlantic City for reassignment.—Times Star. 2-8-45

Father of Pilot Who Died Answers Negro-Baiter

Daily Worker N.Y.

2-8-45

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 7.—Earl C. Knowlton, Anniston, Ala., businessman who demanded that the War Department ground all Negro pilots because his son died in a midair collision with a plane piloted by a Negro, has been answered by the Negro flyer's father.

Knowlton, in a bitter letter to the War Department, expressed resentment of the government's "apparent determination to raise colored men overnight to a place in civilization to which he is as yet unprepared to assume."

2-8-45

The War Department announced just last week the promotion of 17 officers of the all-Negro fighter group in Italy, one to the rank of captain and the others to first lieutenant. One of the lieutenants, Purnell J. Goodenough, is from Knowlton's state of Alabama. Their squadron is headed by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., West Pointer and one of the youngest of that rank in the Army.

The answer to Knowlton was written by Luther M. Johnson, of 1900 Centre Ave., Pittsburgh, whose son, Flight Officer Robert M. Johnson, piloted the plane which crashed into young Knowlton's over South Carolina Dec. 5.

"Did the tragic death of your son mean more to you than an excuse to give voice to your prejudice against colored people?" Johnson asked in his letter to Knowlton. He added:

"It was unfortunate that your son was killed in that fateful crash. My son was killed, too. Your sorrow and your anguish cannot possibly be greater than mine. And while my heart goes out to you as one sorrowful father to another, I deeply resent any statement that you may make that atempts to cast reflection on my people.

"During the past three years airplanes crashed and collisions have occurred in various parts of this country almost every week, with no colored fliers involved. A collision in South Carolina with one colored flier could not possibly change the picture.

"What right have you to intimate that either of the pilots involved in the fatal crash at Waterboro, S. C. on Dec. 5, was more to blame than the other? Has anyone accused your son of being responsible? Do you think that he stands accused to the extent that his father needs to create an alibi for him?"

JOHNSON ENLISTED

Johnson recounted that his son was graduated from high school at 16 and that, as soon as he was old enough, he enlisted in and was accepted for training as a cadet by the Air Corps, "not because he was colored but because he had the physical, mental and educational qualifications to make a pilot."

Johnson admitted that his son's death caused a sorrow "almost too much to bear," but declared:

"If his death helps to focus the attention of the world on the biased and prejudiced bigots who avail themselves of every opportunity to undermine the foundation of our democratic government by their injection of race discrimination, and if these race haters are eliminated or the effects of their venom lessened by this war, then I shall feel that the death of my son was not in vain." 2-8-45

The letter concluded:

"Mr. Knowlton, I doubt if the War Department would give a second thought to your leter, except for the fact that it smells very strongly of an attempt to sabotage the war effort by raising a ridiculous race issue during a critical stage of the war and supplying Herr Hitler and his gang with more material for propaganda about strife in the democratic countries.

"We loyal Americans can thank God that you belong to a group as sure to vanish from American soil as America is to win this war."

Georgian routs German planes with nerve only

Tribune Calif. Los Angeles 2-26-45

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Two Jerry fighter pilots will have a lot of explaining to do if word ever gets back to Luftwaffe headquarters of how Captain Henry B. Perry of Thomasville, Ga., won his Distinguished Flying Cross over Udine, Northern Italy.

The P-51 pilot, operations officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron, was returning from a bomber escort mission, his guns inoperative and useless.

Down below, he spied two crippled Liberators, readying for an attack by two FW-190's, which were hovering overhead.

In he roared, right between the two FW-90's. He turned on them, lining up his useless .50's on them.

They did what he'd frevently prayed they'd do, turned tail and ran. 2-26-45

The 25-year old pilot was here at an AAF Redistribution station for reassignment, after his first visit home in 18 months.

Los Angeles Tribune Calif.

HOME—Capt. Charles E. McGee, P-51 Flight Leader in the 332nd Fighter Squadron, spent Christmas in Chicago with his wife, after 12 months in the Italian Theatre where he completed 7 combat missions, totaling over 300 hours. Three other members of his family are in the armed services. His father, Chaplain Louis A. McGee is with the 95th Engineer Regiment in Belgium. His brother, 1st Lt. Louis McGee, Jr., was recently honorably discharged after serving in the South Pacific, and his sister, Sgt. Ruth Parker, is a WAC recruiter. 2-26-45

None in Air Fighter Pilot Destroys 15 Jerries on Land

Afro-American Balt. Md. 2-10-45

TER No. 1, Atlantic City, N.J.— Nine of them were accounted Although he never met a German for during a fighter sweep over plane in the air, First Lt. Edward N. Smith, a fighter pilot from Hungary, when his group got Philadelphia, destroyed fifteen credit for erasing eighty-three Nazi fighters on the ground during fighter planes before they could take to the air, explained Smith, who is here awaiting reassigning 111 combat missions.

AAF REDISTRIBUTION CEN-

ment. 2-10-45

A former Temple University student, Lieutenant Smith flew most of his sorties escorting 15th Air Force heavy bombers on raids over enemy territory. It was on one of them that he had his closest call with enemy fire.

Decide to Strafe

"Coming back from a demolition job in South Germany," he said, "we left the bombers over Lake Balaton, Hungary. Starting out to patrol, our squadron leader, noticing a Nazi airfield directly below, decided we would give them a fast strafing. 2-10-45

"We ran into a terrific anti-aircraft barrage. About 25 chunks of steel tore into my plane. One piece of flak went into my engine. By the time I got out, my fighter looked like a sieve."

Lieutenant Smith wears the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters. His mother, Mrs. Esther Smith, and his wife, Dorothy, live at 1168 South Thirteenth Street, Philadelphia.

Squadron With 15th Air Force Wreaks Havoc

Atlanta World 2-27-45

Marines On Iwo Jima Threaten Second Air Strip

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Negro fighter pilots were reported here Monday to have taken part in Sunday's massive 15th Air Force blows against German rail traffic east and north of Munich.

A Negro squadron, led by Captain Edward C. Gleed, of Lawrence, Kansas, shot up two locomotives and destroyed a power station. Sunday's attack, brought the 15th Air Force Fighter Command's total of locomotives this year to 138 destroyed and 140 damaged.

FIRST PLUNGES FORWARD

Meanwhile, U. S. First Army Infantry and armor plunged to within 12 miles of Cologne under drizzling skies Monday and the entire German system defending the Rhine was threatened with collapse.

Lt. General Courtney Hodges wheeled his big guns toward Cologne, while Lt. General George S. Patton's Third Army battled scant and disorganized opposition in the Bitburg vicinity after a surge forward that was reminiscent of the race across France last summer. Long lines of miserable looking gray-clad Germans marched to the rear and enemy captives' quarters. The U. S. Ninth and First Armies swept up 25 or more towns in the drive. The American Third Army raced seven miles forward and reached the Nims river near Bitburg.

NEW RUSSIAN DRIVE

A German military spokesman said Monday that Marshal Constantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russion Army had reached the areas of Hommerstein, 51 miles from the Baltic. The thrust threatened to bisect a 225-mile-long coastal corridor the Germans hold from below Stettin to Elbing, in East Prussia. 2-27-45

Capture of Iwo Jima's second airfield, in the center of the strategic little island, was imminent Monday as three Marine Divisions drove north with considerable air support in an intensified push. The Americans grimly held almost half of the island and were making progress northward.

The Japaneses reported that waves of carrier planes struck Honshu Island Sunday morning and hit metropolitan Tokyo and the Kobe section.

2 Veteran Pilots Hurt in Auto Crash

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md. 2-3-45

RICHMOND, Va.—Veteran of 138 missions as a fighter pilot in Europe without a scratch and winner of the DFC, First Lt. Lee Archer, 25, of NYC, is now in the Richmond Army Air Base Hospital with a broken leg, suffered in an automobile accident.

His friend and fellow fighter pilot, First Lt. Walter Palmer, also of NYC, who has flown more than 100 sorties, is in McGuire General Hospital with a fractured skull, received in the same mishap.

Both were en route from NYC to Tuskegee for resumption of duties with the Army Air Force when the car, driven by Lieutenant Archer, several days ago skidded off the highway, twenty-two miles north of Richmond, and crashed.

Both Members of 332nd

Both were members of the 332nd Fighter Group, commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., and Lieutenant Archer claims credit for having destroyed four and one-half Nazi planes in the air, with two more unconfirmed and six on the ground.

He attributed the accident to treacherous driving conditions and said he apparently lost control of his vehicle and it left the highway.

They were aided by a white sailor and civilian who were passing the scene and carried them to a nearby house where occupants summoned an ambulance from Richmond.

Brought to St. Philip Hospital, they were later transferred to the two Army hospitals for treatment.

Having participated in some of the hottest engagements of the 332nd, Lieutenant Archer is plainly disgusted about the accident.

"Everything in the world happened to me in Europe," he said, "yet I didn't receive a single scratch. Not even a shrapnel wound. Then I come home and become a victim of an automobile accident."

He recalled that he took part in the mission, led by Colonel Davis, on which eighty-three German planes were destroyed at a Romanian airfield. His squadron discovered this prey, he said.

Won DFC over Hungary

With Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, of E. St. Louis, Ill., he jumped twelve jerries in the air over Hungary and accounted for three planes in the dog fight. This feat won him the coveted DFC.

In addition to that decoration, Lieutenant Archer holds the air medal and nine oak clusters. He had been assigned to Tuskegee as a flight instructor prior to his injury. He is married.

Holder of the air medal and five oak leaf clusters, Lt. Palmer has been responsible for the destruction of one enemy aircraft. He is also married and father of a four-month-old baby.

The flyers returned to the States in December.

Southern White Asks Ban On Negroes Now Serving In U. S. Army Air Corps

Northwest Herald Seattle Wash. 1-2-45

ANNISTON, Ala. — The South has had enough! Now they want a color line in the sky.

The "sudden elevation" of Negro fighter pilots over Dixie was target for a bitter burst of race hate here this week.

The War Department was asked to bring down the Negro birds by an Anniston business executive whose son was killed in an air collision involving a plane piloted by a colored flier. 1-2-45

Saying that the "percentage" against his son's life was higher with a Negro in the air, the father of the white pilot pleaded with the War Department to end the use of Negro pilots on the grounds that they "are not qualified."

The heartsore but hate-ridden letter, written by Earl C. Knowlton, head of the Anniston water works and circulated by the Associated Press came after Lt. Earl C. Knowlton Jr., pilot of a B-24, and 11 others were killed in addition to the Negro pilot of a pursuit plane in a recent accident near Charleston, S. C.

"With all my heart," Knowlton stated, "I resent our government's apparent determination to raise the Negro overnight, as it were, to a place in the civilization which he is as yet unprepared to assume." 1-2-45

Knowlton said he had no prejudice against Negroes and that Negroes were among the first to come to his home to offer sympathy for his boy's death. He said he was not writing a letter of hate.

"I knew that my boy might have to give his life for his country," Knowlton continued, "but I expected it to accomplish some useful purpose, and not to be sacrificed to the fanatical idea that all men must be allowed to perform on the same level regardless of background qualification."

Knowlton, who has a daughter, Capt. Louise Knowlton, on duty in France with the WAC, said his forefathers fought on opposite sides of the Civil War and added:

"I hold no blame against the Negro who flew a fighter plane into a bomber, killing my boy and 11 others. He flew that plane because he was ordered to do so."

Not Yet Qualified 1-2-45

"It is the expression of the very deep resentment I feel toward the fetishism of our government in its attitude toward an unnatural and impossible sudden elevation of the Negro to duties he is not yet qualified to perform," Knowlton wrote.

"With rare exceptions, his mind is not prepared to make the split-second decisions which mean life and death in the operation of so swift and so complicated and so deadly a mechanism as an airplane," he continued.

"Some will say that the accident might have happened if a white man had been piloting the fighter plane. That is true. But the percentage against it would have been in my boy's favor," he added.

Ripping the Knowlton letter as a "underhand cut at the whole Negro race," Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, quoted the record of Negro pilots.

"We can understand the grief and disappointment of a father who expected that if his son should lose his life in serving his country, it would not be in an accident," Wilkins said.

Records Disprove Racism

"But the record of Negro combatpilots to date in actual combat . . . would seem to prove that Negroes are capable of handling a combat airplane and making split-second decisions at more than 400 miles an hour.

"Mr. Knowlton says his letter is not one of hatred and we believe him so far as his feeling for this one Negro pilot is concerned, but his main thesis, which is that the Negro is still a kind of uncivilized lower animal incapable of adjusting himself to civilization, is an underhand cut at the whole Negro race. 1-2-45

"From the very beginning in 1940, Negro Americans have spent most of their energies struggling to get a chance to fight the enemies of our country, and this incident is just one more of the many that have been used to discourage him and to relegate him to strictly menial and service work in uniform," Wilkins stated.

The St Louis Argus. Missouri

"WHICH--WILL IT BE?"

Courts Martial Held At South Carolina Base

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

All Involved Had Overseas Service Records

10-19-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) —Sentences imposed.. on three officers by courts martial at the Walterboro Army Air Field, Walterboro, S. C., have been reduced by higher authority.

5 10-12-45

The three officers, who served overseas, are Second Lieuts. Benjamin W. Alston and LeRoy Gilead and First Lieut. Robert O'Neil.

DISOBEDIENCE "CRIME"

Alston was convicted on August 10 of wilful disobedience of a lawful command from his superior officer and absence without leave. He was sentenced to be dismissed from the Army, to forfeit all pay and allowances, and to be confined at hard labor for three years.

The authority which convened the court martial reduced the period of confinement to one year. Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson remitted the forfeitures and suspended the execution of the modified sentence during good behavior.

Gilead was convicted on August 14 of being absent without leave on July 17, violating a standing order by not signing out in the officers' register before leaving the post, and making a false official statement to his superior officer.

TO REPRIMAND 10-19-45

He was sentenced to be dismissed from the Army and to forfeit all pay and allowances. Judge Patterson commuted the sentence to a reprimand and forfeiture of $50 a month of his pay for six months.

O'Neil pleaded guilty to a charge of being absent without leave from July 19 to July 23. He was sentenced to be dismissed from the Army and to forfeit all pay and allowances. The commanding general of the First Air Force at Mitchell, New York, approved only so much of the sentence as provided for a forfeiture of $75 a month for six months. 10-19-45

O'Neil, who was a member of the 332d Fighter Group, wears the Air Medal. He was decorated for meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activites against the enemy from July 15 to 24, 1944. He was reported missing in action over France on August 14, 1944, but returned to duty twelve days later and was returned to the United States in September, 1944. His home is in Detroit.

642 Officers and Enlisted Men Are Discharged From Tuskegee and Godman Fields

The Call Kansas City, Missouri
11-30-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) —From VJ-Day, Sept. 2, to Nov. 6, 1945, 642 Air Corps personnel, from Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama and Godman Field, Kentucky, have been separated from the service, the War Department announced today.

The following officers from Tuskegee Army Air Field, all veteran combat pilots, have been separated from the service:

Captains—Milton R. Brooks, Glassport, Pa.; Charles B. Hall, Bryant, Indiana; Harold E. Sawyer, Columbus, Ohio; Harry A. Sheppard, Corona, New York.

First Lieutenants—Charles M. Bussey, Los Angeles; Cornelius P. Gould, Pittsburgh; Dempsey W. Morgan, Detroit; Sanford M. Perkins, Denver; Willard L. Woods, Los Angeles; Myron Wilson, Danville, Ill.; Robert L. Martin, Dubuque, Iowa; Archibald Robertson, Auburn, Ala. 11-30-45

Godman field lists the following officers as having been separated from the service:

First Lieutenants—John B. Turner, 1015 Mason and Turner Ave., Atlanta, Ga.; James Y. Carter, Winston Salem, N. C.; Robert D. Anderson, Indianapolis; Luther A. Goodwin, San Francisco; Reginald W. Hayes, Holicong, Pa.; Kenneth R. Hawkins, San Bernadino; Walter B. Herron, Columbus, Ga.; John A. Rector, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Second Lieutenants—Celestus King, Los Angeles, Cal.; James R. Chichester, Los Angeles; Charles W. Diggs, Roxbury, Mass.; Charles H. Drummond, Roxbury, Mass.; Charles J. Dorkins, Baltimore; Roger C. Terry, Los Angeles; Luther L. Oliver, Montgomery, Ala.; Edward B. Watkins, Freeman, W. Va.; Bernard Harris, Detroit; James W. Whyte, New Haven, Conn. 11-30-45

Flight Officers—Gamaliel M. Collins, Los Angeles; John I. Mulzac, Brooklyn, New York; Morris J. Washington, Atlantic City; John P. Qualles, Bronx, New York; Maurice D. Pompey, South Bend, Indiana; Henry R. Fears, Muncie, Indiana; Howard A. Wooten, Fodke Star Route, Lovelady, Texas; Donale A. Hawkins, San Bernadino, Cal.; Saint M. Twine Jr., Los Angeles; Walter H. Allen, 2800 Sherman St., Kansas City, Kansas; Douglass H. McQuillan, Brooklyn, New York; Alfred McKenzie, Washington, D. C.; Jessie H. Simpson, Fresno, Cal.

Now It Can Be Told!

The Journal and Guide

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third in a series of articles by GUIDE war correspondents revealing hitherto tightly held war secrets and anecdoes which the Army and Navy censors, for reasons not always clear to reporters, but by them held to be sufficient, clamped the lid on. With the war over, much of this unreported data can be made public.)

Norfolk Va.

'Eager' Pilot Goes On Bombing Mission Just For Fun Of It, Correspondent Suspects

12-29-45

By THOMAS W. YOUNG

In war men do their duty, most of them without "bitching." It doesn't matter that the job is hazardous, sometimes fatal. A few in every bunch take extra risks because they obey an impulse to do just a little more than is required of them, of because, . . . well, just for the hell of it. In the Army Air Forces such guys are called "eager." The encomium, when applied by a fellow pilot, is more likely to impute ridicule than admiration. "Eager" pilots are not famous for their habit of growing old.

My only clear recollection of an "eager" pilot in the 99th Fighter Squadron during its first three months in combat is the bombing mission that Louis R. Pernell of Germantown, Pa., went on when he had no business to.

FOLLOWS FLIGHT TO TARGET

Purnell, a lieutenant then but a captain now, was a "spare" on the mission assigned the task of bombing and strafing enemy activity reported in the area from Capo Calava to the Straits of Messina, in northeastern Sicily during the waning days of that campaign. A "spare" is an extra pilot who takes off with and trails the formation for five or ten minutes, just in case any of the planes develops mechanical difficulties or for any other reason the pilot drops out and returns to his base. In that event the "spare" or substitute moves into the formation and carries out the mission. 12-29-45

Dutifully, Purnell trailed the 12-plane formation for the accustomed time. Nobody fell out, and it was Purnell's cue to beat it back to his airfield near the southern coast town of Licata. But the former Lincoln (Pa.) University student disappeared in the misty blue yonder as the P-40 Warhawks roared on to their target.

When the formation landed after successfully carrying out the mission, Lt. Purnell landed with them. Quickly the pilots assembled in the operations tent to make their intelligence report. The Old Man—that was Col. B. O. Davis Jr.—was salty as could be as he pounced on Purnell for an explanation.

HAS GOOD EXCUSE

Davis demanded to know why he had continued with the flight despite the fact none of the assigned planes dropped out. Such conduct was in direct violation of Army regulations, established combat practices and, what's more, the C. O.'s own orders—unless there was a good reason for it. Purnell proceeded to supply the reason.

Well, first, the Philadelphian explained, he had noticed that the sway braces were apparently out of adjustment and were not holding the bomb rigidly under the wing. His crew chief, Purnell said, had called this to his attention before the take-off.

When it came time for him to turn back, Purnell stated, he remembered the inadequately suspended 500-pound lethal pellet under his seat and thought it would be a most dangerous thing, for himself and all the others on the field, to try to land the plane in that condition. 12-29-45

GAVE IT TO GERMANS

"Why, then," Col. Davis wanted to know, "didn't you jettison the bomb in the hills, where it would do no harm and then come on back here?" But Purnell was ready, for that one.

"I was afraid, sir, it just might fall among some of our own soldiers or equipment, so I took it over where it would do the most good and dropped it on the Germans."

Col. Davis was plenty sore at Purnell and you could see he wanted to "chew him out," but it was a pretty airtight excuse. So, for the record, he fixed it up so it would not help Purnell get home any quicker. Davis dictated to the intelligence officer that part of the report or headquarters which tallied up the score:

"Thirteen ships completed mission. Twelve sorties claimed." 12-29-45

A respectable number of men present suspected that Purnell continued on the mission just for the hell of it; just to have a little fun dropping a bomb on the retreating Nazis. But, Purnell never has admitted that.

Nor has he ever denied it, either.

Highest Ranking Pilot Says Present Plan 'Inefficient'

Pittsburg Courier, Pa.

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(Exclusive)—Col. B. O. Davis Jr., West Point graduate and highest-ranking Negro officer in the Air Forces, last week branded the theory of a racially-segregated air force as being "inefficient in operation and in some instances impossible in application."

12-15-45

Colonel Davis, commanding officer of Godman Field in Kentucky, where the composite 477th Bombardment Group is stationed, made this statement to The Courier when he was advised that a wave of unrest was brewing among the junior officers of his command. When advised that junior officers at Godman had contacted The Courier and had expressed a fear that senior officers there were advocating a peacetime segregated air force for their own exploitation, Colonel Davis made this unequivocal statement: 12-15-45

"I would like to see a colored pilot or administrative officer treated the same as any white officer. I am certainly not making a stand for any segregated setup.

TESTIFIED BEFORE ARMY BOARD

"In appearing before the Gillem Board, I stood against the theory of a racially segregated air force and army on the grounds that such segregation is inefficient in operation and in some instances, impossible in application."

Editor's Note—The Gillem Board, composed of high ranking Army officers, recently convened at War Department headquarters and heard testimony on the issue of segregation and the peace-time Army.)

Commenting further on his stand against a segregated air force, Colonel Davis pointed out that as an army officer he had been placed in charge of Godman Field and that he was bound by oath to carry out his orders. He emphasized that this personal belief and stand against segregation had nothing to do with his intention to carry out the orders of his superiors.

OPPOSE SEGREGATION

"I am put here, and of course will do everything in my power to carry out my orders, but I am not taking any stand for segregation," Colonel Davis declared.

According to the junior officers who contacted this correspondent, they wanted all the world to know that they stood unalterably opposed to a segregated air force; they wanted the Nation to rise at this time to say for them the things that they could not say publicly. They were forced to take this action, they said, because they believed that the future air force policy on segregation was now under consideration and they wanted to make sure that their opinion in the matter was clearly understood.

Colonel Davis' public stand on a segregated air force is deemed highly significant because of his complete knowledge of the application of segregation in the war just closed. 12-15-45

COMMANDED EVERY SEGREGATED UNIT

He was among the first to be graduated from the jim-crow Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. After graduation he moved with the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron to its overseas destination and was that squadron's commanding officer throughout its early days of combat. He was later placed in charge of the 332nd Fighter Group that distinguished itself in action in the European Theatre of Operations.

Returning to this country, Colonel Davis was placed in charge of the 477th Bombardment Group. Since Colonel Davis has been in command of every all-Negro air unit in combat, it is felt that his stand is an irrefragable condemnation of the maladroit segregation of Negroes in the air force.

BULLETIN! WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Courier has learned from a highly authoritative source that the War Department has already completed plans for the training of Negro pilots on an integrated basis at its largest Central Instructors' School, now in process of being moved from Randolph Field to Barksdale Field in Louisiana. The usually reliable source also told The Courier that this means the early closing of the Tuskegee Army Air Field, since the same integration will exist at all other Central Instructors' Schools and Tuskegee Army Air Force is not and will not be listed as a base for a tactical unit.

The source revealed that training of Negro pilots at Barksdale would await an overall announcement which would be epoch-making in that it would announce the scattering of all Negro pilots now in the Air Force to fields throughout the country on an integrated basis.

Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

Materialization of complete integration in the Air Force would mean the successful conclusion of The Pittsburgh Courier's long fight to get Negroes into the Air Forces of the United States, and more lately to wipe out segregation.

56a-1945

Plane Crash in S. Carolina No Reflection on Colored Flyers

General

HFRO: American Balt., Md.

1-20-45

EDITOR'S NOTE—When a colored flyer's plane crashed with a bomber piloted by a white airman, recently, the father of the latter wrote a letter to the War Department saying that all colored aviators should be grounded.

Here is the answer of the dad of the colored flyer, who was also killed in the crash.

The War Department has not laid the blame for the accident on either pilot.

Earl C. Knowlton, Anniston, Ala.—Dear Sir: I have read your letter written to the War Department and published in the Anniston Star, in which you voice your resentment against colored men being allowed to fly planes.

I am surprised to learn that a man, intelligent and courageous enough to learn how to operate and fly a B-24 bomber, could have a father cursed with such an inferiority complex, that he would dare to make such a complaint as you have written to our government.

Sorrow No Greater

It was unfortunate that your son was killed in that fateful crash. My son was killed, too. Your sorrow and your anguish cannot possibly be greater than mine. And while my heart goes out to you as one sorrowful father to another, I deeply resent any statement that you may make that attempts to cast a reflection on my people.

During the past three years, airplane crashes and collisions have occurred in various parts of this country almost every week, with no colored flyers involved. A collision in South Carolina with one colored flyer could not possibly change the picture.

What right have you to intimate that either of the pilots involved in the fatal crash at Walterboro, S.C., on December 5, was more to blame than the other? Has anyone accused your son of being responsible?

Do you think that he stands accused to the extent that his father needs to create an alibi for him? Or, did the tragic death of your son mean no more to you than an excuse to give voice to your prejudice against colored people?

In your letter, you state that you "resent our government's apparent determination to raise the colored man overnight to a place in civilization to which he is as yet unprepared to assume."

But you must realize that every consideration the colored man receives from his government has been earned.

1-20-45

No Special Privileges

Our government has given us no special privileges during this war. It has only recognized the fact that it is the right of every citizen to fight for the defense of his country—to serve in any branch of the armed forces where he is needed and qualified to serve.

That they have served well and with distinction in every branch of the armed forces to which they have been assigned is an attested and recorded fact.

The Air Corps is no exception. The brilliant, heroic deeds of our soldiers during this war have not been surpassed by any group. Their patriotism has not been questioned.

A Qualified Pilot

My son, Flight Officer Robert M. Johnson, was graduated from high school when he was sixteen years old. Knowing that he would soon have to go to the war, he stayed out of college and worked as a photographer until he was old enough for military service.

He enlisted in the Air Corps and was accepted for training as a cadet, not because he was colored, but because he had the physical, mental and educational qualifications to make a pilot.

He earned his commission after he had received the necessary training and passed the required test. That he was a qualified pilot is without question.

His racial background had nothing to do with his qualifications for the job to which he was assigned. He was a man doing his duty. He was willing to give his life that democracy might become a reality, and that the world might become a better place for you and everyone else to live in; not as whites or as blacks, but as men.

Adopt His Creed

He had no complexes. The creed by which he lived was one that you might well adopt. "First to thine own self be true, thou canst not then be false to any man."

He made no excuses for himself, and I shall make none for him. He always did what he believed to be right. He had much to live for; his death was untimely, and my sorrow is almost too much to bear.

But, if his death helps to focus the attention of the world on the biased and prejudiced bigots who avail themselves of every opportunity to undermine the foundation of our democratic government by their injection of race discrimination, and if these race haters are eliminated or the effects of their venom lessened by this war, then I shall feel that the death of my son was not in vain. The purpose for which he was willing to give his life has been accomplished.

1-20-45

You Need to Pray

Mr. Knowlton, I doubt if the War Department would give a second thought to your letter, except for the fact that it smells very strongly of an attempt to sabotage the war effort, by raising a ridiculous race issue, during a critical stage of the war, and supplying Herr Hitler and his gang with more material for propaganda about strife in the democratic countries.

We loyal Americans can thank God that you belong to a group as sure to vanish from American soil as America is to win this war. God would not have it otherwise.

Mr. Knowlton, you and your kind are being weighed in the balance of justice and you have been found wanting. You need to pray.

Yours truly, Luther H. Johnson, 1900 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Col. Davis Loses 3 Flying Officers

N.Y. Amsterdam News

One of the first duties of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., post commander at Godman Field, Ky., was to announce a grave tragedy.

Three Negro Army flyers were killed early this week, and two others were injured when the B-25 Mitchell bomber they were flying crashed into the Ohio River near Madison, Ind.

7-14-45

No details of the plane plunge were reported.

The dead were identified by Col. Davis as Lieutenant Samuel A. Black, of Plainfield, N. J., pilot; Second Lieutenant Stephen Hotesse of New York City, co-pilot, and Flight Officer Glen W. Bullien, of Los Angeles, navigator.

Efforts to contact the parents of 2nd Lt. Hotesse of New York City were unsuccessful.

7-14-45

TAAF's Fourth Anniversary

Philadelphia Tribune 7-28-45

Shown immediately following a command meeting in which Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer of Godman Field, Ky., and the 477th Composite Group, was the principal speaker during the fourth anniversary celebration at Tuskegee Army Air Field, are ranking officers of TAAF and guests.

8-25-45

Left to right, Col. Eugene Dibble, of Tuskegee Veterans' Hospital; Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of TAAF, Captain Luke J. Weathers, returned 332nd combat pilot; Col. Davis; Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute; Col. Richard C. Cumming, TAAF Base Surgeon; and Major H. C. Magoon, Commanding Officer of the Primary School at Tuskegee Institute. —(Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

Sentences Imposed On Airmen Reduced By War Department

The Chicago Defender 10-20-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Stiff sentences imposed on three Negro army air force officers stationed at Walterboro field near Charleston, S. C., were this week reduced by the War Department.

The men, Second Lt. Benjamin W. Alston, First Lt. Robert O'Neil, and Second Lt. Leroy F. Gaillard were all dismissed from the service and to forfeit all pay and allowance for having been absent without leave from July 19 through July 23. O'Neil pleaded guilty.

It should be pointed out that this officer had been overseas and had several combat missions to his credit.

The First Air Force approved only so much of the sentence as provided for a forfeiture of $75 a month for six months.

Alston drawing a three-year sentence to serve hard labor.

The sentences, handed down by a special court-martial appointed by Col. Guy Kirksey, commanding officer, were all reviewed by the War Department, and in every case considerably reduced.

Second Lt. Alston, who was found guilty of willful disobedience of a lawful command and absent without leave, had been sentenced by the court-martial to be dismissed from the army, forfeit all pay and allowances, and to be confined at hard labor for three years.

In the first review of his case, the period of confinement was reduced to one year. But, when it came before the Secretary of War for final review, he confirmed the sentence, but remitted the forfeitures and suspended the execution of the sentence during good behavior.

10-20-45

Second Lt. Leroy F. Gaillard was sentenced to be dismissed from the service and to forfeit all pay and allowances for having been absent without leave, for having made a false official statement to his superior officer, and for having violated a base regulation requiring an officer to sign out before leaving the base to travel more than 25 miles.

The Secretary of War confirmed the sentence but commuted it to a reprimand and forfeiture of $50 of his pay for six months.

First Lt. Robert O'Neil was sentenced to be dismissed from the service and to forfeit all pay and

LT. FRED HUTCHERSON JR. is shown above (left) with his mother, Mrs. Wendell Albright, and (right) his brother, Joe Hutcherson, at a luncheon given the noted flyer at the Clark hotel by his cousin, Izora Peak, during his brief stay here last week. Lt. Hutcherson has the distinction of being the first Negro to fly the Atlantic, and was also the first to fly in the Royal Canadian Ferry Command at a salary of $1000 a month.

First Race Aviator to Fly Atlantic Visits City

Los Angeles Sentinel — Cal.

Lieut. Fred Hutcherson, Jr., ace flyer who was the first Negro to fly the Atlantic and the first to fly in the Royal Canadian Ferry Command at a salary of $1,000 a month, visited his mother, Mrs. Wendell Albright, here last week.

Lieut. Hutcherson was here for two days, together with plane which was a gift from his father, Fred Hutcherson Sr.

The airman, it is learned, was denied admittance at that time in the U. S. air force because of his color. He then went to Canada, and volunteered in the Royal Canadian Air Force. 6-14-45

In the Canadian service, he made many trips to England transporting materials of war to the mother country. In recognition of his ability, the RCAF promoted him to the rank of captain, increasing his salary to $1,000 a month. He also piloted many bomber planes to England.

Later he transferred to the Royal Air Force, where he likewise was given the rank of captain.

six other officers. During his stay he was entertained at dinner, and at a luncheon given by his cousin, Izora Peak, at the Clark Hotel.

The noted aviator expected to become an instructor at the Tuskegee Army Air Field following a refresher course at Moton Field.

At the present time a lieutenant, the ace flyer was a captain while he was connected with the Royal Canadian Air Force and later with the Royal Air Force. When he joined the U. S. Air Forces, however, he was given the rank of lieutenant.

Fate Of Vet Pilots Weighed By War Dept.

Chicago (Ill.) Defender

Expect 99th And 477th To Be Retained As Strategic Reserves

9-15-45

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The future of Negro Army Air Corp units will be blueprinted soon at the War Department here, it was reliably learned by the Defender.

The famed 332nd Fighter Group, which chalked-up a highly creditable record in the Mediterranean theater, will go by the board.

The 99th Pursuit squadron, presently a part of that group, will be retained as a unit, as will the 477th, now stationed at Godman Field, under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. Both units —the 99th, composed of single-engine craft, and the 477th, multi-engine bombers—will become a part of the AAF strategic reserves to be on hand for any type of activity for which they may be chosen.

It is anticipated that the units will be comprised largely of veterans of the Italian campaign. While members of each of the units may volunteer for overseas duty, it is not immediately foreseeable that the army will send them over.

Fate of Tuskegee

It is expected that a part of the projected picture will deal with the future of the Tuskegee Army Air Field. While it is not known what that future will be, it seems fairly certain that Tuskegee AAF will be retained longer than Godman.

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., has been in Washington this week where he has made some inquiry into the final disposition of flying facilities at Tuskegee, including the institution's own Moton Field, which has been under contract to the army.

As the contract on the Moton Field installation was for the duration only, it has been cancelled by the army, as has been contracts on all other fields so acquired. In fact, Moton Field, which was the only Negro field in the group, was the last to be cancelled.

It seems probable that private flying, which has been carried on at Tuskegee's Field No. 1, will be moved to Moton Field.

Deal With Fisk

Tuskegee is presently serving a unit of Fisk university under a plan initiated by the state of Tennessee whereby 20 Negro aviation students have been given scholarships. These students are channeled through Fisk. Having no equipment or instructional staff, Fisk has entered into an agreement with Tuskegee, through which a sub-base has been set up at a city airport turned over to Fisk. Tuskegee is conducting the training, using her instructors and equipment.

It may well be that Tuskegee will expand this type of service to other institutions in other states as such institutions choose to participate.

A good deal of concern has been manifested in a possible future for Negro pilots in the Army Transport Command. At present this future seems obscure. For one reason, ATC flyers cover the world. The policy of the top personnel in the Army Air Force has not been one which would permit Negro flyers to ramble around on their own. Another reason is Negro flyers are still new in the game. Barred by army policy from the flying field until World War II, Negroes have not acquired the necessary experience which ATC jobs require.

Efforts made to get Negro flyers integrated into the army as ATC ferry pilots were blocked.

Priority for Whites

Army Transport services presently under the army will eventually be turned back to private commercial companies. It had been hoped that Negro flyers might have gotten in on the ground floor while the army had the service, but this did not pan out.

It should be pointed out that the Army Air Force must cut its strength to approximately 2,500,000 from a war-time strength of approximately 8,000,000. This will leave a lot of white pilots looking for air jobs. Having more experience made available to them by virtue of a more prolonged opportunity in the AAF, they will have priority over Negro pilots for commercial jobs.

More than 1,240 Negro Air Force units were assigned to the North African-Middle East theater in time of war. These men have had at least nine months of schooling and can qualify for all of the technical phases of flying from the bottom up. They can instruct, maintain their craft and fly, but it appears that they will be barred from ATC, the aristocracy of the Air Force, because their white fellows have the greater experience.

Negro flyers have been restricted to single and twin engine craft, flying largely fighter planes such as P-40s, P-47s, P-51s and P-38s. Members of the 477th Composite Group fly twin engine medium bombers, such as the B-25s.

To Try Arrested Officers At Once

Journal and Guide

6-30-45 Norfolk, Va.

Staff Correspondence

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—Nearly three months have passed since three officers of the 477th Bombardment Group were placed under arrest by order of Col. Robert Selway at Freeman Field, near Seymour, Ind. They are still being confined to their barracks although they have not yet been tried by court-martial. Journal Guide

A Washington source revealed early this week that the trials have been set for Saturday at Godman Field.

Arrested along with a total of 163 officers for entering an officers club which the white command had set aside for the exclusive use of white officers—in contradiction to a specific War Department directive prohibiting racial discrimination in the use of post recreational facilities—and for declining to sign a discriminatory circular which set aside buildings and areas which were to be used by these men, the three men were held after the others were hastily released.

They are charged with "jostling" a military police officer who sought to refrain them from entering the club and have been confined to their barracks for almost three months.

HUMILIATED DAILY

Army regulations require that men held for court martial be tried within eight days, if possible, and that their trial be expedited as quickly as possible if it is not practicable to try them within the eight day limitation. These men remain untried and are constantly subjected to the embarrassment of being accompanied by armed guards to such nearby facilities as the barber shop and theatre, located within 50 yards of their barracks.

Meanwhile, these three officers, accompanied as they are by armed guards, are daily treated to the demoralizing spectacle of seeing German prisoners of war, walking around Fort Knox and Godman Field without any guard whatever.

The three officers still being held are: 2nd Lt. Roger Terry, of Los Angeles, bomber pilot of a combat crew training squadron; who has lost his flying pay for three months as a result of his unusually long confinement; Marsden Thompson, adjutant; and Shirley R. Clinton, intelligence officer.

MOVES FOR TRIAL

Taking immediate cognizance of the influence this confinement would have on his entire command, Col. B. O. Davis Jr., new commanding officer of the 477th Composite Group, took immediate steps to find out why the men were being held. On his first day in command, Col. Davis sent a tracer through on the charges to find out where they were and what was to be done next.

He was told that the charges had gone up through 1st Air Force to Washington. He immediately contacted Washington concerning the charges.

Two days later, Col. Davis appointed the court which will hear the case against these men in the near future. Col. Davis, himself, is president of the court. Lt. James Y. Carter, of Winston-Salem, former law instructor at North Carolina College, is one of the members of the court. The court will be advised in its hearing by Lt. Robert Ming, formerly a noted Washington lawyer and instructor at the Howard law school, and now a member of the Army's judge advocate's department.

William H. Hastie, former judge of the Virgin Islands and former civilian aide to the Secretary of War who is now head of the Howard law school, has previously expressed interest in defending the three officers and will be asked by Lts. Clinton, Terry, and Thompson, to defend them at the forthcoming trial.

Col. Davis has pledged that the trial will be conducted in an atmosphere of complete fairness. He believes that speedy disposition of this case is important to improving the morale of his new command even further.

VETERANS IGNORED

Col. Selway declined to discuss the case with reporters during the last week. It was generally believed that the white command made a deliberate attempt to humiliate the three men and kept them in confinement much longer than was necessary.

An interesting sidelight to the episode concerning use of the "white" officers club is the fact that the command studiously refrained from arresting officers with overseas combat records. Captain James T. Wiley, Pittsburgh; Capt. Clarence Jamison, Cleveland; Capt. Jack Rodgers, Chicago; Lt. Robert O'Neil, Detroit; and other returned combat pilots were not arrested although they attempted to enter the club during the Freeman Field row.

Negro Air Units Face Reduction

Chicago Defender Chicago Ill

Begin Demobilization Of Fighter Units

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—(ANP)—More than 100 men were discharged from the air force from Godman Field last month. Of these 45 were officers and 75 enlisted men, all of them being sent to separation centers.

Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, announced that reorganization of combat units was proceeding according to plan, that training of replacements for the 477th composite group which he heads has ceased and that both discharging and recruiting programs are being accelerated.

Col. Davis

10-20-45

Several combat units have been inactivated and assigned to the base unit.

Two squadrons of the 387th Air Service group have been inactivated. Remaining are the 99th Fighter Squadron (P-47), commanded by Maj. Bill Campbell of Tuskegee; the 617th Bombardment squadron, headed by Capt. Charles L. Williams of Lima, O., and the 602nd Air Engineering squadron which Capt. Herbert E. Carter of Amory, Miss., commands.

Shift Walterboro Trainees

Training of combat replacements for the 477th Composite group at hated Walterboro field, S. C., has been halted. The 375 trainees, officers and men have arrived at Goodman field.

The last class at the primary training field at Tuskegee will graduate November 20.

Just what the future holds is not certain. Col. Davis states that no word concerning a move from Godman field has been received but he admits that the facilities here are inadequate to house the large numbers of men being transferred here. 10-20-45

May Abandon Tuskegee Field

At one time it was assumed that the $5,000,000 field at Tuskegee would be used to house the group providing some plan was not developed to integrate the men into white units. Protests on the part of some of the men who did not wish to go to Tuskegee because of its southern location, an opinion which Col. Davis is said to have shared, may have eliminated Tuskegee from future plans.

Gen. Arnold, top air force commander, has said however, that he wants 6,500 planes and 600,000 men retained during the transition period and many men here are hoping that will mean a sizeable Negro force. Col. Davis has appointed a recruiting officer who is accepting applications for regular army duty. A surprising number of officers and men who formerly declared themselves as anxious to leave the service at the earliest moment are said to be applying f[illegible] an opportunity to reenlist.

COLONEL DAVIS HAS A HASTY CHANGE OF HEART

Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

12-1-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—Court-martial proceedings against Lt. Thurnell Anderson of Chicago were dropped this week after he had been charged with "conduct unbecoming an officer."

The charge is said to have grown out of Anderson's drinking a cup of coffee in a Greyhound bus station coffee shop in Louisville, generally looked upon as a facility for whites only.

According to reports, Anderson asked for coffee in the shop and was served without any delay. He sat completely undisturbed, until two MPs saw him. They immediately arrested him and turned him over to Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of Godman Field, where Anderson is presently based with the 477th Composite Group, of which he is a member. 12-1-45

Colonel Davis ordered Anderson up for court-martial on a charge of "conduct unbecoming an officer." However, on Monday after the Defender made inquiries at Godman Field regarding the case, Col. Davis had a change of heart and dropped all charges.

The air base commander claimed the original charge was made on the basis of "profane language" used by Lt. Anderson when jailed by two white MPs. It was learned that Col. Davis decided to forget the affair because of the "possible racial implications."

Anderson had protested that the proprietor of the shop did not complain, nor did he refuse him service, and he, therefore, failed to see the basis for the charges, since Kentucky has no law against segregation.

Davis is alleged to have informed Anderson, "You should not use your uniform to crusade."

A legal source here said that if the coffee shop were operated in connection with the bus station, which is a public facility, that under a Supreme Court ruling Anderson would not be acting in violation of any law even if Kentucky did have a statute upholding segregation.

DAVIS AND STAFF OFFICERS — Shown here is Col. B. O. Davis Jr., and staff officers of the 477th Composite Group, Godman Field, Ky.

Col. Davis (in front): first row, left to right: Major Vance H. Marchbanks, flight surgeon, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Major Thomas J. Money, executive officer, Chicago; Major Andrew D. Turner, deputy commander, Washington, D. C.; Major Douglas L. T. Robinson, chaplain, Philadelphia, Pa.; second row: Capt. Charles I. Williams, commanding officer 617th Bomb Squadron (M), Lima, Ohio; Major William A. Campbell, commanding officer 99th Fighter Squadron (SE), Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Capt. Elmore Kennedy, commanding officer 618th Bomb Squadron (M), Philadelphia, Pa.; third row: Lt. Henry V. Moore, ordnance officer, Chicago; Capt. William B. Thompson, armament officer, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Capt. John R. Beverly, intelligence officer, Paulsboro, N. J.; Capt. Robert L. Smith, engineering officer, Detroit, Mich.; Lt. Carl B. Taylor, adjutant, Yonkers, N. Y.; Lt. John D. Silvera, public relations officer, New York City.

B. O. Davis tells changes in group

Los Angeles Col.

Fortune

LOUISVILLE—In a survey of activities at Godman Field, Ky., Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, revealed to-day that re-organization of combat units was proceeding according to the Army Air Forces plan to reduce the Negro section to a peacetime size," and that training of replacements for the 477th Composite Group had ceased, and discharging and recruiting programs are being accelerated.

Several combat units of the command were inactivated recently and attached personnel absorbed into the base unit, Col. Davis said. The 477th Composite group now consists of a group headquarters; the 99th Fighter squadron, commanded by Maj. William A. Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala; and the 617th Bombardment squadron, whose commanding officer is Capt. Charles I. Williams, Lima, Ohio. Two squadrons of the 387th Air Service group also have been inactivated. Only the 602nd Air Engineering squadron remains; Capt. Herbert E. Carter, Amory, Miss., is in command.

10-22-45

Col Davis also said training of combat replacements for the 477th had been halted at Walterboro, S. C., and that approximately 375 officers and men had been returned to Godman Field. These include pilots, bombardier-navigators, gunners, and several n[illegible]ing personnel.

10

Approximately 4[illegible]s and 75 enlisted personnel [illegible] been released from Godman Field to separation centers during the past month, Col. Davis said.

On the other hand, a recruiting officer has been appointed, and an undisclosed number of men have re-enlisted in the Regular Army, Air Corps branch.

When queried about the possibility of an early move from Godman Field, Col. Davis said no information concerning a move had reached him. However, facilities at Godman Field will be inadequate to house and train the large numbers of men being transferred there, he said, adding that in all probability an official announcement of a change of station would be forthcoming.

56a-1945

Godman Field

C.-J. Photo by Mooney.

DERBY BOWL GAIN of eight yards on an end-run is registered by speedy Halfback Bill Bass (22) of Tennessee State against Godman Field in du Pont Stadium. Tennessee defeated the Godman Bombers 45-24.

Tenn. State Rips Godman 45-24 In Derby Bowl

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. 12-9-45

Tennessee State ran up three touchdowns in the first quarter and then settled down to match Godman Field the rest of the way to notch a 45-24 triumph yesterday at du Pont Stadium in the first Derby Bowl game before a scant crowd of 2,500.

The basketball score is indicative of the bizarre play that produced 11 touchdowns, two of them kickoff returns, and another the result of a double pass.

Four of the Tennessee State tallies came on straight drives of 53, 80, 70 and 44 yards, respectively. Three more were produced by a pass, a blocked kick and a fumble that set the stage.

Strictly air-minded, the Bombers threw 31 passes, completed 15, two of which brought touchdowns. Coach Archie Harris' 98-yard kickoff return and End Jim Holland's 75-yard return completed the Bomber scoring.

OPENS FAST

The Tigers from Nashville opened up quickly, driving 53 yards for a tally on their first offensive effort. Bill Bass, speedy 180-pound halfback, aided the march with sprints of 15 and 17 yards. Fullback Ralph Pulley culminated the surge with a three-yard buck at center. Bass' placement kick gave the Tigers a 7-0 lead.

A Bomber fumbled three minutes later set Tennesse State on the Godman 20. On the first play, Quarterback Nat Taylor pased to End Bill Smith of Louisville for the score, and Bass added his second placement for a 14-0 lead. 12-9-45

REGISTERS

With two minutes left in the quarter, Tackle Bob Drummond blocked Joe Echols' punt on the 20, grabbed the leather and raced over. Bass failed at conversion for the first time, making the count read 20-0.

In the second period a short punt gave Godman a spot on the Tiger 26. The first downs, with a 12-yard jaunt by Dave Lawyer, pushed the collegians to their 3. After three ineffectual tries, Halfback Floyd Brown passed to Halfback Earle Reynolds for the marker. "Chappie" James missed the try, and the halftime score of 20-7 had been made.

Tennessee State took the second half kickoff and plowed straight for the Godman goal, arriving there in eight plays. Pulley registered with a four-yard stab at left guard. Bass missed again, the Tigers led 26-6.

Harris then took the Tennessee kickoff on his two and the former Indiana University star stepped through the entire enemy eleven. James kick was blocked.

Five minutes later, the Bengals took advantage of a fumble and Bass scooted 21 yards to their fifth touchdown. Bass, faking a kick, passed to Smith for the extra point. 12-9-45

A 70-yard offensive late in the third period brought Tennessee State another six-pointer on the first play of the fourth when Louisville's Al Sharp cracked center four yards for a score. Ray Whitman's kick failed.

DOUBLE PASS

The Bombers countered, with the double pass play bringing the pay-off of a 68-yard thrust. Brown faded for an aerial, shot the oval to Harris running laterally to his left, and the Godman mentor fired it to Quarterback Al Barrett in the end zone. James' kick was wide.

With darkness fast blanketing the play, the Tigers chalked up their final touchdown on a 56-yard hike. Henry Gilmore punched across from the five and Bass' last extra point effort was in vain.

Holland took the Tennessee State kickoff, and under the protecting mantle of dusk and a minimum of interference, shot 75 yards to the goal.

Tenn. State.	Pos.	Godman Field.
Washington	L.E.	Holland
Dixon	L.T.	Cover
Bolden	L.G.	Neal
Wynne	C.	Chube
I. Jones	R.G.	Young
Drummond	R.T.	Ward
Smith	R.E.	Greer
Taylor	Q.B.	Thompson
Holbert	L.H.	Brown
Bass	R.H.	Echols
Pulley	F.B.	Leake

Tennessee State	20	0	13	12—45
Godman Field	0	6	6	12—24

Touchdowns: Tennessee State—Pulley 2, Smith, Drummond, Bass, Sharp, Gilmore. Godman Field—Reynolds, Harris, Barrett, Holland. Extra Points: Tennessee State—Bass 2 (placement), Smith (pass from Bass).

Substitutions: Tennessee State—Taylor, McPherson, Starnes, C. Jones, Love, Johnson, Sharp, Gilmore, Bullard, Cheeseborough, Rozier, Leonard, Rickman, Buchanan.

Godman Field — Claxton, Stanton, Reynolds, Edwards, Barrett, Webb, Wells, Warren, Lawyer, James, Harris, White, Reaves, Mitchell, Grant, Martin.

Officials—Referee, Whedbee (Fisk); umpire, Johnson (Fisk); head lyinesman, Hall (Fisk); field judge, Adams (Tuskegee).

56 - 1945

All-Negro Air Base Hailed As Tribute to Race in War

Richmond Times Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

By Barney Peysev

FORT KNOX, KY., July 18— A brigadier-general and a colonel, both Negroes, stood at attention, watching Billy Mitchell bombers, flown by Negro pilots, swoop low in close formation over Godman Field. . . .

It was a new day for Godman Field, a new day for the two officers, father and son, and a military precedent.

It was an all-Negro troop review, marking the official installation of the 477th Composite Air Group of the First Air Force at Fort Knox, and the first time a Negro officer had been placed in charge of a United States military base.

7-19-45

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was the first Negro base commanding officer. His father, Brigadier-General Benjamin O. Davis, 62, first and only Negro general officer in United States military history, had flown from Washington to attend the review.

"Those boys can really fly," said father to son.

Later General Davis had this to say:

"The performance I witnessed and the establishment of these units at Godman Field are clear evidence to us who have followed the Negro's performance in this war that the War Department feels the Negro soldier is making a distinct contribution to the war effort."

Established at Godman Field with the 477th Composite Group are the 387th Service Group and the newly arrived company of a Negro air Wacs.

General Davis said the War Department had promised that when the units are trained, they will be sent into combat "and I can promise you that they will make a definite contribution to final victory."

7-19-45

The general, born in Washington, D. C., entered military service in July, 1898, during the Spanish-American War as a temporary lieutenant. He re-enlisted as a private in the regular army after the war, served as a corporal and squadron sergeant-major, and in 1901 was commissioned a second lieutenant of cavalry.

He taught military science and tactics at Wilberforce University in Ohio, and at Tuskgee Institute in Alabama. He was promoted to brigadier-general, temporary rank, in 1940, was retired in July, 1941, but recalled to active duty the day after his retirement.

7-19-45

Colonel Davis, a West Point graduate of 1936, was commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy. He won his pilot's wings at the Tuskegee army airfield in 1942 and was assigned to command the Ninety-ninth Air Group in the North African, Sicilian and Italian compaigns.

The Negro flight officer took command of the 332nd Fighter Group in October, 1943, was its chief overseas in bold strafing sorties against the enemy and figured in low-level skip-bombing at Cassino and Anzio.

He wears the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguishel Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf clusters.

Colonel Davis said the Negro trainees for his base "are the finest of our race that could be selected for this duty."

Colonel Davis First Negro Ever To Command Base

N.Y. Amsterdam News

N.Y. N.Y.

Installation As Top Man At Godman Field Viewed By His Father

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. (ANP)— Amidst a historic setting here last week, Col. Benjamin O. Davis officially became the first Negro officer to be placed in command of a United States military base.

His father, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, flew from Washington to attend the dramatic installation of his son. Father and son, who have become the army's most famous combination as well as the highest Negro military leaders in the history of the U. S. armed forces, stood at attention together as Mitchell bombers, flown by Negro pilots, swooped low in close formation over this air base.

7-28-45

They also watched an all-Negro troop review in the ceremonies that marked the official installation of the 477th composite air group of the 1st air force at Fort Knox. The newly arrived Co. A group of Negro air WAC's will be stationed here with the 387th service group.

7-28-45

"The performance I witnessed and the establishment of those units at Godman field are clear evidence to us who have followed the Negro's performance in this war that the war department feels the Negro soldier is making a distinct contribution to the war effort," said General Davis.

Godman Field

NEGRO OFFICERS COMMAND ARMY POST AS ARMY SETS MILITARY PRECEDENT

Northwest Enterprise

FORT KNOX, Ky.—A brigadier general and a colonel, both Negroes, stood at attention, watching Billy Mitchell bombers, flown by Negro pilots, swoop low in close formation over Godman Field.

It was a new day for Godman Field, a new day for the two officers, father and son, and a military precedent.

It was an all-NeNgro troop review, marking the official installation of the 477th Composite Air Group of the First Air Force at Fort Knox, and the first time a Negro officer had been placed in charge of a United States military base.

First Negro to Command

Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was the first Negro base commanding officer. His father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, 62 years old, first and only Negro general officer in United States military history, had flown from Washington to attend the review.

"These boys can really fly," said father to son.

Later, General Davis had this to say: 7-25-45

"The performance I witnessed and the establishment of these units at Godman Field are clear evidence to us who have followed the Negro's performance in this war that the War Department feels the Negro soldier is making a distinct contribution to the war effort."

Seattle, Washington

Establishment at Godman Field with the 477th Composite Group are the 387th Service Group and the newly arrived Company A of Negro Wacs.

To Be Sent Into Combat

General Davis said the War Department had promised that when the units are trained, they will be sent into combat, "and I can promise you that they will make a definite contribution to final victory."

The general, born in Washington, D. C., entered military service in July, 1898, during the Spanish-American War as a temporary first lieutenant. He reenlisted as a private in the Regular Army after the war, served as a corporal and squadron sergeant-major, and in 1901 was commissioned a second lieutenant of cavalry.

He taught military science and tactics at Wilberforce University in Ohio, and at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He was promoted to brigadier general, temporary rank, in 1940, was retired in July, 1941, but recalled to active duty the day after his retirement.

West Point Graduate

Colonel Davis, a West Point graduate of 1936, was commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy. He won his pilot's wings at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in 1942 and was assigned to command the 99th Air Group in the North African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns.

The Negro flight officer took command of the 332nd Fighter Group in October, 1943, was its chief overseas in bold strafing sorties against the enemy and figured in low-level skip-bombing at Cassino and Anzio.

Northwest Enterprise

The colonel wears the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with four Oak-Leaf Clusters.

Colonel Davis said the Negro trainees for his base "are the finest of our race that could be selected for this duty."

Col. Davis Appoints Major George Webb Godman Field Deputy

N.Y. Age

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — Col. Benjamin O. Davis announced the recent appointment of Major George W. Webb as Godman Field Deputy for Administration and Services. Major Webb was formerly Provost Marshall of Tuskegee Army Air Base where he established a brilliant and enviable record for military discipline, law and order.

The Major, N.Y. who hales from Washington, is a Howard University graduate, having earned his Army commission there by way of ROOTC in 1928. He served as 1st. Lieut. assigned to the Civilian Conservation Corps at Gettyburg, Pa., for five years, and in 1941 became the first Negro Administrative Officer to be assigned to the Air Corps.

As Deputy of Administration and Services, the Major's duties include all matters relating to personnel and services connected with the ground echelon of Godman Field.

9-28-45

Lieut John D. Silvera, Base Public Relations Officer, in describing the functions of a D. A. & S. as the position is called, said "His civilian counterpart would be 1st Vice-President of a large, busy corporation. You must see Major Webb before you can get to the Colonel, and you'd better state your business properly when you do."

Colonel Davis Gets Men From Tuskegee To Augument Staff

N.Y. Amsterdam News

N.Y. N.Y.

To assist in completion of his 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Kentucky, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer of the Group has requisitioned the services of more than a score of Negro Officers from Tuskegee Army Air Base.

7-28-45

Several of these are high ranking officers and some have seen overseas service, thus bringing to Godman Field a wealth of experience which will eventually make the 477th a formidable Group prepared to help blast the Japs out of Pacific skies in the same commendable manner as the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group.

Prominent among those transferred are Major Vance Marshbanks, Flight Surgeon formerly with the 332nd.

7-28-45

Major Lee Rayford, Washington, D. C., ace pilot who will serve as Base Operations Officer of Godman.

Major Douglas L. T. Robinson, popular Tuskegee Chaplain and, Major Harold E. Thornell of Buffalo, N. Y., Flight Surgeon for the Group. Also on duty at Godman Field are 1st Lts. Alexander B. Rose, former Tuskegee Personnel Officer, and Robert S. Lawery, TAAF Ass't. Adjutant who is serving as Adjutant of the 387th Air Service Group at Godman.

Bomber Group To Fly From Okinawa Says General Eaker

Davis Replaces Selway, Who Was Blamed For Racial Friction and Arrest of Officers; Group To Pacific In Fall; Whites Removed

Journal and Guide

By LEM GRAVES JR.
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
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GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — Air Corps personnel is not generally given to emotional reactions but emotionalism was thick enough to cut around Godman Field last Thursday morning when tall, slender Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., alighted from a converted B-25 courier in front of base operations and was almost immediately introduced to 4,000 officers and men of the newly reorganized 477th Composite Fighter-Bomber Group, as the unit's new commanding officer. 6-30-45

GRAVES

Fully aware of the special significance of this occasion—probably one of the most significant in the history of the Negro's participation in the armed forces of America—these Negro men looked with intense pride at the commanding figure of their top-ranking Air Corps officer and felt a flood of uninhibited happiness that their branch of service had not only seen fit to correct, in such obvious fashion, a long standing practice of unfairness on the part of the previous command but also in the fact that their race had produced a man who could step into such a command without apology.

In the few minutes it took for this change of command to be accomplished, spirits rose a full 20 per cent and a disgruntled and demoralized air corps group was transformed into an organization of proud and happy men who were bent on making the group one of the best in the Air Forces.

Col. Davis spent his first three days reorganizing the former four-squadron bomber group into a new two-squadron bomber unit, to which a fighter squadron will be added later. (See fuller reorganization story elsewhere on this page).

UNUSUAL CEREMONIES

The unusual aspects of the ceremonies did not escape these men. They knew that the acting commanding general of the Army Air Forces does not usually preside at a routine change of command at the level of a colonelcy. They knew that such a change of command is seldom attended by such a large assemblage of news reporters, cameramen, and advance press notice—all of which was sponsored by the War Department.

They knew that officials of the War Department seldom made special trips to inaugurate a new command of a unit as small as a bombardment group. They knew that this was something special and that the presence of tL. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., and Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the assistant secretary of war, implied something extra special.

Knowing all these things, these men rapidly drew the conclusion that the Air Forces was making an example of the command of Col. Robert R. Selway Jr.

SELWAY STORM CENTER

Col. Selway, the storm center of a bitter controversy over whether or not Negro officers were to be treated as officers of the United States Army appeared chagrined throughout the impressive ceremonies and consistently refused to talk to any of the several representatives of large Negro newspapers and news syndicates who covered the ceremonies.

Col. Davis assumed command of the 477th Composite Group, formerly the 477th Bombardment Group, medium, as soon as he arrived. Col. Selway continued in command of the base until certain transfers of government property can be arranged and other details involving the base units can be worked out. Col. Davis expects to add the command of the base to his functions within a few days.

Present for the ceremonies marking a change in command at Godman Field Thursday were: Lt. General Ira C. Eaker, acting commanding general of the Army Air Forces; Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War; Major Homer B. Roberts, chief of the Negro section of the War Department bureau of public relations; and a group of newspapermen.

General Eaker flew out in his personal transport plane, bringing with him Mr. Gibson and other important officers and officials. In another plane with Major Roberts came newspapermen and War Department cameramen and a recording crew.

IMPRESSIVE OCCASION

While 4,000 officers and men of this post stood at attention a B-25 carrying Gen. Eaker, Brig. General B. O. Davis Sr., Col. Davis, and Mr. Gibson, landed at Godman Field and taxied to the formation area in front of the group operations building, where areviewing stand had been set up.

Alighting from the plane in the order of rank, the party went directly to the reviewing stand where Gen. Eaker made his forthright statement (see text on page 2.)

There was a brief parade lasting about ten minutes before the address by Gen. Eaker. Brig. General Davis was introduced by Gen. Eaker and the father of the new commander made an address, a highlight of which was that "the Jap is a tough soldier and in most instances has to be killed."

CONGRATULATIONS

"I want to emphasize the point," Gen. Davis continued, "that it is necessary for you in your training and in your performance to give full support to the officer who commands you. It has been my privilege to know something about our enemy, having visited his country and observed him in training.

"The only people who know how to fight this war to the best advantage are the people who have had actual combat experience with the enemy. I wish to congratulate you on the caliber of officers assigned to you. They have the confidence of the War Department; they have the respect of the men they have fought with and against."

Mr. Gibson, in remarks pointing out the opportunity offered the men of the 477th under its new command, told how the fighter pilots of the 99th and 332nd had "made the Air Forces team in Italy" and had established a precedent of success which the 477th must upnold.

In order to avoid the possibility that a Negro commanding officer would be over white subordinate officers, at 8 o'clock Thursday morning all white officers were replaced by colored officers here, to command positions assigned on a temporary basis.

The men were called in and told "you are now commanding officer of your squadron." The men temporarily given command of the bomber squadrons were: Captain Charles R. Stanton, Portland, Ore., 616th; Captain Fitzroy Newsom, New York City, 617th; Lt. James Y. Carter, Winston-Salem, N. C., 618th; Captain Charles I. Williams, Lima, Ohio, 619th.

GENERAL EAKER MEETS WITH OFFICERS

General Eaker and Gen. Davis met with the 425 officers at 2:00 p.m., EWT in the post theater. He repeated the promise made in his earlier address that they would go to the Pacific in the late summer or early fall, and "will fly from Okinawa aaginst the Japanese mainland."

The persistent reports that Colonel Davis would be made a brigadier general at Thursday's ceremonies here were not confirmed . Promotions to general rank are made by the President and approved by the Senate.

In addition, he must have a "table of organization" outfit calling for a general officer. So far, the 477th command he has just taken does not qualify him for a generalship.

There is a possibility that the group will be enlarged and that perhaps within a year Davis' command will qualify him for a generalship and that he might be promoted. It is known that he is highly thought of in military circles as a competent and inspiring leader.

At the meeting after the change of command, Gen. Eaker further told the men of the group: "I am going to make it my business to give you adequate training, sound leadership and the best equipment available."

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, when asked if he would accept the Negro group in his theatre replied, "I'll take any group that has good training," Gen Eaker revealed in his informal talk to the officers of the bomber and service group.

At the same time that Gen. Eaker announced the change of command here, Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson announced it at a press conference in Washington as the "outstanding information" he had for the press.

Lt. Gen. James Doolittle, who will soon have a Pacific command, was present at the Patterson conference in the capital.

Morale has already improved 100 per cent, according to observers here.

The three officers arrested since the Freeman Field (Ind.) officers' club incident in April are still under confinement here. Disposition of their case was not indicated by inquiries here Thursday.

56a-1945

Ground Crew

Pennsylvania

Atlanta World

Pilot Specializes In Ground Work

2-10-45 Ga.

AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATION NO. 1, ATLANTIC CITY — New Jersey — Destroying enemy aircraft on the ground was the specialty of First Lieutenant Edward N. Smith, Negro fighter pilot, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He never met a German plane in the air, but during his 111 combat missions in the European Theater of War, he chalked up a total of 15 Nazis fighters ruined before they had a chance to take off.

Nine of this total were taken care of on the same mission, a fighter sweep over Hungary.

"We sneaked in on a German airfield," Smith said, "and our group got credit for erasing 83 fighter planes before they could take to the air."

Lieutenant Smith flew most of his sorties escorting 15th Air Force heavy bombers on raids over enemy territory. It was on one of these escort missions that he had his closest call with enemy fire.

"Coming back from a demolition job in South Germany," the former Temple University student recalls, "we left the bombers over Lake Balaton, Hungary, as per orders. Starting out to patrol, our squadron leader noted a Nazi airfield directly below us and decided it would be a good idea to go down and give them a fast strafing.

"We dropped out of the clouds and ran into a terrific antiaircraft barrage. About 25 chuncks of steel tore into my plane. One piece of flak went into my engine, missing the cooling jacket by about half an inch. There were flak holes in both of my wings. By the time I got in, did my work and got out, my fighter looked like a sieve.

Lieutenant Smith, who wears the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters, is now awaiting his next Air Force assignment at the AAF Redistribution Station No. 1 here. His mother, Mrs. Esther Smith and his wife, Dorothy, live at 1168 South Thirteenth Street, Philadelphia.

56a-1945

Navigators

27 Navigators Get Wings at Hondo

AFRO-AMERICAN 5-5-45

HONDO, Tex.—A new class of twenty-seven colored combat navigators won wings and commissions at Hond Army Air Field April 21, after twenty weeks of intensive air and ground training at the Texas airbase.

Speaker during the morning graduation ceremony was Capt. Frederick J. Underwood of Worcester, Mass., who recently returned from duty with the AAF in the European, China and India-Burma theatres.

Graduates who took the course as cadets received commissions as either flight officers or second lieutenants. The entire colored class, including a student officer, was awarded silver navigator wings and ratings as AAF combat navigators. They now await assignment. Balt., Md.

Names and addresses of the graduates follow:

SECOND LIEUTENANTS

Edward W. Abernethy, El Paso, Tex.; Albert R. Burgess, St. Paul, Minn.; Eugene T. Butler Jr., Brentwood, Md.; Robert H. Cobbs, Bronx, N.Y.; Thomas E. Highsmith Jr., Elizabeth, N.J.; Russell H. Jackson Jr., Kansas City, Mo.; Clarence S. Janifer Jr., 208 Parker Street, Newark, N.J.; Fred T. Johnson, Delaware;

Richard D. Johnson, Plainfield, N.J.; Clarke P. Newton, 2412 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Md.; Spaulding M. Buffin, Emporia, Va.; James H. Smith, 492 N. Fourth Street, Newark, N.J.; James M. Sullivan, Columbus, Ohio; Frederick O. Wainer, Norwalk, Conn.; Roger W. Wells, Wakeeney, Kans.; Frederick M. Yergan, 22 Hamilton Terrace, NYC. 5-5-45

FLIGHT OFFICERS

William E. Ballard, Portsmouth, N.H.; George W. Biggs, Nogales, Ariz.; David C. Bowser, 8546 Bartram Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Henry H. Henderson, Joliet, Ill.; Lorenzo S. Morris, Los Angeles, Calif.; Alvon O. Robinson, Detroit, Mich.;

Earl E. Sanderlin, 835 N. Capitol Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Charles S. Stone Jr., Hartford, Conn.; Philip H. Turner, Chicago, Ill.; Robert W. Williams Jr., Boston, Mass.; John A. Wimberly, San Antonio, Tex.

hNo shrdleutaoin

Graduated as Navigators at Texas Air Field

AFRO-AMERICAN 2-24-45

Balt., Md. 2-24-45

Twenty-three of the twenty-six colored students who won AAF commissions as either flight officers or second lieutenants and silver navigator's wings at graduation ceremonies at Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo, Tex., on February 3. Members of one of the largest classes, they now await orders after completing a strenuous 16-week course in combat navigation, during which they flew approximately 15,000 miles on missions over West Texas. They are, left to right, kneeling: Paul L. Ford, Chicago; Frederick N. Lawrence, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Luther E. McIlwain, Columbia, S.C.; James H. Stoute, New York City; Cary B. Lewis, Jr., Chicago; Chester E. Eddington, Washington; James Fears, Jr., Detroit; Arnold J. R. Wallace, New York City; Robert C. Bailey, Columbus, Ohio; and Emerson I. Jones, Baldwin, Mich. STANDING: William C. Loving and Edward N. Dunklin, both Chicago; Paul D. Lehman and Dickerson C. Terry, both Los Angeles; Arthur R. Flowers, Memphis; Louis Young, Detroit; Charles G. Walker, 2nd, Washington; John H. Rosemond, Jr., Jacksonville; Quick, Jr., Harry E. Lanauze, Washington; Philip P. Gilbert B. Langford, Indianapolis; John D. Harris, Jr., Batavia, Ill., and Donald J. Bowdoin, Los Angeles. Graduates not pictured are Webster G. Guiar, Los Angeles; Connol J. Reid, Connellsville, Pa., and Sherman Anthony, Jr., Elizabeth, N.J.

56a-1945

Navy Pilots

P14. P2.

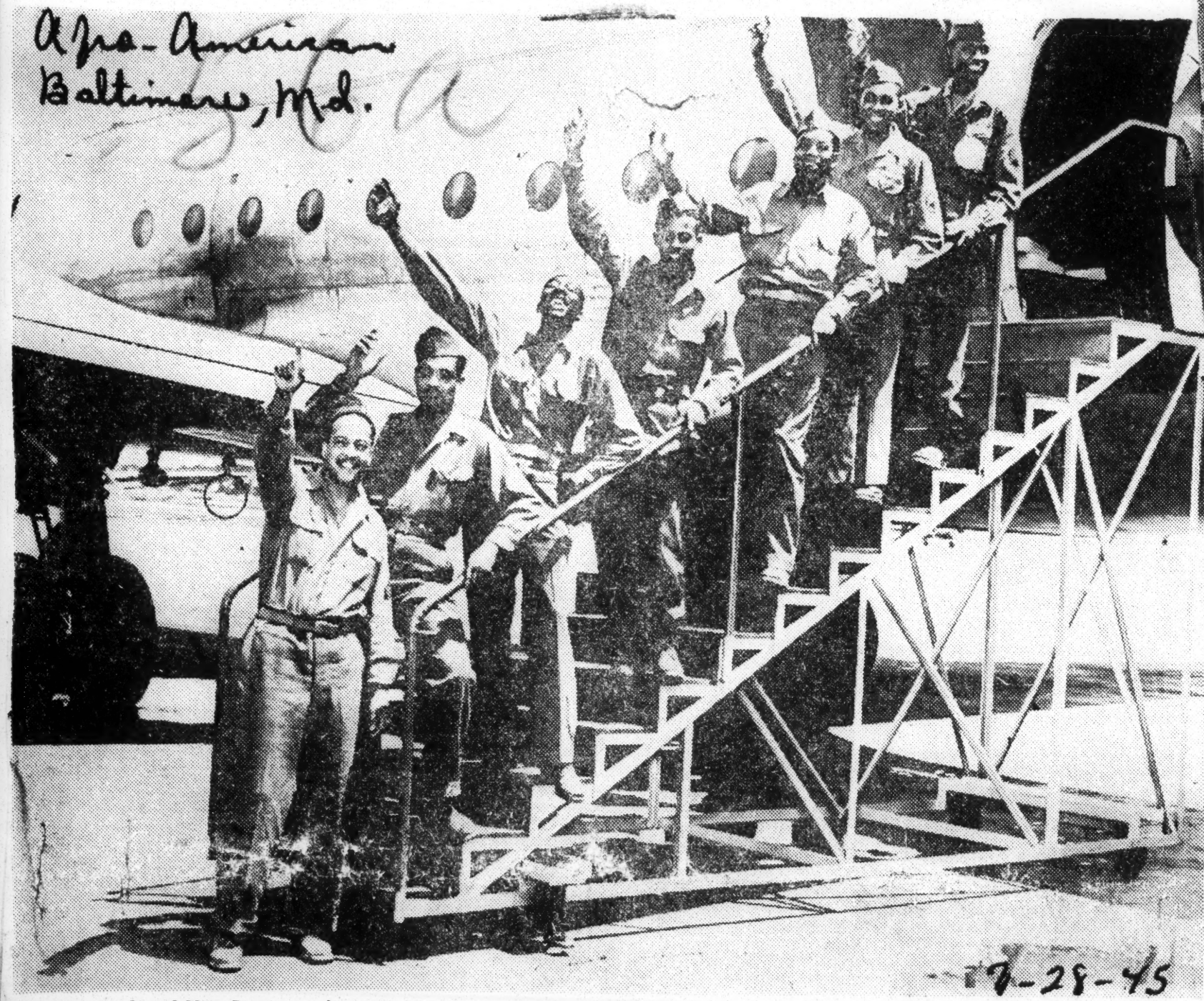
Pittsburgh Courier 7-7-45

NACE'S FIRST NAVY PILOT—Sam Sims Jr., yeoman 2/c, USNR, of Nashville, Tenn., has passed all preliminary examinations for the Navy's pre-flight training program. He expects to be called for flight training sometime in August, when a group of trainees will leave for the Eleventh Naval District. 7-7-45

56a-1945 99th

Among First From 99th to Return to States

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.



12-28-45

Seven New York and New Jersey service men who were among 16 members of the famed 99th Fighter Squadron, first all-colored combat unit with the 15th Air Force in Italy, are pictured on their arrival at LaGuardia Airport in New York City on July 20 from Casablanca, North Africa. All have discharge credits ranging from 118 to 121 points. Stepping from the ATC plane, bottom to top, they are Sgt. Leon W. Coles NYC; Cpl. John H. Turner, NYC; Sgt. Robert T. Howard, Brooklyn N.Y.; Cpl. Leonard R. Brower, Jamaica, L.I.; S/Sgts. Charles Davis D. Hensley and Julius C. Lovett, all of Newark, N.J.

99th Squad Reborn at Godman Field

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — The famous 99th Fighter Squadron, first colored fighter unit to blast the Luftwaffe from the skies, has been reborn here as part of the 477th Composite Group, it was announced Saturday by Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

The crack unit will be commanded by Maj. William A. Campbell and will fly the hard-hitting P-47 Thunderbolt. Many of the pilots will be former members of the original 99th and holders of several combat ribbons and decorations.

Fought with First 99th

Major Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala., is a veteran of 106 aerial combat missions over Europe and holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross with nine Oak Leaf clusters.

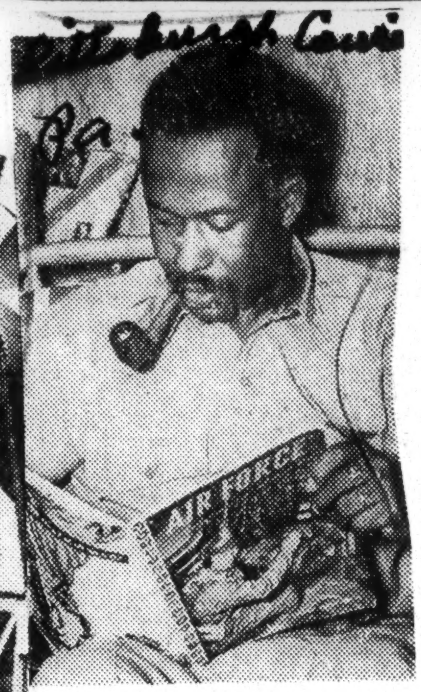
He fought with the original 99th and later saw action with the 332nd Fighter Group, the well-known "Red Tails" who were highly praised by the bomber fliers they escorted on raids into the heart of Germany. For eight months he was commanding officer of the 99th in action overseas.

Was Civilian Pilot

A graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Campbell was a civilian pilot instructor before joining the Air Corps. He won his wings July 3, 1942. 12-28-45

The 25-year-old major, wearer of the Air Medal with one cluster, has combat flying experience in the P-40, P-51 and P-47. He is swiftly shaping his new command into a formidable fighting machine for early action in the Pacific.

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.



VET PILOT CONVALESCES—Lieut. Leroy Bowman, 553 S. Main Street, Sumter, S. C., is shown relaxing at AAF Regional and Convalescent Hospital in Miami district. He has twenty-six combat missions to his credit with the famed Ninety-ninth Fighter Squadron, with which he "rode herd" on the big bombers of the Fifteenth Air Force. He wears the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters and is a Morris College graduate.—AAF Convalescent Hospital, Miami, Photo. 8-9-45

1st Flyer to Down Jerry Discharged to Enter Business

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (ANP) — Capt. Charles B. Hall, the first colored flying officer to down a Nazi plane in combat, was honorably discharged from the Army Air Forces recently and has announced his intention of operating a private business in Chicago. 11-17-45

A veteran 99th Fighter Squadron pilot, Captain Hall, who destroyed three enemy planes during his 11 months in combat from Sicily to Tunisia, was an instructor at the station instrument school until his discharge.

Commands New 99th Fighter Squad

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

7-28-45

Commander of the new 99th Fighter Squadron is Major William A. Campbell. The 99th, now at Godman Field, Ky., is a unit of the 477th Composite Group under Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

16 GI's With 99th Fighter Squadron Flown to States

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Veterans of 27 months overseas service with the 99th Fighter Squadron, 16 enlisted men with from 118 to 123 points each arrived at LaGuardia Field here from Casablanca, North Africa, on July 20.

Despite their points, however, none of the men, who were sent to the States on an Air Transport Command plane, expressed a desire to leave the Army.

Nine of the men have won Bronze Stars for service with the 99th, the first all-colored unit to be activated as a combat unit in the 15th Air Force in Italy.

10 From Eastern Section

The returned veterans are:

M/Sgt. Clarence W. Clarke, mechanic, Washington; S/Sgt. James O. Handy, crew chief, Salisbury, Md.; S/Sgts. Charles D. Hensley, mechanic; Charles Davis, lineman, and Julius Lovett, mechanic, all three of Newark, N.J.; S/Sgt. Thomas Gill, Atlantic City, N.J.; Sgt. Leon W. Coles, clerk, New York City; Sgt. Robert T. Howard, radio mechanic, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Cpl. John H. Turner, armorer, New York City; Cpl. Leonard H. Brower, armorer, Jamaica, L.I.;

7-28-45

M/Sgt. C. A. Bordeux, radio chief, St. Louis; T/Sgt. James E. Anderson Jr., supplyman, South Bend, Ind.; S/Sgt. Leonard Caland, mechanic, Fort Wayne, Ind.; S/Sgt. Lewmon H. Boykin, radio operator, Los Angeles; Sgt. Alexton S. Boone Jr., radio operator, Pasadena, Cal.; and Sgt. Charles P. Ingram, cook, Chicago.

CAMPBELL COMMANDS FIGHTER SQUADRON AT GODMAN FIELD

Pittsburgh Courier

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — The famed Ninety-ninth Squadron has been reborn. The first all-Negro fighter squadron to blast the Luftwaffe from the skies, the flying unit is now a part of the new 477th Composite Group, commanded here by Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

7-28-45

The unit will be commanded by Maj. William A. Campbell of Tuskegee, Ala., and will fly the hard-hitting P-47 Thunderbolts. Many of the pilots will be former members of the original Ninety-ninth.

106 COMBAT MISSIONS

Major Campbell is a veteran of 106 aerial combat missions over Europe and holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross with nine Oak Leaf Clusters. He fought with the original Ninety-ninth and later saw action with the 332nd Fighter Group. He was commanding officer of the Ninety-ninth in action overseas for eight months. During its stay overseas the Ninety-ninth escorted bomber fliers on raids into the heart of Germany.

Major Campbell, a former civilian pilot instructor, is swiftly shaping his new command into a formidable fighting machine for early action in the Pacific.

7-28-45

STANDS WITH SON

On hand for the official installation of the 477th, a part of the First Air Group, was Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr. Witnessing the all-Negro review, which included members of the original Ninety-ninth and the newly arrived Air Wacs, General Davis stood with his son who succeeded Col. Robert Selway as commander of the 477th.

99th Officers

The Ninety-ninth officer personnel are as follows: Maj. William A. Campbell, commanding officer; 1st Lieut. James J. Johns, adjutant; 1st Lieut. Spann Watson (former C.O. of the 619th B. S.), operations officer; 2nd Lieut. Robert Harlee, intelligence officer; 1st Lieut. Charles E. Bell, mess officer; 1st Lieut. Milton B. Richardson, communications officer, and 1st Lieut. James B. Williams, engineering officer.

Pittsburgh Courier ... Pa.
7-28-45

Pittsburgh, Pa.

HAIL THE CAMPBELLS!—Since the beginning of the war, members of the Campbell family of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., have played important and outstanding roles. The Campbells jumped into the limelight again this week with the announcement that Maj. William A. Campbell (top photo) has been appointed commanding officer of the new Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron, stationed at Godman Field, Ky., as a unit of the new 477th Composite Group. Other members of the Campbell family (top to bottom) are Capt. Noel Campbell (Wac), Thomas Campbell Sr., field agent for Department of Agriculture, and Capt. Thomas Campbell Jr., U. S. Army Medical Corps. The latter three were united recently in London.

56a-1945

99TH GIVES $1,000 TO FIGHT PREJUDICE

Atlanta World G2

2-27-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA — The return of a $1000 gift from a Detroit union local by the flyers of the 99th Fighter Squadron, the first all-Negro fighter squadron, now serving in Italy, with a request that the money be used to "better interracial goodwill" was reported to the union by Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War last week.

The union is Ford Local 600, United Auto Workers, CIO, in Detroit. The union has agreed to contribute the money to a national fund which will provide an annual award for "the person or group contributing the most toward racial goodwill."

Mr. Gibson said that Major George S. Roberts, former commander of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, told him his flyers made their decision because of their desire for "understanding and advancement of the Negro."

Campbell Leads Oil Refinery Attack

1-13-45

Journal & Guide

AN ADVANCED AIRBASE IN ITALY—via wireless—Captain William A. Campbell, of Tuskegee, Ala., commanding officer of the famous 99th Fighter Squadron, led the 332 Mustang Group on a mission escorting 15th Air Force heavy bombers in an attack on oil refineries in Czechoslovakia on Thursday.—John "Rover" Jordan

Negro pilot is flying inspector

Los Angeles Tribune

2-26-45

CHICAGO—Sponsored by radio commentator Franklin McCormick, 29-year old William F. Paris was named the state's first Negro aeronautical inspector last week by Governor Dwight Green's committee on employment.

Paris will investigate flying accidents in the state, determine their cause and examine pilots of planes involved. Holder of primary, secondary, commercial and instructor's licenses, also ground instructor and radio licenses, Paris has 7,500 hours of flying various types of planes to his credit.

2-16-45

Twenty-percent of the 99th Pursuit Squadron received training from Paris at Tuskegee Institute under the regular army flyer's training program. Paris has also served as chief pilot of Bohl Flying Service and the C. R. Flying Service.

99th

99th Pursuit Squadron Mechanic Back Home By Way Of 125 Points

N.Y. New York Amsterdam News

One of the original crew chiefs with the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron, first all-Negro Army Air Forces combat unit, Staff Sergeant Marshll H. Thomas, Jr., arrived at LaGuardia Field last week aboard an Air Transport Command trans-Atlantic plane returning him from 25 months of duty in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

He left LaGuardia Field, after preliminary processing, for Camp Kilmer, N J., where he hopes to receive a discharge on the basis of his 125 points.

Nine Battle Stars

He wears the European Theatre of Operations ribbons and nine battle stars. He also has been awarded the aviation mechanic's badge.

His mother, Mrs. Willie Thomas, and his wife, Mattie, live at 3859 Washington Avenue, Cocoanut Grove, Fla.

Never able to fly on a combat mission himself because the squadron used only single-seated pursuit planes, he had the honor of maintaining a P-40 Warhawk, credited with downing three Nazi ME-109's in aerial combat.

"Maybe I never physically flew a mission," the soft-speaking colored mechanic drawled, "but I sure 'sweated' plenty of 'em out."

Once their plane took off on a mission, the crew chiefs would wait at the edge of the field for their return.

"Some of the toughest times of all," Thomas recalls, "was waiting out the six-hour Munich and Berlin raids while we were engaged in tactical support missions with the 15th AAF."

Thomas remembers work—"plenty of hard, sweaty work from sun-up to past sun-down."

"Whether we were flying short ground troop support missions or the long range protection flights, there was always more work than there was time to do it," he says.

But there was no monotony for Sergeant Thomas.

Talks About Salerno

Once, when things became a little slow, he left the airbase near Salerno and walked across a field to a nearby bay. On the way back, he hitched a ride on a gas truck. Half-way across the field, the Germans began an air attack, and "without thinking," Thomas jumped to the ground and hid under the body of the truck for protection.

"I was lying there hugging the ground and thankful for the steel truck body between me and the shrapnel and debris flying all around when it dawned on me just what was in that truck body.

"The thought of those 650 gallons of 100 octane aviation gasoline paralyzed my body for a minute, then, I guess, it paralyzed my mind for the next thing I recall, I was tearing out across the field, running like hell. I still don't know which way I ran but I do know I put plenty of distance between me and that truck."

It was seldom, however, that Thomas' station was bothered with air raids.

7-7-45

"We moved too fast during the early stages," he explains.

His unit would stop at a base, stay a week or two or three at the most and then move on. By the time they established a permanent base, the Allied air and ground defenses protected them from all but sneak attacks.

Thomas landed in North Africa in May, 1943, as a fully trained aviation mechanic, assigned to the 99th Pursuit squadron. They saw no combat in North Africa, but moved into Sicily on D-Day plus three and from there on he was in plenty of action.

"I think the moving was worse than the combat at times," Thomas says.

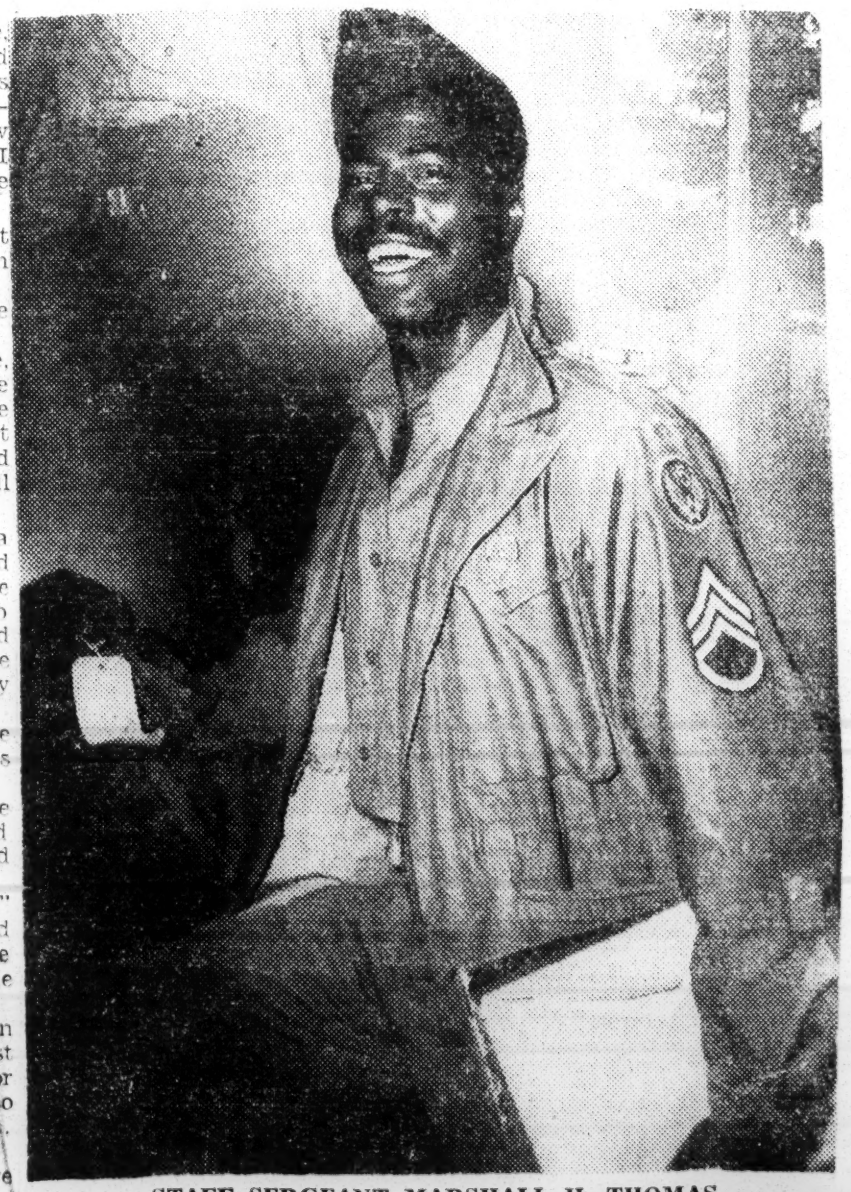
In North Africa his unit made one 1,100 mile move by train and Thomas said he lived in a "40 and 8' car for nine days and nights.

"We had C-rations for so long," he recalls, "that when I got hold of some K-rations it was just like Sunday dinner on the farm," he grins.

He says he enjoyed his stay in Italy, particularaly toward the last when they had some free time for visiting. He took short passes to Venice, Rome, Pompeii and Mt. Vesuvius.

"All the time, though, I sure was wishing for home. There's no place like it," Thomas said as he finishing discussing his sight-seeing.

If he receives his discharge from the service, Thomas plans to attend college under the G. I. Bill of Rights and study aeronautics. He intends to remain in aviation.



STAFF SERGEANT MARSHALL H. THOMAS

PILOT ARMY SCHOOL

Chicago Defender 7-21-45 Ill.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. . Lt. Robert W. Deiz, one of the original pilots of the 99th squadron, trained at Tuskegee Institute, is attending the general staff and command school of the army at Fort Leavenworth, here.

99th Fliers Have Highest Point Totals

Journal & Guide 5-26-45

Many Men Have Pre-Pearl Harbor Service Records

Norfolk, Va.

By LEM GRAVES JR.
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright, Reproduction Forbidden)

ADVANCED AIR BASE--(By Wireless)—After a survey of the effects of the 85-point discharge formula on Negro soldiers of the Italian sector, I found that the enlisted personnel of the 99th Fighter Squadron have the highest group point total.

A survey of this veteran overseas outfit reveals that there are men with points ranging as high as 140, with a majority of the men of the original complement having point totals above 90.

GRAVES

Many of the men have service records dating back before Pearl Harbor. A large number of the original group had been sent to Chanute Field, Ill., when the aviation program was originally instituted.

BATTLE STARS

Other factors contributing to the high point totals of men of the 99th Squadron include the fact that the unit holds battle stars for seven campaigns: Sicily, Fogga, Naples, Rome, Southern France, Northern France, Germany and the Balkans. Few other outfits can match this star total.

Some of the 99th Squadron men have children, which accounts for another boost in discharge point totals.

The 99th men at first felt elation at the prospect of going home after counting their points, but later their enthusiasm was dampened by certain mitigating circumstances. First the air corps personnel will get last priority on discharge, falling in line behind combat ground soldiers, and service personnel.

Second, the men know that aviation mechanics are skilled workers and few replacements are available with the comparable skills, which they acquired through the pioneer period for the race in aviation.

The 99th men are now beginning to have doubts if Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group, to which the 99th is attached, will let them go. At least, none are expecting immediate discharge despite their high point totals, and they are putting away their dreams of civilian life.

HIGH POINT MEN

Among the high point men of the 99th are:

M Sgt. Ellsworth Dansby, Decatur, Ill., who in addition to other points, holds the Bronze Star medal for a total of 113; M Sgt. Archer Coronany, who also holds the Bronze Star, 120 points; M Sgt. Alexander Crawford, Dayton, Ohio, Bronze Star winner, 113 points.

S Sgt. Robert Helms, New York City, pre-Pearl Harbor enlistment and two children, 132 points; Cpl. Kermit Brown, New York City, father of two children, 132 points; T Sgt. James O'Neil, Malone, Ala., one child, 114 points; Sgt. Julius A Searles, Washington, D. C., 102 points.

Also Sgt. Rufus C. Mitchell, Boleyok, La., 96 points; Sgt. Leon Duncan, New York City, 99 points; Sgt. Robert Howard, Brooklyn, one child, total 111 points; S/Sgt. P. C. Corbin, Pulaski, Va., Bronze Star winner who can claim a maximum of 55 points for service for a total of 120 points.

S/Sgt. James McGuther, Los Angeles, 115 points; and Cpl. Edward C. Parks, Roanoke, Va., 99 points.

OVERSEAS 25 MONTHS

All of the 99th men get 25 points for 25 months of overseas service and most of them have been in the Army at least three years, and many have four years of Army service.

Among other combat units of this theatre with high point totals is the original complement of the 450th anti-aircraft artillery, men of which have many battle stars.

The service units longest overseas include the famed 480th port battalion; the 22nd "Rolling Deuces" trucking group; the 468th trucking battalion; the 92nd Engineers and others.

FEW MATCH 99TH

Few of these men, except the original cadres, have Army time to match the period served by the enlisted men of the 99th Fighter Squadron. In the 743rd Military Police detachment, now guarding installations in Rome, two men qualify for discharge as follows: Sgt. Amos Wamble, Little Rock, Ark., who has two children to bring his total to 105 points; and Pfc. William Johnson, Elizabeth, N. J., with two children and 90 points.

High point men in outfits other than the 99th Squadron usually have children to make the grade in discharge points, but in the 99th there are many men who do not have children but who have amassed high point totals.

Col. Davis' Famed Pursuit Flyers In Resort In Naples

St. Louis Argus 7-21-45

15TH AAF IN ITALY—"Il bello campo di repose vicino al mare, the beautiful rest camp beside the sea." This is where the tired pilots of the P-51 Mustang Fighter Group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., go for their well earned rests. Located high on the side of a mountain overlooking the beautiful harbor of Naples, this splendid setting commands a view of some of the more renowned places of interest in this beautiful and ancient Italy. Stretching out as far as the eye can see, the blue waters of the Tyrrhenian Sea afford these men one of the most pleasant scenes one can imagine or expect to see in all of this old and historic country.

5-18-45

A more restful location could hardly be found in this war torn, poverty-stricken Europe. Pilots of the All Negro Fighter Group come here to rest from the strain of constant flying in these tense and dangerous aerial battlefields of World War II. As they arrive at this peaceful Shangri-La, they are received by Captain William M. Womack of Detroit, Michigan, the officer in charge of this beautiful rest camp. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Bill, as he is fondly referred to by his many friends, devotes his entire time to seeing that these fellows have everything that they might desire at their fingertips.

The meals, composed mainly of dehydrated foods, are excellently prepared by a competent kitchen staff. Soft and restful beds, a welcome sight to any soldier, are almost like the beds that one could find in any American home. A beautiful sun-kissed beach, movies, games of all kinds assist these tired young men to relax and forget, for a while, the strain and nerve-wrecking experiences of war.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD-TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023
JUL 21 1945

1 Flyers Retu[illegible] Allowant to Stay in Ar[illegible]

Overseas 27 Months, All H[illegible] Points for Discharge

Sixteen members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron, the first all-Negro unit to be activated as a combat unit in the 15th Air Force in Italy, arrived yesterday at La Guardia Field on an Air Transport Command plane from Casablanca. All had enough service points for discharge, but none wanted to leave the Army.

The sixteen have had twenty-seven months of overseas service, during which they have accumulated from 118 to 123 points each and have won nine Bronze Stars.

Four of the sixteen live in New York City. They are Sergeant Leonard W. Coles, thirty-four, of 141 West Ninety-eighth Street; Corporal John H. Turner, thirty, of 270 St. Nicholas Avenue; Sergeant Robert T. Howard, twenty-five, of 662 Halsey Street, Brooklyn, and Corporal Leonard R. Brewer, twenty-six, of 107-12 Remson Street, Jamaica, Queens.

Also in the group were three men from Newark, N. J. They are Sergeant Charles Davis, of 56 Wallace Street; Staff Sergeant Charles D. Hensley, of 222 Court Street, and Staff Sergeant Julius C. Lovett, of 72 Montgomery Street.

A Paratrooper About to Jump

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 5-5-45

Sgt. Carl C. Watson, of Newark, N.J., ready to jump from a C-47 troop carrier. He is among the airborne troops in training at Camp Mackall, N.C.—(Stories and other pictures on Page 11).

Only Negro parachute unit fights fires in Northwest

The Los Angeles Tribune Los Angeles, California 9-17-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Paratroopers of the 555th Parachute Infantry batt., the only Negro parachute unit, have been helping to fight forest fires in the Pacific Northwest for several months, the War dept. disclosed last week.

The men were loaned to the United States Forestry Service by the Army because of the Northwest's manpower shortage, a dry season, and one of the worst forest fire years in the section's history.

Protected only by asbestos helmets and eye masks, the paratroopers bail out from Douglas C-47 troop carrier planes at 2,000 feet, or more, into trees 150 to 200 feet tall. They use jump technique learned at Parachute Infantry school, Ft. Benning, Ga., and at a special six-weeks' fire-fighting course with the Forestry Service. 9-17-45

Troop carrier planes are stationed at Walla Walla, Wash.; Chico, Calif., and Pendleton, Ore., from where they police thousands of miles. Report of a fire by the Forestry Service, and the planes are loaded with the paratroopers and hurtled to the scene. A dozen paratroopers can do a job which would ordinarily take hundreds of men on the ground to do, by landing in front of the fire and cutting it off with shovel trenches. Axes, picks, shovels, and other equipment are dropped to them by chutes used to drop food to combat soldiers in enemy territory.

The 555th works in what is probably some of the worst mountain terrain in the world—on mile-high, rugged mountain peaks and in deep, rock valleys. Some of the territory is so rough that it has taken them as long as 10 days to get back to their bases.

Forestry officials estimate that thousands of acres of timberland have been saved by these paratroopers.

Their executive officer is a young Negro, Capt. R. W. Williams, now acting commander.

Georgian Is Executive Of Army Group

The Atlanta Daily World Atlanta Georgia 9-12-45

PENDLETON, Oregon — The war is over, but American paratroopers are still fighting an enemy in these Pacific Northwest woods, a common ever-present enemy—FIRE.

For months now, Negro paratroopers of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion have been jumping from Douglas C-47 Troop Carrier planes to battle big forest fires in one of the worst years in this section's history.

Faced with the manpower shortage, a dry season and more fires than usual, the United States Forestry Service called on the Army—and these paratroopers furnished the answer.

DARING JUMP

In many ways, these jumps are just as daring, hazardous and spectacular, if not more, so than any of the combat parachute jumps made in Europe. With no protection except an asbestos helmet and a mask to protect their eyes, the paratroopers bail out 2,000 feet or more into trees ranging from 150 to 200 feet tall. 9-12-45

They use jump techniques perfected by the Troop Carrier Command and the Parachute Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, plus six weeks of firefighting technique taught them by the Forestry Service.

Directing the project which the Army calls "Firefly' is Captain Fay McDonald, of Indianapolis, Indiana, a veteran Troop Carrier pilot. He and other pilots assigned to unique tasks are always ready and frequently are in the air en route to a big fire by 4.00 o'clock in the morning.

No chemicals at all are used — only their instruments and manual labor.

GEORGIE EXECUTIVE

Commanding the only Negro parachute battalion is Captain James H. Porter, of New York City. The executive officer is a young Negro from Waycross, Georgia, Captain R. W. Williams, a jumper whom the men "swear by." 9-12-45

When given the fire-fighting assignment, they were keenly disappointed but figured it a "snap." But they soon found out it was a man-sized job and vitally important. No wthat the war is over and there is no chance for combat, they are proud of their job.

Paratroopers Fight Oregon Forest Fires

Richmond Crimes Dispatch Richmond, Virginia 9-10-45

PENDLETON, ORE., Sept. 9 —(AP)—The shooting war is over but American paratroopers are still fighting an ever-present enemy in the Northwestern States--forest fires.

All Summer long, Negro members of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion have been jumping from troop carrier planes into the rough, trackless forest of the western mountain States. Their job is to cut off the fire and, if possible, put it out. 9-10-45

They wanted combat but they found this a man-sized job, plenty tought and vitally important. Forest service men say they have saved thousands of acres of timber, millions of dollars worth of critically needed resources.

555th Paratroopers Moved to N. Carolina

Balt. Md. Afro-America

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The 55th Parachute Infantry Battalion, the Army's all-colored paratroop unit has been moved from Pendleton, Oregon, to Camp Mackall, North Carolina, it was learned Friday. 12-1-45

Activated as a Regular Army unit in 1944, the 555th received national notice for its fire fighting activities in the mountain ranges of the far west extending from Southern California to the State of Washington.

Trained for Combat Duty, Men of 555th Jump from C-47 Troop Carrier Planes

The Iowa Bystander
9-13-45 — Des Moines, Iowa

Pendleton, Oregon — The war is over, but American paratroopers are still fighting an enemy in these Pacific Northwest woods, a common, ever-present enemy—FIRE.

For months now, Negro paratroopers of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion have been jumping from Douglas C-47 Troop Carrier planes to battle big forest fires in one of the worst years in this section's history.

Faced with the manpower shortage, in a dry season and more fires than usual, the United States Forestry Service called on the Army—and these paratroopers furnished the answer.

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They use jump techniques perfected by the Troop Carrier Command and the Parachute Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, plus six weeks of fire-fighting technique taught them by the Forestry Service.

Directing the project which the Army calls "Firefly" is Captain Fay McDonald, of Indianapolis, Indiana, a veteran Troop Carrier pilot. He and other pilots assigned to unique tasks are always ready and frequently are in the air en route to a big fire by 4:00 o'clock in the morning.

Troop Carrier planes are strategically stationed at the Walla Walla, Washington Air Base; at Chico, California; and at Pendleton, Oregon.

From Canada to Mexico

They cover an area of not only thousands of acres of forests, but thousands of miles. They fight fires all the way from the Canadian border to Mexico. Principal states are Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana asd California, but if the need arises, there is no boundary.

The Troop Carrier planes receive their orders—or directions—from a central fire control tower of the Forestry Service.

As soon as the report comes in—giving the location of the fire, the size, wind velocity and other pertinent data—the Troop Carrier planes are loaded with the fire-fighting Negro paratroopers and speeded to the scene of the fire. 9-7-45

Ordinarily, it would take hundrels of men to fight a 600-acre fire. A dozen paratroopers will do the job. The fire-borne" chutists, as they have been dramatically described, land in front of the fire and then cut it off.

They usually bail out in "sticks" of four and five on an exact spot, the plane making several passes to jump them all. Axes, picks, shovels, and other equipment are dropped to earth by chutes ordinarily used to drop food to combat soldiers in enemy territory.

After landing in the tall trees, they free themselves from the chute and let themselves out of the tree with a 150-foot rope which they carry.

Upon hitting the gronnd, they retrieve the shovels and set to work digging trenches ahead of the blaze to keep it from spreading. After this has been done, they make an effort whenever possible to extinguish the blaze. But the emphasis is placed on keeping the fire from spreading.

No Chemicals Used

No chemicals at all are used — only their instruments ano manual labor. 9-7-45

They land in chat s probably some of the worst mountain terrain in the world—on mile-high, rugged mountain peaks and in deep, rocky vallys. Some of the territory is so rough that it has taken them as long as ten days to get back to their home base. Some of the trees are so tall and treacherous that it requires several hours for them to get out.

Newsreel men who watched the drops declared they were "the most spectacular" thing they had ever seen.

Forestry officials estimate that many thousand acres of timber land have been saved by these paratroopers, which also means that millions of dollars worth of the country's national resources have been preserved.

Commanding the only Negro parachute battlaion is Captain James H. Porter of New York City. The executive officer is a young Negro from Waycross, Georgia, Captain R. W. Williams, a jumper whom the men "swear by."

Captain Williams, now serving as acting commander, views their assignment with mixed feelings. He and his men trained for combat duty and wanted combat.

When given the fire-fighting assignment, they were keenly disappointed but figured it a "snap." But they soon found out it was really a man-sized job anl vitally important. Now that the war is over and there is no chance for combat, they are proud of their job.

The Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia
9-29-45

Negro Paratroopers Fight Forest Fires

COLUMBUS, Ga., Sept. 28.—(AP) The 555th Parachute Infantry Battallion, a Negro paratroop outfit activated here in 1943, is fighting a new kind of warfare now—raging forest fires in the northwest woods.

The 555th, with Capt. R. W. Williams, of Waycross, Ga., as executive officer, answered a call issued by the U. S. Forest Rangers to fight the northwest fires.

The "fire-borne" jumpers hit the silk at about 2,000 feet over the blazing areas with no protection but asbestos helmets and fire masks. No chemicals are used by the air-borne fire fighters—only manual labor with the axes, shovels and picks dropped to them in supply chutes.

The 555th took six weeks training under the Forest Rangers to perfect their techniques of landing in fire areas, cutting themselves free of tree entanglements and methods of fire extinguishing.

The area covered by the paratroopers includes forests in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and California.

56a-1945 R.A.F. West Indians

West Indians Fight in Burma

P.M. N.Y. 3-10-45

By ERIC WALROND

PW ★ Peoples Victory

LONDON, Eng.—Negro airmen from the West Indies are now serving with a North-West Frontier unit of the R.A.F. on the Burma front. The unit, in which the West Indian element consists mainly of men from Jamaica, has been engaged in "tank-busting" operations in support of the ground troops of the 14th Army.

In a recent engagement, 30 miles west of Mandalay, where British, Indian and Gurkha troops had established a bridgehead over the Irrawaddy, 13 Japanese tanks were knocked out. "It was," according to a special correspondent of the London **Times**, "probably the biggest single disaster that has ever befallen Japanese armour." 3-10-45

Writing on the day following the action, the correspondent goes on to relate how it happened:—

"A young Jamaican pilot on patrol first located three of the tanks, heavily camouflaged, at about 10 o'clock. He and his section attacked and set two on fire. He reported their whereabouts in the area about five miles from the bridgehead, and thereafter throughout the day section after section of R.A.F. Hurricanes came over and each seemed to discover more tanks. Two were knocked out by rocket-firing Hurricanes and the remainder by Hurricanes firing 40mm. cannon. Some tanks burned for six hours and some are still burning tonight." 3-10-45

By special arrangement with the Air Ministry, Flight-Lieut. P.I.U. Cross, of Trinidad—the top-ranking Negro officer in the R.A.F.—has just been appointed to the Welfare Department of the Colonial Office for duties in connection with the welfare of Colonials in the R.A.F. One of Flight-Lieut. Cross's chief duties will be to visit R.A.F. stations at which there are Colonial airmen. Flight-Lieut. Cross is the first colored West Indian to be awarded the Distinguished Service Order. He has also been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

56a-1945 332nd

DIARY OF THE "RED TAILS"

Detailed Account of 332nd Fighters in Guarding Hard-Hitting Bombers Told

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland

11-3-45

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The following accounts from the organizational history of the 332nd Fighter Group, which was composed of the 99th, 100th, 301st and 302nd Fighter Squadrons in the fighting in Italy, show how the Group was able to win the coveted Distinguished Unit Citation for "outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy," and caused Lieutenant General Ira C. Eaker, Deputy Commander, Army Air Forces, to say:

"They carried out the missions assigned to them and they have destroyed enemy aircraft both in the air and on the ground. By their efforts and performance, they have won a place on the great Air Forces team. They came on the hard way."

Providing cover for the hard-hitting bombers of the 12th and 15th Air Forces, the 332nd had completed 311 group missions over Europe up to April 30, 1945.

Selected missions follow:

MISSION No. 3, JUNE 9, 1945

MISSION AND TARGET: To provide penetration escort for the 5th, 57th, 304th, 49th, and 55th Bomber Wings to the Munich Area.

ENEMY AIR-RESISTANCE AND ACTIVITY: As escort approached Udine Area, 4 ME-109's made a diving attack on the formation of B-24's. Lt. Wendell O. Pruitt made a diving turn and came in on one ME-109's tail, gave three bursts and saw the pilot bail out and the plane crash. Lt. Charles Bussey made two short busts on the ME-109 which was then going into a dive. He last saw the ME-109 smoking; the plane later exploded.

Coming out of the clouds Lt. Melvin Jackson sighted an ME-109. A dogfight ensued until Lt. Jackson destroyed the ME-109.

Lt. Frederick D. Funderburg, sighting 2 ME-109's peeled down on one and fired, noticing pieces fly off. Passing under the two ME-109's he made a steep climbing turn and found two ME-109's head on at his level—fired and saw one explode. Pilots of his flight saw two aircraft hit the water and one chute open.

Lt. Robert H. Wiggins, observing one ME-109 at his level, fired burst into him and saw pieces fly off and the plane began to smoke. The aircraft started into a shallow dive, gained speed and pulled away.

VICTORIES AND LOSSES: Destroyed—ME-109, Lt. Wendell O. Pruitt; ME-109, Lt. Melvin T. Jackson; ME-109, Lt. Charles M. Bussey and Lt. William W. Green; two ME-109's, Lt. Frederick D. Funderberg. Damaged: ME-109, Lt. Robert H. Wiggins.

OUR LOSSES: Lt. Cornelius G. Rogers, missing; Capt. Lee Rayford and Lt. William Hunter, planes shot up by flak.

Mission No. 8, June 24, 1944

MISSION AND TARGET: To strafe the Airasca-Pinerole Landing Ground, 1¼ mile West of Aircasea, Italy.

AIR-SEA RESCUE: Lt. Sherard's plane caught fire and ditched, picked up by Air-Sea Rescue.

OUR LOSSES: 2nd Lt. Samuel Jefferson, 100th Fighter Squadron, crashed into the sea. 2nd Lt. Charles B. Johnson's plane exploded as it hit the water.

Capt. Robert B. Tresville's plane crashed into the sea but he pulled it up losing his wing, tanks and part of his ailerons. Plane fell into water again and tail was last seen protruding out of the water.

Mission No. 12, June 26, 1944

MISSION AND TARGET: To provide penetration escort for all bomber wings to Lake Balaton Area.

OUR LOSSES: Lt. Andrew Maples Jr. bailed out in vicinity of Termoli. Lt. Maurice V. Esters bailed out in vicinity of Vetachandrija.

Mission No. 23, June 12, 1945

MISSION AND TARGET: To provide close cover, escort and penetraion, target cover, and withdrawal for B-24's of the 49th Bomber Wing to Nimes, France.

VICTORIES AND LOSSES: One of our pilots, Lt. George M. Rhodes, bailed out in vicinity of Viterbo. Pilot is reported safe. Excessive black smoke was seen coming from plane. One B-24 shot down over target area. One FW-190 shot down by Lt. Harold E. Sawyer.

Mission No. 25, July 16, 1945

MISSION AND TARGET: Fighter Sweep of Vienna.

ENEMY AIR-RESISTANCE AND ACTIVITY: Upon departing from Vienna Area, two of our pilots noticed a straggling B-24 being approched by a Macchi 205. A four ship flight of P-51's attacked. The Macchi, trailing black smoke, hit the mountain side bursting into flame.

The leader sighted another Macchi approximately 5,000 feet below. Lt. William W. Green, the wingman, reports having seen the second Macchi crashing.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT SEEN DESTROYED: One enemy aircraft believed to be ME-109 seen to go down in flames after being fired upon by P-38 north of Lake Balaton. Our pilots claim two Macchi 205's in same area.

Mission No. 27, July 17, 1945

MISSION AND TARGET: To furnish pentration, target cover and withdrawal for 306th Bomber Wing to Avignon Marshall Yard and Bridge.

ENEMY AIR-RESISTANCE AND ACTIVITY: As escort approached target area, 19 enemy aircraft were seen and only three encountered. Three ME-109's attempted to attack B-24's in string formation, but broke off as our P-51's approached. No bombers were seen to be hit.

VICTORIES AND LOSSES: Destroyed: 1 ME-109, Lt. Lawrence D. Wilkins; 1 ME-109, Lt. Robert H. Smith; 1 ME-109 Lt. Luther H. Smith.

Mission No. 28, July 18, 1945

MISSION AND TARGET: To furnish penetration, target cover and withdrawal for the 5th Bomb Wing to Memmingen airdrome.

ENEMY AIR AND RESISTANCE: As escort approached the Udine and Trevise areas, 30-35 ME-109's prepared to attack bomber formation. Attacks were made.

Enemy aircraft were not aggressive in their attacks — used poor evasive tactics. Our claims in the Udine area were nine ME-109's destroyed and damaged.

VICTORIES: Destroyed, One FW-190, Lt. Harry L. Bailey; 1 FW-190, Lt. Edward N. Toppins; 3 ME-109's, Lt. Clarence D. Lester; 2 ME-109's, Lt. Jack D. Holsclaw; 1 ME-109, Lt. Walter J. Palmer; 1 ME-109, Lt. Lee A. Archer; 1 ME-109, Lt. Roger Romine; 1 ME-109, Lt. Hugh S. Warner. Totals: 9 ME-109's, 2 FW-190's.

LOSSES: Lt. Oscar D. Hutton last heard from at 19,000 feet N. E. of Venice, 25 to 30 miles headed toward base. Lts. Wellington G. Irving and Gene C. Brown were last seen in Kempton Area, in vicinity of emeny aircraft.

COMMENTS: This marks the first mission of the 99th Fighter Squadron as a complete unit in long range escort with the 15th.

Mission No. 303, April 23, 1945

MISSION: The 332nd provided two forces. The first force provided general escort on penetration and target cover for B-24's of Red Force of the 55th and 304th Bomb Wings attacking targets at Padau and Cavazere, Italy.

The second force furnished general escort on penetration and target cover for the Blue Force of B-24's of the 55th and 304th Bomber Wings attacking targets in the Padau and Cavazere area in Italy.

Twenty-four aircraft of first force over target and sixteen aircraft conducted armed reconnaisance. Twenty-one aircraft of second force over target and forty-five aircraft down at base. One aircraft was lost to flak. Pilot flew out, landing safely.

Mission No. 309, April 26, 1945

MISSION: Six P-51's took off from Ramitelli airdrome and rendezvoused with P-38 Reece aircraft Whitehouse 14. Escort was provided to Linz, Prague and Amstettin. Approximately 15 miles east of Prague, five ME-109's were encountered by three P-51's.

Three P-51's provided escort for the Reece on withdrawal to Termoli where they left the Reece. Effective sorties, 6; None effective sorties, nil. All down at base at 1045 hours. Claims are Four ME-109's destroyed and one probably destroyed.

The Afro American

Dead

Baltimore, Md.

LT. FRED L. BREWER, of Charlotte, N.C., member of the 332nd Fighter Squadron, previously listed as missing in action, is now declared dead, according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Brewer. Lt. Brewer's plane went down over Austria when he was enroute to Germany. He began his Army duty in Nov. 1942, after training at Tuskegee Army Air Field where he graduated with highest honors. He began overseas duty in July 1944. Lt. Brewer was a graduate of Shaw University and a former AFRO agent.

11-17-45

A Typical Mission of 332nd Fighters

The Call

WASHINGTON, D. C.—When the 332nd Fighter Group returned home last week, it had completed 311 group missions over Europe up to April 30, 1945.

The unit won the coveted Distinguished Unit Citation for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy." Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, deputy commander, Army Air Forces, said of the group: "They carried out the missions assigned to them and have destroyed enemy aircraft both in the air and on the ground. By their efforts and performance, they have won a place on the great Air Forces team. They came on the hard way."

Kansas City, Mo.

A report made of a typical mission follows:

11-2-45

MISSION NUMBER 3, JUNE 9, 1945
301st and 302nd Fighter Squadrons

MISSION AND TARGET: To provide penetration escort for the 5th and 57th, 304th, 49th, 55th Bomber Wings to the Munich Area.

ENEMY AIR-RESISTANCE AND ACTIVITY: As escort approached Udine Area, 4 ME-109's made a diving attack from 5 o'clock above on the formation of the B-24's. After they pass-

ed at the bombers they made a diving turn to the left, Lt. Wendell O. Pruitt made a diving turn and came in on one ME-109's tail, gave one short burst, saw no hit, gave a second long burst and observed hit—pressing the attack close. Lt. Pruitt gave a third burst and saw the left wing burst into flames. Lt. Pruitt's wingman saw the pilot bail out and the plane crash to the ground. Lt. Charles M. Bussey at approximately 1000 hours pulled his formation of eight planes into four ME-109's. Lt. William W. Green made a short burst at one ME-109 which was then on Lt. Melvin T. Jackson's tail. Lt. Bussey made two short bursts on the same ME-109 which was then going into a dive. Giving two short bursts from his gun he saw the tail disintegrate. He last saw the ME-109 smoking and diving with no tail. Lt. Bussey's wingman reported that the pilot bailed out and the plane exploded.

Lieutenant Jackson flying at 27,000 feet heard the call to attack and saw five to six ME-109's at 11 o'clock high. Closing within range he fired one burst—the ME-109 rolled over and started an assimilated spin to the left. Lt. Jackson pulled off to the left with the flight following him down. Losing the flight, Lt. Jackson saw one ME-109 high at 11 o'clock making a pass. He reefed in and while climbing started stalling, and the ME-109 fell in on his tail. Injecting the water boost, he dived and left him and entered the cloud around the mountains.

Coming out of the clouds the ME-109 was sighted again at 11 o'clock. A dog fight ensued until Lt. Jackson destroyed the ME-109, seeing it burst into flames and pilot bailing out.

Lieutenant Frederick D. Funderburg, sighting two ME-109's 500 feet below at 9 o'clock, peeled down on one ME-109 and fired burst into him, noticing pieces fly off. Passing under the two ME-109's he made a steep climbing turn and found two ME-109's head on at his level—fired and saw one explode. Pilots of his flight saw two aircraft hit the water and one chute open.

Lieutenant Robert H. Wiggins, observing one ME-109 at his level about 9 o'clock, turned and fired burst into him and saw pieces fly off and the plane began to smoke. The aircraft started into a shallow dive, gained speed and pulled away.

VICTORIES AND LOSSES: **Destroyed**

ME-109—Lt. Wendell O. Pruitt
ME-109—Lt. Melvin T. Jackson
ME-109—Lt. Charles M. Bussey and Lt. William W. Green
2 ME-109's—Lt. Frederick D. Funderberg.

Damaged

ME-109—Lt. Robert H. Wiggins

OUR LOSSES: Lieutenant Cornelius G. Rogers last heard from 45N-130E; Captain Lee Rayford and Lieutenant William Hunter had planes shot up by flak.

FORMATION LEADERS AND FLIGHT LEADERS: 301st Fighter Squadron: Col. B. O. Davis Jr., Lt. Arnold W. Cisco, Lt. William J. Faulkner and Lt. Claude B. Govan. 302nd Fighter Squadrons: Lt. Melvin T. Jackson, Lt. Charles M. Bussey, Lt. Wendell Pruitt and Lt. Charles E. McGee.

332nd More Than Held Its Own—War Department

The Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Official records of operations of the 332nd Fighter Group in the Mediterranean Theater, from February through September, 1944, reveal that the all-colored unit, when compared with other AAF units in Italy, more than held its own. 11-11-45

The above statement was made by the War Department, which based its conclusion on its records of sorties, flying time, combat missions and number of enemy aircraft destroyed.

The 332nd became operational with the 12th Air Force on Feb. 12, 1944, flying P-39s until the end of May. Beginning with the first week of June it was transferred to the 15th Air Force and started transitioning to P-47s.

Made Fourth Squadron Group

On July 1 it was transmitted to P-51s. On July 15 the 99th Squadron, which had been operating as a separate unit of the 12th Air Force, joined the group, making it a four squadron group.

While operating with P-39 aircraft, the sortie rate was one-third higher than that of other Aira Cobra units in this air force.

In that period 73.7% of all sorties dispatched were patrol or reconnaissance missions, whereas of the sorties flown by other P-39 units only 45.6% were of this type mission. 11-11-45

Fewer Combat Flights at First

Thus the 332nd Fighter Group flew at a higher rate but less were of the pure combat type.

However, while operating with P-39 aircraft, the group's sortie rate was only about one-fourth of the average attained by other P-47 units, largely due to the training flights necessary to transition the unit to the Thunderbolt.

Most of its combat flying (81.8%) was on escort missions, while other P-47 units devoted a large share of their flying (82%) to fighter-bombing missions. 11-11-45

When it operated with P-51 aircraft, the group established a sortie rate that was comparable to that of other Mustang units.

Losses Consistently Lower

With regard to the loss rates per sortie, during the period of operation of the 332nd Group as a P-39 group, the losses were one-third as high as those of other units. However, the figures for all P-39 units were extremely low.

While operating as a P-51 Group the loss rate per sortie was approximately the same as that of other units flying the Mustang.

Brought Down Its Jerries

While fighting as a P-47 Thunderbolt group, the 332nd established a box score of 5 to 1 by destroying five enemy fighters in aerial combat, while sustaining a loss of only one plane due to enemy aircraft.

Other P-47 units destroyed two enemy fighters in the air and four on the ground, with no losses due to enemy fighter opposition.

The following information was extracted from a cable received Sept. 1, 1944:

Destroyed Over Half of Total

"In strafing operations on Aug. 30 and 31, P-51s of the 15th Air Force destroyed a total of 157 enemy aircraft on the ground and damaged at least 43 more.

The only opposition offered by the Luftwaffe during the two-day offensive was a force of 20 fighters, none of which were destroyed. 11-11-45

"Top honors went to the P-51s of the 332nd Group, commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, whose pilots destroyed 83 Nazi planes during the attack on Aug. 30, on the Grosswardein (Rumania) airdrome, 130 miles southwest of Budapest.

Lost None

Aircraft destroyed included Messerschmitt 210's and 323's, Junkers 88's and 87's, Gotha Gliders, Heinkel 111's, Dornier 217's, and Focke-Wulf 190's.

"Five P-51s and one P-38 were lost on the two days' operation. None of these were lost by the 332nd Group."

All-Negro Unit Held Its Own

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
11-23-45

Fighter Group Up With Others in Official Records

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Official records of the 332nd Fighter group in the Mediterranean theater, from February, through September, 1944, reveal that the all-Negro unit, when compared with other AAF units in Italy, more than held its own in sorties, flying time, combat missions and number of enemy aircraft destroyed, the War Department reported today.

The 332nd Fighter group became operational with the 12th Air Force on February 12, 1944. From that date until the end of May the unit flew P-39s, but beginning with the first week of June it was transferred to the 15th Air Force and started transitioning to P-47s which it flew during June.

On July 1 it was transitioned to P-51s. On July 15, the 99th Squadron, which had been operating as a separate unit of the 12th Air Force, joined this group, making it a four-squadron group.

Patrol Missions

During the period the group was operating with P-39 aircraft, the sortie rate was one-third higher than that of other Aira Cobra units in this air force. In this period 73.7 percent of all sorties dispatched were patrol or reconnaissance missions, whereas of the sorties flown by other P-39 units only 45.6 percent were of this type mission. Thus the 332nd Fighter Group flew at a higher rate but less were of the pure combat type.

During the time the group was operating with P-39 aircraft, the sortie rate was only about one-fourth of the average attained by other P-47 units. This was largely due to the training flights necessary to transition the unit to the Thunderbolt.

Most of the combat flying (81.8 percent) in P-47s was on escort missions, while other P-47 units devoted a large share of their flying (82.0 percent) to fighter-bombing missions. When it operated with P-51 aircraft, the group established a sortie rate that was comparable to that of other Mustang units. 11-23-45

Losses Low

With regard to the loss rates per sortie, during the period of operation of the 332nd Group as a P-39 group, the losses were one-third as high as those of other units; however, the figures for all P-39 units were extremely low.

While operating as a P-51 Group the loss rate per sortie was approximately the same as that of other units flying the Mustang.

While fighting as a P-47 Thunderbolt group, the 332nd established a box score of 5 to 1 by destroying 5 enemy fighters in aerial combat, while sustaining a loss of only 1 plane due to enemy aircraft. Other P-47 units destroyed two enemy fighters in the air and four on the ground, with no losses due to enemy fighter opposition.

The following information was September 1, 1944:

"In strafing operations on August 30 and 31, P-51s of the Fifteenth Air Force destroyed a total of 157 enemy aircraft on the ground and damaged at least 43 more. The only opposition offered by the Luftwaffe during the two day offensive was a force of twenty fighters, none of which were destroyed.

"Top honors went to the P-51s of the 332nd Group, commanded by Colonel Davis whose pilots destroyed 83 Nazi planes during the attack on August 30 on the Grosswardein (Rumania) airdrome, 130 miles southwest of Budapest. Aircraft destroyed included Messerschmitt 210's and 323's, Junkers 88's and 87's, Gotha Gliders, Heinkel 111's, Dornier 217's, and Focke-Wulf 190's.

Five P-51s and one P-38 were lost on the two days' operations. None of these were lost by the 332nd Group."

Pilots Tell Why 332nd Deserves Unit Citation

Afro-American
8-30-45

By FRANCIS YANCEY

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AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy

RIMINI, Italy (By Cable)—With nothing to do but say goodbye to departing squadron mates and muse as to when one's name will be posted on the "homeward bound orders list," the men remaining here spend most of their reminiscing over things that have happened to the group while in Italy.

Balt, Md.

With the entire personnel of this group sure to be home by early fall, the big $64 question here now is, "Where is the 332nd's Presidential unit citation?"

Pilots Feel Slight Most

From the lowest KP in the mess hall up through pilots, who actually feel this slight by the War Department more than the rest of the group, the general feeling is that during the Italian campaign the group's record in combat and the results achieved merited this award.

Although the 332nd stands second in aerial victories for this year, and shot down the last four enemy planes destroyed in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, the 332nd remains the only fighter group in the 306th Fighter Wing of the 15th Fighter Command that doesn't have a Presidential citation.

Since the award from the War Department is the final seal of approval as to a group's combat excellence, it is believed here that this is the real reason the 332nd hasn't received it. In other words, as the saying goes among the pilots, "They just want us to believe we ain't ready yet."

Was Unit Purposely Ignored?

Another question that puzzles the men still here is: Why did Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., receive so much praise and why was he awarded combat honors throughout the campaign when the high command maintained that the entire group showing was poor?

Pilots, in substantiating their belief that the 332nd was purposely ignored in so far as receiving the award is concerned, always refer to an old Army axiom: "The unit commander is responsible for all that the unit does or fails to do."

Therefore, they say, if the commander merits all these honors, then the rest of the group should have received some recognition.

The Record

A poll of pilots in the group reveals that they think the following missions flown by the group should be worth some sort of recognition from the high command. ere is the record:

1. For bravery in the general escort of the Berlin mission on March 25th. For example, the group flew the 15th Air Forces first and longest escort mission over the German capital in maximum strength through the heaviest flak of the war and encountered 40 jet-propelled enemy fighters, shooting down three jet fighters and escorts, one probable, with no losses among the particular bomber group which the 332nd was assigned to escort.
2. Combination of fighter sweeps and strafing missions over the Munich area, one of Germany's most heavily defended targets on March 31, during which 332nd pilots destroyed 13 enemy aircraft in the air, with one probable, and one damaged.

   The group also destroyed seven locomotives, damaged 13 others, and destroyed or damaged more than 70 pieces of railway equipment.

Mission Wins Leader Silver Star

3. The strafing mission over the same Munich, Linez and Salzburg target area on April 15, for which Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., received the Silver Star Award.

   On this mission, flights from the group destroyed and damaged 35 lomocotives, 8 oil cars and countless rolling stock.
4. The Aug. 12, 1944, strafing mission over Southern France, three days before D-Day, when they knocked out German radar stations on the beaches.

   They flew two separate missions before the landings, and the damage done enabled our landing craft and air cover to invade in an undetected operation.
5. For collective performances in 16 months of overseas action as a colored unit fighting a special "two-front war."

What of the Future?

The group is slowly getting rid of its planes and equipment prior to moving to a port area, and scuttle butt and latrine rumors are the only means of passing away hot Italian days.

Chief among them is: What is going to happen to the group's personnel when they arrive in the United States? With no official confirmation from the high command as to what plans the War Department has in mind for the 332nd, the following list is the consensus among men here as to the disposition of the group.

1. Return to the United States and wait after furloughs the reformation of the group for service in the Pacific, under the command of Maj. George Roberts, who once lead the old 99th here in Italy when Col. B. O. Davis returned to the States to take over command of the 332nd at Selfridge Field. The majority of the pilots here feel that Roberts is now ready for a command of his own.
2. Return to the States to be inactive and personnel of squadrons released from Army or shifted to become replacements for the bomber-fighter group.
3. Return of the squadron to the States to be integrated into bomber-fighter group as fighter squadrons under their old commander.

These same three points also apply to service groups attached to the 332nd.

Already among "I-told-you-so's," nickname of group has been changed from redtails to "the lost squadrons," and most of the men here think they will receive the run-around once they reach the States.

LIBERIA REDUCES OLD LOAN FROM AMERICA

MONROVIA (ANP) — Liberia has reduced its 1926 loan from America by $350,000, leaving an unpaid balance of $700,000. This payment is exclusive of the regular amortization and interest payments previously made.

2nd Flyer Crashes in 2-Week Period

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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CATTOLICA, Italy (By Cable) —The second post-war training flight crash in a two-week period claimed the life of another 332nd Fighter Group pilot when the P-51 plane of Flight Officer John W. Squires of St. Louis, crashed near the town of Torre Dellago, recently.

A pilot with the 100th Squadron and one of the latest replacement pilots to come overseas before the end of the war, Flight Officer Squires was one of a group of three on a routine training mission over western Italy.

The plane smashed into the ground near the 92nd Division bivouac area in full view of the thousands of the division's soldiers on detail in the area.

Stalled at Low Altitude

Squires, it was learned, was pulling out of a difficult aerial maneuver at a low altitude when his plane stalled and crashed into the side of a farmhouse on the edge of the town.

Nearby 92nd men rushed to pull the flyer from the plane before it caught fire. Death was instantaneous and the plane was completely demolished.

8-4-46

The body was interred in the 92nd Division Military No. 2 at Cadva. Squires is survived by his mother, Mrs. Ida L. Squires, of St. Louis.

638 Officers, Men Of 332nd Fighter Group Due In States

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.
10-20-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The 332nd Fighter Group is scheduled to arrive at the Hampton Roads Port of Debarkation this week, the War Department announced.

Although it is expected that the unit will be deactivated, no date has been set.

The 332nd under the command of Lieutenant Colonel George S. Roberts, is comprised of 88 officers and 550 enlisted men.

Arriving on the Levi Woodbury, included in the group will be the 100th Fighter Squadron with 30 officers and 243 enlisted men and the group headquarters with 25 officers and 67 enlisted men. An American Red Cross worker and a war correspondent will complete the shipment. 10-20-45

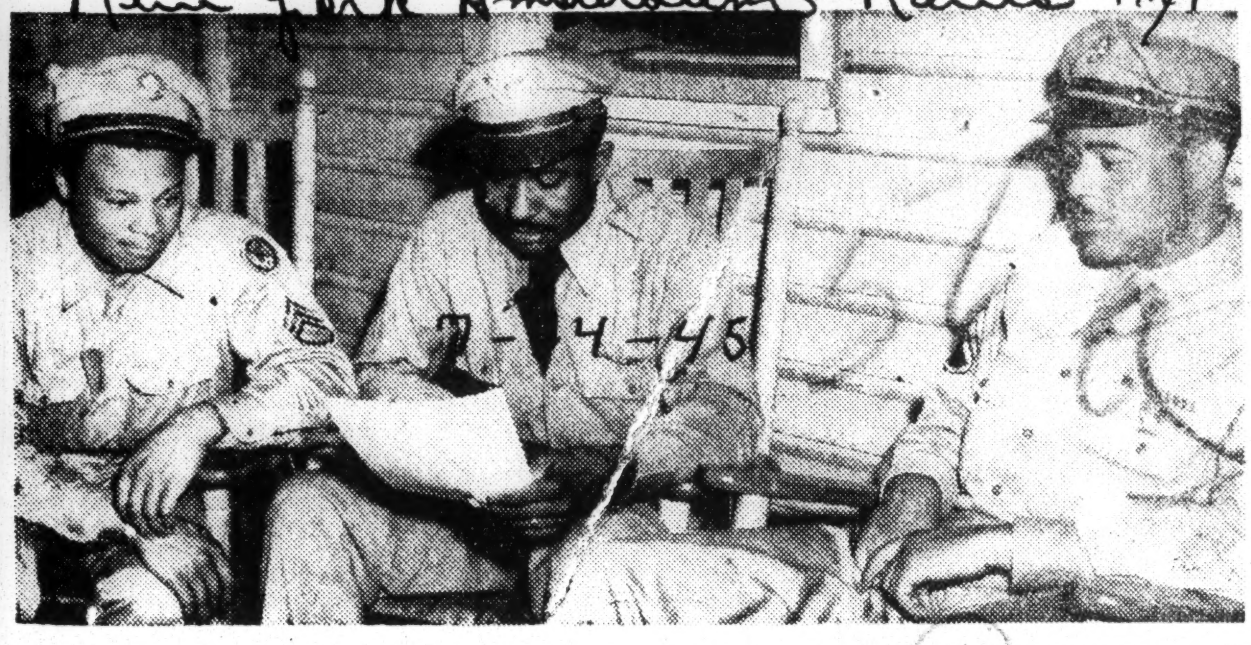
The 332nd Fighter Group was activated October 13, 1942 and went overseas in January, 1944, landing at Taranto, Italy, February 3, 1944. Providing air cover for bombers of the U. S. 15th Air Force, the 332nd has completed 311 missions by April 30, 1945, destroying many enemy aircraft both in the air and on the ground.

The group began flying with the 15th Air Force in June, 1944. Using P-47 Thunderbolts, the pilots were assigned P-51 Mustangs and completed 200 missions without losing a single heavy bomber to enemy aircraft.

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., new commanding officer of the 477th Composite Group based at Godman Field, Ky., is the former commanding officer of the group and led it into combat during many of its missions over Europe.

Fighter Pilot Group Veterans

New York Amsterdam News N.Y.



SHOWN READING A STATEMENT by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker praising the 332nd Fighter Group with which they served in Africa, Sicily and Italy are three veterans of the famous unit, now resting at Camp Davis, N. C., convalescent hospital. Left to right: S/Sgt. Richard C. Adams of Jamaica, N. Y.; 2nd Lt. Leroy Bowman, Sumter, S. C., and S/Sgt. Clarence S. Dishman, Washington.

700 of 332nd Seeking Jobs With Airlines

The New York Amsterdam News New York, New York

Fighter Group Put On Army Inactive List After Return to U. S.

10-27-45

By CARL LAWRENCE

Despite its publicized record abroad, Uncle Sam's famous 332nd Fighter Group was placed on the Army's inactiive list this week and many of the 700 men involved are scouting around in search of jobs as commercial air line pilots.

Led by their 27-year-old commanding officer, Lieut. Col. George S. Roberts, members of the all-Negro outfit arrived here last Wednesday aboard the S. S. Levi Woodbury.

At Camp Kilmer, N. J., 48 hours later, they were told that the 332nd Fighter Group was officially no more; that future orders on the status of some officers would be cleared later by the War Department.

To many of the crack aviators, the news came as a surprise. All of them were so happy to be back, however, they did not bother about studying the angles or going into the reasons why.

Lieut. Conrad A. Johnson, Jr., son of the prominent Harlem lawyer, said frankly:

Will Study Engineering

"The job business can wait. We've just finished a pretty good one over in Italy and I am not going to hurry about the next one. After I see my folks, I'll probably decide to return to school and take up architectural engineering."

Lieut. Yenwith Whitney, of the Bronx, added:

"My parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Whitney, will most certainly be seeing me not later than Sunday. I have three sisters and plenty of friends. After talking to them a few months, I'll consider something with one of the lines out at LaGuardia Field. You do have the FEPC here in New York, don't you?"

Most members of the 332nd were wholeheartedly in favor of either going back to school, getting jobs in commercial aviation or getting a GI loan for the purpose of starting a business.

"I can't say I'm interested in any of those things," Lieut. Hiram Mann, of Cleveland said. "All I want to do is see my wife, Kathadaza."

Outstanding among the heroes aboard ship was Capt. Roscoe Brown, commander of the 100th Fighter Squadron, who is popular in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

Shot Down 2 Nazi Jet Jobs

Capt. Brown is credited, with having shot down two German jets during the war.

Capt. Walter Downs, commander of the 301st Fighter Squadron, was also honored as a hero, according to the unit's combat record. Capt. Downs, it was said, flew 63 sorties.

Col. Roberts, one of the youngest group commanders in the Air Corps, flew 98 sorties against enemy installations.

Stocky and stern-looking, Col. Roberts had little to say about the unit's exploits but it was evident that he was extremely proud of the 332nd's record.

From the D-Day invasion of southern France until Hitler's hordes went down to defeat in the battered city of Berlin, the history of the 332nd is packed with both individual and collective feats, the War Department emphasized.

As a group, the 332nd was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for outstanding performance of duty.

All Carry Medals They Won

Individually, there was Lieut. Richard Simmons, of White Plains, Lieut. Harry Stewart, of Corona, Lieut. Bertram Wilson, of Brooklyn, and Capt. Robert Friend, of Harlem.

They all sported medals and awards for gallantry in action.

During their 22 months overseas, members of the 332nd served with the 12th and 15th Air Force, Col. Roberts said. Probably the greatest single feat for the group was the sinking of an enemy destroyer with machine gun fire.

Lieut. Col. Nelson S. Brooks, executive officer of the group, was among the few men who expressed a desire to remain in uniform. Like Col. Roberts, he said "I'd be very glad to stay in the Army."

Col. Brooks, a native of Springfield, Ill., joined the outfit at Tuskeegee, he stated.

From a box score standpoint, members of the famed fighting group Silver Star; 95 DFCs, Soldiers Medal received a Legion of Merit and a (2), Bronze Star (14), Air Medal and Clusters (744) and eight Purple Hearts.

332nd Beset by Handicaps, Corps Commander Admits

Afro-American 6-9-45 Baltimore, Md.

Untried Unit Lacked Leadership and Modern Planes; Col.

Brig. Gen. Dean C. Strother, head of the 15th Air Force Fighter Command, told an AFRO war correspondent this week that while the command at one time lacked faith in the 332nd Fighter Group, he has nothing but the highest praise for Col. B. O. Davis, Jr.

The first opinion was held early during the Italian campaign, but during the later stages, the performance of the 332nd was "very creditable," and the group was a "definite asset to the air forces program" he said.

In an exclusive interview at Rimini, Italy, with the AFRO's Francis Yancey, Gen. Strother said: 6-9-45

No Fair Comparison

"There is no way that the 332nd can be compared with other groups in the command, since it was a separate experiment and never until the later months of the campaign had it faced the same test as others."

As to their combat efficiency, the general declared that Col. Davis's unit lacked experienced leadership and had a poor maintenance record but that on a whole the group is improving.

General Strother, who hails from Austin, Tex., stated that the 332nd, being the newest of the lot, with its lack of seasoned battle-tried flight and operational leaders, would be placed at an unfair disadvantage in any comparison with other groups of its wing.

The general attributed the group's poor maintenance record to its lack of combat-tested line and crew chiefs.

He cited in explanation instances where other groups' personnel included flight leaders, operation officers and crew chiefs who had seen combat tours in the Pacific and European theatres before coming to Italy with their groups.

Although citing poor leadership as one of the 332nd's major detriments. 6-9-45

Speaking of Col. Davis, the general said: "He is a fine soldier and has done wonders with the 332nd. I am positive that no other man in our air corps could have handled this job in the manner he has." Afro-American

Nature of Assignments

In reviewing the 332nd combat history since its arrival overseas to be attached to his command, the general admitted that the group's bad showing on paper could perhaps be traced to many months of non-combat activity in harbor and base installation patrols far from enemy-held territory. 6-9-45

Moreover, he admitted that at the time the flyers were using outmoded P-39 Airacobras, serviced by combat-green ground personnel, then switched over to heavy short-ranged P-47 Thunderbolts which never had the range to get within striking distance of the Nazis' planes.

Better Equipment Given

However, he declared, once the group was equipped with the Air Forces latest plane, the P-51 Mustang, such as used by other groups in the wing, it began to show the spark of life that led them up to the fine accounting the group has been giving itself in the last four months of the war.

In denying my inference that the 332nd's missions may have been hand-picked to keep it out of areas where enemy planes were known to frequent, General Strother said that all groups were rotated as to target penetration.

Says All Given Same Chance

The 332nd always received the same chance at Jerry planes as the rest of the wing, he said, adding that other groups in my wing just seem to have that knack of finding enemy planes in the air.

When asked why the 332nd is the only group in the 15th fighter wing without a unit citation, the general said that his fighter command, realizing the big boost it would be to the group's morale, had given this matter a great deal of consideration. 6-9-45

However, in searching through the group's combat record, he continued, nowhere could a mission outstanding enough to merit an award be found.

In concluding the interview, General Strother voiced the opinion that he thought that the colored press had overplayed the part that the 332nd played in the Italian campaign.

Moreover, he said that it hurt the morale of his other groups to see the 332nd get so much publicity for the small number of planes shot down, while they knocked down twice as many, only to get a few paragraphs in their papers.

Less Praise Urged 6-9-45

It was the general opinion that the colored press should follow the same policy as the Air Corps and nurse the 332 along slowly as to the amount of praise given for deeds accomplished.

The general said nothing about the future plans for the 332nd, but expressed hope that it will continue to improve at the same pace it did during the last four months of the campaign.

332nd Completes 150th Mission

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

1-27-45

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ADVANCED 15TH AAF BASE, Italy—Although bad weather continued to restrict activities, the 332nd Fighter Group, commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., flew its 150th mission a few days ago. Baltimore, Md.

Members of the group on this history-making mission provided escort for heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force which struck at strategic targets over Austria. No enemy aircraft were encountered and all of the group's planes returned. 1-27-45

Promotions Announced

Four Easterners among the group's personnel recently promoted to first lieutenants were Lewis L. Craig, Asheville, N.C.; Roland W. Moody and Roscoe C. Brown, Cambridge, Mass., and Reid E. Thompson, New Rochelle, N.Y.

Another promotion was that of Capt. Jack D. Holsclaw, assistant group operations officer, who was raised from first lieutenant.

Lts. Henry R. Peoples, St. Louis; William S. Price, Topeka, Kan.; Gordon M. Rapier, Gary, Ind.; Jimmie Wheeler, Detroit; Joseph Merton and Hannibal M. Cox, Chicago; Purnell J. Goodenough, Birmingham, and Earl R. Lane, Wickliffe, Ohio, were all promoted from second lieutenants.

Ace Pilot In States Surrender

Chicago Defender

SANTA ANA, Calif. — 1st Lt. Thomas W. Jefferson, 22-year-old Army Air Force P-51 Mustang fighter pilot of 6231 South Wabash avenue, Chicago, who flew 45 missions against the enemy with the 15th Air Force in the Mediterranean theatre of operation, currently is awaiting a new assignment at the AAF redistribution station at Santa Ana Army Air Base, following a 21-day debarkation furlough at home. Ill. 7-28-45

White Flyers Hug Colored Pilots for Rescuing Them

AFRO-American Md. Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Many a time when a white pilot wakes up to find that a colored flyer has saved them from capture, injury or death, he will grab him and hug him tightly, according to Lt. Felix Kirkpatrick, Jr., bemedaled returned flyer, here to visit his parents. 1-27-45

Yet, in another vein, the lieutenant spoke with disgust of the fact that colored flyers, with their limited facilities, must obtain replacements and have at least seventy missions to their credit, as compared with forty-nine for whites, before a leave is granted.

Lt. Kirkpatrick, a fighter pilot whose Air Medal is weighted down with five oak leaf clusters and two battle stars, is a member of the 332nd Fighter Group, stationed with the 15th Air Force near Foggia, Italy, and has completed 70 misions. 1-27-45

These missions, he revealed, were completed over such hot spots as Greece, Romania, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Germany and Southern France.

While the 332nd is credited with having shot down 75 enemy planes and destroying more than twice that number on the ground, Lt. Kirkpatrick himself is credited with having brought down nine planes and with having blasted another from the air over Budapest.

Pilot Killed When Plane Falls Apart

Afro-American 7-21-45

By FRANCIS YANCEY

CATTOLICA, Italy—(By Cable)—Secont Lt. James Coleman of Detroit, one of the 332nd Fighter Group's latest replacement pilots, was killed near here recently when his P-51 fighter plane disintegrated in midair as he tried to pull it out of a steep dive at a low altitude. Baltimore, Md

A member of the 100th Squadron, Lt. Coleman, who was unmarried, is survived by his mother, Mrs. Wessie Coleman, also of Detroit. His body was interred in the American military cemetery at Sengallia, Italy.

The official report as to the cause of the death was that Lieutenant Coleman was killed as a result of the constructional failure of the plane during the execution of an aerial maneuver, resulting in the complete disintegration of the plane.

Air Chief Returning With Key Officers

Afro-American

AFRO-AMERICAN

See United Command of Fighters and Much-Abused Bomber Group

6-16-45

EXCLUSIVE

Baltimore, Md.

The announcement that Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was en route home from Italy for a new assignment aroused speculation in Washington that he might be slated for promotion to the rank of brigadier general, and that he would replace Col. Robert Selway, white, commander, who has been held responsible for a series of abuses heaped upon officers of the 477th Bombardment Group at Selfridge Field, Mich., Godman Field, Ky., and Freeman Field, Ind.

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy

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RIMINI, Italy (By Cable)—In a dramatic pledge of faith in his leadership, the cream of the 332nd Fighter Group's key officer and enlisted personnel here have volunteered along with Col. B. O. Davis Jr. for similar duty in another theatre, some time in the near future. Colonel Davis and a hand-picked cadre of former pioneer group officers have left this theatre en route to the States for discussions and, it is hoped, formation of the nucleus of a new bomber-fighter group for service overseas. It is believed here that the new command will be all-colored, in the hope of eliminating the old troubles which have beset the group. Colonel Davis is the obvious choice for complete command of the entire new set-up. It is probable that Maj. William A. Campbell will lead a new 99th Fighter Squadron. Before leaving, Colonel Davis said, "Our mission here has been completed. We have fought the war and I think the group has done very well."

Francis Yancey

Colonel Davis's former outfit as of today exists in name only. Maj. George S. Roberts is now in command of remnants of the group's personnel, which will be returned to the States as soon as shipping space is available.

6-16-45

The feeling is general here among the group that it will be inactivated on its return to the States and very likely the remaining flying and enlisted personnel will not go overseas again. The whole new group would be made up of personnel now stationed in the States and Major Campbell would have to build an entire new 99th Squadron.

The men here were overjoyed to hear that a large percentage of members of the old pioneer squadron now stationed in the States have asked to be included in any new group. The entire cadre would receive a twenty-one-day furlough at home before going to Godman Field, Ky., for transitional training. The big question here is, "Can Colonel Davis achieve the same high standard of combat results with a new group that he did with his former unit?"

Post-War Plans Seen

The entire flying personnel here is anxious to be with Colonel Davis, for they feel that this is really the U.S. Army's post-war colored air force. When the new group returns to the States after its final overseas service, it will be all set up for a peace-time regular army air force, and it is believed that here is the Army Air Force's far-sighted plan as to disposition of colored pilots after the war with Japan terminates.

It is rumored here that the high command is firm in its belief that Colonel Davis is the only one that could handle the job. The first plan was to send out a mixed group but this was vetoed and the pioneer unit personnel now is to be integrated with the 477th Bombardment Group, with pioneer group officers holding key positions.

6-16-45

Due in States Tuesday

The following men are due to arrive in the States Tuesday with Colonel Davis:

Afro-American

Majors Elmer D. Jones and Andrew Turner, both of Washington; William A. Campbell and Vance H. Marchbanks, Tuskegee, Ala.; Thomas J. Money, Chicago; Edward C. Gleaf, Lawrence, Kans.;

6-16-45

Capts. Dudley W. Stevenson and Wendell D. Lucas, Washington; William R. Thompson, Chicago; John R. Beverley, Lutherglen, Va.; William T. Mattison, Conway, Ark. Omar Blair, Los Angeles, and Morris T. Johnson, San Antonio, Tex.

Led Guerrillas

Missing Nine Months, Vet Pilot Turns Up

7-30-45

Pittsburgh Courier, Pgh., Penn.

FIFTEENTH AAF IN ITALY—First Lieut. Herbert V. (Bud) Clark, Pine Bluff, Ark., veteran combat pilot with the 332nd Mustang Fighter Group, commanded by Col. B. O. Davis Jr., returned to his unit this week after more than nine months of separation.

One of the original members of the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron which came overseas in April, 1943, Lieutenant Clark had completed one tour of duty as combat pilot, had flown ten missions on the second tour, when he was listed as missing in action. He had been forced down in enemy-held territory while on a mission to Northern Italy and no news had been heard of him since, other than a few vague hints that he might be in Partisan hands.

CASUALLY STROLLED IN

It was quite a surprise to all to see Lieutenant Clark alight from an Army Transport and come casually strolling into Group Operations Office. Nothing short of pandemonium would describe the reactions at this advanced Italian airbase when everyone realized that the group's own "Bud Clark" had actually returned after more than nine months of absence. However, it was quite true, this was the same quiet and unassuming pilot who had revolutionized flying habits, when he landed his P-40 Warhawk on one wheel while returning from a dive bombing mission over the Anzio Beachhead last year.

JOINED GUERRILLA BAND

Immediately picked up by Partisan sympathizers upon parachuting to safety in Northern Italy while on his ill-fated mission, Lieutenant Clark was taken to the headquarters of this loyal band of guerrillas who were harassing the enemy lines and supplies in every conceivable manner imaginable. After treatment for a head wound he had received when he struck a tree parachuting to the ground, Lieutenant was absorbed into this band of Partisans and assumed the position of Squadron Commander throughout his stay, which ended last week.

56a-1945

332nd

Take Part in Italy Wind-Up

AFRO-AMERICAN
BALTIMORE, Md.

Block Nazi Retreat Into Czechoslovakia

1 PILOT BAILS OUT

5-5-45

332nd Units Also Aid 15th AAF Bombers

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy

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WITH THE 332ND FIGHTER GROUP (Advanced Air Base in Italy) — Slashing far out in front of our fast advancing Fifth Army spearhead, assisting in cutting off the Nazi line fo retreat north, the smooth-flying, quick-trigger pilots of Col. B. O. Davis's red-tailed P-51 group, flying a special escort reconaissance mission over the Prague, Czechoslovakia area, knocked four Nazi ME-109's out of the skies, scoring one probable. Outnumbered five to three, one flight of P-51's, led by First Lt. Jimmy Lanham, 22, of 2013 Ridge Avenue, Philly, heading home from the target area, jumped three Nazi ME-109's which were dodging in and out of low-hanging clouds in the area, dropping their wing tanks of gas, the flight dived out of the sun into the gray-painted Maltese crosses of the Luftwaffe.

5-5-45

Lieutenant Lanham singled out the last plane in the flight of enemy aircraft, closing in on the Jerry's tail to open his attack. Lanham caught his quarry with the first two short bursts of gunfire, saw his kill, vomiting a black stream of smoke, flip over on its back and dive straight into the ground where it exploded. Lanham's victory was verified by his wingman who saw the plane explode against the deck. 5-5-45

Deadly Dogfight Develops

Pulling up from his first kill, Lieutenant Lanham glimpsed two additional ME-109's diving into the dogfight, making a total of five ME-109's pitted against our three P-51'. Jockeying for his favorite position for a kill on the enemy's tail, Lanham again dived in on the in. After that it was carnage.

Hundreds Captured

We dismounted at Fristingen. From one hours 150 supermen came out yelling "kamerad" after four of our guys went in the door. One hundred came out of another house and things weren't going bad at all until we started up the hilsl to clean out the woods.

Our twenty-two man detail had to go through a minefield and we lost some men, but on the hilltop Hitler lost moer. Everyone I saw up there was hit between the eyes.

In a few foxholes were a mass of mangled manhood—this was what was left of the superman who wouldn't come out when the guys told him to.

Fighting Near Munich

Infantry fighting lulled after that and the artillery began to work on Binswangen. While we waited to go there, we had time to think back that we'd just crossed the Daunbe. We hadn't even had time to notice whether it was beautiful or blue.

That's how it went and now it's so far in the past and so many miles behind, it isn't even a good topic for discusion. We've raced to where the snowcapped Bavarian Alps are visible and Hitler's owr road signs say Munich less than fifty kilometers away.

400 Taken in Less Than Hour

In the long haul to where we are now so many prisoners were taken that we've lost count. The Dog Company's third platoon rounded up 400 in less than an hour. Kitchen personnel got lost, drove ahead of the spearhead into an unconquered town, and came back with 115.

During one night while we sat alert to the attack on Schwabmuhhausen, out post guards brought so many to the command post that by daybreak we had more prisoners than men in our own outfit. One tank unit took over 2,500 during the day.

PW's Liberated

We've overrun towns, air fields. Allied prisoner of war camps and a Nazi murder camp, where burning bodies still smoldered.

Liberated Jewish prisoners kiss our hands and feet, while liberated Americans go hog wild when they see us.

One colored Caorlinian of the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion captured in the Battle of the Bulge, said that he walked every step to this point, nearly 500 miles, into southern Germany. While I talked to him he grabbed and gobbled hardtack like it was cake.

Charred Bodies Seen

In a murder camp near Landsberg piles of bones and charred flesh told the mute story of the atrocious German effort to wipe out the race they considered inferior.

Expressions on the faces of some I saw showed that they must have been alive when tied to logs, saturated with gas, and set afire.

Every man in the Dog Company is working hard! everyone is a hero, and every time we lose one, it just makes the guys that much harder on the ne t Nazis we meet.

Yet, we still have to take prisoners, because they seem to come from everywhere once this mighty armoured column rolls up. They straggle in from woods, or guys dig them out of cellars, out of barns, or from under steps.

N.J., D.C. Soldiers Get Nazis

Sgts. James Adams of Newark, Clarence Johnson of Decatur, Ill., Stan Gordon of Pasadena, and David Green of New Haven; Pvts. Waylon Smith, Alexandria, La., Leo Browder, Dallas, were among those catching 400 Nazis and liberating 80 Allied prisoners of war.

Pvt. Booker Hawkins of Washington killed one and captured two Nazis while searching for a lost kitchen truck. Sgts. Robert Green of New Orleans and Hunter Grice of Mobile were among the kitchen mechanics who liberated a town.

Md. GI Helps Take Town

Sgt. Johnnie Simpson of Monroe, La., took a machine gun and chased a whole battalion of SS troops out of a town. Sgts. Wilbur Gex of Chicago and Calvin Wilson of Baltimore helped bang another town into submission with mortars.

Lieuts. Husid, Clinesmith and Hammond have proved crack leaders and Sgt. Henry Burnett of New York City has proved a master mess boss.

Spring has gone AWOL and there are frigidly cold winds and rains here, but we have one hot meal daily despite the speed of advance.

Resistance Light

Germans fire everything they've got at us. I've ducked airbursts from rockets, bazookas, burp guns, 88's, automatic pistols, flak guns, mortars and small arms, but we move so fast you don't have time to remember how the last sounded before there's another. Resistance isn't strong, but we get some.

We also get all kinds of rumors One says Germany has offered unconditional surrender to America and Britain, but not Russia. Another says Hitler is dead or dying. Both could be true and we wouldn't know. We're just fighting the war, taking prisoners and spearheading the rat race through Germany on what we hope is the last long road on the way home.

Negro Pilots Hit Luftwaffe

P-Post-N-Y 4-3-45

Reuter reports from the Italian front that U. S. Negro fighter pilots are helping the Red Army as it pushes toward Vienna.

In dogfights over Wels, southwest of the Austrian city of Linz, pilots of an all-Negro fighter group, commanded by 29-year-old Capt. Walter M. Downds of New Orleans, destroyed eight Focke-Wulfs and four Messerschmitts.

This action was part of a day's work in which planes of the Middle East Air Force flew more than 2800 sorties, attacking marshalling yards and railway bridges in Austria, Yugoslavia and Italy, cutting rail lines and putting much rolling stock and road transport out of action. 4-3-45

On the ground, strong German raiding parties were smashed back by 8th Army troops.

Negro Pilots Down 3 Nazi Jet Planes In Fights Over Berlin

ROME — The 332nd Fighter Group, consisting of four squadrons of Negro pilots commanded by Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., is making a name for itself as part of the U. S. 15th Air Force. Over 75 enemy planes have been destroyed in the air and more than twice that number on the ground.

On Sunday, rail yards and bridges along lines leading to Vienna were blasted by B-17 Fortresses and B-24 Liberators of the U. S. 15th Air Force operating in close cooperation with the Russian army sweeping into Austria.

Top scorer for the Negro fighter group was Lieut. Robert W. Williams, of Ottumwa, Iowa who shot down two Nazi planes while on fighter-sscort mission.

The distinction of being the first Negro fighter pilot to engage and destroy a German jet plane was won by Lieut. Roscoe C. Brown, husband of Mrs. Laura Jones Brown, of 770 St. Nicholas avenue, New York city.

Lieut. Jones is one of three Negro pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group credited with destruction of jet planes during a forty-minute aerial dogfight over Berlin on March 24th. The other pilots are Flight Officer Charles V. Brantley, of St. Louis, and Lieut. Earl R. Lane, of Wickliffe, Ohio.

15TH AAF BASE IN ITALY.—The fighter group here under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., scored its first aerial victory of the year Friday when 1st Lt. William Price, 21, of Topeka, Kas., shot down a German ME109 while the group was on a strafing mission in the Munich area.

This formation led by Major George Roberts, deputy group commander, also destroyed five enemy aircraft on the ground, seven locomotives, five box cars and one flat car.

Lt. Price, flight leader, scored his victory when he sighted the ME109 apparently just taking off from an enemy airdrome and heading in his direction.

He fired a few short bursts and the German plane partly disintegrated and cartwheeled to the ground. 3-30-45

This was Price's first aerial victory. Continuing his strafing attack with the group, Lt. Price destroyed another enemy plane, a FW190, on the ground.

Other individual credits on the mission include: 1st Lt. Henry R. Peoples of St. Louis, three locomotives destroyed; 1st Lt. Jimmy D. Wheeler, Roseville, Mich., one locomotive destroyed; 1st Lt. Roscoe C. Brown, New York, one locomotive destroyed; 2nd Lt. Harry T. Steward, Corona, Ill., one JU52 transport plane destroyed on ground; 2nd Lt. Lionel Bonam, Pascagoula, Miss., one FW 190 destroyed on ground; 2nd Lt. John W. Davis, Kansas City, Kas., five loaded box cars and flat car destroyed; Flight Officer James Fischer, Boston, one locomotive destroyed; Flight Officer Wyrain T. Schell, Brooklyn, N. Y., one locomotive destroyed.

Topeka Boy Gets First Nazi Plane

The Call
Kansas City
3-30-45-No.

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent in Italy

Negro Fighter Group Bags 12 Nazis in Day

Chicago Tribune
4-3-45

ADVANCED ALLIED HDQ., Mediterranean, April 2 [Reuters]—Mustang pilots of a Negro fighter group commanded by Capt. Walter M. Downds, New Orleans, La., destroyed 12 German aircraft over Austria yesterday. The action took place over Wels, southwest of Linz. —ill.

Fighter pilots see benefits for race as result of war

Los Angeles Tribune 3-5-45

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—In the lounge of the Ritz Carleton hotel, a bunch of fighter pilots were talking. All fliers of the all-Negro 332nd Fighter Group, which operates in Italy with the 15th Air Force, they each contributed an observation on the racial aspect of serving in the Army Air Force.

"At first the Italians were curious about us, not much, but a little. But then they realized we wore the American uniform and as far as they were concerned, after that we were just Americans to them," said Lt. Felix Kirkpatrick, of Chicago, wearer of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

"Other American pilots were much more curious about us," said Lt. Leonard F. Turner, Washington, D. C. "They were always stopping us to ask what unit we were in, what sort of planes we flew, where we were trained, and so on." 3-5-45

"The other American pilots I knew in Italy were swell to me," said Lt. Hubron R. Blackwell, Baltimore. "A couple of boys from Texas turned out to be my best friends."

Lt. Richard W. Hall, Albany, Ga,. felt that what his group was doing was going to help things after the war. "It'll be better, slowly, but eventually better. In what we are doing I see benefits for our children and our children's children".

His idea was seconded by Lt. George M. Rhodes, Brooklyn, who shot down one of the few German fighters encountered on D-Day in Southern France. "I may not be able to enjoy the results of this fighting we are doing, but it's going to do good," he said. 3-5-45

Someone brought up the subject of American soldiers avoiding the salute in combat zones. "It's true that a few do," said Kirkpatrick. "But I'll tell you this. A lot more go out of their way to salute you. And in the field you remember things like that."

With a tour of overseas duty completed, the fliers are here at the Army Air Forces Redistribution Station No. 1 awaiting new assignments in the Air Forces.

Hats Off!

P.M. N.Y. 1-30-45

PM takes off its hat today to a man who has destroyed 10 enemy planes, four in the air and six on the ground. Lt. Lee A. Archer, of New York City, is now the Nation's leading Negro fighter pilot. As a member of the justly-famous all-Negro 332d Fighter Group in Italy, Lt. Archer has completed 138 combat missions against the forces of those men who tried to base a political empire on racial hatred.

Pilots to Help Crush Japan

Afro American 5-19-45

Will Get Furloughs at Home En Route

10 MORE GET DFC

1st. Lt. Luther Smith Liberated in Austria

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with *332nd Fighter Group in Italy*

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332nd FIGHTER GROUP HEADQUARTERS, ITALY (By Cable)—With the surrender of all German forces, the 332nd is expected to be shifted eventually to the Pacific, but will have furloughs in the States first, well-informed circles here indicated today.

Details as to how and when the group will be transferred remains a secret but it is known that it will be co-ordinated with our expanding heavy bomber campaign against Japan. 5-19-45

In extending heartiest congratulations on the manner in which the group conducted its air war to a triumphant conclusion, the commanding general stressed the fact that many men would be required to build our growing air power for the decisive blow against Japan.

It is also reported that certain units of which the 332nd is not a part, will be kept in this theatre as an occupational air force.

Plans have been completed and are now being carried out to move the remainder back to the States as rapidly as troopships and air transportation can complete the shuttle. 5-19-45

Those who have served longest in Africa and this theatre will be returned to their homes when the demobilization phase starts soon.

to Get Brief Respite

Personnel who have had the least service overseas will be returned to the States for leaves or furloughs at home before reassembling for transitional training and departure for the Pacific.

Personnel of the occupational air force will be returned to the States by rotation and replacement, but most likely not until the war against Japan is terminated.

Ten Awarded DFC's

In a mass ceremony at this base Maj. Gen. Nathan Twining, commanding general of the 15th Air Forces, awarded ten Distinguished Flying Crosses.

Pilots receiving the award for extraordinary and meritorious aerial achievements were:

Capts. Robert J. Friend, NYC; Henry R. Peoples, St. Louis; Marion R. Rodgers, Elizabeth, N.J.; Charles L. White, Oakland, Calif.

First Lts. Earl R. Lane, Wickliff, Ohio; Williams Price, Topeka, Kans.; Charles V. Brantley, St. Louis; Roscoe C. Brown, NYC; Hannibal M. Cox, Chicago, and John Mitchel, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Numerous Awards Made

Individual awards to the fliers have mounted to 80 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 500 Air Medals and Clusters, 1 Legion of Merit, 1 Soldier's Medal and 14 Bronze Stars during the more than 10,000 individual sorties.

During the completion of nearly seven hundred combat missions against the enemy, the group has participated in five campaigns. Personnel are authorized to wear the Silver Battle Star on the theatre ribbon. 5-19-45

Saved After Seven Months

First Lt. Luther H. Smith, a veteran pilot, who was shot down and last seen bailing out of a flaming plane over enemy territory in Yugoslavia on Oct. 12, 1944, was found alive and in good health when Partisans captured Spittel, a German prisoner of war camp in Austria.

Smith, the holder of the DFC, Air Medal with five Clusters, was credited with shooting down two enemy planes and destroying four planes on the ground. 5-19-45

Prior to his entry into the armed forces, Smith was an engineering student at Iowa State University and married to Mrs. Susie I. Smith of Des Moines, Iowa.

AIR ACE INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Savannah Tribune

RICHMOND, Va.—(ANP)—Lt. Lee A. Archer, rated as America's leading Negro pilot, was able to survive 138 air missions without injury during his 14 months overseas only to be injured in an automobile accident after his return to the states. He is recovering here at the Army Air Base hospital.

Lt. Archer, who entered the army air forces while a student at New York university, was a member of Col. B. O. Davis' famous "Red Tail" flying group that holds the record of knocking out 87 planes on the ground in one mission over Lake Balaton, Hungary, between Budapest and Vienna. He has, according to army records, 10 German fighter planes to his credit. 6-21-45

One of his most exciting moments, he recalled, was when he and the late Captain Wendell O. Pruitt, famed St. Louis pilot, recently killed at Tuskegee, battled 13 Messerschmitts. Archer bagged three, Pruitt destroyed two and their group rescued them in time to take care of the rest.

"It's not superstitious, but every time I went on a flight, I always gave my crew chief my hat," Archer said. "Hold this, I'd cay, until I come back and don't worry, I'm coming back. I'm coming back."

He came back from 138 missions including one on Friday the 13th when he was shot down and landed on the Isle of Vis off the Yugoslavian coast. When he returned to his base five days later he found his crew chief wearing his hat "like a proud cock of the walk."

56a-1945

Strafing Led by Kansan

The Call 3-9-45

Kansas City

Capt. Gleed in Charge as Nazi Supplies Ruined

Mo.

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent in Italy

3-9-45

ADVANCED 15TH ARMY AIR FORCE BASE. — The 75 pilots of the fighter group commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., had their first real "strafing field day" of the year Sunday when they destroyed or seriously damaged nearly 80 various enemy installations and supply trains in southern Germany.

Led by Captain Edward Creston Gleed of Lawrence, Kas., the group's operations officer, the mission furnished close support to Marshal Ivan Koniev's Russian forces driving toward Dresden, knocking out the supplies the Germans were rushing to that area to check the Russian onslaught. 3-9-45

Destroy 10 Locomotives

The final tally of the group's record for the day showed 10 locomotives, two enemy aircraft on the ground and a power station completely destroyed.

Seriously damaged enemy installations included a power station, four locomotives, two aircraft on the ground, 10 passenger cars, 44 supply laden box cars, six oil cars, four loaded trucks, two ore cars.

The mission was the group's 28th since January 1 and the third strafing assignment during this period.

Seven Distinguished Flying Crosses, four Bronze Stars and 13 Air Medals were awarded various members of Col. Davis' group during a colorful ceremony at this base in recognition of their heroic achievements and ability.

Recipients of the DFC were First Lieutenants William Noel Alsbrook of Kansas City, Kas., Robert L. Martin of Dubuque, Iowa; Charles Tate of Pittsburgh, Spurgeon Ellington of Winston-Salem, N. C.; Clarence W. Dartelmire of New York, Richard Harder of Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and Edward M. Thomas of Chicago.

Bronze Star winners included S. Sgt. Elliott W. Lucas, of Washington; T. Sgt. Roland L Poindexter of Norfolk, Cpl John T Fields of Renfroe, Ala., M. Sgt. Nathaniel A. Wade of Bellaire, Ohio. 3-9-45

Air Medal recipients were First Lt Wendell M. Lucas of Washington, Second Lts. William Walker, Atlantic City; Samuel W. Watts, New York City; James A. Wilson, Marion, Ind.; Gentrye Barnes, Cleveland; Leonelle A. Banam, Pascagoule, Miss.; Harold H. Brown, Minneapolis; John W. Davis, Kansas City, Mo.

Flight Officers Thomas Hawkins of Glenrock, N. Y.; Charles V. Brantley of St. Louis; Joseph Chineworth of Bloomfield, Iowa; Robert Pillow of Nashville and Vincente Williams of Los Angeles.

S. Sgt. Lucas, brother of Lt. Lucas who received the Aid Medal, won the Bronze Star because acting on his own initiative, he designed a power-driven hydraulic test stand for P-51 aircrafts, allowing the elimination of hand-pump devices formerly used to test the hydraulic systems of these airplanes. This is a great time saver over the former system. 3-9-45

T. Sgt. Poindexter won his star for outstanding services as an aircraft armorer and general "trouble shooter." His speedy analysis of mechanical inefficiences on P-51 planes made it possible for the group to keep a greater number of planes in service.

Cpl. Fields was cited for special meritorious services for so skillfully attending to his guns on the airship assigned him for this maintenance that no malfunction has yet occurred in their operation.

M. Sgt. Wade was awarded his star for services as flight chief during a period of heavy activity. The ships in his section received such thorough maintenance that none was ever forced back before completing their mission due to mechanical deficiencies.

Col. Y. H. Taylor, white commander of the 15th AAF, to which Col. Davis' group is attached, made the presentations and complimented the group for its achievements to date.

332nd

332nd Pilots Left Path of Death, Wreckage in Europe

AFRO-American, Balt., Md.

5-26-45

By FRANCIS YANCEY
AFRO War Correspondent with
U.S. Troops in Italy

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LINZ, Austria. (Delayed) — Aboard 638 Piggyback Fighter over Austria.

I have just had a fighter pilot's eye-view of the terrific havoc and tremendous damage inflicted on the retreating Nazis' supply lines, airfields, bridges, railway yards and military installations by fighters and bombers of the 15th Air Force, action in which Col. B. O. Davis's 332nd Fighter Group played an important role as they paved the way for the collapse of enemy resistance along this front.

Cramped for six hours in the forward special glass cockpit of this speedy little 300-MPH single-seater fighter plane flying over a route it took the 332nd five months to smash out, I viewed the bullet-torn, bomb-strewn wreckage of hundreds of locomotives, railway cars, bridges, and anti-aircraft gun positions, many of which were knocked out by our low-flying, accurate strafing red-tailed fighters.

Delaware Flyers His Pilot

My pilot, First Lt. William R. MacVittie, Wilmington, Del., "buzzed" just about every enemy target the 332nd hit during this last decisive push. Dropping down to the deck, he made simulated strafing runs over such cities as Udine, Ferrara, Salzburg, Linz and Berchtesgaden, Hitler's famed Alpine hideout, all familiar well-remember targets to veteran 332nd pilots.

The war-wrecked terrain we flashed over reminded me of a huge empty stadium after a big game. Below, I could see long dusty strings of victorious returning Allied motorized units streaming southward through the Brenner Pass to Italy and eevntually home, the winning team leaving the scene of a hard-fought, dirty victory. 5-26-45

The famous heavily-defended pass, main supply line from Germany to Italy, nicknamed by our pilots "flak alley," was a scrambled maze of wrecked Nazi equipment, scores of wrecked tank cars.

Pilots Did Work Well

Troop trains lay strewn over bullet-torn roadbeds where our fighters caught them carrying the retreating Nazi troops, fuel and debacle offer mute testimony to the flying prowess of our hard-hitting fighter pilots.

Everywhere along the route, our flight through the pass over Northern Italy and Austria, the scenery below never changed from wrecked anti-aircraft gun positions atop snowy peaks to burnt out Nazi truck convoys strewn alongside the aerial-strafed roadways. Each city was a litter of retreating air-wrecked vehicles parked in the rubble-filled remains of what were once great German war industries. 5-26-45

Throughout all the once German-held terrain, airborne destruction marked out a grim path of death and destruction blazed by our planes.

Dropping down for a tree-skimming runover the road on the Austrian end of the pass, we flew over mile on mile of wreckage of Hitler's famed panzer divisions, now nothing but charred scrap dumped by the side of road to allow Yank quartermaster trucking companies unhindered access to the supply lines of our troops in Austria.

Flyers "Black Devils" to Nazis

On one straight stretch of road outside Udine, I counted more than 75 wrecked tanks, trucks and armoured cars riddled by our pilots' bullets. I wondered if the Nazis who died in this wreckage knew that the red-tailed fighters that blasted them to eternity were flown by the feared "Black Devils," as they called the 322nd pilots. 5-26-45

We buzzed a former German airdrome, now a tangled shambles of charred steel, narrowly missing the top of the hangers, leap-frogging over scattered wreckage, scores of blasted swastika-marked German planes caught on the ground by our pilots as they made strafing runs over the airfield. The smashed planes looked like a child's broken tops scattered over a green carpet.

On the return trip, we flew a course straight south over the Alps at 16,000 feet to clear the snow-capped peaks. With more than 22,000 air miles to my credit as a correspondent for the AFRO, this was my first experience with high altitude oxygen flying. At this height, air so rare that few minutes without an oxygen mask is enough to cash in one's insurance policy.

Climbing at 12,000 without a mask, I could sense the slow logginess to my muscular reactions, but with the first deep breath through my mask everything cleared and I became normal.

On returning to the field I was surrounded by pilots eager to find out the extent of damage done to targets by the 332nd. When these pilots were last over the targets before the surrender, 332nd pilots made their strafing runs at more than 400 MPH through blazing flak and where blending every effort to get in and through the target area, then out safely.

Few ever had a chance to look back to view the extent of damage he had caused, so I had to give a detailed account of the hell they had played on their rampages behind the German lines.

332nd "Out in Front

There is no doubt in my mind that when the final score is added up, the 332nd will be out in front on the list of missions accomplished. Their success can be measured in terms of the rapid advance of our ground forces.

Pilots who have recently received air medal are:

First Lts. Conrad Johnson, 460 W. 147th St., NYC; Robert W. Lawrence, 127 Liberty St., Bloomfield, N.J.; Harry T. Stewart, 10511 34th Ave., Corona, L.I., N.Y.; Charles Hill, 616 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit; Carl Ellis, 529 Oakwood Blvd., Chicago; 5-26-45

Second Lts. Kenith Whitney, 3161 Albany Crescent, NYC; William E. Rice, Avondale Rd., Swarthmore, Pa.; George E. Lynch, 61 Carroll Ave., Valley Stream, N.Y.; Wyraint Schell, 514 Putman Ave., Brooklyn; Flight Officer Elberth Merriwether, 248 Lexington Ave., Brooklyn.

Enlisted men receiving the Bronze Star were S/Sgt. Elnerth Wilson, 2020 N. Stillman St., Philly; S/Sgt. Percy C. Corbin, Box 246, Pulaski, Va.; M/Sgt. Fred Archer, 3241 108th St., Corona, L.I.

Fighter Group Makes Its 150th Mission

Kansas City, Mo.

The Call 1-26-45

ADVANCED 15TH ARMY AIR FORCE BASE IN TALY.—While bad weather continued to restrict their activities, the fighter group commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. flew its 150th mission a few days ago.

On this history-making mission, the group provided escort for heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force which struck at strategic targets over Austria. 1-26-45

No enemy aircraft were encountered and all of the group's planes returned to their base.

Included in the group's personnel recently promoted are:

From 2nd to 1st Lt.: Henry L Peoples, St. Louis; William S Price, Topeka, Kas.; Gordon M Rapier, Gary, Ind.; Jimmy Wheeler, Detroit; Joseph Merton and Hannibal M. Cox, Chicago; Purnell J. Goodenough, Birmingham; Earl R. Lane, Wickliff, Ohio; Lewis L. Craig, Asheville, N. C.; Roland W. Moody and Roscoe C. Brown, Cambridge, Mass., Reid E. Thompson, New Rochelle, N. Y.

To Captain: Jack D. Holsclaw, assistant group operations officer.

SHOT DOWN OVER NAZI LINES IN V.E. DRIVE, WAS MISSING TWENTY DAYS

St. Louis Argus 5-25-45

First Lt. Hugh White, one of St. Louis' top ranking army pilots, has been found after being reported missing on combat mission over northern Italy during the final days of the war in the West. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh P. White, 4333a West Belle place, who said they had never given up hopes that he was alive, received word of his safety from Maj. Gen. N. F. Twining, Commander of the Fifteenth Air Force. In a message of his disappearance from the Army Air Force received May 9, the following information was conveyed:

"Your son, 1st Lt. Hugh White, has been missing in action since April 23. At that time he was piloting a P-51 on combat mission to Northern Italy. 5-25-45

"In the vicinity of Padova, Hugh's ship was damaged by flak, but remained airborne for sometime thereafter. When it became apparent that the craft would not be able to return to the base, your son bailed out successfully. Since that time, no word has been received concerning his fate."

The message went on to discuss disposal of his personal effects left behind and ended by stating: 5-25-45

"In recognition of the meritorious service he has rendered his country, your son has been awarded the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters. I am proud to have had him in my command. Should there be any change in his status, you will be notified by the War Department."

The joy of the parents over the announcement of discovery of 1st Lt. White alive after the surrender of the Germans was followed shortly thereafter by a cablegram from 1st Lt. White telling his parents not to write as he would be home within 30 days, but he could not inform them at the time of the circumstances surrounding his furlough.

Captured By Germans

Unconfirmed reports are that White was captured by Germans who beat and harassed him in an effort to force information from him concerning the American forces. Only the crushing V-E drive which was on at that time and had the Germans in a panicky state is believed to have saved him from a worse fate.

First Lieutenant White, a product of Sumner high school and Stowe Teachers' college, was in the pursuit squadron that accompanied heavy bombers on the first attack upon a Berlin target by Italy based Army Air Force aircrafts. Flight Officer Charles V. Brantley, whose relatives reside at 4236 Fairfax avenue, was also a member of the Mustang pilots on the Berlin Mission.

Brothers Serving with 332nd

Afro-American Balt, Md. 2-17-45

S/Sgt. Elliott W. Lucas, standing, and Lt. Wendell M. Lucas, seated in cockpit, the only brother combination in the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy. They are the sons of Mrs. Cynthia M. Early, 607 Sixtieth Street, Fairmont, Md.

Pilots Complete B-25 Training in Arizona

Pittsburgh Courier 8-4-45

DOUGLAS ARMY AIR FIELD, Arizona —Two veterans of the famed 332nd Fighter Group, First Lieut. Allen Lane, Demopolis, Ala., and First Lieut. John Gibson, Chicago, graduated recently with Douglas Army Air Field's B-25 Transition Class, 445. Their course here consisted of training in the North American "Billy Mitchell" as a prelude to further overseas duty in these medium bombers.

From Italy to the Pacific

New York Amsterdam 332nd 56a

6-23-45 N.Y.

MAJOR WILLIAM A. CAMPBELL of Tuskegee, Alabama, is with the 332nd Fighter Group of the 99th Pursuit Squadron. He has been in the service over three years and has been stationed in the Adriatic and Northern Italy. He is here just to pick up his baggage, and be on his way to the Pacific. Athletics are his hobby. He is single and at present is staying at the Theresa Hotel. He is the son of T. M. Campbell, field agent for the Department of Agriculture, who has just recently returned from a tour of Africa, studying African methods of agriculture. Major Campbell, who flew with Col. Benj. O. Davis in the Mediterranean campaign, is expected to serve with him in the Pacific, where Colonel Davis, reported soon to be made a brigadier general, will command the 447th Bomber Group.

56a-1945

332nd Fighter Group

332nd Flyers End First Year with Good Record

Afro-American 1-6-45

Colonel Davis Says Group Has Flown Over 100 Missions and Has Downed 75 Ships

Balt. Md.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — In less than one year the all-colored 332nd Fighter Group in Italy has flown more than 100 missions and has firmly established itself as an efficient, hard-hitting outfit, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., declared here recently.

"Flying P-51s on bomber escort and strafing missions, we destroyed seventy-five ships in the air and easily twice that number on the ground," the group's commanding officer said at the AAF Redistribution Station.

Job Suited to Group

Col. Davis, who took command of the 332nd shortly before it was sent to Italy in January of this year, pointed out that ying fighter escort on long-range bombing missions was a job well suited to his group.

As an example of the fighting spirit of his men, the 32-year-old West Pointer told of a mission to Budapest last October when the four squadrons composing the 332nd were ordered to strafe river and rail traffic along the Danube River.

West of Budapest, he related, a pilot spotted a low-flying plane and was sent down to investigate. The pilot shot the plane down, then called for the rest of his squadron.

Down 8 on One Mission

"They were over an airfield where fliers were practicing landings and take-offs," said the colonel. "They joined the traffic pattern and shot down four more ME-109s. On their way up to rejoin the group they picked up four Heinkel-111s."

The squadron, headed by the colonel, then proceeded up the Danube and strafed oil barges and railway trains. A third squadron located another airfield and destroyed eighteen ships on the ground, while the fourth came across a motor park and destroyed a fleet of trucks.

"Not bad for one five-hour mission," added the colonel.

332nd Pilot Named "Yank of the Week"

Daily Worker 3-3-45

First Lieutenant Lee A. Archer of New York, a member of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, was named "Yank of the Week" in the Abbott and Costello program, heard over NBC network last Friday. The program cited his recent feats when he downed four enemy planes while in action over Hungary.

In his honor, the sponsors of the program, Camel Cigarettes, sent 400,000 of their product to fighters overseas. 3-3-45

Weary Pilots Say Subs Come Slow

Afro-American

Promised 180 Since March, Given 120

FLIERS NEED RELIEF

1-13-45

In Spite of Problem, Keep Getting Awards

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED 15TH AAF BASE, ITALY—Already sixty replacement pilots behind schedule, War Department officials are further jeopardizing the continued high operational standards of the 332nd Fighter Group by their recent refusal to assure the group that its

major problem of obtaining replacements will be corrected soon.

Washington officials indicated to Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., group commander, who returned here from a furlough in the States last week, that they would investigate the situation but offered no vide every citizen willing to work with a job in the post-war period." explanation for this laxity which has existed to an extent since the group's arrival overseas a year ago but has now grown to alarming proportions.

This means that Col. Davis, in order to keep the group at full strength, must continue retaining an increasing number of pilots eligible for shipment home as a result of having completed their normal quota of missions.

30 Unable to Leave

Thirty-odd such pilots in the group are so affected. I took a 600-mile trip by plane and truck to the group's base ten days ago and found this condition to be the basis of whatever dissension of major proportions exists among its personnel now.

The fact that some pilots who would be on their way home if due replacements had arrived have since met with serious mishaps on missions, hasn't helped the situation any.

Depend on 2 Schools

The additional fact that Col. Davis's group is the only one of the Army Air Force so affected, because its pilots can come only through the Army's special aviation schools for colored soldiers at Tuskegee and Walterboro, S.C., make it still more disagreeable.

Because airmen are being shipped here in sufficient force and distributed as other groups need replacements, this problem has not been present among them to such an extent.

The group here has the belief still undisputed by the War Department that sufficient colored pilots specially trained for single engine fighter plane duty are being turned out in the States to fulfill its monthly quota.

Moreover, commanders of the Fifteenth AAF have it left to their discretion to send a pilot home anytime during the period of his completion of from 50 to 70 missions. Sufficient replacements make it possible for the average white pilot here to return home after completing 50 missions or perhaps a few more.

Requirement Increased

The lack of due replacements makes it necessary for Col. Davis to hold his pilots closed to a 70-mission requirement for relief. This applies, though, only to those physically fit to carry on after 50 missions.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Many white pilots in other theatres, however, have flown far more than 50 missions before being sent home, so that it cannot be charged that the necessity of flying more than 50 missions is based upon color.]

The actual replacement problem facing the group can be seen in the following information which shows the group has received only 120 of its scheduled 180 replacements since its arrival overseas:

It was scheduled to receive 18 replacements a month, beginning last March. The group first began receiving them May 4, when 15 came, leaving March and April unaccounted for.

Full Quota Reached Once

Others came as follows: 15 on May 12; 14 on June 27; 16 on August 1; 11 on August 14; 16 on September 10; 15 on November 11 and 18 on December 3, which was the only occasion when the actual full replacement quota reached the group as scheduled.

Nevertheless, the group is still ranking and operating on a high par with similar ones of the 15th AAF.

On missions successfully flown as far as weather permits, the pilots are still distinguishing themselves to the extent that they are winning coveted awards for meritorious services.

Capt. Weathers Gets D.F.C.

The latest in this category was the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross on January 5 to Captain Luke J. Weathers, Jr., of Memphis.

Flight commander of one of the group's squadrons, Capt. Weathers holds the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, has two victories to his credit and has flown seventy-five missions. A former Xavier University student, he is unmarried. Both of his parents live in Memphis.

332nd Fighters Face 'Collapse' But Morale Still High

Northwest Herald Seattle, Wash. 1-2-45

ROME.—Nineteen months of combat, patrol and reconnaissance flights have taken their toll of Negro pilots, and Col. Benjamin O. Davis' 332nd fighter group "is threatened with possible collapse as a unit."

"Casualties have depleted their ranks," reported PM's Negro correspondent Roi Ottley last week, "And adequate replacements have failed to arrive. The bottom here has been scraped." 1-2-45

"The reason offered by members of the group is that there are insufficient pilots to fly missions," Ottley wrote. "Qet the Negro fighter group has demonstrated a toughness, skill and intelligence which may assure Negroes a place in postwar aviation."

Gen. Montgomery Praised Pilots

"As raw pilots they won commendation from Gen. Montgomery for their part in the Italian campaign. They supported the British 8th Army by dive bombing and strafing enemy machine-gun nests, tanks, transportation and artillery installations. 1-2-45

In their 19 months of combat duty overseas, Negro flyers have seen action over Munich, Vienna, Toulon, Ploesti, Sofia, Belgrade, Friedrichshafen, Budapest and Salerno. The four fighter squadrons have provided cover for heavy bombers, patrolled harbors, convoyed ships, hunted U-boats and made reconnaissance flights. Over the Anzio beachhead they shot down 17 enemy fighters and bombers in one day's operation.

"But the fact is that this is a glorified Jim Crow organization," Ottley continued, "and it is for this very reason, the pilots claim, that the personnel situation is critical. While, as an all-Negro organization, it admittedly provided new opportunities, they say, it also has serious drawbacks. These they describe as follows: 1-2-45

Lack Pilots For Replacements

"The inexperience of Negro officers, pilots and mechanics who do not have the opportunity to associate with veterans before going into action.

"Lack of a steady flow of replacements caused by the pattern of drawing pilots from only the Negro air schools. The number of pilots being trained has been reduced.

"Lack of proper orientation in combat tactics before coming overseas, because their white instructors were without combat experience.

"Unfamiliarity with the type of aircraft pilots will fly in combat.

"Mental strain of competition against the entire corps of white pilots and ground crews.

"Intellectual isolation produced by having all Negroes in one organization away from every other fighter pilot group. 1-2-45

Differentials are applied in the judgment of performance by the air corps command.

Morale Still High

"These criticisms have not impaired the organization's morale," Ottley added. "The fact is that it is very high." But it is doubtful whether it hinges on the declared objectives of the war. More than likely it is a group loyalty, tied loosely to aspirations for their race. For each man has pride in his part in the common undertaking. He wants Negro pilots to excel. They reason that they have a job to do and cooperation is necessary for success, but they have moments when they feel the whole effort is worthless."

332nd Hits Nazi

Norfolk Journal & Guide

AN ADVANCED ALLIED AIRBASE IN ITALY — (Via Wireless)—Led by Lt. Robert J.

was the first time Lt. This Friend, of 460 Manhattan ave- had been a group forma- nue, New York City, the 332nd tion. He is the son of Mustang Fighter Group escort- ier. Mrs. William Friend, of ed 15th Air Force bombers in Mr. and Mrs. Friend, of 2313 an attack on Blechhammer, Ger- New York City and the husband many, hitting the vast Nazi of Mrs. Doris F. Friend, of 2313 synthetic oil refinery of Eastern Second street, South, Arlington, Germany on Wednesday of last Va. week. The formation encountered no fighter opposition. 1-13-45

COLOR COMMUNIQUE

332nd Flies Its 200th Mission Without Loss

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

WITH THE 15TH AIR FORCE, Italy—The all-Negro 332nd Mustang fighter group, led by Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer, on February 28 chalked up its 200th combat mission with the 15th Army Air Force when it provided close escort for heavy bombers attacking enemy targets on the Benner route in northern Italy. 3-24-45

These Negro pilots have the enviable distinction of not having lost a single heavy bomber to enemy fighters.

The group began flying with the 15th AAF in June, 1944. Using P-47 Thunderbolts soon after their initiation into the 15th, the pilots were assigned P-51 Mustangs.

The pilots have been awarded 63 Distinguished Flying Crosses and completed more than 8,000 individual sorties. Colonel Davis has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the United States' fourth highest award.

The all-Negro group has destroyed more than 200 enemy aircraft in combined aerial and ground strafing assaults and has destroyed or damaged much enemy rolling stock.

brought down two FWs; Second Lieut. Earle Carey of St. Louis got two ME 109s and Second Lieut. John E. Edwards of Steubenville, Ohio, downed two FW 190s.

Other victories were chalked up by Lieut. Harold M. Morris, of Portland, Ore., one FW; Flight Officer James H. Fisher of Stoughton, Mass., ane FW. The twelfth victory was scored by a pilot who failed to return from his mission.

4-7-45

AN AIR BASE IN ITALY —(By Cable)—Scoring their first sensational aerial victory in several months, Col. B. O. Davis' P-51 Mustang fliers, the 332nd Fighter Group, shot down thirteen Nazi planes and destroyed or damaged at least four other enemy craft while on a mission over the general Vienna-Munich area last Saturday.

Colonel Davis' daring fliers were flying over the area with a P-38 Lightning Group when nineteen German planes were sighted. Eager for a real fight, the P-51s and P-38s turned their noses toward the enemy and after the smoke had cleared, the Davis fliers had accounted for seven ME-109s and six FW-190s.

IOWA FLIER GETS TWO

The P-38s brought down two other enemy planes. The four other probables, damaged or destroyed, were claimed by the Mustangs

Only one tan flier shot down two of Hitler's planes. Credit for this twin victory went to 1st Lieut. Robert W. Williams of Ottumwa, Iowa. His blazing guns sent two FW-190s burning and smoking to the earth.

Mustang fliers recording single victories were Maj. William A. Campbell, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., one ME-109; First Lieutenants Daniel Rich, Rutherford, N. J., one ME-109; Roscoe C. Brown, New York City, one FW-190; Earl R. Lane, Wickliffe, Ohio, one ME-109; Bertram W. Wilson, Brooklyn, one ME-109; Second Lieutenants Rual W. Bell, Portland, Ore., one FW-190; Thomas P. Braswell, Buford, Georgia, one FW-190; John W Davis, Kansas City, Kan., one ME 109; James Hall, Washington, D C., one ME-109; Hugh J. White S. Louis, Mo., one ME-109, and Flight Officer John H. Lyle, Chicago, one FW-190.

THIRTY-FIRST BAGS 17

The operation was part of a combined strafing and bomber escort mission of the Fifteenth AAF, marking the first anniversary of the Fifteenth under the command of Brig. Gen. Deanc Strother. The mission also stood out as the most successful day of the year for the Fifteenth.

During the day, the Fifteentl downed a total of thirty-five German planes and destroyed fifty seven locomotives.

Colonel Davis' Group was surpassed however, by the Thirty first Mustang Fighter Group whicl scored seventeen victories for th day.

The victory Saturday set a record for the Davis Fighter Grou for enemy aircraft destroyed in a single day. In addition to the thirteen planes destroyed, the Group added to its list of destruction seven locomotives, one large warehouse and several units of rolling stock.

Lieutenants Lane and Brown, who shared in Saturday victories, knocked out jet-propelled planes the previous week while on escort mission to Berlin.

Colonel Davis accounted for one locomotive, while other locomotives were destroyed by Lieutenants Leroy Roberts Jr., Poccoa, Ga., two; Emile Clifton, San Francisco, one, and William Price, Topeka, Kan., one.

During the week, two squadron commanders of the Group received promotions from captain to major. They were Andrew D. Turner, Washington, D. C., and William Campbell, Tuskegee.

Two other missions during the week were led by Capt. Jack D. Holsclaw, Spokane, Wash., and Maj. Edward C. Gleed, Lawrence, Kansas.

BREAKS RECORD IN WEEKEND VICTORIES

Pittsburgh Courier

Pgh., Pa.

4-7-45

By COLLINS GEORGE
(Courier War Correspondent)

AIR BASE IN ITALY—Following a record-breaking Saturday bag of thirteen Nazi planes, Col. B. O. Davis Jr.,'s mustang fighter pilots carried attack to enemy in aggressive protection of heavy bombers and destroyed twelve more Luftwaffe planes to bring the week-end total to twenty-five. Victories were scored by formation led by Captain Walter M. Downs of New Orleans.

The top score in Sunday's victorious flight was First Lieut. Harry T. Stewart of Corona, Long Island, who brought down three FW 190s for his first victories with group. First Lieut. Charles I. White of Oakland, Calif.,

332d Ends 200th Mission Without One 'Heavy' Loss

N. Y. Amsterdam News 3-24-45

Mustang Pilots Given 63 Awards

WITH THE 15TH AIR FORCE, Italy — The all-Negro Mustang fighter group, led by Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer, on February 28 chalked up its 200th combat mission with the 15th Army Air Force when it provided close escort for heavy bombers attacking enemy targets on the Brenner route in northern Italy. These Negro pilots have the enviable distinction of not having lost a single heavy bomber to enemy fighters. 3-24-45

The group began flying with the 15th AAF in June 1944. Using P-47 Thunderbolts soon after their initiation into the 15th, the pilots were assigned P-51 Mustangs.

63 Awards

The pilots have been awarded 63 Distinguished Flying Crosses and completed more than 8,000 individual sorties. Colonel Davis has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the United States' fourth highest award.

The all-Negro group has destroyed more than 200 enemy aircraft or damaged much enemy rolling stock.

56a-1945

The LOW DOWN

Daily Worker

Some Afterthoughts on Warhawk-Raider Game

New York N.Y.

By Nat Low

The Tuskegee Warhawks-New London Sea Raiders game at the Polo Grounds Thanksgiving Day was one of the most enjoyable contests I've ever had the pleasure of witnessing. Not only was it a splendidly played game—as all the writers, coaches and fans who saw it will testify—but it was animated by a friendliness and democracy that was qualitatively different from most other games. 11-24-45

The men of both teams seemed acutely aware that people far and wide were watching their actions, their ability to play hard, smashing football without meanness or friction.

Thus, after nearly every tackle, the men would help each other off the ground. A Negro lad would lend a hand to the southern star Dub Jones, who would in turn pat the Tuskegee player on the shoulder. So it went, even though the tackling was bone-shattering at times.

* * *

There were a lot of very, very good gridders on the field Thursday. Jones and Vince Moravec of the Raiders could probably grace most of the pro teams around and Bert Piggott, Jerry Williams and Ira O'Neall of the Warhawks could do likewise. Piggott, who is being discharged from the Army this week and is receiving a scholarship to UCLA, is almost a cinch to become one of the best backs in the country next year. He has everything and then some. I have rarely ever seen a better kicker—he got away punts that traveled 64, 50, 46 and 40 yards, one of them stopping dead on the one foot line.

He couldn't display much of his vaunted passing because of the sloppy condition of the playing field and the mud on the ball, but the few times pass plays were called he was a cool, deadly thrower. Once he let go a bullet jump pass while surrounded by four would-be tacklers. His poise and accuracy brought smiles to the face of Steve Owen, Giant coach, who watched the game from the press box.

Said Steve, "There's a man I'd like to have on my Giants. He and the fullback Jerry Williams. They're football players."

The press box was packed with writers of the met press and almost all were agreed both Piggott and Williams could make the National Football League.

* * *

This was the best attended and best played game of the series which dates back to 1941 when the late Wilmeth Sidat-Singh and Bernie Jefferson led another Negro team into action against a pro white eleven which featured Billy DeCorrevant and Special Delivery Jones, Pitt star.

It is to be hoped that by next year the sponsors of the game, Associated Football Charities, will get two mixed teams, with Negro and white players on both sides, instead of the traditional all-Negro and all-white teams. I think that while Thursday's game was important, the time now has come to mix athletes freely—and, of course, there is no question that it will work. 11-24-45

As Al Laney said in his Herald Tribune column yesterday, "All the boys on the New London team were white. It would have been interesting to know how many of them were southern boys. But that doesn't really matter. It was a hard-fought game and about as clear as you would want to see. It was proof, for those who needed proof, that white boys and Negroes can play games together without disagreeable incidents, have fun at it and put on a good show for the spectators.

T.A.A.F.

". . . The crowd probably had a better time than any you will have seen at any football game all season. Such genuine enthusiasm and thorough enjoyment is rare."

2 TAAF Pilots Die in Crash

12-15-45 Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Aviation Cadets Spencer P. Isabelle and Otis E. Marshall, advanced student pilots in twin-engine training here were killed in a crash Monday, when the B-25 Medium Bomber in which they were flying formation collided in mid-air in a routine flight near Union Springs, Ala.

Details of the crash were not available, and a board of qualified officers has been appointed to determine the cause of the accident. Aviation Cadet Isabelle, 20, was the son of Mrs. Lavenia Isabelle, 6250 Bromley Avenue, Oakland, Calif.

He was graduated from the Oakland High School in 1943 and completed one and a half years of ROTC before entering the service. Aviation Cadet Marshall, 22, of 1439 Lippert Road, N.E., Canton, Ohio, is survived by a brother, Ben H. Marshall, of Fort Madison, Iowa, and his father, a resident of Canton, Ohio. He is a graduate of Canton High School.

Both student pilots have been closely associated during their time in the service, and were to have graduated here in January, 1946.

Famed Fliers Die In Crash

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Lieuts. Richard W. Hall and Spurgeon N. Ellington, veteran of the fighting 332nd in World War II were killed Monday morning when the plane in which they were making a cross-country flight from Tuskegee to Atlanta crashed approximately three miles south of College Park, Ga. 12-12-45

At present details of the crash are not available, however a board of qualified officers has been appointed to make investigation relative to the cause of the crash.

Lt. Hall, son of Mr. and Henry Hall, 512 Mercer Ave., Albany, Ga., and former student of Hampton Institute, served 11 months overseas with the 332nd fighter group where he earned the air medal with three oak leaf clusters. Lt. Hall was married to the former Miss Irma Logan Savannah, Ga.

Lt. Ellington, son of Mrs Euna Ellington, 1304 N Highland, Winston-Salem, N. C. served 16 months of combat duty with the 332nd, at which time he won the Distinguished Flying Medal with four oak leaf clusters. Lt. Ellington was a graduate of Winston-Salem Teachers College and was married to the former Miss Marie A. Hawkins of Boston, Mass.

5 Pilots Finish TAAF Course

The Afro-American Baltimore, M.D.

12-8-45

Single engine pilots who were graduated from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field recently are F/O Sylvester H. Hurd Jr., East Chicago, Ind.; F/O Herbert Lewis Jr., South Bend, Ind.; 2nd Lt. Lincoln J. Ragsdale, Ardmore, Okla.; 2nd Lt. Godfrey C. Miller, Bloomington, Ill.; and 2nd Lt. Thurman E. Spriggs, Des Moines, Iowa.

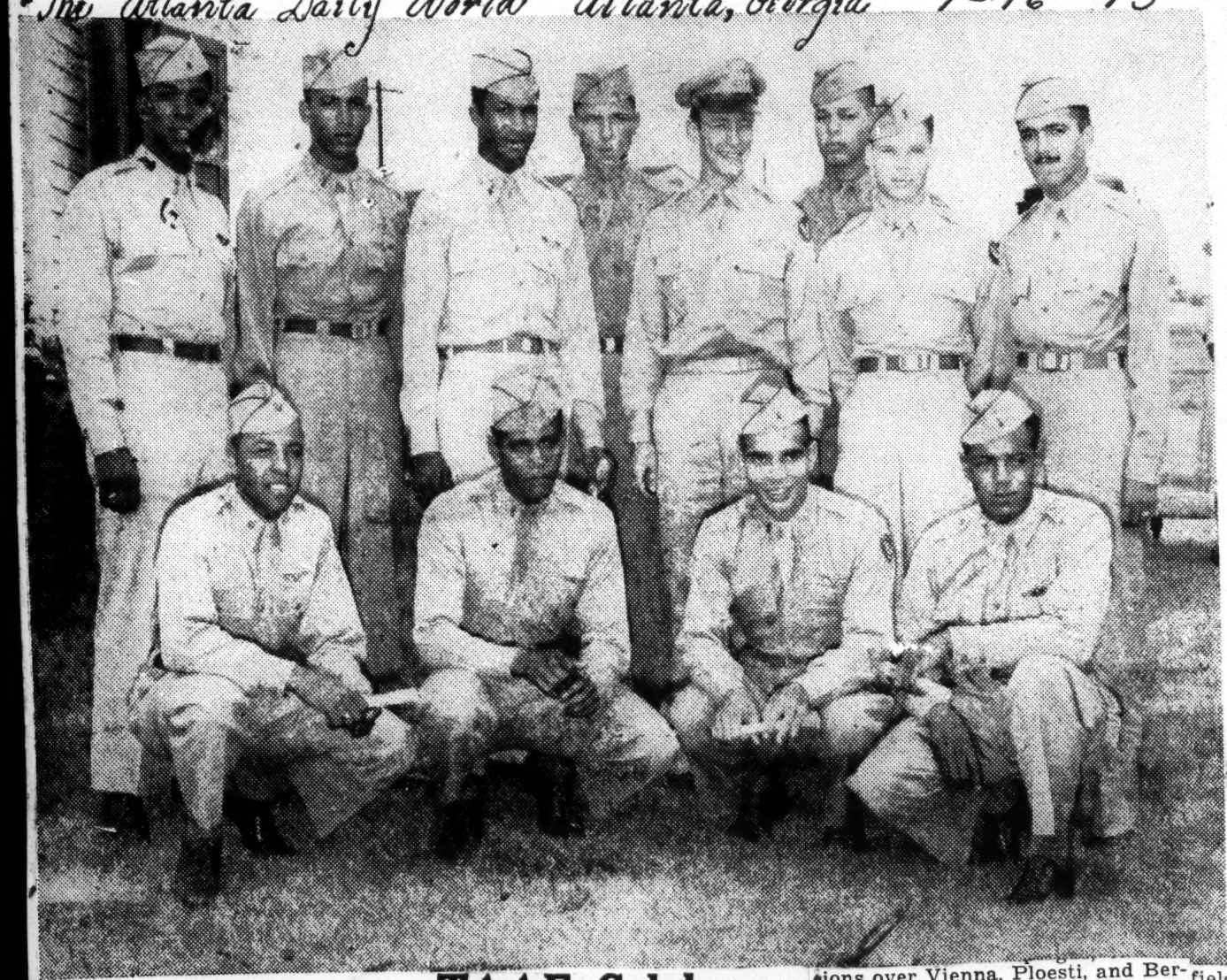
Journal - Guide 12-9-45 Norfolk, Va.

TAAF TWIN ENGINE PILOTS—Pictured beside a B-25 bomber are members of the latest class of twin-engine pilots to be graduated from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field. Reading left to right, they are: (1st row) Second Lieutenant Isaiah E. Robinson, Birmingham, Alabama; Flight Officer Wayman E. Scott, Oberlin, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Jose R. Elfalen, Prospect, Ky; F/O John W. Nelson, Bronx, N. Y.; (second row) 2nd Lt. Frederick D. Knight Jr., North Wilkesboro, N. C.; F/O Andrew B. Williams Jr., Los Angeles, Cal.; 2nd Lt. Lloyd B. McKerthen, East Chicago, Ind.; 2nd Lt. Robert Ashby, Jersey City, N. J.; 2nd Lt. Cecil Spicer, Greenville, Ohio; F/O Henry Baldwin Jr., Phila., Pa.; (Standing) 2nd Lt. William V. Bibb, Ottumwa, Iowa; F/O Lyman L. Hubbard, Springfield, Ill.; F/O Alvin E. Harrison Jr., Chicago, Ill.; 2nd Lt. Theodore W. Robinson, Chicago, Ill.; F/O Donald E. Jackson, Kansas City, Kan.; F/O William A. Street Jr., Lawrenceville, Va.; 2nd Lt. Lawrence W. Carroll, Chicago, Ill. (Official U. S. AAF Photo)

12-1945

56a-1945 TAAF

The Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Georgia 9-16-45



DUAL-RATED PILOTS — Officers who had previously won wings as bombardiers were awarded their second pair of wings when they graduated as pilots from the flying school at Tuskegee Army Air Field recently. Shown with the TAAF Commanding Officer just after the ceremonies they are, left to right (kneeling) 2nd Lt Bennet G. Hardy Kokomo, Ind.; F/O James E. Talton, Merchantville, N. J.; 2nd Lt Edward M. Cooper, Sharon, Pa.; 2d Lt. Quinton V. Cheek Weldon, N. C. (standing) 2d Lt. Roscoe J. Dabney, Lakewood, N. J.; 2d Lt. Sylvester S. Davis, Cleveland, O.; 2d Lt. Herbert A. Mo[illegible] Cleveland Ohio, F-O Donlad S. Jamison, Wilmington, Del.; Col. Noel F. Parrish, 2d Lt. Thomas E. Harris, Jr., Brooklyn, N. Y.; F/O Donald F. Davis, Detroit, Mich.; and 2d Lt Calvin V. Porter, Jr., Detroit, Mich. 2d Lt. George C. Bolden, Pittsburgh, Pa., who also became a dual-rated pilot with this class, is not shown in the picture. (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

ST. LOUISAN IS TAAF HONOR GRAD

The Saint Louis Argus
Saint Louis, Missouri

Flight Officer Page L. Dickerson (left), of St. Louis, Mo., and Second Lieutenant Marcellus L. Hunter, of Washington, D. C., are shown being congratulated by Dr. Edwin W. Embree, President of the Rosenwald Foundation. following their graduation as first and second honor students, respectively from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field recently. Dr. Embree was principal speaker for the occasion. (Official U.S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command)

TAAF Celebrates 4th Anniversary

Pittsburgh Courier Pa

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The Tuskegee Army Air Field celebrates its fourth anniversary this week. On Thursday, Aug. 9, official ceremonies at the field will mark the observance, while on Sunday, Aug 5, the Army Air Forces broadcast a special program dedicated to the field and the men it has produced. Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Ky., and the original leader of the famed Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron, which got its start at Tuskegee, was the main speaker on the broadcast program.

The fourth anniversary of the Tuskegee field also marks the fourth anniversary of Negroes in the Army Air Forces. The field was activated in July, 1941, and the first thirteen cadets began their training there the next month.

SENT 332nd OVERSEAS 8-11-45

Since that time, the Ninety-ninth, 100th, 301st and 302nd Pursuit Squadrons have been born, trained and sent overseas as the 332nd Fighter Group. Fighting from North Africa, over Sicily, throughout the Italian campaigns on missions over Vienna, Ploesti, and Berlin, these Tuskegee graduates compiled an impressive record.

Eighty-seven of them have paid the highest measure of sacrifice a man can give his country—killed in action; enemy flak has wounde several on combat missions; twe ty were reported missing or pri oners of war; more than sixty-fiv of the 450 who were sent oversea received the Distinguished Flyin Cross; their guns have accounte for at least 100 enemy planes.

MEN NOW FLY BOMBERS

Another outgrowth of the Tuske gee Air Field has been the intro duction of Negro fliers to twin engine medium bombers with whic the 477th is now training at God man Field, Ky., while replacement are being trained at Walterbor S. C.

Commander of TAAF is Col. No F. Parrish, a native of Corpu Christi, Texas, who assumed con mand of the field late in 1942 an who is accredited with developin the field to its present high leve of efficiency.

Other commanders of the fiel in the order of their successio were Major James Ellison, Jul 1941 to Jan., 1942, and Col. Fre erick V. H. Kimble, Jan., 1942, t Dec., 1942. 8-11-45

TRAINS TECHNICIANS

TAAF not only trains fliers bu trains technicians for all the essential offices of a combat air field—mechanics, photographers, radio operators, and weather men.

Assisting Colonel Parrish at the field are Lieut. Col. John G. Cooke Jr., director of administration and services; Col. Richard C. Cumming, post surgeon; Lieut. Col. Donald McPherson, deputy commander, and Maj. Clyde H. Bynum, adjutant.

Barney Jefferson Back Again

Daily Worker

Special to the Daily Worker

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Nov. 15.—He is just rounding into shape after long service as a fighter pilot in Europe (54 missions) and word is to watch Lt. Lawrence Bernard (Barney) Jefferson in the Tuskegee Warhawk backfield when the famed Negro AAF eleven meets the New London Submarine Base Undersea Raiders in the Polo Grounds Thanksgiving Dal. Nov. 22, in New York's biggest charity football contests.

Barney is a familiar name to football fans, recalling his All-American triple-threat days at Northwestern University eight years ago. The big fellow ranks with the best players in Big Ten history.

As Lt. Jefferson, he fought with the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy with 54 missions and five enemy planes destroyed on the ground to his credit. During Barney's 12 months overseas, he distinguished himself as a fighter pilot, flying escort to bombing missions over Munich, Ploesti, Vienna and Greece. He was awarded the DFC, and Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters. 11-4-5 N.Y.

Because of illness following his return from overseas, Lt. Jefferson was not a member of the Warhawk team until the opening game. Since then he has rounded into shape. Earlier in the season he assisted Lt. Big Bill Bell in coaching the backfield of the AAF squad. 11-16-45

Because of his wide experience in football, Jefferson usually makes the scouting trips with Lt. Bell, and saw the Sub Base team in action against Harvard and Holy Cross. Lt. Jefferson was a star of the last Negro charity game at the Polo Grounds in 1941, when his team (Oz Simmons, Sidat-Singh, etc.) lost by one touchdown to an All-Star pro white team.

The LOW DOWN

Lapchick Happy Again: Harry Boykoff Returns

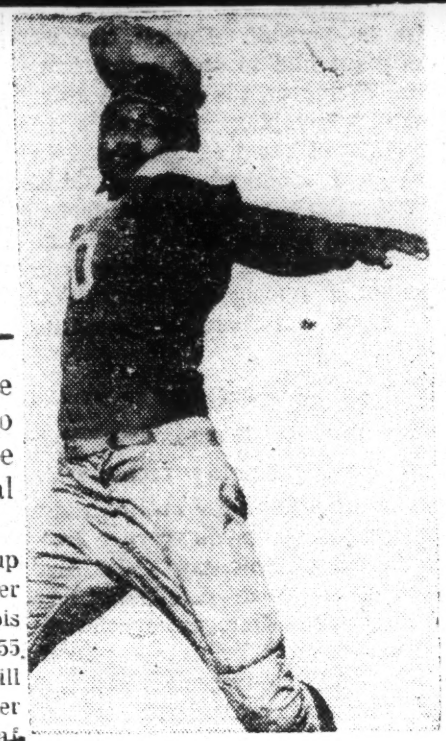
Daily Worker
By Nat Low
New York, N.Y.

One of the top football games of the year will be played next Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, at the Polo Grounds, when the Tuskegee Army Air Field meets the powerful U.S. Navy Submarine Base in an inter-racial game which is the third in a series begun in 1941.

The Tuskegee AAF Warhawks, famed Negro Air Force group which includes many players back from the service in Europe, offer one of the nation's great football stars—Bert Piggot, former Illinois All-America candidate who has averaged 7.45 yards per carry in 55 tries. Piggot, a triple threat man in the best sense of the term, will play in the backfield with Lt. Berney Jefferson, former Northwester All-American in 1939, who won the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, four battle stars and the DFC.

11-17-45

The New London Oversea Raiders are a mixed Negro and white team with a host of former excellent gridders. The game, promoted by the Associated Football Charities, is an important one in the campaign to further Negro-white relations and will, I am sure, receive the support of all real sport fans.



BERT PIGGOTT

Tuskegee Beats Raiders, 14-7, As Piggott and Jones Star

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By NAT LOW 11-23-45

Before an excited Negro-white crowd of 20,000 fans who turned the Polo Grounds into a carnival arena yesterday, the Tuskegee Army Air Field Warhawks, composed of Negro fighter pilots and crews of the 352nd Fighter Group, beat the New London Sub Base Undersea Raiders, 14-7.

WARHAWKS	7	7	0	0—14
SEA RAIDERS	0	7	0	0— 7

The veterans of far-flung war theaters played hard, smashing football, but throughout exhibited that friendship and mutual respect which was born in the war.

Playing on a field made almost unnavigable by a torrential morning downpour, the Warhawks, who have been deaten only once in two years and who had taken seven previous games this season as against but a single loss, struck in the first and second periods to score their touch downs and roll up their eighth victory of the campaign.

PIGGOTT SENSATIONAL

Col. Bert Piggott, former Illinois footballer, proved to be everything the publicity releases had claimed he was. He ran with tremendous speed, got away kicks that travelled awesome distances and despite the mud-caked pigskin, succeeded in showing why he is one of the leading service passengers in the country. Just slightly behind Piggott in brilliance was Warhawk fullback Jerry Williams, who scored both touchdowns, center John Stuart and left end Ira O'Neal.

For the Undersea Raiders, former LSU and Tulane star Dub Jones was the standout. Jones, a lean, rugged pile-driver, carried the big portion of the Raiders' offensive but he received valiant support from 210-pound Vince Moravec, former Lafayette fullback whose crashing charges over tackle kept the Raiders in the game down to the closing seconds.

Had it not been for the waterlogged turf, the score would have been larger for both teams worked out of alternating T and single wing formations that were dazzling as they were effective.

Although the mud-soaked ball kept forwards to a minimum, passes figured in all three of the game's touchdowns—as did an incredible fifty yard kick by Piggott which stopped dead on the Raider one foot line in the opening period and which led to the first Warhawk tally. 11-23-45

With their backs to the goal posts, the Raiders went into a kick formation at this juncture but Jones' boot was partially blocked and recovered by Warhawk center John Stuart on the 13. Piggott fumbled the slippery ball on the first play and was thrown back to the 17 but from a single wing formation on the next one he threw a jump pass while surrounded by four Raiders which smacked right into the hands of end Lt. Bill Hudgins who carried it to the one yard line.

After being stopped dead by a stonewall defense on the first two tries, fullback Williams burst over his right tackle on third down and went through for the score. His boot was good and that made the score 7-0.

Piggott, whose running and kicking was bringing tremendous roars from the crowd, set off a real thunderburst when he booted one towards the end of the first period that sailed 64 yards.

But Jones, who had to turn tail and chase the ball, brought it back thirty yards to the Tuskegee 46 before being downed by none other than Piggott.

From here the Raiders moved irrisistibly to their score, which came early in the second period. On pile-driving plunges behind their heavier line, the Raiders drove to four successive first downs that brought the ball to the Warhawk's four from where Moravec crashed over for the score. Jones booted the extra point and that knotted things at 7-7.

TOUHDOWN INTERCEPTION

However, a few minutes later, after the Raiders had taken the ball on an exchange of punts, Williams intercepted a bullet pass over the line by Jones on the midfield stripe and picking up two bockers started to swish down the right sideline with a terrific burst of speed. Running through the mud, Williams outdistanced Jones and went over for the score to put the Warhawks ahead in what proved to be the final touchdown of the contest.

11-23-45

The loveliest play of the game, which was nullified, came in the middle of the third period when Piggott recovered a Moravec fumble on the Warhawks 20-yard line and whizzed 75 yards to the five. Trapped on the 25 by Jones, Piggott stopped dead, feinted first to the left and then to the right and finally got around Jones who eventually drove him out of bounds. But the officials ruled the fumble had touched the ground and the play was called back.

With the time running out the Raiders took to the air with desperation tosses late in the game and succeeded in moving the ball to the Warhawk fifteen on a forward-lateral from Moravec to Jones to Desmond Charouhas but a diving tackle by Piggott stopped the threat as the gun sounded ending the game.

Iowan Is Honor Student in 33rd TAAF Graduation

Iowa Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa.
12-6-45

Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala.—In a forceful address keynoting the development of a strong personality an an aid toward achieving fuller integration into America's democracy Mr. Forrester B. Washington, Director of Atlanta University School of Social Work, Atlanta, Ga., delivered a stirring message to the 33rd class of Aviation Cadets who were graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air Field in graduation exercises held on November 20.

Mr. Washington, who has been a leading figure in the field of social work at Atlanta University for two decades, told the youthful pilot graduates: ". . . The same courage which was required of you in training should be yours to carry into civilian life in seeking employment in commercial aviation." He also offered many concrete suggestions concerning post-war career possibilties in commercial aviation, and urged the graduates to use initiative in pioneering the field for Negroes in commercial flying.

12-6-45

Youngest Class in History

The graduation class, numbering 25, represented the youngest class to be graduated from Tuskegee Army Air Field. The average age of the newly appointed 2nd Lieutenants and Flight Officers is 19, which established a new age level for graduates in more than three years of flight training.

Honor students in the class, who were selected for all-around excellence in all phases of training during the 11 months spent as cadets were: 2nd Lt. Lincoln J. Ragsdale, Ardmore, Oklahoma (first); F/O William A. Streat, Lawrenceville, Va. (second); and 2nd Lt. William Bibb, Ottumwa, Iowa (third).

Fourth Anniversary At Tuskegee Army Air Field:

TAAF Can Take Pride In A War Job Well Done

Journal and Guide

By LEM GRAVES JR.
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
Norfolk, Va.

If there appears to be some extra chest expansion noticeable around Tuskegee Army Air Field this week, I would say that there was sufficient justification for it.

For they're celebrating the fourth anniversary of the field this week—which means that they are also celebrating the fourth anniversary of Negro pilot training in the Army Air Forces—and I am convinced that they have good reason for taking pride in their four-year achievement at TAAF.

8-11-45

GRAVES

The best way to evaluate the commodity turned out by any production plant, it seems to me, is to watch its performance under the difficult strains of hard use. To be sure, plants can set up various scientific testing grounds at which consumer use conditions are simulated, but they seldom show the "bugs" which develop when the product is exposed to the trying conditions of actual use.

I may not be able to see and know how they build my automobile in Detroit but I can tell, after I've driven it several thousand miles, whether the automobile manufacturer has reason to beat his chest about his accomplishment.

THEY PASSED THE TESTS

So without knowing too much about how they do their job at TAAF, I can say, without hesitation, that they can take pride in their achievement. Because I watched their finished products operating under the gruelling tests of war and combat and I know they were good.

While TAAF is busy celebrating its four year production record, it seems appropriate to briefly review the record made by the Negro men on wings who did a magnificent job as Army Air Corps pilots and ground personnel in the overseas theatre. For they were trained at TAAF and they passed, with flying colors, the supreme test of ability, training, leadership and cooperation which was imposed by combat in North Africa and Europe.

It was April 2, 1943, when the 99th Fighter Squadron sailed from New York harbor. They were the pioneers. No Negro Air Corps pilots had ever flown in combat for the United States before and nobody knew how the "experiment" would turn out.

Two months later, on June 2, these pilots were briefed for their first mission. Flying P-40 Warhawks, from Cape Bon, in North Africa, they were sent to divebomb the tiny Island of Pantelleria, between North Africa and Sicily.

CARRIED HEAVY LOAD

These men carried a heavy load on this mission. Not only did they carry bombs but they carried the hopes and aspirations of 13,000,000 American Negroes. But despite their load, they got off the ground, did their job and came back to land.

With this mission, they launched a new career for Negro youth—a career which has cost many lives but a career which opened new vistas of opportunity for service to their country and for personal achievement.

It was a hard, gruelling pace that they had to follow before they were "accepted." In those first days, many white airmen were skeptical about their ability to measure up. Every known psychological barrier was thrown in their way. Despite the fact that they flew regularly for several months from North Africa, Sicily, and the Eastern Italian coast, around Foggia, there still existed, in the minds of other Air Forces personnel, some doubts about their ability. These doubts, which persisted long after Captain Charles B. Hall had shot down the first German plane to become a victim of a Negro airman, and after several of their fliers had been killed or made prisoners of war, depressed these young men and made it particularly difficult for them to continue the hard, dangerous work of dive-bombing and close-support flying. If TAAF had done a less efficient job of training them, it is quite possible that they would have cracked in the face of the persistent refusal of their fellow Air Corps mates to "accept" them.

But then came Anzio. The great show started on January 28, 1944. In three days of furious fighting, the 99th became a fighting byword among allied air and ground troops in the Mediterranean theatre. Names of heroes of that memorable air operation were on the lips of every Air Corps pilot in Italy. The kids were "in."

DAVIS TAKES LARGER COMMAND

Meanwhile, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who had commanded these men through the North African and early Sicilian phases of combat operations, had returned to the United States to assume command of the three-squadron 332nd Fighter Group.

This outfit, three times the size of the 99th and accompanied by a colored service group, the 96th, had sailed with your reporter aboard, from Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation for the Italian theatre on January 3 of the same year.

We were still on the high seas when radio reports flashed the startling news that the 99th fliers had run their victory total from one to seventeen planes in the Anzio beachhead show. Morale went up because these men, facing combat themselves, knew that other Negro pilots had made the grade and had paved the way for them.

THEY HAVE OWN DIFFICULTIES

As a result of the 99th's great showing, we met an enthusiastic welcome when we first landed in Italy. But the 332nd fliers were destained to have to "sweat out" their own gruelling period of initiation, regardless of the achievements of the 99th. They had five months of difficult, monotonous and unrewarding coastal patrol duty in the P-39 Airacobra assigned them and their growing pains were no less severe than had been those of their predecessors.

But they were, also, to have their day of triumph. It was June 9, 1944, after they had been taken out of the P-39 and placed in the cockpit of the heavy, effective P-47 Thunderbolt for long range, bomber escort duty with the 15th Strategic Air Force. On June 7, these lads had flown their first bomber escort mission. On June 8th, they had been assigned a strafing mission which was scarcely spectacular. But on June 9, while escorting bombers from the Adriatic coast of Italy, they were jumped by German fighters and they shot down five enemy planes in some bristling action.

WHITES FOUND THEM DEPENDABLE

8-11-45

From then on, the 332nd fliers were "in." They had other difficult moments but from June 7 until the end of the war on May 8, 1945, these fliers earned the respect and admiration of thousands of bomber and fighter crew members who found them dependable and courageous.

An interesting sociological sidelight to their notable achievements was the fact that they converted many southern lads to a new appreciation for and evaluation of the abilities of Negro airmen and indoctrinated these men with a genuine respect for the potentialities of Negro youths.

For nine out of ten 15th Air Force officer and enlisted fliers will invariably praise the "Red Tails" as they came to be known when they were transferred from Thunderbolts to the P-51 Mustang last fall. The 332nd men painted the tails of the Mustang a bright red color. Whites commend them, especially, for the fact that they would stick by the bombers, despite the temptation to promote their own "jerry-killing" reputations by unauthorized fighter sweeps. They stayed on the job, protecting bombers, which was their usual assignment. Many white Air Corps men have told me that, at escort, the "Red Tails" were the best fighter group in Italy.

Col. Davis, who led the 99th, and then the 332nd, into combat, has been chosen to lead the third Negro Air outfit into combat in the Pacific. His new command is the 477th Composite Fighter-Bomber Group. That is a tribute to the genius of this officer, one of the first class of fighter pilots to graduate from TAAF.

TWO COMMANDERS OUT OF FIRST CLASS

As further evidence of the quality of training given at TAAF from the very beginning is the fact that another graduate in that first class, Major George Spencer Roberts, succeeded to the command of first the 99th and later the 332nd Group when Col. Davis left those units to assume bigger commands. Col. Davis and Major Roberts are the only Negro Air Corps group commanders in the United States Army.

Of the other three men in that first class, only one, Captain Mac Ross, has been killed. He crashed in Italy last year. The other two men are: Captain Lemuel Rodney Custis, who completed a tour of duty as a combat pilot with the 99th and has returned to the States; and Captain Charles Debow, a former fighter squadron commander, who has been returned to the United States.

Of the graduates of Tuskegee, eighty have been awarded the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross, and more than 400 have won the Air Medal with oak leaf clusters as a result of brilliant combat records overseas.

Some have died but in dying for the joint cause of world peace and domestic justice for their people, have made memorable contributions to race progress. Those who have lived are shining examples of notable accomplishment despite the terrific odds against them.

On the basis of the things I saw them do, I'd say TAAF has reason for pride on this, its fourth anniversary. What would you say?

West Pointer assigned to TAAF

Los Angeles Tribune Calif.

TUSKEGEE — Second Lt. Ernest J. Davis Jr., of Washington, D. C., recent graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, was assigned to Tuskegee Army Air Field recently for transitional pilot training.

Lt. Davis received his wings from the Military Academy's Aviation Cadet Corps at Stewart Field, N. Y. A former Howard university student, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Davis, of Washington. 8-6-45

Arthur D. Shores, NAACP Attorney, Addresses Cadet Grads At Tuskegee

The New York Age; New York, New York

8-25-45

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—"Out of the blood, sweat . . . And when at last the fight is won, God keep me still unsatisfied."

Dual-Rated Pilots Among Grads

Establishing another "first" in the Army Air Forces, six rated bombardier student officers were presented their silver pilot's wings, which marked the first group of such rated flying officers to be graduated from Tuskegee Army Air Field.

These officers had previously earned one pair of wings as qualified bombadiers from the Bombardier Training School, Midland Field, Texas and upon returning to Tuskegee Air Field they pursued courses in flight training which led to the pilot's rating.

The six Bombarier-Pilot Officers are: 2nd Lt. Clinton McIntyre, New York City; 2nd Lt. Henry T. Holdman, Baltimore, Md.; F-O Clifford E. Moseley, Boston, Mass.; F-O Harold Maples, Washington, D. C.; 2nd Lt. Gordon Turner, Los Angeles, Calif.; and 2nd Lt. George Choisey, Jamaica, N. Y.

The graduation exercises had a unique finale when two officers presented their graduating brothers with the silver wings and letters of appointment. 1st Lt. Graham Smith, veteran combat returnee of the 99th Fighter Squadron, presented the coveted wings to his younger brother, F-O Reginald Smith, of Ahoskie, North Carolina, and Lt. James T. Williams, Ass't Personnel Services Officer at this station presened the letter of appointment to his brother, Lt. Eugene Williams, of Roanoke, Va.

Other members of the graduating class were: 2nd Lt. William Bailey, Pittsburgh, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Roger B. Duncan, St. Louis, Mo.; 2nd Lt Aaron Gaskins, Hartford, Conn.; 2nd Lt. Wesley D. Hurt, Philadelphia, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Martin Saunders, Jamaica, N. Y.; 2nd Lt. Joseph P. Scott, Chicago, Ill.; F-O Russell L. Collins, Davenport, Iowa; F-O William A. Fuller, Detroit, Mich.; F-O Clarence E. Reynolds, Ahoskie, N. C.; F-O Herman A. Barnett, Lockhart, Texas; F-O Logan Roberts, Philadelphia, Pa.; F-O Marvin C. White, Wichita, Kansas; F-O Leonard Wiggins, Detroit, Mich.; and F-O Isaac Woods, Tulsa, Okla. All of these are single-engine graduates.

Those receiving their wings from the twin-engine school were: 2nd Lt. John C. Curry, Indianapolis, Ind.; 2nd Lt. Jerrold Griffin, Philadelphia, Pa.; 2nd Lt. John S. Harris, Richmond, Ky; 2nd Lt. George A. Brown, Baltimore, Md.; F-O William E. Broadwater, Bryn Mawr, Pa.; F-O Joseph C. Bryant, Dowagiac, Mich.; F-O Harry E. Ford, Detroit, Mich.; F-O George R. Miller, Des Moines, Iowa; F-O Walter N. O'Neal, Cleveland, Ohio; F-O Mexi on O. Prewitt, Berkley, West Va.

With a calm, clear voice, Attorney Shores scanned the annals of history in pointing out to the capacity audience of visiting relatives of the 37 graduates the role which Negroes in America had played in fighting for American freedom and democracy since Chrispus Attucks' heroic stand in 1770. He cited the Battle of Bunker Hill, the War of 1812, and the Battle of Lake Erie as examples in which the blood of Negro America had been shed in order that this country could be called the home of the free.

The Napoleonic attorney urged the graduates of class 45-E not to fear the personal sacrifices which they are making in their dedication tasks of helping to bring about a new world for all mankind. He reminded the audience that as these pilots would go forth to battle foreign oppressors, their relatives and loved ones on the home front should re-dedicate their lives to the fulfillment of their promise to continue the struggle for full integration into every phase of American activity.

Emphasizing the fact that as a select group America's Negro fighting men must perform above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Shores concluded his address with the words of the poet, Utemyer:

Air Force Stays Open to Negroes

Pittsburg Courier

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—(NNPA) — Indications that Negroes may be part of the post-war Army Air Forces were contained in a recent statement here by Col. Noel F. Parrish, post commander. 9-8-45

"There are no known plans," the colonel stated, "which would change the pilot production program at this station other than the number of cadets that will enter preflight in the next class of Sept. 11. Under present instructions, future preflight classes will consist of ten men each."

According to this announcement, and provided no further changes are made, the last of the large cadet classes will finish at Tuskegee on May 23, 1946.

A survey is being made now, it is reported, to determine what cadets desire to remain in the post-war Army Air Forces. Many are believed desirous of staying.

Another First!

A Woman Photographer Flies on Mission With Paratroops; Commended by Officials

Mrs. Robinson

Portland, Ore. — Mrs. Margaret C. Robinson, staff photographer for The Portland Inquirer, made photographic history recently by being the first Negro woman photographer to fly on a mission with paratroopers.

Outstanding on the West Coast for her daring and photographic ability, Mrs. Robinson was highly commended by Army officials for the manner in which she carried out her assignment with the 555th Infantry Paratroopers Battalion.

PATTERSON URGES GEN. MARSHALL TO EXTEND PROGRAM

Pittsburg (Pa) Courier

By JOHN YOUNG, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—President F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee Institute held a lengthy conference here last week with Gen. George C. Marshall and it is believed that he was turned down in a request to make Tuskegee an exception in the Army Air Forces order cancelling all civilian contracts for the training of Army air pilots.

This means that all training of Army pilots at Tuskegee Institute will cease in the near future. During the war and early stages of preparations, Army pilots were trained in the primary phase by civilian contractors. Tuskegee Institute held such a contract to train all of the Negro pilots who later were graduated to the Tuskegee Army Air Field. 9-15-45

WHAT ABOUT MOTON FIELD?

Cancellation of Tuskegee Institute's contract brings up the question of what will happen to Moton Field, the half-million-dollar airport that was built at the institute during the training of Army pilots. Also directly affected are practically all of the Nation's Negro flight instructors and over 200 specialists and workers hired at the airport.

The order does not mean the end of pilot training for Negroes in the Army. It is expected that the Army Air Forces intends to train all its pilots at Army bases. In the future Negro pilots formally trained at Tuskegee Institute will probably be trained at nearby TAAF when the AAF order is executed.

Dr. Patterson could not be reached for a statement. 9-15-45

Tuskegee Pilots To Speak On Freedom Day Program

Philadelphia Tribune - Pa.

1-27-45

Coming to take part in the local national Freedom Day celebration Thursday of next week will be two of Tuskegee Army Air Field's aces, Captain Herbert Carter of Armory, Mississippi, and Lieutenant Robert W. Deiz of Portland, Oregon, both members of the famous 99th Squadron.

Captain Carter, one of the first students to earn his commercial pilot's license under the CPT setup at Tuskegee, served as engineering officer as well as pilot in his 16 months of aerial combat duty in Africa, Sicily, Italy and Europe. He has 98 missions to his credit.

1-27-45

Lt. Deiz, who was the subject for a War Bond poster, has a pair of Nazi Focke-Wulf-190's to his credit and is the first colored twin engine instructor assigned to teach cadets at Tuskegee.

He flew in 93 missions and has the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster. After 15 months overseas he was returned to complete training in the twin-engine school at Harding Field and Bryan, Texas.

Also included on the program, which will be held at the Academy of Music, will be Mayor Bernard Samuel, United States Senator Francis Myers, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Miss Beulah T. Whitby, State Representative Homer S. Brown, and Congressmen William L. Dawson and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., The Bilbrew Chorus, with 450 voices, will also be heard.

CAPT. HERBERT CARTER

LT. ROBERT W. DEIZ

Pennsylvania's Governor Edward Martin, in a proclamation, issued this week said:

1-27-45

"The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States stands forth as a beacon of enlightenment to guide all who love libery and are united in the present struggle to save the world from enslavemen by the forces of cruel aggression.

"It was that brief statement written into the fundamental law of our land which gave new force and vigor to the inspired words of the Declaration of Independence 'that all men are created equal.'

"Eighty years have passed since President Lincoln, on February 1, 1865, signed the resolution of Congress submitting the Thirteenth Amendment to the States for ratification. It is proper and fitting that this memorable date be observed each year to perpetuate and honor an epochal step in human progress.

1-27-45

"I deem it a privilege, therefore to call the attention of our citizens to the celebration of National Freedom Day, February 1, 1945, and to urge that it be observed with appropriate ceremonies in all parts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Leading Negro Ace In Va. Hospital After Auto Crash

Washington Post - D.C.

6-8-45

Richmond, Va., June 7 (AP).—First Lieut. Lee A. Archer of New York, leading Negro air ace, who has completed 138 missions flying P-38s, P-39s, P-40s, P-47s and P-51s, all without a scratch, has a word of advice for neophyte pilots:

Take it easy when you drive a car.

6-8-45

The 25-year-old pilot, who returned to the United States uninjured after 14 months overseas with the famed "Red Tail" group, is in Richmond Army Air Base Hospital with a broken leg, a broken finger and cuts and concussions. He got those wounds driving a car from Atlantic City, N. J., to Atlanta, Ga., 21 days after he returned to the States.

Gets His Wings

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala., July 5—Flight Officer William D. Holman was recently awarded his wings and commission from the Aviation Cadet Corps at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. He hails from 208 Bute St., Suffolk, (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

Tuskegee Air Field Prepares Pilots For Pacific War Duties

Twin-Engine Trainees Must Fly B-25s

Kansas City, Mo.

9-22-45

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — The first planes to bomb Tokyo under General Jimmy Doolittle's command will be the first type planes used by Negro pilots to bomb Tokyo in the near future.

As a result, the B-25 medium bomber, madee famous by spearheading the Army Air Forces' way through the heart of Japan, has taken the Tuskegee Army Air Field spotlight away from the fighter planes since V-E Day in Europe, for it will be the bomber which will play the most important role in the aerial fight in the Pacific.

In the past, twin-engine trainees here received their instruction in the AT-10, an advanced trainer, and didn't attempt to fly the B-25 until after graduation. All that has changed now. Aviation cadets, taking twin-engine training, must learn to handle the fast medium bomber before they receive their wings.

With the 477th Composite group, under Col. B. O. Davis Jr., scheduled for overseas combat duty in the near future, Tuskegee Army Air Field is preparing its pilots, air mechanics, photographers, radio operators, weather men and many other technicians essential to the Army Air Forces for replacements in the Pacific.

The permanent party at Tuskegee has already basked in reflected glory over the achievements of the school's graduates in the European Theater of Operations; and the graduates, members of the 99th Fighter Squadron and 332nd Fighter Group, have gained international recognition by distinguishing themselves in the North African, Sicilian and Italian Campaigns—strafing enemy shipping, skip-bombing and fighting aerial battles.

As evidence of their merit, more than 65 members of the unia have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross "for exeraordinary achievement and heorism in aerial combat" and hundreds of Air Medals and Oak Leaf Clusters.

the Call

Going Four Years

One might ask the question "How did all this come about?" Well...it began back in July, 1941, when the Tuskegee Army Air Field was activated. It was during the following month that the first Negro cadets began their primary training at the 66th Army Air Forces Training Detachment, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, under the instruction of civilian pilots with the Army personnel doing the supervision and administrative work. It was during this time that the first 13 cadets were being questioned by the nation in editorials with such questions as "Will the first class pull through?" and "Will the program be a success or failure?" Those questions were answered by the deeds of the members of the first class...an hundreds of Negro pilots have followed in their footsteps.

The first troops arrived at TAAF during the month of October, 1941. The first Commanding Officer of the field was Major James A. Ellison. He was transferred in January, 1942, and Col. Frederick V. H. Kimble, a West Point graduate with 24 years of flying experience, was assigned as the Commanding Officer for the post. On December 26, 1942, Brig Gen. Kimble was appointed the Commanding General of the 28th Training Wing of the Eastern Flying Training Command and Colonel Noel F. Parrish, who rose through the ranks from the grade of private to his present rank, assumed the command of the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Lt. Col. John Cooke, Director of Administration and Services; Lt. Col. Donald G. McPherson, Deputy Commander, and Major Clyde H. Bynum, Adjutant, are among the high ranking officers assisting Col. Parrish. Most of the officers at this air base are Negroes.

9-22-45

The hundreds of mechanics, technicians and specialists, who are vitally necessary to "Keep 'em Flying," are for the most part graduates of the Air Corps Technical School at Chanute Field, Illinois and Lincoln Army Air Field, Nebraska.

A Day On The Flight Line

Yes....the story has been told before but it is always good news for any reader when it is retold. The "grease monkey," the man of

aviation who knows what the term "stay on the ball" really means. However, the term is very uncomplimentary for a group of TAAF's efficiently-trained mechanics and technicians. The phrase "Man works from sun to sun" is a true statement of the men on the flight line. The airplane is a delicate mechanism and the men that play the role of "keeping 'em aloft" are conditioned through rigid study to be forever alert to know the ship and each of its intricate parts from propeller to tail assembly.

Duty on the flight line is no "white collar" job. Soon after dawn, the crew chiefs are at work pre-fighting the planes in order to have them conditioned in time to take off from the flight line. The flight chief has several planes under his supervision, and the line chief is responsible for all flights. The line makes the promise that every man will strive to the limit of his capacity and ability to preserve the motto, "keep 'em flying." This is the spirit of check the planes at regular intervals. They will do their share in helping to make victory a reality for the allied cause.

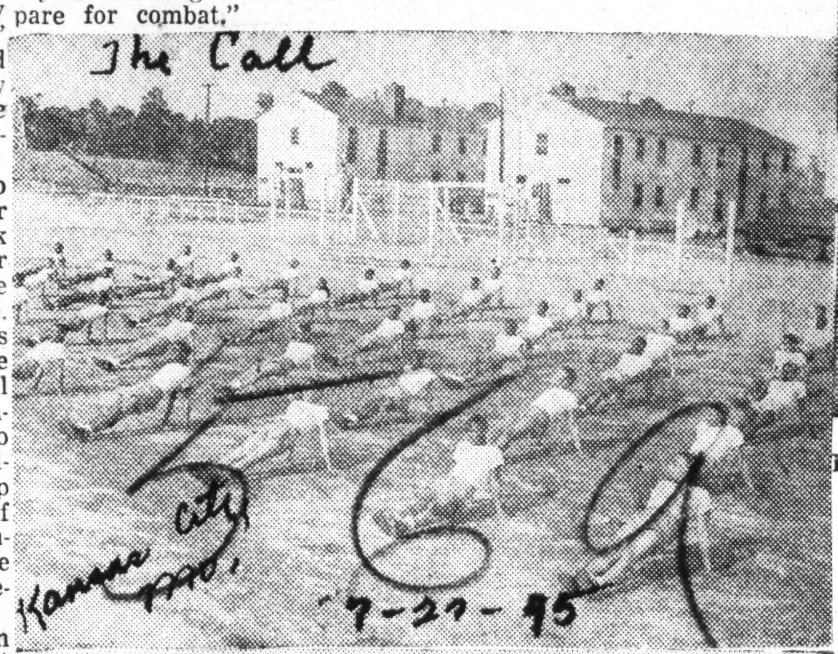
Along with these enlisted men are many civilian workers. Most of these civil service employees are women, and they fill every conceivable type of job. They are stenographers, clerks, parachute riggers, machinists, propeller specialists, riveters, welders, sheet-metal workers and course plotters in the airway section. These and scores of other jobs are being performed efficiently by women. Young and old, they in there doing their part to keep those planes in the air.

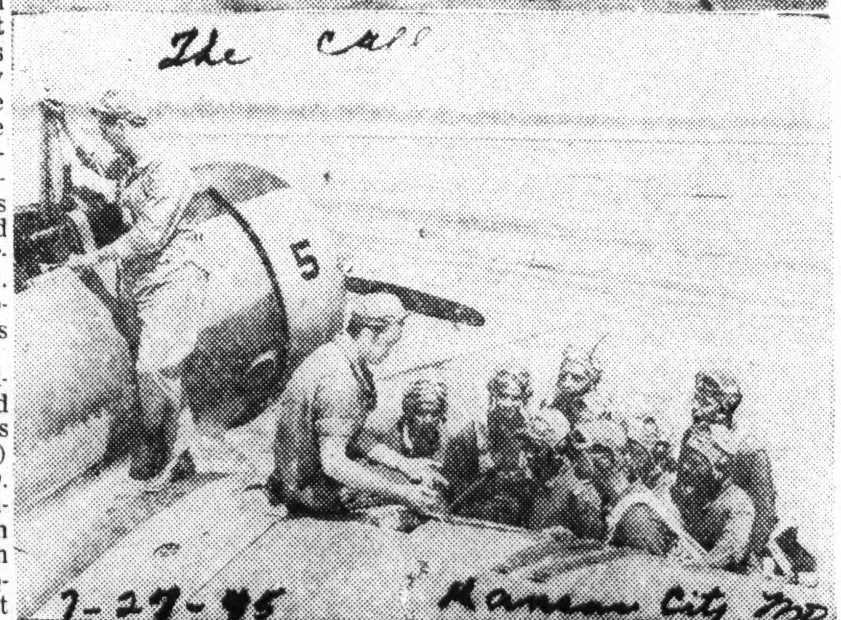
The first class of pilots grad- the men who tune the engines, and uated on March 6, 1942. This class consisted of only five (5) men, ncluding Capt. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., (now colonel and commanding officer of the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Ky.). The Tuskegee program also includes the pre-flight training of all Negro bombardier-navigator students who later receive their commission in Tevas.

Just how well these Tuskegee-trained pilots have done is reflected in the record of citations bestowed upon members of the 332nd Fighter Group, the only Negro Air Corps unit to see combat duty. Over 65 have received the Distinguished Flying Cross and 6 have been awarded the Purple Heart. Practically all of the more than 450 pilots who have gone overseas from Tuskegee have earned the Air Medal with one or more Oak Leaf Clusters.

Spurred on by the news of the excellent showing of Tuskegee-trained pilots in the European Theater of Operations, the cadets look forward with great anticipation for the day to hasten when they can spot our enemy in the Pacific through the gunsights of their fighters and bombers.

It is the silent oath of each officer, cadet and enlisted man of the Tuskegee Army Air Field to uphold the motto of the Eastern Flyinf Training Command: "Prepare for combat."





Kansas City, Mo.

TRAINEES AT TUSKEGEE HAVE BUSY DAY.—**Gunnery Training:** These newly commissioned pilots at Tuskegee Army Air field are shown as they receive instructions in fixed gunnery, a part of their transition training. 7-27-45

Daily Dozens: A class of cadets taking calisthenics, a part of the program for physical fitness at Tuskegee Army Air field.

Code Students: Learning to receive coded messages is one of the many tasks on the flying student's schedule at Tuskegee Army Air field. This is a typical class in radio code.

How To Load 'Em: This group of pilots at Tuskegee Army Air field receive instructions in loading ammunition.

—Official U. S. AAF photos by AAF Training Command.

Graduated With Second Largest Class From TAAF

Afro American 8-18-45 Baltimore, Md.

Single-engine pilots, the men pictured above, before a P-40 fighter plane, were graduated from Tuskegee Army Air Field, Aug. 4 Left to right, they are, first row, Flight Officer Marvin C. White Sr., Wichita, Kan.; F/O's Herman A. Barnett, Lockhart, Tex.; Isaac R. Woods, Tulsa, Okla.; Clarence E. Reynolds Jr. Ahoskie, N.C.; Reginald V. Smith, Ahoskie, N.C. Second row, F/O's Leonard W. Wiggins, Detroit; Logan Roberts, Philadelphia; 2nd Lt. Aaron C. Gaskins, Hartford, Conn.; F/O Russel L. Collins, Davenport Iowa; 2nd Lt. William H. Bailey, Pittsburgh; 2nd Lt. Gordon G. Turner, Los Angeles, Calif. Third row 2nd Lts. Wesley D. Hurt, Philadelphia; Roger B. Duncan, St. Louis; Henry G. Holland, Baltimore, and Clinton E. McIntyre, NYC; F/O William A. Fuller, Detroit; 2nd Lt. Martin G. Saunders, Jamaica, N.Y.; 2nd Lt. Joseph P. Scott, Chicago, and 2nd Lt. Eugene W. Williams, Roanoke, Va.

The Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Georgia 9-20-45

TAAF HONOR GRADS — The three top students in the recent class of graduates from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field are shown just after they received their wings and commissions as Army pilots. They were chosen because of all-around leadership and military bearing.

First honors went to 2d Lt. Otis E. Finley, (center) of St. Louis, Mo.; 2d Lt. Elliott Gray, (left) of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, ranked second and third place went to 2d Lt. Reuben H. Brown, (right) of Los Angeles, California.

Patterson Prefers Harmony to Disunity

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE — Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, on Saturday, withdrew his previous suggestion, that tactical reserve colored units for peacetime be based at Tuskegee Army Air Field.

In a telegram to the chief of staff of the War Department in Washington, Dr. Patterson said:

"I do not believe the best interest of colored men in the Army Air Forces will be served if stationed in this community."

Bows to Harmony

He explained that "information now received, indicates objection by important percentage of colored flying officers to basing of such tactical units at the Tuskegee Field."

He concluded that "the harmonious working together between Tuskegee Institute and the flying personnel is important for successful relationship."

Post-War J.C. Air Training Opposed

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 10-6-45

NAACP Fights Proposed Unit for Tuskegee

PATTERSON GIVES OK

Urges Plan Until Army Develops Integration

NEW YORK — Unqualified opposition to the proposed Army Air Force plan to establish a "composite group" of colored bombers and fighters as a segregated unit at the Tuskegee Air Field was voiced Thursday by the NAACP.

In a letter to Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, Walter White continue these squadrons as colored units with integration with other flying personnel.

"There squadrons, if based at the Tuskegee Army Flying Field, would be units of the Southeastern Flying Command as would white units based in this area."

The NAACP expressed disagreement with Dr. Patterson's proposal that segregation be continued or that any encouragement should be given to segregation until such time as the War Department of its own volition decides to abolish segregation.

The NAACP also pointed out that the Tuskegee field does not at present have either adequate training or housing facilities for so many men and that other fields already created could be used and avoid un-economical spending of money to erect additional facilities at Tuskegee.

Patterson's Explanation

When queried by the NAACP on his reported approval of the plan, President F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee said:

"I have suggested to the War Department that colored fighter units now segregated wherever they are located be based at the Tuskegee Army Flying Field in terms of their peacetime strength and until such times as the Army develops a policy which will dis-

"Colored people fall for that,' she said. "They like to drink tea with white people and feel they're all equal."

Mrs. Hollister said, "Then let's form an interracial committee.' She was sure Mrs. Perry, the wife of the colored doctor, would co operate.

Mrs. Hammond said she had a colored cook and she certainly would want to be on the committee.

Miss Tripp then suggested that the colored doctor's wife should have the tea. She had a pretty home for a colored person.

Then it was all agreed that they would work together on the interracial tea.

"But what good will it do if we go into their homes and just get the fat?" protested little Mrs. Crane, pulling on her immaculate white gloves.

"Darling," cooed Mrs. Lucas "are you serious? That's all we're

sion of specialists. Members of this parachute packing section have packed parachutes for 5798 jumps and not one failed to open.

This includes the parachutes that we packed for jumps of the 542nd Parachute Inf. Bn. and the 515th Parachute Inf. Regt. of the 13th Airborne Division.

We were highly commended for our efficient service.

Till Men Grow Wings

Every rigger of this organization has accepted this as his creed: "Until men grow wings their parachutes must be dependable."

Efficiency, accuracy and safety are as much in our work as salt in our meals. The penalty for carelessness means death for the highest ranking officer to the lowest.

Our parachutes have been jumped by members of the Airborne Center, Camp Mackall, N.C., in tests and experimental jumps, none of which failed to open, even in storms when in addition to regular functions they served as umbrellas. — T/SGT. SAMUEL W. ROBINSON, 555th Parachute Inf. Bn.

Washington Tribune 9/22/45

9/22/45 Washington, D.C.

NEWLY-COMMISSIONED PILOTS—Shown beside a B-25 bomber is the latest class of pilots graduated from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field. It is the largest class in the history of TAAF. Left to right, they are: (1st row) Flight Officer Sandy W. Wright, Jr., Berkeley, Calif.; Second Lieut. Bennett G. Hardy, Kokomo, Ind.; 2nd Lt. Quinton V. Cheek, Weldon, N.C.; 2nd Lt. William W. Young, Oberlin, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Augustus L. Palmer, Newport News, Va.; 2nd Lt. August J. Martin, Bronx, N.Y.; F/O Clifford W. Davis, Chicago, Ill; F/O Victor L. Hancock, St. Louis, Mo.; 2nd Lt Vertner J. White, Jr., Cleveland, Ohio; F/O Charles J. Roach, Brooklyn, N.Y.; 2nd Lt. Oscar L. Wilkerson, Jr., Chicago Heights, Ill.; (2nd row) 2nd Lt. Thomas E. Williams, Philadelphia, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Reuben H. Brown, Jr., Los Angeles, Calif.; F/O William B. Morgan, Yukon, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Sylvester S. Davis, Cleveland, Ohio; F/O James L. Williams, Philadelphia, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Earl Kelly, Los Angeles, Calif.; F/O James E. Talton, Merchantville, N.J.; 2nd Lt. George C. Bolden, Pittsburgh, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Roscoe J. Dabney, Jr., Lakewood, N.J.; F/O Donald S. Jamison, Wilmington, Del.; F/O Donald F. Davis, Detroit, Mich.; 2nd Lt. Herbert A. McIntyre, Cleveland, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Edward M. Cooper, Sharon, Pa.; (3rd row) 2nd Lt. Elliott Gray, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; F/O Walter P. Curry, Washington, D.C.; F/O Edward W. Watkins, Jr., Omaha, Nebr.; F/O Floyd R. Scott, Jr., Asbury Park, N.Y.; 2nd Lt. Julius C. Westmoreland, Washington, D.C.; 2nd Lt. Thomas D. Harris, Jr., Brooklyn, N.Y.; 2nd Lt. Ralph W. Mason, Detroit, Mich.; 2nd Lt. LeRoy J. Wilson, Independence, Kansas; 2nd Lt. Otis E. Finley, Jr., St. Louis, Mo.; F/O Pierce T. Ramsey, Philadelphia, Pa.; F/O Kenneth E. Terry, Emporia, Kan.; 2nd Lt. Jerry T. Hodges, Jr., Heth, Ark.; 2nd Lt. Robert L. Maxwell, Bronx, New York; and F/O David M. Mozee, Jr., Chicago, Ill. 2nd Lt. Calvin V. Porter, Jr., Detroit, Mich., who also graduated with this class, is not shown in the picture. (Official U.S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

9/22/45

Army Considers Use Of Mixed Air Units; Shake-Up Expected

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
9-22-45

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Returning to its policy of training all Army pilots at Army installations, the War Department, in an attempt to decide where Negro Army pilots will be trained in the primary phase, last week debated moves which may cause a major shake-up in the training and tactical deployment of its Negro personnel and units and eventually lead to the end of segregation in the Army Air Forces.

This was revealed by a reliable source and was coupled with an official confirmation of the cancellation of Tuskegee Institute's civilian contract under which Negro Army pilots have been trained in the primary phase. The date of the cancellation is set for late November.

SHIFT OPPOSED

First consideration is being given the possibility of shifting the training from Tuskegee Institute to nearby Tuskegee Army Air Field. Strong opposition in the AAF to this move is developing because TAAF is already overloaded with different phases of training.

The nature of the AAF segregated policy has resulted in the dangerous overloading of TAAF. At one time four phases of training were conducted at this one field: basic, advanced, tactical and liaison. This was against the accepted sound AAF policy of maintaining separate fields for each phase of training because of safety reasons. (Planes of each phase have different speeds, and the accepted theory is that the wider the divergence of speeds in aircraft operating from the same field, the greater the hazard).

Since TAAF is still operating three phases of training, addition of the primary phase there would mean an added hazard.'

OTHER POSSIBILITIES

All other possibilities being debated under the segregated policy entail major shifts of personnel and units from Godman Field in Kentucky, where the 477th Composite Bombardment Group is stationed, at Walterboro AAB, where reserves of the 477th are being trained in tactical work and at TAAF.

The difficulty of making any shift is that nowhere within the sphere of the three fields can the primary phase be shifted without an increase in hazard and a decrease in efficiency. Too, the small number of Negro pilots being trained in the primary phase makes the establishment of another Army air field, for their training, a costly and prohibitive measure.

Narrow-minded and impractical officers of the air staff are said to be advancing the theory that no cost in safety, efficiency and money is too high to pay for the maintenance of segregation. If this group wins out, it is expected that the 477th will be shifted to Selfridge Field—its later fate to be determined by the Congressional decision as to the size and kind of air force demanded for peacetime protection. This would be followed by use of Godman Field as another segregated field, housing several phases of training. Further overloading of TAAF would be a possibility. 9-22-45

Practical and well-thinking officers of the air staff, while not vocal on the point at this time, are said to be considering the simplest solution to the problem—the end of segregation. To them it is apparent that the small number of Negro cadets could easily be integrated into primary classes already under way at several Army primary schools. One high officer, encouraged by the policy of integration initiated by the Navy at Great Lakes, is said to be particularly hopeful of pressing this point as argument to support the contention that the abolishment of segregation in the AAF could begin with the training of Negro pilots in the Army primary phase of training.

'Stimson Resignation Expected'—Pearson

Drew Pearson, in his Sept. 16 broadcast, reported that the resignation of Secretary of War Stimson is expected to take place this week, and that President Truman will appoint Under-Secretary of War Robert Patterson in his place.

Withdraws Request For Postwar Army Aviation Program

The Louisiana Weekly New Orleans, La.
10-6-45

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Tuskegee, Oct. 3.—Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, has informed the army that he is withdrawing a suggestion previously made that reserve aviation units composed of Negro flyers be based at the army flying field located near Tuskegee. The Tuskegee field is one of the finest in this area, the government having spent some $5,000,000 in constructing it. It has been a big operation, several thousand fighter pilots, bomber pilots, technicians and ground crewmen having been trained here and ushered into the army. The famous 99th squadron had its inception and training here.

Despite these facts Dr. Patterson informed the chief of staff by telegram Saturday that a survey had shown an important percentage of the Negro flying officers preferred that their units be not based in this area.

56a-1945

TAAF Pilots

TAAF Pilots Sent to S.C. Air Field

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore, Md.

WALTERBORO, S.C. — The following second lieutenants from Tuskegee Air Field, Ala., have reported to the air field here for advanced training as pilots of fighter-type aircraft prior to an overseas assignment: 1-6-45

Richard G. Stevens, Washington; James W. Warren, flight officer, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Richard E. Thorpe, Brooklyn; Theodore W. Lancaster, Rochester, N.Y.; Cornelius D. Dowling, Washington;

Charles E. Miller, Plainfield, N.J.; Richard A. Simons, White Plains, N.Y.; Robert M. Glass, Pittsburgh, Pa.; James R. Harvey, Jr., Mountain Top, Pa.; and Rutherford H. Adkins, Alexandria, Va.

20 TAAF Cadets Awarded Wings

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

TUSKEGEE, ALA.—Capt. Frank L. Drye, commanding officer of the 613th AAF Band, delivered the graduaton address when twenty cadets received their wings at the Tuskegee Army Air Field December 28. Baltimore, Md.

As a former infantry officer, Captain Drye told of the admiration an infantry soldier has for flyers and recalled incidents in the last war when the air forces were necessary for opening are way into enemy territory.

Honor graduate were: 2nd Lt. Samuel C. Hunter, Colorado Springs, Colo., first prize; F-O Melvin Parker, Baltimore, second, Leroy Bryant, Jr., Huston Tex., third.

Certificates of appointment as pilots in the AAF were presented by Col. Noel F. Parrish, TAAF commanding officer, and wings by Major Marvin A. Coleman.

Troy Airfield Used For Negro Fliers' Base

BIRMINGHAM NEWS

TROY, Ala., June 14—The Troy Municipal Airfield now is being used as a training base for Negro fliers from Tuskegee Air Center, it has been announced here. 6-14-45

The field, which was only recently completed, is being used by twin-engine trainers.

20 Newly Commissioned Fighter Pilots at TAAF

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

Baltimore, Md.

56a

Balt., Md.

These aviation cadets were recently commissioned at the Tuskegee Army Air Field after completing the prescribed course as single-engine pilots. After more extensive training, these men will join their comrades overseas. Left to right, first row: F/O William W. Stephenson, Washington, D.C.; F/O Robert A. Cole, Northfield Vt.; 2nd Lt. James E. Harris, Zenia, Ohio; F/O DeWitt Dickson, NYC; F/O Henry C. L. Bohler, Augusta, Ga., and 2nd Lt. Frederick D. Pendleton, Texarkana, Tex. Second row: F/O Melvin Parker, Baltimore; F/O Clarence L. Shivers, St. Louis, Mo.; F/O James Greer, Detroit; F/O Willie A. Wililamson, Detroit; F/O Leroy Bryant, Houston, Tex.; F/O Lindsay L. Campbell, Washington, D.C., and F/O Lee-Roy Kirksey, St. Louis, Mo. Third row: F/O Dempsey Nelson, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.; F/O Horace A. Bohannon, Atlanta, Ga.; 2nd Lt. McWheeler Campbell, Cambria, Va.; 1st Lt. Yancey Williams, Tulsa, Okla.; F/O Thomas W. Smith, Lebanon, Ky.; 2nd Lt. Isham A. Burns, Los Angeles, Calif., and F/O Eugene L. Guyton, Cleveland, Ohio.

Kansas City The CALL Mo. 1-5-45

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR TEAM RECEIVES PLAQUE.—Public presentation of a bronze plaque was made recently to Tuskegee Army Air Field, in recognition of its baseball team winning second place in the EFTC Baseball Tournament held here September 21. Colonel Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of the Post, presented the award at retreat exercises to Major Harold D. Martin, Director of the Ground School and coach of the team.

Crash Victim

Chicago Tribune Ill.

4-21-45

CAPT. WENDELL O. PRUITT

Native St. Louisan and holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, who was killed Sunday while on a routine flight near Tuskegee Army Air Field, where he was instructor. Capt. Pruitt was 24 years old. His student-passenger in the plane, Airplane Mechanic Pvt. Edward N. Thompson, 26, of Miami, Fla., was also killed in the crash, cause of which is being investigated by a TAAF board of directors.

ST. LOUIS AIR HERO KILLED AT TUSKEGEE

Chicago-Defender 4-21-45 Chicago, Ill.

Captain Pruitt, Student Pilot Die In Plane Crackup

By HOWARD B. WOODS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ST. LOUIS.—Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, St. Louis army air ace and holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, was killed Sunday in a plane crash at Tuskegee Air Field where he was flight instructor.

The flier's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Pruitt, 4569 Garfield avenue, said they were apprised of the fatal accident, but full details were not immediately disclosed by the war department. However, reports from Tuskegee stated that Capt. Pruitt was piloting a plane with a student at the time of the crash.

Capt. Pruitt's flight companion, also killed in the crash, was Pvt. Edward N. Thompson, 26, Miami, Fla., airplane mechanic at Tuskegee Army Air Field. The fliers were killed on a routine flight in an advance trainer plane, piloted by Capt. Pruitt, when the craft crashed near an auxiliary field of Tuskegee. 4-21-45

Pvt. Thompson was a member of Squadron C, TAAF. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus James Thompson, 1009 Northwest Second avenue, Miami, Fla. A board of officers has been appointed to determine the exact cause of the accident, Tuskegee officials stated.

Proclaims "Pruitt Day"

Capt. Pruitt was recently assigned as instructor at the Southern flying field after his return from Italy where he was credited with completing more than 70 missions over enemy territory, as a member of the famed 92nd Pursuit Squadron.

Signal honor was paid Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt on Dec. 12, 1944, when Mayor Aloys D. Kauffman of St. Louis, proclaimed that date "Capt. Pruitt Day."

Special programs were held at various places in his honor and time of his induction, was one of a feature of the day's tribute was the speakers on the City Hall program. the official welcome extended the hero in the rotunda of the City Hall. 4-21-45

The flier was presented a wrist watch by N. A. Sweet, publisher, on behalf of the Negroes of St. Louis and the pupils of Turner school gave him a fountain pen. President Sherman D. Scruggs of Lincoln university, Jefferson City, Other addresses were given by State Commander A. D. Welsh of the American Legion and Mrs. Emanuel Howard of the Mothers' Club. The hero's parents were also present to witness the remarkable tribute paid their son.

Parents At Ceremony

Mayor Kauffman's tribute was as follows:

"Capt. Pruitt typifies the patriotism and valor of the people of his race. His daring and skill have won honor for himself and his city."

Capt. Pruitt was credited with shooting down three enemy planes and destruction of eight gounded planes. He also shared honors with a co-pilot in the sinking of an enemy destroyer. He explained to Mayor Kauffman how their bullets exploded a powder magazine on the destroyer, which later sank.

Fighter Pilots Graduated at Tuskegee

Philadelphia Tribune 4-28-45 Phila., Pa.

The latest group of single-engine fighter pilots to receive their commisssions and the coveted "silver wings" were graduated on April 16 from the Tuskegee Army Air Field in an impressive graduation ceremony held in the Post Chapel.

These fledgling pilots are (reading from left to right): 1st row: F-O William L. Gilliam, New York, N. Y.; 2nd Lt. Clarence Bee, Kansas City, Kan.; 2nd Lt. Lloyd L. Radcliff, New Haven, Conn.; 2nd Lt. George H. Sheats, New Haven, Conn.; F-O Humphrey C. Patton, Washington, D. C.; F-O Paul Tucker ,Detroit, Mich.

2nd row: F-O Clyde C. Long, Waco, Texas; 2ND LT. RICHARD G. DUDLEY, Norristown, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Burl E. Smith, Oakland, Calif.; 2nd Lt. John H. Adams, Kansas City, Kan.; F-O Samuel R. Hughes, Los Angeles, California; F-O Robert F. Pennington, Little Silver, N. J.; F-O Verdelle L. Payne, Mamaroneck, N. J.

3rd row: F-O Tilford U. Brooks, East St. Louis, Ill.; 2nd Lt. John W. Curtis, Detroit, Mich.; F-O Charles H. Winston, Seattle, Wash.; 2nd Lt. Robert W. Winslow, East St. Louis, Ill.; 2nd Lt. James W. Henson, Baltimore, Md.; F-O Clifton G. Casey, Birmingham, Ala. F-O GEORGE E. PURNELL, Philadelphia, Pa.; F-O William H. Knight, Topeka Kansas; and F-O William S. Powell, Buffalo, N. Y.

Air Instructor Also a Victim

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-31-45

TAAF Officers Meet Death in N. Carolina ON ROUTINE FLIGHT

Former Coach Was Ground School Chief

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Major Harold D. Martin, 44, of 1814 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest, Washington, director of the ground school at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, was killed in an airplane crash on a routine cross-country flight March 23 near Reidsville, N.C.

Also killed in the crash was Charles W. Stevens, flight instructor at the TAAF, who was piloting the plane. He was the son of Charles Stephens of Monroeville, Ala.

Details of the crash were not revealed by Army Air Force officials, who made the announcement, but they reported that a board of officers has been appointed to determine the cause of the accident.

Came to TAAF in 1943

Major Martin, then a captain former CIAA commissioner of football officials and physical education director at Miner Teachers' College, became director of the first all-colored post exchange TAAF in February, 1943.

Major Martin was the first of his race to graduate from Norwich University, receiving a B.S. in engineering. While there he captained the varsity football team, and earned letters in baseball, track and hockey. He later served as coach at Va. Union, Shaw University and Va. State College.

MAJ. HAROLD D. MARTIN

Prior to signing with Uncle Sam, his life had been a field day, with him serving as star performer in a host of athletic endeavors; from college football captain to commissioner of athletic officials for both the CIAA and EIAC.

Served 8 Years At Miner

For eight years previously, he had been public health director at Miner.

During his thirteen years as health education specialist, he received his master's degree from New York University, played pro football and declined an appointment to West Point.

He was a member of Washington's' Bachelor Benedict Club, a lieutenant in the first auxiliary police of Washington and was the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Martin of 12 Gannett Street, Boston, and husband of the former Miss Beatrice C. Boyd of Boston. Two sons were born of this union.

As evidence of his continued interest in body building, shortly after going to Tuskegee, he drew up plans for the field day program and sold officials on the idea of a bowling alley for men of the **99th Fighter Squadron.**

Flight Instructor Stephens was a graduate of Tuskegee, with a B.S. degree. Prior to becoming an instructor, he was civilian primary instructor at Moton Field, Tuskegee.

Besides his widow and twin sons, Ernest and Harold, Major Martin is survived by two brothers, Dr. J. Ernest Martin, Bluefield, W.Va., and Julius F. Martin, Washington, D.C.

37 Pilots Given Wings at TAAF

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-31-45 Balt., Md.

TUSKEGEE, ALA. — At exercises March 12 at Tuskegee Army Air Field, E. C. Wright, treasurer of the Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Company, Philadelphia, delivered the graduation address when thirty-seven pilots received their wings.

Mr. Wright, an aviation enthusiast who has traveled widely by air, told of many incidents and difficulties encountered by himself and Charles Anderson, now a group commander at Tuskegee's Primary Training Field, on their good-will flight to Haiti and Cuba in 1939.

"These young pilots represent a new type of leadership and will no doubt prove to be the nucleus of a post-war era in aviation for colored that will benefit the entire race," stated Mr. Wright as he discussed the achievements of the pilots who are now seeing action overseas. 3-31-45

Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer, presented letters of appointment and Lt. Col. Donald McPherson, director of training and operations, wings to the pilots. Student honors were awarded 2nd. Lts. Clarence C. Finley, Quentin P. Smith and James V. Kennedy by Capt. Thomas J. Collins, commandant of students.

Members of the Class are:

2nd. Lieuts., John A. Burch, Indianapolis, Ind.; Ernest M. Cabule, Detroit; William J. Coleman, Columbus, Ga.; Clarence C. Finley, Chicago; Joseph E. Gash, Denver, Colo.; Bertrand J. Holbert, Dallas, Tex.; Edward M. Jenkins, Nutley, N. J.; Thomas J. Morrison, Roxbury, Mass.; Marsille P. Reed, Tillar, Ark.; Clayo C. Rice, Bridgeton, N. J.; Eugene J. Richardson, Camden, N. J.; Spencer M. Robinson, Madison, N. J.; John B. Walker, Canton, Ohio;

Flight Officers Luzine B. Bickham, Tuskegee, Ala.; Samuel L. Broadnax, Oroville, Cal.; Edgar A. Doswell, Lynchburg, Va.; Robert Jones, Jr., Jamestown, N. Y.; Wilbur Moffett, Detroit; Harry S. Pruitt, Independence, Kans.; Albert H. Smith, Jersey City, N. J.; and Harry P. Winston, Franklin, Va. 3-31-45

2nd. Lieuts. Melvin A. Clayton, Salem, N. J.; Charles J. Dorkins Baltimore, Md.; Herndon M. Cummings, Montrose, Ga.; Argonne F Harden, Philadelphia; James V. Kennedy, Chicago; Luther L. Oliver Montgomery, Ala.;Herbert J. Schwing, New York City; Francis R Thompson, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Quentin P. Smith, East Chicago, Ind.; Cleophus W. Valentine, Detroit; Calvin T Warrick, Elton, Md.;

Flight Officehs William J. Curtis Pittsburgh, Pa.; Rutledge H. Fleming Jr., S. Nashville, Tenn.; Charles S Goldsby, Detroit; Harvey L. McClelland, Asheville, N. C.; and Alfred U McKenzie, Washington, D. C.

56a-1945

TAAF

More TAAF-Trained Pilots to Help Finish Off the Japs

AFRO-AMERICAN 6-2-45 Balto, Md.

56a

6-2-45

Pictured beside a B-25 bomber are the latest group of pilots to receive their wings and commissions from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field. They are, left to right, first row: F/O Thomas J. Tindall, East Orange, N.J.; 2nd Lt. Arthur H. Hicks, Atlanta, Ga.; 2nd Lt. Benjamin Young, Jr., Philadelphia; F/O Terry B. Bailey, Richmond, Va.; F/O Louis V. Murray, Gary, Ind.; F/O Frank D. Jones, Hyattsville, Md., and F/O Roscoe C. Perkins, Canonsburg, Pa.; 2nd row: 2nd Lt. Kenneth O. Wofford, Carthage, Mo.; F/O George E. Wanamaker, Montclair, N.J.; F/0 George J. Parker, Youngstown, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Willis S. Sanderlin, Washington; 2nd Lt. James W. McKnight, Washington; F/O Earl C. Johnson, Baltimore; and F/O Harry W. White, Baltimore; 3rd row, 2nd Lt. Earl N. Franklin, Joliet, Ill.; F/O William Holman, Suffolk, Va.; 2nd Lt. Ralph V. Claytor, Roanoke, Va.; 2nd Lt. Fred D. Smith, Pasadena, Calif.; 2nd Lt. William A. Tyler, Connellsville, Pa.; 2nd Lt. George W. Helem, Reidsville, N.C., and 2nd Lt. Mansfield L. Sessions, Chicago.

The program, which was held in the Post Amphitheater before many thousands of military and civilian personnel and guests, began with several selections by the Fort McClellan Band and Glee Club.

The invocation was delivered by the Captain Gerald Hayden, Post Chaplain.

Captain Luke Weathers, veteran pilot, introduced Colonel Davis, and Colonel Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, introduced visiting officers and guests, among whom were:

Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee Institute; Major H. C. McGoon, Commanding Officer of the 2164th AAFBU, Moton Field, Tuskegee Institute, and Col. Eugene Dibble, Commanding Officer of the Veterans Hospital located near Tuskegee Institute.

Numerous entertainment activities followed the progam at the Amphitheatre.

Atlanta, Ga.

WEST POINTER IN TRAINING AT TAAF — Second Lieutenant Ernest J. Davis, Jr., (left) of Washington, D. C. recent graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., was assigned to Tuskegee Army Air Field recently for transitional pilot training.

7-29-45

Shown being greeted by Col. Noel F. Parrish, Post Commanding Officer, upon his arrival at TAAF. Lt. Davis received his wings from the Military Academy's Aviation Cadet Corps at Stewart Field, N. Y.

A former Howard University student, he is married to the former Miss Frances Johnson, of Highland Falls, N. Y., and a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Davis, 1202 Irving Street, N. W., Washington, D C. (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

Atlanta Daily World

Thousands Expected to Witness Tuskegee AAF In "Roger" Musical

6-9-45 the Washington Tribune D.C.

By AL SWEENEY

With the moonlit night and the twinkling stars serving as a canopy and, the rippling Potomac, as a background, thousands are expected to throng the Watergate this week-end, to witness the Tuskegee AAF players present a hilarious musical, entitled "Roger."

The all-soldier show, scheduled to appear Saturday and Sunday, which has been literally laying thousands in the aisles from laughter in the southland, officially opens the Watergate for the year of 1945.

It marks the first appearance of an all-Negro GI show in Washington. Its cast numbers 100 and comes to the District with a fine reputation.

The show includes a male chorus of 50, a huge swing band composed of former members of Jimmie Lunceford, Erskine Hawkins, Andy Kirk, Coleman Hawkins, Floyd Ray, Savoy Sultans, and other name outfits.

6-9-45

Benefit of Tuskegee Athletic Fund

The money accumulated from the presentation of the show will go to the Tuskegee Air Forces' Athletic Fund.

The show has been brought to Washington under the sponsorship of Charles James, prominent restauranteur, Jerry Coward, well known promoter, and Alexander Barnes, circulation manager of The Washington Tribune.

James, who operates the People's Cafe at New Jersey Avenue and R Sts., N.W., is the "angel" for the show having underwritten for the reported sum of $5,000.

To Go on Air

The bringing of the Tuskegee Air Force show "Roger!" to Washington is going to give the performers one of the biggest build ups they have received, since the show started.

A half hour radio show, originating from the studios of WTOP at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, over the Columbia Broadcasting System, will mark the first time that there has ever been a whole program carried on by Negro servicemen over the networks.

The Tuskegee Band, under the direction of Capt. Charles F. Drye, is slated to appear for a concert in the huge shell at the War Department's Pentagon Building, Saturday, noon.

On Friday evening, at Tenth and U Sts., there will be a giant War Bond Rally, at which the cast of "Roger" will appear. To the first 100 purchasers of $500 War Bonds, will go choice seats to the Watergate performance of "Roger."

Tickets are on sale at the Federal Life Insurance Company, 1818 Seventh St., N.W., and The Washington Tribune office, 920 U St., N.W.

Proof of the nation-wide popularity of the show is shown by the fact that it is to be presented in Philadelphia, June 14 and in New ~~York, June~~ 15.

Col Davis Says Negro Pilots Prove Mettle

Cites Heroism Of 92nd, 332nd As Examples

Atlanta Daily World (Ga) 8-14-45

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD Alabama — "The men whom you have trained here have produced an indelible record reflecting the accomplishments of Tuskegee Army Air Field." stated Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer of Godman Field, Kentucky, in delivering the principal address here Thursday commemorating the 4th Anniversary of the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

"It is a record written in the blood of our men and that of our enemies in Sicily, Italy, France, Yugoslovia, Albania, Greece, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary, Austria, Czechoslavakia, Poland and the very heart of Germany itself," he continued. "It is a record that stands on its own and empty words I might speak would not add to it."

The youthful West Pointer then reviewed briefly the history of the Negro in the Army Air Forces.

VALIANT FIGHTERS IN ALL WARS

"All Americans hate war," he said. It is basic American philosophy not to seek war but to prevent it. This has been true from the "shot heard 'round the world" at Lexington to the treachery of Pearl Harbor.

It is also true, and I am proud to say — that wherever there has been war American Negroes have been more than willing to carry their share. Bunker Hill, San Juan, the Argonne Forest, Bataan, and more recently the shores of Normandy are all drenched with the blood of Negroes who made the supreme sacrifice for the right to be called Americans without qualification.

"The role of air power in modern warfare is too well known for me to repeat and the victory that is and is to be America's is due, in a large measure, to air supremacy. In this too, Negroes have played an important part.

"The decision to include Negroes in the Air Forces program grew out of the broader decision made by the War Department to include Negroes in the Army in about the same ratio they held to the total population of the United States," the youthful commander stated in pointing out that each branch of the service — Infantry. Artillery, Calvalry and Air Corps, would be 9 or 10 percent colored.

"Enlisted personnel began their training at Chanute Field during the winter of 1940-41 and the following summer Major James A. Ellison, a veteran pilot of World War I, laid the ground work for the development of this site which has become the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

Col. Davis reviewed the history of the first Air Field for the training of Negro pilots established in this country. In speaking of the role Col. Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of the field, played in its development, Col. Davis said:

8-14-45

LAUDS COLONEL PARRISH

"In Colonel Parrish's hands rested the future of the Negro in the Air Forces. There were many who did not believe him capable of learning to fly modern high speed aircraft. Colonel Parrish who was then in charge of Primary flying training, bore on his shoulders the heavy task of the first phase — determining whether the Negro would meet Army flying standards.

Colonel Parrish later became Director of Training at this field, where he continued to apply the yardstick turning out flying school graduates who have thoroughly demonstrated their capabilities in combat.

In speaking of the work of Negro fighter pilots overseas, Colonel Davis said:

"Let us look at the record of the 99th Fighter Squadron. The 99th went into combat early in June, 1943 when it received its first baptism of fire in the bombing of Pantelleria.

Prior to the invasion of Sicily it escorted medium bombers to targets in western Sicily where Captain Charles B. Hall became the first Negro pilot to shoot down an enemy airplane.

During the landings on Sicily the 99th covered the beaches at Gela Point and eight days after the initial landings moved its base to Sicily where it performed missions in support of ground units — dive-bombing, strafing, patroling of key areas, armed reconnaissance, and other typical fighter missions. Later the 99th supported the British 8th Army on the eastern side of Italy until the landings at Anzio.

DOWN 8 PLANES IN ONE DAY

Here they cashed in on many months of careful, conscientious, but unspectacular ground support work, and achieved the recognition and admiration of the entire Mediterranean Theater of Operations when they shot down eight German fighters in one day.

"The 99th continued its ground support work with the 12th Air Force until June, 1944, when it joined the 332nd Fighter Group. I would say that the 99th Fighter Squadron erased many of the doubts about the ability of Negro pilots.

8-14-45

The 99th achieved great proficiency in tactical operations, but unfortunately only a few were acquainted with the fact, and save for the three of four lucky days at Anzio, when the pilots of the 99th had an opportunity to give concrete evidence in a form that would be accepted by the worst type of skeptic — the shooting down of Nazi pilots — most people knew little of their abilities. So the experiment moved in to its final stage with the 332nd Fighter Group.'

Colonel Davis then went into details concerning the work of the 332nd overseas. He told of the work the group did when given the job of protecting the Fortresses and Liberators of the 15th Air Force on long range strategic attacks of targets deep in the homelands of our enemies.

BOMBER PILOTS GRATEFUL

"I am very proud to be able to state that the 332nd was accepted by the 15th Air Force from the beginning as a combat fighter group and not as a Negro Fighter group presenting special problems.

Good professional relationships were maintained with other units of the the air force and the intimate feeling that develops automatically as a result of close association in combat extended to the 332nd. As I land at different bases over the country, it is rare for me not to meet an ex-bomber pilot of the 15th Air Force who always has a grateful word to say for the the Red Tails of the 332nd.

"Today at Godman Field two units are undergoing the final phases of training before striking out the tail end of the axis, the Japanese. There is no longer any experiment involved. Negro flyers—fighting men—are an accomplished fact.

There are simply members of a Composite Group of Mitchell Bombers and Thunderbolt fighters with the associated service group, which are among the many Air Force units being sent out to wind up the war.

There is no question of their ability to execute the mission assigned them when they reach the Theater of Operations."

TUSKEGEE'S ROLE IMPORTANT

On elaborating on the achievements of individuals and groups in making the success of the 99th and 332nd possible, Colonel Davis said:

"You members of the Tuskegee Army Air Field may justly take pride in the important role you have played. Only by the high level of efficiency that has been developed and maintained here could all these things have been possible. Your toil, sweat, and efficient devotion to the task is as much an integral part of the 99th Fighter Squadron—332nd Fighter Group—and the 387th Service Group as the men actually assigned to these groups.

"I salute you on your fourth anniversary with confidence that you will continue to carry on demonstrating the same vigor, determination, and oneness of purpose you have displayed in the past."

56a-1945

Administration Officer At TAAF

Louisiana Weekly New Orleans, La., 5-12-45

5-12-45

Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., May 9.—Second Lieutenant Frederick J. Dumas, who was commissioned from the Army Air Forces Administration Officers' Candidate School on April 14, 1945, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field. He is a graduate of Xavier University, New Orleans, La., with a Masters Degree.

The administration officer is the son of Mrs. Leona L. Dumas of 1963 N. Rocheblave Street, New Orleans, La., and is married to the former Miss Annette Montegut of New Orleans. (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command).

TAAF

Veteran Combat Pilots to Teach

AFro-American Balt., Md. 3-10-45

3-10-45

These four AAF veterans of combat duty in the Mediterranean theatre have just completed a course in instrument pilot training at Lubbock Army Air Field, Texas, Instructors' School, and returned to Tuskegee AAF to teach other fliers the latest methods of "all-weather" flying Looking over a mock-up of a needle and ball flight instrument are left to right, Capt. Edward L. Toppins, San Francisco; 1st Lt. William R. Melton, Los Angeles; Capt. Howard L. Baugh, Petersburg, Va., and Capt. Charles B. Hall, Brazil, Ind.

that they must instill in their students a desire to absorb all of the knowledge and training needed to make good combat pilots. Continuing, the youthful Commander asserted that, "the nucleus of the Army Air Forces is built around instructors, their flying skill and ability to understand individual differences in the training of cadets is the basis for the existence of one of the most effective arms in the American army today."

4-6-45

All of the returned combat pilots are holders of the European Theater of operations ribbon and have completed an average of more than fifty aerial missions against the enemy.

Among the rated pilots to teach basic flight training are: Capts. Leonard M. Jackson, Fort Worth, Texas; Albert H. Manning, Baltimore, Md.; First Lts. John J. Suggs, Terre Haute, Ind.; Leonard F. Turner, Washington, D. C.; and 3nd Lt. Curtis C. Robinson, Orangeburg, S. C. Advance Single-Engine instructors: Captains Wendell O. Pruitt, St. Louis; Richard C. Pullam, Kansas City, Mo.; Harold E. Sawyer, Columbia, Ohio; 1st Lts. Weldon K. Groves, Edwardsville, Kas.; George M. Rhodes Jr., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Clarence W. Allen III, Chicago, Ill.; Willie H. Fuller, Tarboro, N. C., and Charles P. Bailey, Punta Gorda, Fla.

4-6-45

Advance Twin-Engine: Capts. Howard L. Baugh, Petersburg, Va.; Edward L. Toppins, San Francisco, Cal.; Charles E. McGee, Champaign, Ill.; 1st Lts George J. Holey, and Laurence D. Wilkins, Los Angeles, Cal.

Instrument Instructors: Capt. Elwood T. Driver, Trenton, N. J.; 1st Lts. Hubron R. Blackwell Baltimore, Md.; John F. Briggs St. Louis; William W. Green, Afton, Va.; Richard W. Hall, Albany Ga.; Felix J. Kirkpatrick, Chicago, Ill.; Edward M. Smith, Philadelphia, and Williard L. Woods, Memphis, Tenn.

Transition Pilot Instructors: Capt. Charles B. Hall, Brazil, Ind., and 1st Lt. William R. Melton Jr., Los Angeles.

Gets Commission

N.Y. Age-N.Y.C.

TUSKGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Second Lieutenant George W. Helem, of Reidsville, was awarded his wings and commission from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field recently He is a former student of A. & T. College, Greensboro, N. C. and is married to the former Miss Louise H. Demps, of Tuskegee, Ala. (Officials U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

7-7-45

Returned Pilots to Be Instructors

The Call Kansas City, Mo., 4-6-45

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Colonel Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of the Tuskegee Army Air Field in an informal ceremony in the Post Chapel, March 20, congratulated 20 returned combat pilots of the 15th AAF in the European theater of operation upon having completed the instructors course in different phases of flight training as prescribed by the Army Air Forces Training Command. In his brief remarks to the pilots who carried the current conflict to the luftwaffe, he emphasized that seriousness of purpose is an essential quality of instructors guiding the destiny of future pilots.

He also pointed out that their present assignment was next in importance to actual combat in

Cadet Killed Near Tuskegee

Atlanta Daily World Georgia

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala — (SNS) — Aviation Cadet Cleodis V. Todd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otis J. Todd, Berkley, California, was killed in an airplane crash on a routine flight about four miles south of this field Monday afternoon. It was the first air collision to occur during the four years of flying-training of pilots at this field, according to officials.

Prior to entering the service, Cadet Todd worked as a shipyard metal chipper and was a member of Boilermakers Union No. 304, AF of L, in Oakland, Calif. Following his graduation from Dois Palos high school in Berkeley where he excelled in basketball, boxing and tennis, he was employed as an auto mechanic and a semi-skilled laborer.

7-18-45

Todd had a varied and interesting career since enlisting in the service October, 1942, having attended the Army Administration School and the AAF Technical School in Lincoln, Neb., prior to beginning his pilot's training here in October, 1944. He had attained the rank of corporal when he reported to TAAF in June, 1944 when he was assigned to air crew training.

The student officer flying the collided plane was appointed to determine the cause of the accident.

Bomber training for Negroes accelerated

Los Angeles Tribune Cal.

Tuskegee steps up bomber training; celebrates birthday

TUSKEGEE — In a statement commemorating the fourth anniversary of Negroes in the Army Air Forces, officials at Tuskegee Army Air Field pointed out this week that the concentrated war on Japan has changed the emphasis in TAAF training from fighter planes to the B-25 medium bomber, and all trainees at the field must now learn to handle the fast medium bomber before receiving their wings.

Prior to V-E day, twin-engine trainees didn't attempt to fly the B-25 until after graduation. Now TAAF pilots, air mechanics, photographers, radio operators, weather men and other technicians are being trained for replacement in the 477th Composite group, scheduled for overseas combat duty in the near future.

Activated in July of 1941, TAAF received its first cadets the following month. The 13 cadets, pioneers in the most important movement of the war involving Negroes, started their primary training at the 66th Army Air Forces Training detachment at Tuskegee Institute under civilian pilots since the installation at TAAF was not ready.

HILLS LEVELED

The air field is located in South Central Alabama, 12 miles from Tuskegee Institute. One of the biggest tasks in constructing the field was the leveling of hills. One spot is now 54 feet less than its elevation four years ago. The field forms a rolling valley, sloping back up the hill with headquarters, barracks and office buildings on the top of the northern slope.

The first class of pilots, only five men, graduated Mar. 6, 1942. In the group was Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of the 477th Composite group now at Godman Field, Ky.

Only single-engine fighter pilots were produced until December, 1943 when the first class of twin-engine bomber pilots graduated. These were assigned to the 477th, activated in 1944. Tuskegee is the sole source of pilots for both the 332nd Fighter group and the 477th Composite group and its production program has, of necessity, been accelerated. Training of pilots reached a high point last March when 38 students received their wings.

The Tuskegee program also includes pre-flight training of Negro bombardier-navigator students who later receive their commission in Texas.

How well Tuskegee has trained its pilots is reflected in the record of citations bestowed upon the 332nd Fighter group, the only Negro Air Corps unit to see combat. Over 65 have received the Distinguished Flying Cross and six have been awarded the Purple Heart. Almost all of the 450 pilots who have gone overseas from TAAF have earned the Air Medal with one or more Oak Leaf Clusters.

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier - 8-26-45

THEY'LL FLY MEDIUM BOMBERS—Shown beside a B-25 bomber are members of the latest class of twin-engine pilots graduated from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field. First row, left to right: F/O Albert Whiteside, San Antonio, Texas; Second Lieut. John C. Curry, Indianapolis, Ind.; F/O William H. Taylor, Inkster, Mich.; Second Lieut. George A. Brown, Baltimore, Md., and F/O William E. Broadwater, Bryn Mawr, Pa. Second row, left to right: Second Lieut. Jerrold Griffin, Philadelphia, Pa.; Second Lieut. Harry J. Satterwhite, New York, N. Y.; F/O Harold B. Maples, Orange, Va.; F/O Clifford E. Moseley, Newark, N. J., and F/O Harry E. Ford, Detroit, Mich. Third row, left to right: Lieut. John S. Harris, Richmond, Ky.; F/O John B. Roach, Boston, Mass.; F/O Mexion O. Prewitt, Berkley, W. Va.; F/O Joseph C. Bryant, Dowagiac, Mich.; F/O Mitchell N. Toney, Austin, Tex., and F/O Walter N. O'Neal, Cleveland, Ohio. Graduates not in the picture: F/O Oliver W. Proctor, Norfolk, Va.; F/O George R. Miller, Des Moines, Iowa, and Second Lieut. George B. Choisy, New York, N. Y.—U. S. AAF Photo.

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN STUDY IN CHI.

The Savannah Tribune Savannah, Georgia - 8-9-45

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE —(ANP)—Lewis A. Jackson and George A. Reed of Tuskegee institute flew to Chicago to attend the magnaflux school conducted by the Magnaflux corporation of Chicago. While in attendance, they studied the principles and operation of the magnaflux machine. This instrument is used to detect cracks in metals invisible to the naked eye and is one of the most recent developments in aviation safety. As a basic governmental requirement for an approved aircraft re-equipment has been purchased in accordance with the institute's post war aviation education program.

Mr. Jackson is civilian director of training of the 2164th AAFBU, Moton Field, Ala., where all Negro aviation cadets receive their primary flight training under all Negro personnel on the staff of Tuskegee institute. George A. Reed is plant engineer for the operation.

56b-1945

Purple Heart For Member of 99th

Black Dispatch Oklahoma City Okla.

2-10-45

Mrs. John L. Hamilton, the wife and Mrs. Martha Adams, the mother of Lt. John L. Hamilton, showing C. Townsend Tucker, president of the Anti-Prejudice Society of Los Angeles, the Purple Heart emblem awarded Lt. Hamilton, a flyer in the 99th squadron. Lt. Hamilton who graduated from Tuskegee Air Field in May ,1943, saw service in North Africa and in Italy where he received his wounds. He is now recuperating at Torney General hospital, Palm Springs, Calif. Last Sunday he was a guest of honor at a dinner and musical program held at Music Town in Los Angeles by the AAPS, commemorating the exploit of the 99th one year ago that day when eight German planes were shot down.—(ANP)

Sergeant Gets Bronze Star For Action In Belgium

Pittsburgh Courier Penn.

2-10-45

WITH U.S. FORCES IN FRANCE—For "exceptionally meritorious conduct in face of enemy action," T/Sgt. Harold F. Jackson, 812-A Walnut Street, Milwaukee, Wis., has been awarded the Bronze Star. He is a member of the 57th Ammunition Company, an all-Negro Ordnance unit which was forced to clear an area of Germans before it could set up an ammunition dump near the Belgian border last September.

Turning infantrymen when they had received word that a German patrol had control of the area they were planning to use, the Ordnance men quickly organized three squads and advanced on the enemy.

Surrounding them in an old barn the Yanks were met with small arms fire. The men of the ammo company, having only rifles and grenade, could not blast the barn as combat men do. Sergeant Jackson crawled under fire to a vantage point and threw an incendiary grenade into the barn. The ensuing fire forced the Nazis out, where they were picked off, one by one, as they emerged.

Navy Steward Wins Silver Star Award

Philadelphia Tribune P2

2-3-45

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP)—A Navy cook from Valdosta, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla., has been awarded the Silver Star for heroic efforts to save the lives of many comrades aboard the LST 357 (Landing craft) during the amphibious invasion of Salerno, Italy.

He is Willie Jones Jackson, cook, third class, United States Navy, who was born in Valdosta, Georgia, but whose official home address is now 534 Hushman Lane, Jacksonville, Fla. Previously he was awarded the Purple Heart. The Silver Star was presented in the name of the President of the United States by the Secretary of the Navy. He received it on landing here last week.

The accompanying citation was signed by James Forrestal Secretary of the Navy.

Chaplain Beasley Saves Two Lives, Gets Bronze Star Award

Atlanta World 2-13-45

Atlanta, Ga. 2-17-45

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY — Lieutenant Colonel Louis J. Beasley of Atlanta, Georgia recently was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service in combat on the Fifth Army front in Italy.

Chief chaplain of the 92nd "Buffalo" Infantry Division, Beasley was on his way to the front and was forced to abandon his vehicle when the road on which he was traveling became a target for German artillery.

Seeking cover in a nearby house, he and his assistant were joined by three enlisted men who also had been forced from their vehicle. The immediate area instantly became the object of an intense artillery barrage of at least 35 shells, one of which struck a corner of the house wounding the three enlisted men.

Beasley with his assistant quickly extricated the wounded and safely evacuated them to an aid station. This quick initiative resulted in saving the lives of two of them according to the citation.

2-13-45

Bealsey's wife, Mrs. Lauvenia C. Beasley and their four children reside at 325 East Sweet Water Street Florence, Ala. The children are George F., Louis J. Jr., Sadye M. and Winnie C. Beasley.

Distinguished Service Medal To Gen. Davis

Chicago Defender Ill.

2-17-45

WASHINGTON—The award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious service to the government, was made this week, the War Department announced. 2-17-45

The citation accompanying the award follows:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the government in a duty of great responsibility from June, 1941, to November, 1944, as an inspector of troop units in the field, and as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops.

"The initiative, intelligence and sympathetic understanding displayed by him in conducting countless investigations concerning individual soldiers, troop units and other components of the War Department brought about a fair and equitable solution to many important problems which have since become the basis of far-reaching War Department policy.

"His wise advice and counsel have made a direct contribution to the maintenance of soldier morale and troop discipline and has been of material assistance to the War Department and to responsible commanders in the field in understanding personnel matters as they pertain to the individual soldier."

Gen. B. O. Davis Gets High Award

N.Y. Amsterdam News

2-17-45

WASHINGTON—the first Distinguished Service Medal to be awarded a Negro was announced this week by the War Department. The honoree is Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, only Negro general, who is stationed in the European Theatre.

General Davis, rounding out forty-six years of Army service, was cited for "meritorious service in a duty of great responsibility as an inspector of troop units in the field and as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops."

His citation added that his "wise advice and council have made a direct contribution to the maintenance of soldier morale and troop discipline."

General Davis entered the service as an enlisted man during the Spanish-American war and rose through the ranks He is the father of Colonel B. O. Davis, commander of the famed 332nd Fighter Group.

GEN. B. O. DAVIS

AN EDITORIAL

With so many Brigadier Generals being advanced to Major Generals, it seems to us that General Davis deserves not only a medal but a promotion. Too, it would seem that from among the scores of Negro colonels, one or two might well be advanced to the rank of Brigadier General. Likewise, according to the many heroic deeds of our service men, it seems that at least one or more merit the nation's highest award. But, to date, no Negro has received the Congressional Medal. These timely suggestions warrant serious thought by heads of the armed services. —The Editors.

'Freed When the Russians Moved In'

Daily Worker 3-25-45

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan.

FIRST LT. HENRY A. WISE, Jr., now a student in the 22nd General Staff Class at the Command and General Staff School here, was awarded the Certificate of Valor in recognition of courageous service in aerial combat by the direction of Maj. Gen. Nathan Twining, commanding general of the Fifteenth Air Force.

Lt. Wise reached the Mediterranean theater in July, 1944, and was promoted to first lieutenant in September. He was a fighter pilot with the 332d Fighter Group of the 15th Air Force, doing principally escort work.

His last mission is one of the lieutenant's most vivid remembrances. It was a raid on the Ploesti oil fields Aug. 26. His plane was forced down over Bulgaria, and he was captured and imprisoned by the Germans in that country. "That was a stroke of luck, though," Lieut. Wise said. "I was a prisoner for only three weeks, and then the Russians moved in and we were all freed." He returned to the United States in October.

Worker N.Y.

The Certificate of Valor, though not an official War Department award, nevertheless has an interesting history. 3-25-45

During the trying days of our Air Force in 1943, Lieut. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, then a brigadier general in command of the Light Air Force in England, sought a personal way to express his gratitude to the men of his command who worked night and day in flying missions over Germany.

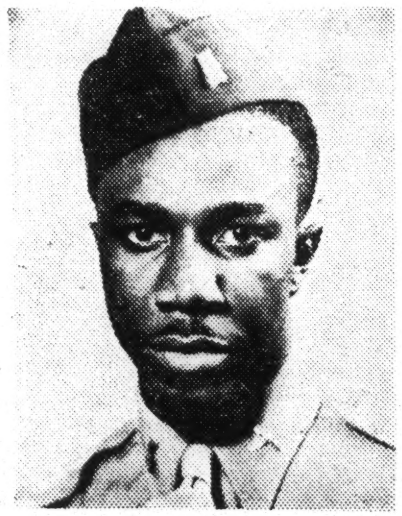
Worker

The result was the Certificate of Valor, a close, personal recognition in the form of a certificate signed by the General himself citing the faithful and courageous service of the pilot. This award became highly cherished among the men of the Eighth Air Force.

In addition to the Certificate of Valor, the 24-year-old officer holds the Air Medal and the Purple Heart. He is a former teacher of social science in the Accomac High School, Chariton, Va.

Maj. Gen. Karl Truesdell, commanding general of Fort Leavenworth and commandant of the Command and General Staff School, made the presentation at a ceremony in Gruber Hall before some 800 of Lt. Wise's classmates.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Wise, of Chariton, Va., Lt. Wise, upon entering the Army in July, 1942, was first assigned to Grenier Field, Manchester, N. H. He was then transferred to the 38th Aviation Squadron, Dow Field, Bangor, Me. He left Dow Field as a sergeant, and received his commission as second lieutenant at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., in February, 1944.



LT. HENRY A. WISE, JR.

Stars Fall On 999th Field Artillery They're Bronze Awards For Heroism

Chicago Defender, Chicago Ill.

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THE FRENCH 1ST ARMY.—Stars fell on the 999th field artillery battalion last week just outside of Colmar, where their eight-inch howitzers are blasting the German trans-Rhine salient bulge right back into the Rhineland. 2-17-45

The stars were bronze and they were given in recognition of the heroic action of heroes in action.

The heroes were: Staff Sgts Willie Fulton, Anding, Miss.; Rudolph Jones, Charleston, S. C.; George H. Edwards, Richmond, Va., and Leroy Burgess, Lake City, Fla. The action took place some time ago but they have been moving so fast since first they fired in mid-July that there has been no time to award the medals. 2-17-45

But their citations and their stories in a series of brave events that is typical of the entire battalion. It was a busy night near Rennes when the battalion was ordered to make a hasty occupation of a position without opportunity for prior reconnaissance. 2-17-45 Telephone lines had to be strung to observation posts immediately to enable the battalion to mass its fire for the following morning's attack.

Brave Enemy Fire

Out went Fulton with his crew laying lines under enemy mortar and artillery fire for the entire distance to the forward observation posts. At Azerailles Fulton constantly patrolled and kept wire lines to observation posts mended and repaired while enemy fires raged all around him, cutting lines as soon as he could repair them.

When Sgt. George H. Edwards' detail of wiremen lacked an officer, the sergeant went ahead without the services of an officer and performed all the duties and at no time for three months while he acted in this capacity was the battalion without communication with its forward observation posts.

Under a withering steel hail of machine gun fire S-Sgt. Leroy Burgess crawled on his hands and knees dropping sometimes flat on his belly under the blanket of fire but he laid the important telephone communications wire up front. 2-17-45

When you're without the services of the battalion's cub observation plane the observers up at the front lines with the infantry serve as the eyes and brains of the battalions. The forward observer sends back the coordinances for firing and S-Sgt. Rudolph Jones, chief of wire detail, has located so many vantage points from which it was possible to bring effective fire on enemy installations that naming names would be useless. Without regard for his personal safety he made the fires of many missions successful. 2-17-45

A MONUMENT FOR PRIVATE BROOKS

Chicago Defender, Ill.

The thrilling, dramatic rescue of more than 500 Allied war prisoners from a Japanese prison camp in the Philippines is a historic epic of World War II that will live long in the memory of Americans. 2-10-45

Perhaps in coming years a monument may be built at the spot where hundreds of Americans lost their lives under the torture inflicted by cruel Japanese.

Not far from the Nippon stockade at Cabanatuan where the daring rescue was effected, another monument ought to be erected at Fort Stotsenburg for the first soldier in the U. S. armed force to die in defense of the Philippines.

That soldier was a Negro — and strangely enough serving in a white unit. He was Robert H. Brooks of Sadieville, Ky., a youth of light complexion who enlisted in the Army and was able to pass for white. He was killed at Fort Stotsenburg in the first Japanese attack the day after Pearl Harbor. 2-10-45

His color was not discovered until he died in the service of his country. Today a parade ground at Fort Knox, Ky., and a housing project in Chicago are named after Private Brooks.

Now that Fort Stotsenburg has been retaken by General Douglas MacArthur, whould it not be appropriate to rename the Philippine fort after Private Brooks, first American — and probably first Negro soldier — to die in World War II?

Carolina Governor Honors War Heroes

Memphis World Tenn.

FORT BRAGG, N. C.—(SNS) — Making his last public appearance before retiring from office, Gov J. Melville Broughton of North Carolina Friday assisted Brigadier General John T. Kennedy, commanding general of Fort Bragg, in presenting Bronze Star awards to the father of a Negro enlisted man killed in action and to a Chaplain now stationed here after service overseas. 1-9-45

Joseph E. Ray of Route 2, St Pauls, N. C, received the Bronze Star awarded posthumously to his son, Pvt. Deormy Ray, for "heroic achievement" in connection with military operations against the enemy in the Solomon Islands.

Private Ray was ambushed in enemy territory in the war. Private Ray, without regard for his own personal safety, advanced without hesitation to give aid to a fallen comrade. On reaching his comrade he found that he was too late to give aid; and in trying to withdraw, was hit by a burst of enemy fire which resulted in his death. "This example of heroism and devotion to duty," the citation stated, reflects the highest citation on the Military Service."

Chaplain (Captain E. Clark, son of W. A. Clark of Route 3, Bentonville, Ark., was presented the Bronze Star awarded for meritorious achievement while serving with the 340th Army Service Forces Band in New Georgia, Solomon Islands.

Chaplain Clark was decorated for his achievements in the Solomon Islands from July 5 to Aug. 15, 1943. The official citation disclosed that he accompanied a Battalion which established a road block on the Munda - Bairoka Trail. When there was a critical shortage of food and medical supplies, Chaplain Clark was active in encouraging and comforting the men through the trying circumstances they faced. He cared for the wounded and at all times put the welfare of the troops above his own, the citation stated. 1-9-45

The Governor told Chaplain Clark and assembled officers and men that men of the ministry have had "high duty" in the war and are adding "new glory to the history of the nation."

KILLED ON SOLOMONS 1-9-45

Private Ray was killed in action on the Solomon Islands on May 17, 1944. The official citation stated that while on a patrol which

RACE BAND PLAYS 1-9-45

Personnel of Fort Bragg's Station Complement took part in the ceremonies during which the Negro race who have made

Seaman Who Shot Down 2 Planes Given Medal

New York Age, N. Y.

10-13-45

Seaman William Roy Parks, wounded and blown overboard when enemy planes attacked his ship on the Murmansk run, smiles cheerfully as Lt. Oscar Owens, USMS pins a Mariner's Medal on his lapel at a ceremony on "The Role of Negro Seamen in the War" at National Maritime Union headquarters last week.

Parks volunttered to take th place of a Navy gunner killed ir the bitter battle and, despite shrap nel wounds in the leg, shot down two planes before an enemy bomb blew him into the icy Arctic waters.

Parks, the father of two children resides with his family at 109 Unior avenue, Hempstead, L. I.

Topeka Officer Wins Silver Star

Kansas City Missouri

Stood Ground Under Fire

10-19-45

WITH THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION IN GERMANY. —First Lieutenant Sherman C. Kelly, of "A" Company, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division was awarded the Silver Star Medal for heroic action by General George S. Patton Jr., former Commanding General of the U. S. Third Army, at a review commemorating the Fifth anniversary of the activation of the now famous 9th Division at Manching Germany.

A resident of Topeka, Kas., before entering the Army, Lieutenant Kelly received his commission at Camp Hood, Texas and came overseas in February, 1945. On his arrival in the ETO he was assigned to the "Go-Devils" of the 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Division and took part in the final stages of the war in Europe.

On April 18, 1945, at Victorshone Germany, Lieutenant Kelly was leading assault elements of the infantry against enemy emplacements when they were subjected to intense enemy rocket, machinegun and small arms fire. With complete disregard for personal safety, Lieutenant Kelly unhesitantly exposed himself to the heavy fire to deploy his men and then lead them forward in an assault on the enemy emplacement. 10-19-45

Obtaining the aid of a supporting tank unit, he stood upright in face of withering enemy fire to personally designate the enemy positions to the leading tanks. Two rockets landed so close to him that the concussion hurled him to the ground.

Lieutenant Kelly refused to fall back but continued to direct the fire and movement of his men and tanks against the enemy emplacement. His bold and fearless leadership, devotion to duty and courageous actions resulted in the capture of approximately 60 of the enemy and contributed materially to the success of the mission, according to the official citation.

He is the husband of Mrs. Frances Kelly of 807 7th St., Temple Texas.

Journal & Guide

GETS BRONZE STAR—Captain Claude T. Ferebee of the U. S. Army Dental Corps, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal by the commanding general of the 93rd Infantry Division, according to word received by Captain Ferebee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ferebee, of 708 Chapel street. 10-20-45

The citation reads, "for meritorious achievement in support of military operations against the enemy at Stirling Island, Treasury Group, British Solomon Islands; Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, and Morotai, Netherlands East Indies from 27 October 1944, to August 1945."

Captain Awarded Bronze Star

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

10-20-45

Work As Military Mayor Commended

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Captain Joseph Adams, Jr., of Fitchburg Mass., was recently presented the Bronze Star Medal by Brigadier General B. F. Koenig, commanding Chanor Base Section, for meritorious achievement in providing accommodations for 50,000 troops and procuring upwards of 15,000 civilian laborers for the U. S. Army between September 20, 1944 and June 1, 1945.

The citation for the coveted award reveals that Captain Adams procured the laborers and the billets while 'Town Mayor' at one time or another of Le Havre Rouen and Calais, France, and Mons, Belgium.

As "military mayor" of these cities he was also responsible for the welfare of the citizens. "His ingenuity, untiring efforts and outstanding devotion to duty," the citation continue, "made it possible for the detailed operations of the Town Major Offices to function in a highly efficient manner in connection with military operations against the enemy in the European Theater.

At present, as Executive Officer Real Estate and Civilian Labor Division, Chanor Base Section, Captain Adams is responsible for the procurement of civilian laborers for the U. S. Army from France, Belgium and Holland under the Reverse Lend-Lease program.

10-20-45

Capt. Adams was graduated from Boston College and is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association. His wife, Mrs. Claire P. Adams, lives at 217 Oak Hill Road, Fitchburg.

Officer Who Stood Ground Under Fire Is Decorated

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

WITH THE 9th INFANTRY DIVISION IN GERMANY — First Lieutenant Sherman C. Kelly, of "A" Company, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division was awarded the Silver Star Medal for heroic action by General George S. Patton, Jr., former Commanding General of the U. S. Third Army at a review commemorating the Fifth anniversary of the activation of the now famous 9th Division at Manching, Germany. 10-20-45

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KNOCKED DOWN 10-20-45

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NEGRO NMU HERO AWARDED MEDAL

The Daily Worker N.Y. 10-24

Mack Anderson, a National Maritime Union hero, was decorated yesterday for "devotion and service" in action.

Brother Anderson, awarded the Mariner's Medal by the War Shipping Administration for brave action aboard the S. S. Polybius, which went down in the Caribbean in June, 1942, has been at sea for 17 years. A Negro, he came out of Jacksonville, Fla., to take his place among the seamen who established the NMU. 10-24-45

The medal was presented at the NMU Roosevelt Memorial Hall by Lt. Commander Jack Banner of the WSA.

A veteran of three invasions, Anderson has other "decorations." On his face are two deep cuts from a longshoremen's hook swung at him by a goon on the west side last week when he and other NMU'ers were out helping the rank and file of the International Longshoremen's Association.

On the Polybius in 1942, Anderson risked his neck to help save other members of the crew. The ship, an old tub without guns, returning from India out of convoy, went down in five minutes after a hit by a torpedo. Mack was knocked unconscious and landed in a life boat.

"I had a busted shoulder and a fractured leg," he said. He moved his shoulder stiffly to show that it isn't mobile.

Anderson, who has a wife and two children with a third en route, expects to ship out soon, but wants to stay ashore long enough to see Benjamin Davis go back to the City Council.

"You see," he told us, "I was one of the NMU'ers who worked on Ben Davis' campaign two years ago. That man has what we need."

332nd Pilot Gets Yugoslav Medal For Aiding Tito's Partisans

The Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

11-3-45

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—A young Virginia flier who flew under three flags was honored by Yugoslavia this week at ceremonies conducted here.

The pilot is Lt. William W. Green, Staunton, Va., who was awarded the Order of Partisan Star, third class, for his week's services with Marshal Tito's Partisans and British Supply Missions after he was forced to parachute from his plane Oct. 13, 1944, while on a fighter mission.

Previously decorated by the United States for completing 123 missions and bringing down three German planes, he holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the E.T.O. ribbon with three battle stars, and the Purple Heart.

Peasants Took Him In Tow.

The lieutenant said he "lived like a king" with the Partisans after his plane strafed and blew up a Nazi ammuntion dump in Ceneral Yugoslavia as he returned to his bas in Italy from an escort mission over Hungary.

"As my wing man and I were returning to Naples we caught sight of German installations at a strong point being attacked by Yugoslavs. We swooped down and made three passes at a large barn. On the third try it exploded and our plane was damaged by the flying debris. My wing man bailed out and I followed five minutes later," Green said.

Five peasants, armed to the teeth, rushed up to him and took him to safety. A day later he was taken to a division headquarters of Tito's Army. Green said the Partisans piled food in front of him and "went to extremes" to make him comfortable. The following day, after he had talked to division officers, he volunteered to help a British Supply Mission drop supplies to Tito's men in various parts of the immediate area. 10-26-45

Russians Took Him Out.

Four days later, Green said, Russians landing at the base flew him to ihs base with the 332d fighter group at Naples. When he arrived in the United States several months ago he learned that his companion had been captured by the Germans but liberated later.

"I'd like, too, to go back to Yugoslavia for a while," he said.

LT. WILLIAM W. GREEN

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Green said he saw Yugoslav girls of 14 and 15 doing the work of men in Tito's battle against the Nazi. Few persons were attired in military clothing but all carried guns and grenades he said.

Companion Killed by Nazis

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The Partisans' gratitude and the award are due, he believes, to the fact that the installation and ammunition dump his plane blew up had been the object of a costly attack by Tito's men.

Green, who entered the Army Air forces in March, 1942, believes he will stay in the service.

"I'd like, too, to go back to Yugoslavia for a while," he said.

Yugoslavia to Honor Negro Flier At Godman Field for Helping Tito

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Virginian Flew Under 3 Flags

A young Negro flier who flew under the colors of three flags will be honored by Yugoslavia tomorrow at Godman Field.

Lt. William W. Green, 24, Staunton, Va., will be awarded the Order of Partisan Star, III Class, for his week's service—it was an unforgettable adventure

Green said he saw Yugoslav girls of 14 and 15 doing the work of men in Tito's battle against the Nazis. Few persons were attired in military clothing but all carried guns and grenades, he said. 10-26-45

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the ETO ribbon with three battle stars, and the Purple Heart. Describing his adventure the lieutenant said:

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Negro Sergeant Win French Decoration

Birmingham News-Ala.

Probably the only Negro in Alabama to be awarded the French Croix de Guerre is S-Sgt. Louis Love, of Birmingham, who received the decoration from the French provisional government by direction of Gen. de Gaulle for meritorious service and bravery beyond the line of duty in the early phases of the Normandy campaign.

Assigned to an infantry unit, S-Sgt. Love served as platoon sergeant in a quartermaster trucking company which hauled supplies to front line troops and sometimes fought as infantry troops. He was the only member of his company to receive this award.

Veteran of 17 years' Army service, he is now on 90-day reenlistment furlough before returning to Germany. Prior to his enlistment, he lived at 710 Charles Street, North, and was employed by the Whitaker Paper Company here.

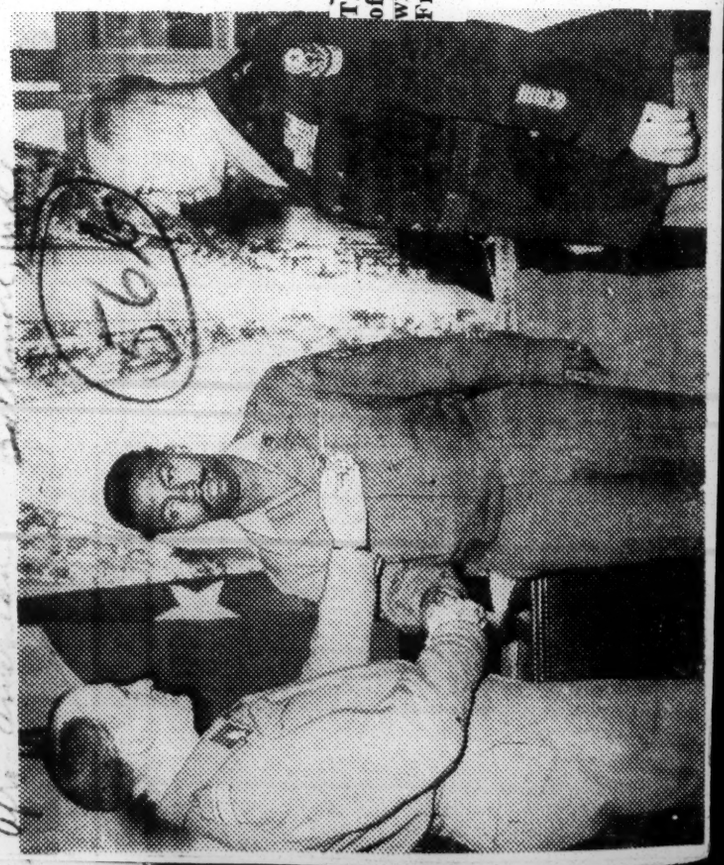
During his 22 months overseas, he took part in five campaigns, and a commendation from his company commander states that his service during these various campaigns was "notable." "Constantly displaying the characteristics of coolness, leadership and obedience to duty, S-Sgt. Love has been an inspiration to his platoon," the commendation stated.

He wears the braided shoulder ing receipt of Guerre, and has him for his part of France." The which none were war because of will be sent him later.

11-5-45

red and green loops represent- the Croidx de the papers citing in the "liberation actual medal, of made during the metal shortages,

France Honors N.Y. Liberator



T/Sgt. Steve Rodriguez of 119 W. 114th St., New York, a member of the 452nd Antiaircraft Battalion, receives the Croix de Guerre with a Bronze Star from Major L. G. Sellier, executive officer of the French Liaison Section, Oise Intermediate Section, for rendering exceptional service during the operations liberating France.

56b-1945

Awards for Valor

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. 1-10-45

LEGION OF MERIT — Technical Sergeant Johnny Birdsong with the 92nd Division and the American Fifth Army in Italy is shown receiving the Legion of Merit from General Truscott shortly after he received a battlefield commission from his commanding officer. (Photo by Cpl. Griffith J. Davis — Passed by Base Censor.)

Thomasville Pilot Is Given DFC Air Award

Atlanta World, Ga. Atlanta.

1-11-45

15TH AAF IN ITALY — Captain Henry B. Perry, 24, 519 Oak Street, Thomasville, Georgia has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Captain Perry is a P-51 Mustang Fighter Pilot in the All-Negro Fighter Group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., which is actively engaged in long range escort and participates in the strafing of enemy ground targets and installations.

1-11-45

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his outstanding display of courage and devotion to duty on an escort mission for 15th Air Force heavy bombers deep into enemy territory. During this mission, several enemy fighter aircraft attempted to intercept the bomber formation of B-24 type aircraft. Without hesitation, Captain Perry led his flight to the attack on the enemy aircraft. Engaging an enemy fighter, Captain Perry fired several short bursts from his guns and after the last short burst, he noticed that his guns were no longer operative.

Reporting the malfunction of his armament to his formation leader, Captain Perry left the battle regretfully and headed for home. Upon reaching Northern Italy, he observed two enemy fighter aircraft about to attack a crippled bomber, also homeward bound. Realizing that his guns were still inoperative, but also being aware of the fact that the bomber was helpless against the enemy ships, Captain Perry made three aggressive passes at the two enemy aircraft and was able to break up their attack, in spite of lack of armament, and escort the crippled bombe to safety in friendly territory.

1-11-45

This same display of courage and defiance of personal safety has enabled Captain Perry to successfully fly 102 combat missions against the enemy. He is a veteran combat pilot, having participated in the North-African, Sicilan and Italian campaigns. He wears the Air Medal with four Ook Leaf Clusters for "Meritorious achievement in aerial flight.

DFC to Seven Fighter Pilots

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

Baltimoreans Among Men in Honor Group

COL. DAVIS BACK

1-20-45

Turkey Dinner Ends New Year's Program

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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ADVANCED 15TH AAF BASE, ITALY—(By Cable)—They made New Year's Day something extra special here with the fighter group commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., using the occasion for a ceremony during which seven more of the group's pilots were awarded Distinguished Flying Crosses and two enlisted men received bronze stars.

The presence of Col. Davis, who has just returned from a furlough in the States to resume command of the group, which during his absence was headed by Major George S. Roberts, deputy commander, added sufficient trimmings to make the occasion as completely satisfying as the turkey dinner everybody got afterwards.

1-20-45

Md., D.C. Flyers Honored

These newest DFC winners are: Capts. Melvin T. Jackson, 432 E. Twenty-third, Baltimore; Lee Rayford, 1822 Ninth Street, N.W.; Andrew D. Turner, 100 Westford Place, N.E., Washington; George E. Gray, Welch, W.Va.; Vernon V. Haywood, Raleigh, N.C.; William Campbell, Tuskegee; Dudley M. Watson, Frankfort, Ky.

First Bronze Star Winners

Bronze stars, the first ever awarded to the group's personnel, went to T/Sgt. Raymond L. Washington, 1209 Edmondson Avenue, Baltimore, and S/Sgt. Professor Anderson, Selma, Ala.

Despite a cold heavy snowstorm blowing about the group's large area, making travel by foot through ankle-deep muddy slush extremely difficult, 300 officers and enlisted men gathered to witness the ceremony in an unheated stable which the group had converted into an auditorium by painting the walls, putting a platform at one end and sand on the bare ground for flooring.

Everybody huddled in heavy jackets and coats but the recipients, Brig. Gen. Deance Strother, white, Fifteenth Army Airforce official who pinned on the awards; Col. Davis and Capt. Thomas J. Money, the group adjutant, who shivered in neat but ineffective cold-resistant blouses and pinks.

In a half-hour, the citations were read and awards made. Brig. Gen. Strother told the assembly how proud the 15th AAF officials were to have the group and a man of Col. Davis's calibre with them.

The ceremony ended with everybody crowding around the recipients, stomping cold feet in the sand and enthusiastically congratulating them.

Then everybody rushed out to spend at least fifteen of the remaining twenty minutes before the three o'clock dinner getting warm somewhere.

1-20-45

All Hold Air Medals

Capts. Jackson, Rayford, Turner, and Campbell are squadron commanders in the group. Jackson has an enemy plane to his credit. All of the DFC recipients hold air medals with three Oak-leaf Clusters, and Rayford, in addition, has received the Purple Heart.

Rayford, Campbell, and Gray are veteran pilots, having previously flown with the pioneer 99th Squadron before the present fighter group came overseas a year ago.

1-20-45

Perfects Testing Device

Honored as one of the first of his group to receive the Bronze Star, T/Sgt. Washington, radio mechanic, won the award for improvising and perfecting a testing device which eliminates the necessity of sending aircraft radios to a special service squadron for testing.

His testing read in part: "Time thus saved has allowed the squadron to keep a maximum number of aircraft operational." A 1940 Douglass High School graduate, Washington has a wife, Mrs. Pauline Washington, and child in Baltimore where he was employed in a radio shop before entering the army two years ago.

S/Sgt. Anderson, another veteran member of the pioneer squadron, won the Bronze Star for constructing a jeep from Allied and enemy salvaged parts and repairing several other of that squadron's vehicles a few months ago at a time when parts and extra vehicles were difficult to secure.

1-20-45

Marks First Year Overseas

He has worked as squadron motor sergeant during his entire twenty-one months overseas. He has a wife, Mrs. Lizzie M. Anderson, in Selma, Ala.

The group celebrates its first anniversay overseas January 3. During this first year of combat, the group's pilots have flown 147 missions and 5,559 sorties against the enemy, and chalked up 79 victories. In addition, thirty DFC's and two Bronze Stars have been awarded the group's personnel for meritorious services.

PURPLE HEART AWARD TO WOUNDED LINEMAN

Informer - Houston, Texas 1-13-45

AN ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, England.—Returning from a completed mission in the sector of Toul and Nancy, in France, Corporal Aaron James, 26, of Route No. 2, Roxie, Miss., a lineman in a Signal Corps company, was injured in a truck crash. He is recovering in this United States Army general hospital in England.

1-13-45

Corporal James is making progress and will return to duty, according to Captain Louis Licciardi, of New York City, his ward surgeon.

Wins Purple Heart

Philadelphia Tribune

ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL, England—After completing the stringing of a communications line near Nancy, France, Cpl. Aaron James, 26, of Roxie, Miss., broke his arm in a truck crash for which he later received the purple heart award.

1-13-45

The corporal, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron James, was a truck driver before induction and completed the engineer's training course at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Phil. Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

TOURS WAR PLANTS — Pfc. Raymond Roy, 25, New Orleans, La., lost his right leg when hit by bomb fragments in New Guinea, but he's still active. He's now in Tampa, Fla., telling war workers the importance of turning out vital supplies for men on the fighting front. Roy wears a Unit Presidential Citation.

White SPAR Who Saved Little Negro Boy Gets Leave And Citation

Informer - Houston, Texas 1-13-45

PORTLAND, Ore.—(ANP)—Miss Helen Merrill, white, a member of the SPARS, and nationally known as the SPAR who extricated the foot of a little Negro boy in a New York subway last September, received a week on leave. Miss Merrill was cited by the coast guard for saving a human life.

Subway Incident Described

The subway incident described while SPAR Merrill was on fur-lough with her sister; who is a marine. When the two girls arrived at the subway entrance, they saw that the child, James Jefferson, caught in the turnstile, ordered the crowd to stand back, then **held him and attempted to ease the pain of his broken foot. Pictures of her appeared in various** York tunstile subway and was being crushed by the pushing crowd trying to force him out of the turnstile. SPAR Merrill entered the crowd, picked up nearly unconscious child, ordered the crowd to stand back, then picked up her sister for help.

While the emergency crew worked for two hours to release the trapped boy, Miss Merrill

newspapers and magazines throughout the country. She refused to give her name, although hundreds of people wanted to know the name of the unidentified SPAR. The letters to her contained praise, thanks and some were proposals of marriage.

Miss Merrill's identity was established when she returned to San Francisco. The coast guard awarded her a citation for saving a human life.

Two Navy Men Win Commendation For Heroic Attempts At Rescue

Philadelphia Tribune Pa. 1-20-45

Two Navy men, Edward King, StM2c, of Atlanta, Ga., and Fred Magee, Jr., St3c of Delphos, Kans., were cited recently for their attempts to rescue a shipmate from drowning last April, off the Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands.

King, who has been in the Navy 2 years and five months, was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. According to his citation, King and two other men swam out to save a drowning seaman, but could not get a secure hold on him. King tried desperately to save his companion, but became exhausted and was finally picked up by a barber patrol and carried to safety.

Magee, who has maintained an excellent record for his past four years in the Navy, was presented a commendation of the Secretary of the Navy. As a member of an authorized swimming party, Magee heard one of his comrades cry for help and unhesitatingly risked his life to go to his aid. He tried to save the helpless seaman, but became exhausted and was barely able to return to shore.

Two Heroes Cited

1-20-45

EDWARD KING, StM2c, (left) and FRED MAGEE, Jr.

ST. LOUIS FLYER WINS AIR MEDAL

Pgh., Pa. Pittsburgh Courier 1-13-45

ST. LOUIS—Lt. John F. Briggs, Jr., 23-year-old Negro Mustang fighter pilot, has been awarded the fifth Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal by the War Department. Lieutenant Briggs is now at home on leave from his base of operation in Italy. He is visiting his mother, Mrs. Mary Briggs, 317 S. Harrison, Kirkwood, Mo., and his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Carper of 3651 Finney avenue, this city.

More Honors

DFC Awarded Dixie Pilot

Pittsburgh Courier 1-13-45 Pgh. Pa.

By HASKELL COHEN
Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE 332nd FIGHTER GROUP, Italy—Capt. Luke Weathers, 24, of Memphis, Tenn., has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for "meritorious achievement in aerial flight as a pilot of the P-51 type aircraft during sustained operational activities against the enemy."

A flight leader with the 332nd, attached to the 15th AAF, Captain Weathers is a veteran combat pilot, having flown with the Group since its initiation into combat flying a year ago. He has more than 75 successful missions against the enemy and is credited with destroying two enemy aircraft in aerial battle.

WEARS AIR MEDAL 1-13-45

He wears the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf clusters. The captain attended Xavier university in New Orleans before entering the AAF.

Pacific Rescue Heroism Earns Seaman Medal

Journal & Guide 3-17-45 Norfolk, Va

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A Negro sailor who dived overboard during fire-fighting and rescue operations and saved the lives of two survivors of a stricken aircraft carrier has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Navy Department announced last week.

The heroic sailor, 27-year-old Judge Cantrell Jr., cook second class, of 93 McPherson street, Knoxville, Tenn., was one of twenty-six officers and men on the USS Irvin, a destroyer on Pacific duty, who were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism during the fire-fighting and rescue operations alongside the USS Princeton, an aircraft carrier, last Oct. 24.

JUDGE CANTRELL

The awards were presented by Admiral Walden L. Ainsworth, U. S. N., commander, cruisers and destroyers, Pacific fleet, on the authorization of Vice Admiral J. S. McCain, U. S. N., commander, a carrier task force.

THE CITATION 3-17-45

Each of the 26 officers and men courageously dived overboard from the ship to rescue drowning survivors. Only when they were physically exhausted did the rescuers leave the water.

"For distinguishing himself by heroism while his ship was conducting fire-fighting and rescue operations alongside an aircraft carrier on October 24, 1944. With complete disregard of his own safety he voluntarily and courageously dove overboard from his ship and succeeded in rescuing two drowning survivors. Only when physically exhausted did he leave the water. His conduct was at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Heroic Ga. Seaman Gets Silver Star

Chicago Defender (Natl ed.) Ill. 3-17-45

CHARLESTON, S. C.—For heroism in exposing himself to Nazi fire while giving first aid to his shipmates Willie James Jackson, a navy cook from Valdosta, Ga., was awarded the Silver Star this week. 2-3-45

Although he was suffering intense pain from shrapnel wounds received in the head and thigh while administering first aid to his commanding officer, Seaman Jackson continued to expose himself to enemy fire in order to care for wounded comrades and bring in other casualties.

The heroic Georgian, whose present home is in Jacksonville, Fla., and who previously had won the Purple Heart, received his latest award as a crew member of the USS LST 357 during the amphibious invasion of Salerno, Italy, last September. 2-3-45

In a citation, accompanying the Silver Star medal, Secretary of the Navy Forrestal wrote: "By his heroic initiative and untiring efforts in the face of grave peril, Jackson contributed materially to the saving of many men who otherwise might have perished and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Jackson still holds the rating of a cook, third class.

Wins Bronze Star For Heroism Against Nazis

Philadelphia Tribune Pa.

By George Coleman Moore

SOMEWHERE IN LUXEMBOURG, (ANP) — For "meritorious service" against a U. S. enemy in France from July 30 to Nov. 30, 1944, M-Sgt. John W. Lendon, Ord. (AM.) Co., has been awarded the Bronze Star medal. 2-24-45

Presentation was made to the Houston non-com at a recent company formation by Lt. Col. Walter E. Ferry, Tulsa, commander, Ord. Batt. Col. Ferry in making the award said Sgt. Lendon is the "top master sergeant in the entire ammunition section of the 3rd army."

Third Negro GI Wins DSC

The People's Voice, New York, N.Y. 11-10-45

KUNZELSAU, GERMANY—**Pfc. Jack Thomas of Albany, Ga., became the third Negro to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, second highest combat honor award of the Army, when he was decorated on October 19 in ceremonies at Wafer Field here. Pfc. Thomas was a fighter in the famous Go-Devil Regiment of the Ninth Infantry Division.**

Thomas not only was instrumental in repulsing the deadly threat of an enemy tank, but he also carried a wounded comrade to safety, with utter disregard for his life. He is the first Negro to win this award while fighting with the Ninth Infantry Division.

The young hero, who joined the Army when he was 18, is an orphan who lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Quiggs in Albany. 11-10-45

Others to receive awards during the spectacular ceremony were Staff Sgt. Alfred Curry of New Haven, Conn., and Pfc. Floyd Thompson of Steubenville, Ohio,

Albany Negro Cited

Chicago Defender (Natl ed.) Ill. 11-10-45

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The young hero, who joined the Army when he was 18, is an orphan who lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Quiggs in Albany. 11-10-45

Others to receive awards during the spectacular ceremony were Staff Sgt. Alfred Curry of New Haven, Conn., and Pfc. Floyd Thompson of Steubenville, Ohio, pinned on his chest during ceremonies in October near Kunzelsau, Germany. 11-11-45

Croix De Guerre With Star Awarded Technical Sergeant In Paris

Pfc. James Gray, the Bronze Star Medal; and Sgt. Harry Peters, the Purple Heart.

REIMS, France—For exceptional services rendered during military operations leading to the liberation of France, T/5 Arthur Jackson Jr., 23, Fred Street, Detroit, Mich., and Steve Rodriguez, 119 West 114th Street, New York City, have been awarded the Croix de Guerre, with Bronze Star by the French government.

Atlanta, Ga.

Atlanta Daily World 11-13-45

GENERAL'S AIDE DECORATED—Captain John C. Overton, Flint, Mich., is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, following receipt of the Bronze Star Medal at the ceremony in Paris. Captain Overton served as aide-de-camp to the only Negro general. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

Albany Fighter Awarded Rare Army Citation

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

11-11-45

Pfc. Jack Thomas One Of 2,600 Combat Volunteers

KUNZELSAU, Germany—A fighting infantryman from Albany Ga., one of 2,600 Negro GI's who volunteered last spring to fight alongside their white comrades in seven infantry divisions on the Western Front, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the War Department reported.

Awarded for "extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy during action near Harvegrode, Germany," the decoration was pinned on the chest of Private First Class Jack Thomas during ceremonies held on October 19 at Kunzelsau, Germany.

The Georgia doughboy was a fighter in Company E of the famous 60th ("Go-Devil") Infantry Regiment which fought with the Ninth Infantry Division of General Hodges' famed U. S. First Army.

OFFICIAL CITATION

Following is the official citation from Headquarters, U. S. Third Army, to which the Ninth Division was subsequently assigned:

"Private First Class Jack Thomas, Company E, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, USA for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy in Germany on 9 April 1945, during action near Harvegrode, Germany.

"Private First Class Thomas courageously led his squad on a mission to knock out an enemy tank, providing heavy calibre support for a hostile road back.

"Skillfully directing the deployment in firing of his squad, he advanced upon the enemy position and hurled two hand grenades wounding several hostile soldiers. When two of his men manning a rocket launcher were wounded, he picked up the weapon and launched two rockets at the enemy, preventing them from manning the tank.

DISREGARDS FIRE

11-11-45

"This gallant soldier then picked up one of the rocket-launching team who was seriously wounded and with utter disregard for the intense small arm and automatic weapon fire, carried his comrade to safety. Private First Class Thomas' heroic leadership and unflinching devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest tradition of the military service."

The young hero, who joined the army when he was 18, is an orphan who lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Quiggs in East Albany.

Two other living Negro veterans wear the Distinguished Service Cross: Captain Charles L. Thomas, Detroit, Michigan, who won the award for leading his platoon of Tank Destroyers in a breakthrough of the Siegfried Line last December, and First Lieutenant Vernon J. Baker, rifle platoon leader in the 92nd Infantry ("Buffalo") Division.

Private George Watson, Birmingham, Alabama, first Negro to win the award in World War II, received it posthumously in 1943.

Heroic Georgian Third Negro DSC Winner

Chicago Defender

11-17-45

KUNZELSAU, Germany—History was written on Wafer Field in the small dorf of Kunzelsau, Germany recently when Pfc. Jack Thomas became the third Negro ever to receive the Distinguished Service Cross, th enation's second highest honor.

The entire 350th Field Artillery Battalion held a parade and review in honor of Pfc. Thomas and several other members of the battalion who received battle awards at the same time.

11-17-45

The Commanding General of the Sixth Corps arrived at the parade grounds at 1445 and promptly at 1500, the adjutant's call was sounded. Even the weather looked with approval upon the memorable scene, and Wafer Field, in its early autumn setting between a small valley, was a beautiful sight.

With Headquarters, Able, Baker, Charley and Service Batteries appearing in that order, General Burress and his staff conducted an inspection in ranks of the battalion Captain Marion, as troop commander, presented the men for their decorations and immediately thereafter, the 428th Army Service Forces band played the always stirring National Anthem.

After the men were decorated, they formed a part of the general staff, and the entire battalion, led by the band, passed in review. It was a brilliant spectacle as the men, in perfect step, executed their movements with flawless precision. Every battery was commended upon the superior appearance of its troops, and Baker Battery was singled out as being exceptionally excellent. General Burress was well pleased and he complimented both the battalion and the band, saying that the parade and review were, in all ways, one of the best he had ever been privileged to witness.

From Ninth Division

Ill.

The honors were monopolized by the men who had fought with the famed First and Ninth Infantry Divisions, with the highlight of the occasion being the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to diminutive Jack Thomas of Albany, Ga., who fought with the Go-Devil Regiment of the Ninth Division.

Bronze Star Medals went to Staff Sgt. Alfred Curry of New Haven, Conn., and to Pfc. Floyd Thompson of Steubenville, Ohio, both of whom fought with the 18th Regiment of the First Infantry Division. Sgt. Harry Peters, formerly with the 26th Infantry of the First Division, was awarded the Purple Heart. Pfc. James Gray, who fought in the same platoon with Jack Thomas, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

These awards were won for heroic action in the particularly bitter fighting during April, when the Germans were making what turned out to be their last determined stand. Sgt. Harry Peters received his Purple Heart for wounds which he suffered on a day in April when half his squad was either killed or wounded in an assault upon a city held by SS troopers. Staff Sgt. Alfred Curry received his award for heroism during a successful combat patrol which he led against the German city of Dessau. Pfc. Thompson was cited for heroism in the same action.

Chicago Ill.

The extraordinary valor and courage which Pfc. Jack Thomas exhibited in winning his Distinguished Service Cross, is something which will be long remembered and not soon forgotten. Not only was he instrumental in helping to repulse the deadly threat of an enemy tank, but he also carried a wounded comrade to safety, with utter disregard for his personal safety. As the official citation pointed out, Pfc. Thomas showed a degree of "heroic leadership and unflinching devotion to duty which are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service."

There had been only two Negroes ever to receive the Distinguished Service Cross prior to Pfc. Thomas' decoration by General Burress, and Thomas is the first soldier of his race ever to win this coveted award while fighting with the Ninth Division. The United States has only one honor higher than the Distinguished Service Cross and that is the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Joined Army at 18

The gallant little soldier was inclined to be modest concerning his remarkable and tremendous achievements, stating quietly that, "Any other man would have done the same thing."

This small hero, who is an orphan and lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Quiggs, in Albany, Ga., came into the army when he was just 18. His post-war plans call for completing his education and getting a job. He is one of the quietest soldiers in the battalion and hardly anyone who does not know him, even suspected that he had earned a particularly sacred niche in the heroes' Hall of Fame.

GENERAL DAVIS' AIDES DECORATED—Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr., congratulates T/Sgt. Barbara Richfield of New York City following her receipt of the Bronze Star Medal at a ceremony in Paris, France, last month. She received the award for meritorious work as the general's secretary. On the right is Capt. John C. Overton of Flint, Mich., who was given the Bronze Star Medal for his work as aide-de-camp to Gen. Davis.

Ga. GI Wins Distinguished Service Cross for Heroism

KUNZELSAU, Germany—A fighting infantryman from Albany, Ga., one of 2,600 colored GI's who volunteered last spring to fight alongside their white comrades in seven infantry divisions on the Western Front, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the War Department reported last Thursday.

Awarded for "extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy during action near Harvegrode, Germany," the decoration was pinned on the chest of Pfc. Jack Thomas during ceremonies held here on Oct. 19.

The Georgia doughboy was a fighter in Company E of the famous 60th ("Go-Devil") Infantry Regiment which fought with the Ninth Infantry Division of General Hodges' famed U.S. First Army.

Courageous Leadership

The official citation from Headquarters, U.S. Third Army, said Pfc. Thomas, on April 9 last, during action near Harvegrode, Germany, courageously led his squad on a mission to knock out an enemy tank, providing heavy calibre support for a hostile road back.

H skillfully directed the deployment in firing of his squad, advanced upon the enemy position and hurled two hand grenades, wounding several hostile soldiers.

When two of his men manning a rocket launcher were wounded, he picked up the weapon and launched two rockets at the enemy, preventing them from manning the tank.

Pfc. Thomas then picked up one of his comrades who was seriously wounded, and with utter disregard for the intense small arm and automatic weapon fire, carried him to safety.

Other DSC Winners

The young hero, who joined the Army when he was 18, is an orphan who lives with his grandmother, Mrs. Betty Quiggs, in East Albany, Ga.

Two other living colored veterans wear the Distinguished Service Cross: Capt. Charles L. Thomas, Detroit, who won the award for leading his platoon of tank destroyers in a breakthrough of the Siegfried Line last December; and First Lt. Vernon J. Baker, rifle platoon leader in the 92nd Infantry ("Buffalo") Division.

Pvt. George Watson, Birmingham, Ala., first colored soldier to win the award in World War II, received it posthumously in 1943.

Soldier's Medal for Ex-Courierite

Corp. James G. Thompson of Wichita, Kas., a former Pittsburgh Courier employe, and now a member of the 2257th QM Truck Company (Aviation), serving in the India-Burma Theater, has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for saving an Indian boy and a Chinese soldier from drowning.

Corporal Thompson was the originator of the "Double-V for Victory."

Hats Off!

PM takes off its hat today to a fighting infantryman from Albany, Ga., one of 2600 Negro soldiers who volunteered last Spring for front-line duty in Germany alongside their white comrades in seven infantry divisions. Pfc. Jack Thomas led his squad on a mission to knock out an enemy heavy tank. When two of his men operating a rocket-launcher were wounded, he fired rockets at the tank himself. His mission accomplished, he carried one of the wounded to safety through intense enemy fire. He has just been cited for "extraordinary heroism" and awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Three 93rd Men Receive Medals

MOROTAI.—Two Bronze Star Medals and one Soldier's Medal were awarded to officers and an enlisted man of this division recently for their outstanding contributions to victory in the Pacific.

The awards were made for heroic activities in which the men engaged from Bougainville in the Solomon Islands, where the division first entered combat, to Morotai, Netherlands East Indies.

N. Y. Lt. Gets Medal

First Lt. Clifford R. Wilson, New York, earned the Soldiers' Medal for heroism in saving the lives of several soldiers in a fire caused by a plane crash in the Admiralty.

Lieutenant Wilson, a graduate of Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tenn., went into the area of the burning plane and into burning tents to remove injured personnel to safety.

Able Personnel Officer

Warrant Officer (jg) Earl M. Armstead, Los Angeles, won the Bronze Star Medal for his exceptional ability, ingenuity, judgement, and sound professional knowledge in discharging his duties as acting personnel officer.

Cpl. Wilbur J. Hodges, Aurora, N.C., was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his superior technical skill in maintaining the telephone switchboard under all conditions.

Son Died in Vain, Says Dorie Miller's Father

SAN FRANCISCO — An unschooled Texas farmer, Conery Miller, father of the Navy hero, Dorie Miller, told millions of radio listeners Sunday afternoon, that the war had been in vain and

His Death in Vain?

DORIE MILLER

U.S.S. Arizona messman, who manned a machine gun and downed eight Jap planes during the attack on Pearl Harbor. His father, Conery Miller, Waco, Tex., farmer, in a nation-wide broadcast, Sunday, declared that his death was in vain and he'd rather have his son back.

he'd rather have his son back.

In a nation-wide broadcast, aired by the American Broadcasting System, Mr. Miller and two other heroes in whose honor theatres were dedicated at Treasure Island Naval Base, were interviewed by Orson Welles, stage, radio and screen star.

Mr. Miller, who was interviewed at his home in Waco, Tex., was asked whether things are better because of his son's sacrifice.

Without hesitating, he gave a resolute, "No."

Conditions No Better

"Do you mean to say things are no better?" Welles countered. Again, he received a firm, "No," no more.

Welles tried again and Mr. Miller answered, "Well, maybe, Mr. Welles, but I don't think so. If I could have had my RUTHERS, I'd RUTHER have my son back!"

The air lanes were silent for one shocked half minute, Mr. Miller was not asked to go into detail.

His reply was in sharp contract to that given by relatives of the other two heroes, both white, who told in glowing terms how their sons' sacrifice had helped make things better for them.

However, earlier in the program in introducing Mr. Miller, Welles told how Miller who had never fired a machine gun before, left his messman's post and, along with a reserve lieutenant, downed eight Jap planes when the USS Arizona was attacked at Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941.

Navy Lowers Barriers

He expressed satisfaction that his son was "a good boy who never dropped its color bars and was allowing colored seamen to get training in firing guns.

"No, because he said it made him think of his dead buddies."

At present, a wooden plaque identifies it. This, however, will eventually be replaced by a metal one as a memorial to Miller's heroic deed.

The theatre, which has a seating capacity of 1500, is used by all races. It is of semi-permanent construction and has been in use more than a year.

The 22-year-old Navy hero, who won the Navy cross for his Pearl Harbor exploits, was reported missing in action in the Battle of the Coral Sea in the South Pacific in Dec., 1943, soon after he returned to duty.

Mr. Miller recounted that his son was "a good boy who never gave anybody any trouble." Asked whether he had talked much about

56b-1945

Awards for Valor

Awarded DFC at TAAF for Action in Italy

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md. 7-28-45

Lt. Col. Donald G. McPherson, deputy commander at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, is shown pinning the Distinguished Flying Cross on Capt. Leonard M. Jackson of Fort Worth, Tex., one of the eight veteran flyers awarded the medal recently for outstanding service with the 332nd Fighter Group. The others are, left to right, Capts. Elwood T. Driver, Trenton, N.J.; Arnold W. Cisco, Alton, Ill.; Luke J. Weathers, Memphis; Howard L. Baugh, Petersburg, Va.; 1st Lts. Herman H. Lawson, Marysville, Calif.; Dempsey W. Morgan Jr., Detorit, and Leonard F. Turner, Washington.

Two 92nd Officers Win Silver Star

Baltimore Md.

Afro-American

ITALY — Two officers of the 92nd Infantry Division, 1st Lt. William E. Porter, Lima, Ohio; and 2nd Lt. Reuben L. Horner, Tucson, Ariz., have been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy, the War Department has announced.

Last December 5, Lieutenant Porter, alone, advanced on an enemy machine-gun nest, killed the German officer in charge, and forced the remaining enemy to surrender, thus facilitating the advance of his platoon, pinned down by heavy enemy automatic weapons.

7-21-45

Later in the day, after the platoon had been completely surrounded by superior enemy forces, he constantly exposed himself to hostile fire in moving back and forth between platoon positions.

Repulsed Counter-Attacks

Last October 22, Lieutenant Horner repulsed five enemy counter-attacks against his platoon which was holding a mountain position.

Under a continuous rain of hostile fire, he cooly deployed his own small arms and automatic weapons, and personally directed counter artillery and mortar fire so aggressively that all five enemy actions were successfully repulsed.

Hail Leadership, Courage

Lieutenant Horner, regardless of personal safety, consistently exposed himself between weapon positions, making fire adjustments and encouraging his men. The pressure of his counter-attack forced an enemy machine-gun squad and several riflemen to surrender.

The citations said of Lieutenant Porter: "His aggressive leadership was an inspiration to the officers and men of his organization"; and of Lieutenant Horner: "His intrepid courage . . . was a heroic example of the fighting man's desire to close with the enemy and destroy him."

7 Engineers Given Soldier's Medals

Afro-American

Baltimore Md.

FOGGIA, Italy. — Seven members of the 1246th Engineer Composite Platoon, who ignored the intense heat of blazing freight cars packed with explosives to bring a threatening holocaust under control on Dec. 13, were awarded the Soldier's Medal recently.

According to the accompanying citation, the men showed marked heroism by segregating from other cars two tank cars and two loads of fragmentation bombs which were ablaze in a filled freight yard here.

Working until the blaze was extinguished and the bombs sufficiently cooled to eliminate the danger of an explosion, they saved not only many lives but also large amounts of vital war material, the citation added.

The men who received their medals during ceremonies here are:

7-21-45

T/3 Manuel Reed, Liberal, Kan.; Sgt. Samuel L. Brantley, Detroit; Sgt. Octave M. Jensen, New York City; Cpl. George A. Bradley, De Funiack Springs, Fla.; T/5 Dallas Austin, Holly Springs, Miss.; Pfc Harold Bardell, New Orleans, and Pvt. Rufus Barner, Inverness, Miss.

Hats Off!

P.M.-N.Y.

Capt. Charles L. Thomas, 25, of Detroit, received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action. His armored car, leading a task force of the 618th Tank Destroyer Battalion in an attack last Dec. 14 on Climbach, France, near the Siegfried Line, was blasted by an enemy shell. Thomas, who was wounded in the thighs, stomach and right arm, helped the others in the car to safety, directed the setting up of two anti-tank guns and repelled the Nazi counterattack. Now, although he has not fully recovered from his wounds, Capt. Thomas is touring the Second Service Command in connection with the reconditioning program. He hopes to return to Wayne University, Detroit, to complete his training as an aeronautical engineer (It should be pointed out that he will have little chance at his career unless FEPC is given real power to break down racial discrimination in industry.) To a man who has earned the best future his country can give him:

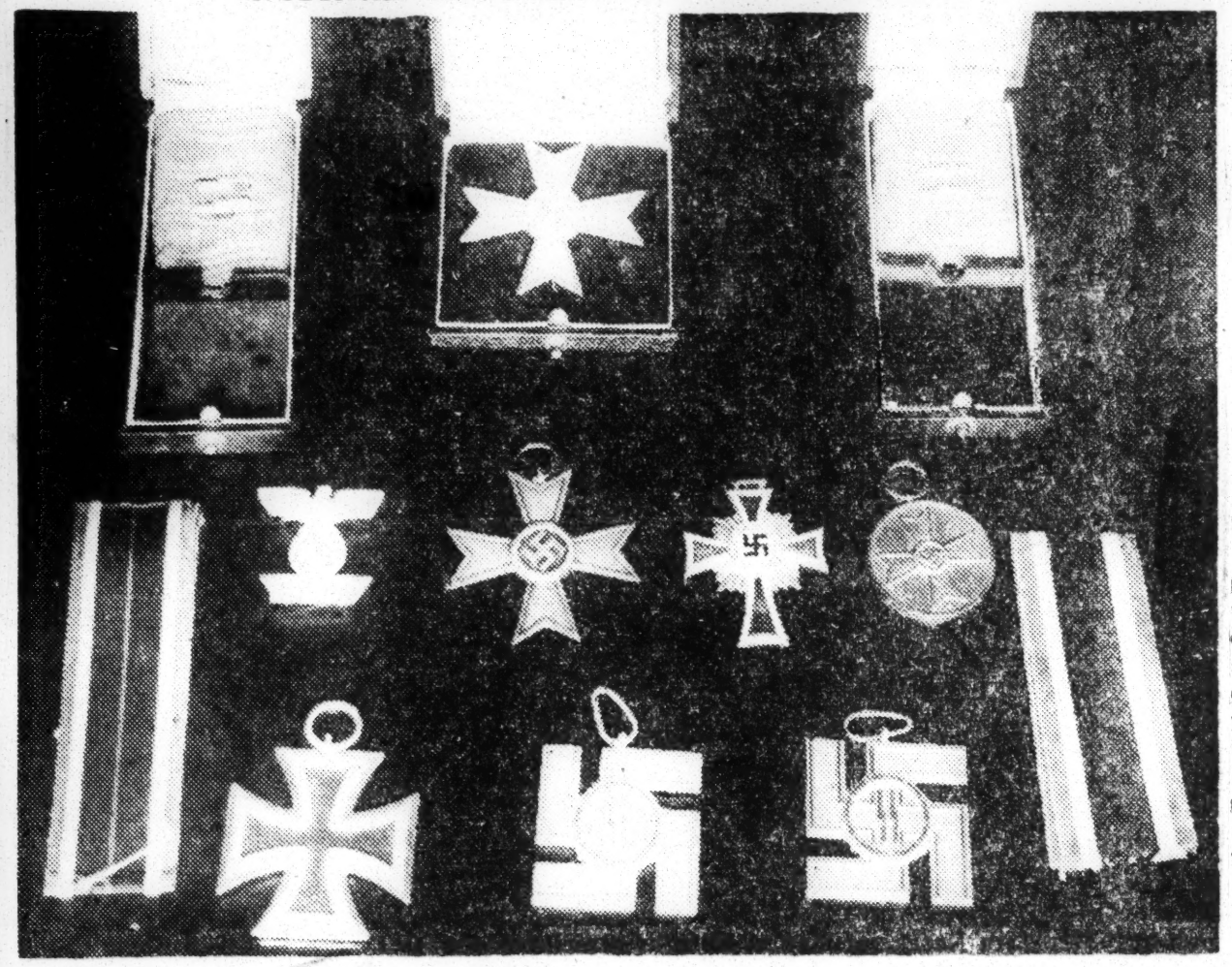
Hats Off!

St. Louis Argus

FORMER BASKETBALL PLAYER RECEIVES SILVER STAR— Cpl. Robert M. Smoot, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Smoot, 309 Third street, Lovejoy, Ill. was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action in the European Theatre of War, he also holds the Purple Heart for wounds received last December and March.

Cpl. Smoot is a graduate of the Lovejoy high school, and a former Hampton student. During his school career at Lovejoy he was especially noted for his sportsmanship in basketball He led the Ill.-Mo. League in scoring. He informs us that he is playing baseball with the 370th Regimental team, and they have won 14 out of 16 games.

German Awards for Nazi Service



Shown above are a number of German awards. Left to right are: Top row—ribbon and case for the medal worn by Nazis SS (stormtroopers) troops; a silver decoration for heroism; SS medal; second row—ribbon which substitutes for medal in the middle of top row; medal awarded to officers participating in the invasion of Poland in 1939; bronze duplicate of medal on top row; medal for mothers who had three or more sons in the service; bronze medal for heroism; ribbon worn with medal; bottom row—iron cross (highest German military award); silver medal for SS troops for outstanding atrocities or battle conduct; gold duplicate of same.

Saved Buddy's Life

Medic Wins Silver Star

Pittsburg Courier

WITH THE 839th ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION IN THE PHILIPPINES—T/4th Grade Charlie H. Wall, 5127 Vinewood Street, Detroit, Mich., has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on Leyte, Philippine Islands, Dec. 8, 1944. 7-28-45

The official citation reads in part as follows:

". . . when an enlisted man lay wounded in a machinegun emplacement, T/4th Grade Charlie H. Wall, as a medical aid man, made his way across approximately one hundred yards of open ground in the face of enemy small arms fire to the place where the wounded man lay. He administered medical aid to the wounded man and then assisted in removing him back to the company aid station. T/4th Grade Wall's courageous action and utter disregard for his own safety helped to save the life of a fellow soldier."

Lieutenants get Silver Stars

San Angelo Texas Caliz.

HEADQUARTERS, 92nd Infantry Division, Italy—Two Negro officers, one who "set a heroic example of the fighting man's desire to close with the enemy and destroy him," and the other, whose "aggressive leadership was an inspiration to the officers and men of his organization," have been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy in Italy, the War Department announced today. 7-23-

Recipients of the awards are 1st. Lt. William E. Porter, Lima, Ohio, and 2nd Lt. Reuben L. Horner, Tucson, Oriz., both members of the 92nd Infantry division.

Lieutenant Horner was cited for his action in repulsing five counterattacks of the enemy last

No matter what we have undergone and suffered, we must try to forgive those who injured and remember only the lesson gained thereby. — Madame Chiang Kai-Shek.

Six Messmen Down Jap Plane, Get Citations

Philadelphia Pa. Tribune

Six Negro steward's mates who manned their anti-aircraft guns until a Japanese suicide plane crashed into flames among them have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for their heroism in action aboard the USS INTREPID, the Department of the Navy said this week.

Vice Admiral John S. McCain, U. S. N., commander of Task Force 38, made the awards for their partication in the action of October 29, 1944.

The medals were awadled to:

Johnell Copeland, steward's mate first class, 19, Haines City, Florida. 8-4-45

Que Gant, steward's mate, first Class, U.S.N.R., 22, of 132 Center st., Atlantic City, N. J.

Harold Junior Clark, steward's mate first class, U.S.N.R., 25, West Palm Beach, Florida.

James Eddie Dockery, steward's mate first class, U. S. N., 38, of 28 Barclay st., Newark, N. J.

Alonzo Alexander Swann Jr. steward's mate first class, U.S. N.R., 19, of 353 Christian st., Steelton, Pa. 8-4-45

Eli Benjamin, steward's mate second class, U.S.N.R., 20, of 734 Jefferson St., Norfolk, Va.

The six men who volunteered to man anti-aircraft guns in the event of attack by the enemy, were stationed at a 20 millimeter machine gun by the gunnery officer of the USS INTREPID, ESSEX-class carrier that was damaged four times by attacking Japanese planes.

The citations read: "For distinguished himself by heroic and meritorious service in connection with operations against the enemy, while serving aboard an aircraft carrier on October 29, 1944. When a Japanese dive-bomber attacked from the starboard side of the ship, he continued to operate his portside gun in its fire over the flight deck although it became apparent that the enemy plane was headed directly for his gun tub. His gun fired until the Japanese plane crashed into his tub. The courage and skill he displayed were at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service."

Benjamin twice has been wounded during action with the fast carrier task force in the Pacific, while Clark, Swann and Dockery have also been wounded in action.

Meritorious Service Wins Star for Major

Philadelphia Tribune

MAJ. JAMES A. BATTS, JR., —son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Batts, of 5615 Girard avenue, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious service in support of combat operations in Italy from November 8, 1944 to May 2, 1945. Pa.

According to the citation honoring Major Batts, his frequent presence in Battalion Aid Stations and in the front lines was an example and inspiration, not only to his own officers and men but also to all the men of the regiment, assuring them that prompt and efficient medical attention would always be provided them. 8-4-45

Major Batts attended Temple University, where he received the B. A. degree, and was graduated with honors from the School of Medicine at Howard University. Upon graduation, he was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Medical Reserve and, after interning at Mercy Hospital for a year, was assigned to active duty.

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Georgia 9-22-45

RECEIVING MEDAL OF MERIT AWARD — In the name of the President, the Secretary of War, the Honorable Henry L. Stimson today presented the Medal for Merit for Civilians to Mr. Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War since September, 1943, at ceremonies in his office in the Pentagon building.

Following is the citation which accompanied the award:

"For the performance of extraordinary service to the War Department in handling for the Secretary of War as a special advisor the problem of the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the military service including the employment of Negroes in a civilian status.

"In the performance of his duties, he exercised at all times a strong sense of fairness and moderation and a rare human understanding. His counsel has been of great value to the War Department in its efforts to effect the greatest possible utilization of Negroes in the Army. He has set a high standard of useful service in the field of racial relations in time of war for which the War Department and the nation are grateful.

(Signed) (Harry S. Truman,)
(President of the United States)

The Fighting 969th

Nashville Globe Nashville, Tennessee 9-7-45

"Among the heroes of the Bastogne fighting of last December were the members of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, then attached to the 101st Airborne Division. It was this division which held the surrounded road junction for nine days during the 'Battle of the Bulge,' until General Patton's armor could open up a corridor for their relief. Their spirit was expressed in the famous reply of Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe to the German demand for surrender—the one word, 'Nuts.' For nine days these gunners, fighting as infantry, short of food and finally almost out of ammunition, helped stand off three German divisions. Yesterday the 969th received a Presidential citation. Soon, no doubt, they will be returning to this country, where, one hopes, their valor will be recognized as generally it was abroad. The 969th, though commanded by white officers, is a Negro outfit. If prejudiced persons continue to say that the Negro does not make a good and brave soldier the rank and file of the 969th will now have a ready answer. Officers and men, they all did honor to the land of their birth." (*New York Times*, August 3. 1945.)

Artillery Heroes In Hall Of Fame

Voorhees Guide Norfolk 8-18-45

By Associated Negro Press

VOGUIERS, FRANCE—The 969th Field Artillery Battalion entered America's military hall of fame recently when it became the first Negro military group to be awarded the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation in honor of heroic defense of Bastogne.

The Negro artillerymen's chance for glory came when Field Marshal Gerd Von Rundstedt attempted a breakthrough in the Ardennes in December. They were in a position northeast of Bastogne when the German attack came and were ordered to move southward. When they arrived at Bastogne, Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, acting commander of the 101st Airborne division, conscripted them to help stop the German thrust.

8-18-45

THEIR HEROISM

Their heroism is noted in the original citation awarded to the 101st "and its attached units for extraordinary heroism and gallantry in defense of the key communications center of Bastogne, Belgium" during the most critical phase of the Battle of the Bulge.

This marked the first time in America's military history that a whole battalion of Negro troops have received the Presidential Distinguished Unit citation for extraordinary bravery and heroism.

Secretary of War Presents Truman Gibson Merit Medal

The Washington Tribune 9-22-45

One of the last official acts of Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson before bowing out to leave the reins to his Undersecretary Robert P. Patterson, was to present the Medal of Merit and a Citation to his Civilian Aide, Truman K. Gibson, Jr.

The citation presented to Mr. Gibson, who rose to the position of Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War upon the resignation of William (Bill) Hastie, read as follows:

"For the performance of extraordinary service to the War Department in handling for the Secretary of War, as special advisor to the problems of the fair and most effective utilization of Negroes in all the branches of the military service including the employment of workers of civilian status in performance of duty.

"Exercising at all times a strong sense of fairness and the modification of rare human understanding, his council has been of great value in the effective utilization of Negroes in the Army. He has set a high standard of useful service in racial relations in War Time, for which the War Department and the nation is grateful."

The Medal and Citation was presented to Mr. Gibson in the office of Mr. Stimson at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Louis Lautier, civilian liason officer in the Office of the Secretary of War was presented a similar medal and citation the same day that the Japs surrendered to the American forces.

Lem Foster Given Award

Atlanta (Ga) Daily World

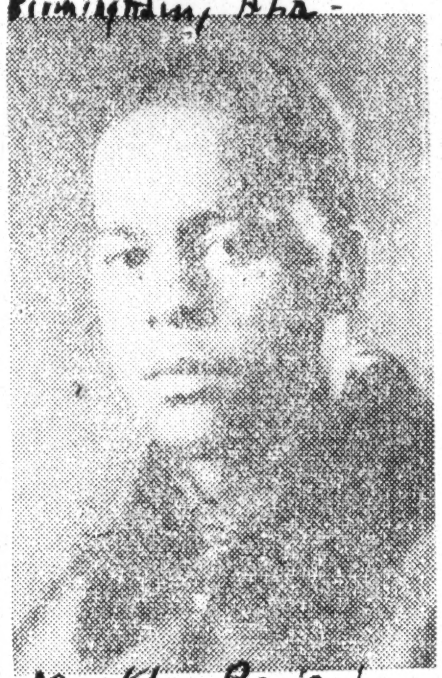
WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The emblem for Meritorious Civilian service was awarded to Lemuel Foster, racial relations analyst for the army service forces last Friday afternoon by Major General Joseph N. Dalton, director of personnel, ASF.

10-6-45

"For meritorious civilian service with army service forces as a consultant on minority groups," read the citation which was signed by Gen. Brehon G. Somervell, commanding general of ASF, "and for active assistance in bringing about the maximum use of such groups during America's greatest war effort, thereby not only materially aiding war production but also providing the members of such groups with an opportunity to participate fully in America's war effort."

Foster came to Washington for the war department on November 20, 1942. Prior to that he had been racial relations adviser for the Works Progress administration in New York when General Somervell first met him.

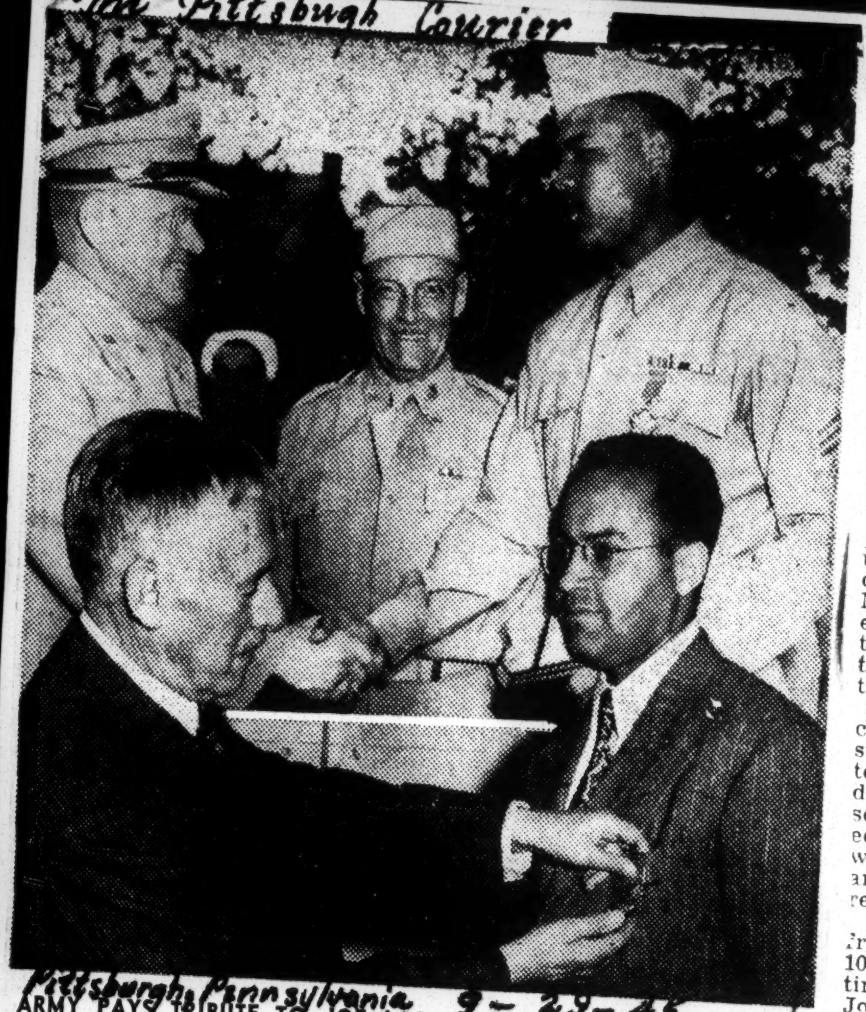
Decorated 8-11-45 Birmingham Ala.



Weekly Review

S/Sgt. JULIUS W. HOBSON has been awarded the Air Medal, an Oak Leaf Cluster for 25 field artillery sorties flown behind the enemy line in Italy. Sgt. Hobson also served as forward observer in three of the 92nd Division's main attacks and wears the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in February 1945, the holder of the Theater Ribbon and three bronze stars for participating in three engagements. He lives at 1001 Sixth Avenue North, Birmingham, Ala. He is the son of Mrs Irma G. Tolbert and grandson of Mrs. Catherine Goron.

The Pittsburgh Courier



Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 9-29-45

ARMY PAYS TRIBUTE TO JOE LOUIS, TRUMAN GIBSON—Sgt. Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, received the Legion of Merit Sunday at Fort Hamilton. He is pictured in top photo as he was congratulated by Maj. Gen. Clarence H. Kells, commanding general of the New York Port of Embarkation. Bottom photo shows Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, receiving the Medal of Merit from Mr. Stimson. The Gibson award was made in Washington.

For Outstanding Service

Joe Louis, Truman Gibson Get Army Merit Awards

WASHINGTON—At ceremonies no less impressive than those during which Secretary of War Stimson presented the Medal for Merit for civilians to Truman K. Gibson Jr., his civilian aide, Wednesday for extraordinary service to the War Department, Sunday on the Army Hour radio program, T/Sgt. Joe Louis Barrow, heavyweight champion of the world, was awarded the Legion of Merit medal by Army officials at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., by Major General Clarence H. Kells, commanding general of the New York Port of Embarkation.

The Gibson award was made in the Capital by direction of President Truman and is the counterpart of the Legion of Merit which is awarded to officers and enlisted men of the armed forces.

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES

The Louis citation read for "exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services," and the civilian aide's citation was for "the performance of extraordinary service to the War Department as adviser on the problem of the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of military service including employment of Negroes in civilian status."

Mr. Stimson made the Gibson award in his office at the Pentagon Building at noon on Wednesday. Present was the civilian aide's wife, their daughter Karen, Mr. Gibson's office staff and other military and civilian personnel. Mr. Gibson's services dated in the War Department from November 28, 1940, when he was assistant to William H. Hastie.

GIBSON APPOINTED 1943

On February 16, 1943 he became acting civilian aide upon the resignation of Mr. Hastie. September 22, 1943, he was appointed to fill the office of the former aide. His travels since then took him to nearly all theaters of war where he made investigations of complaints concerning the treatment of colored personnel in the Army and in civilian employment in the War Department.

His citation concluded: "He has set a high standard of useful service in the field of racial relations in time of war for which the War Department and the Nation are grateful."

Heavyweight champion Louis as a member of a special services unit, toured Army camps throughout the country and in Europe, North Africa and the Mediterranean and Italian theaters of operation where he engaged in ninety-two exhibition bounts before more than 2,000,000 service men.

It was pointed out that the champion willingly volunteered such services at considerable risks to his boxing future rather than disappoint the men who desired to see him in the ring. He also visited camp and theatre hospitals where his encouragement to sick and injured soldiers had a definite recovery value and moral lift.

Louis' service covered the period from August 30, 1943 to October 10, 1944. Functioning most of the time as a staff sergeant, Champion Joe Louis was recently promoted to technical sergeant. At present he is assigned to the Special Services Division, Camp Shanks, N. Y.

Gibson Gets Merit Award

The Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois 9-29-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The nation's highest award, the Medal of Merit for Civilians, was presented this week to Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, by his chief, Henry L. Stimson.

As the first Negro to receive the award, Gibson was cited by President Harry S. Truman "For the performance of extraordinary service to the War Department in handling for the Secretary of War as a special advisor, the problem of fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the military service, including the employment of Negroes in a civilian status."

During the brief, but impressive ceremony, Secretary Stimson said that he had been most impressed by the number of statements critical of army policy and procedure which Gibson has submitted to him, adding, perhaps it would have been easier for all concerned had the pleasant things been emphasized.

He said he had followed Gibson's work very carefully and had been greatly impressed with the service he had rendered.

Visibly moved by the recognition accorded him, Gibson later told the Defender that "The secretary's references to my critical evaluation of the War Department's policy with respect to Negro personnel was exceedingly gratifying to me." He said the award came as "a complete surprise," declaring, "I was flabbergasted."

9-29-45

The citation, signed by the President of the United States, Harry S. Truman, read:

"For the performance of extraordinary service to the War Department in handling for the Secretary of War as a special advisor, the problem of fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the military service, including the employment of Negroes in a civilian status.

"In the performance of his duties, he exercised at all times a strong sense of fairness and moderation and a rare human understanding.

"His counsel has been of great value to the War Department in its efforts to effect the greatest possible utilization of Negroes in the army.

"He has set a high standard of useful service in the field of race relations in the time of war, for which the War Department and the nation are grateful."

Th Medal of Merit has been given to approximately 10 civilians in its history. On other such occasion was when it was awarded posthumously to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox.

A president of Chicago, Gibson enjoyed a successful law practice in the "Windy City" prior to coming to the War Department where he has served as civilian aide since September 1943. He succeeded William H. Hastie in that office.

Third Army Officer Wins Silver Star

Washington Tribune D.C.

WITH THE 9th INFANTRY IN GERMANY—First Lieutenant Sherman C. Kelly, of A Company, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, was awarded the Silver Star Medal for heroic action by General George S. Patton, Jr., former Commanding General of the U.S. Third Army, at a review commemorating the Fifth anniversary of the activation of the now famous 9th Division at Manching, Germany. 10-16-45

A resident of Topeka, Kansas before entering the Army, Lieutenant Kelly received his commission at Camp Hood, Texas and came overseas in February, 1945.

PURPLE HEART WEARER HOME; ESCAPED DEATH

Ship Torpedoed By Japanese Sub

St. Louis Argus

Wearing a Purple Heart for injuries received on Bougainville in November 1942, Cpl. James Gaston, 2631 Street, St. Louis, modestly concedes that his overseas experiences were not exactly uneventful. Missouri.

Discharged from the Army last week at Jefferson Barracks, Gaston is back in mufti after four years in the army, three of them overseas. He was inducted October 26, 1941, and went overseas with the 49th Field Artillery regiment one year later. But before his transport ship reached its destination in the Southwest Pacific, a Jap sub torpedoed it; Gaston and his buddies spent five and a half hours in the briny deep before being rescued by natives from one of the Pacific atolls.

Affected with no more than a severe cold, Gaston saw his most harrowing experience later on Bougainville. 11-9-45

"On the eleventh day of action", Gaston said, "a Jap shell struck our communications hut and peppered my arms, legs and stomach with fragments and laid me up for ten months in a hospital on Guadalcanal," with the infantry. His 1939 Vashon grad, coming from this most recent assignment from the United States, Sergeant Carter was separated from the service at Fort Ord, Calif., and is now living at 816 E. Twenty-second Street, Los Angeles. 11-24-45

Sergeant Carter is the fifth Negro soldier to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in World War II.

Fifth Tan Yank Awarded DSC

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Heroic Under Fire

HEIDELBERG, Germany — Another Negro doughboy who fought on the Western Front and distinguished himself by "extraordinary heroism in action," has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the War Department announced this week. 11-24-45

As eight enemy riflemen attempted to capture him, Sergeant Carter killed an counter-at-six of them and captured the rest. His last winter, maining two. He then crossed the field, using as a shield his two Carter of Los prisoners, from whom he obtained 2,600 Negro information concerning valuable disposition of enemy troops."

His is one of the resulting Upon returning to the United States, Sergeant Carter was separated from the service at Fort MacArthur, Calif., and is now living at 816 E. Twenty-second Street, Los Angeles.

OFFICIAL CITATION

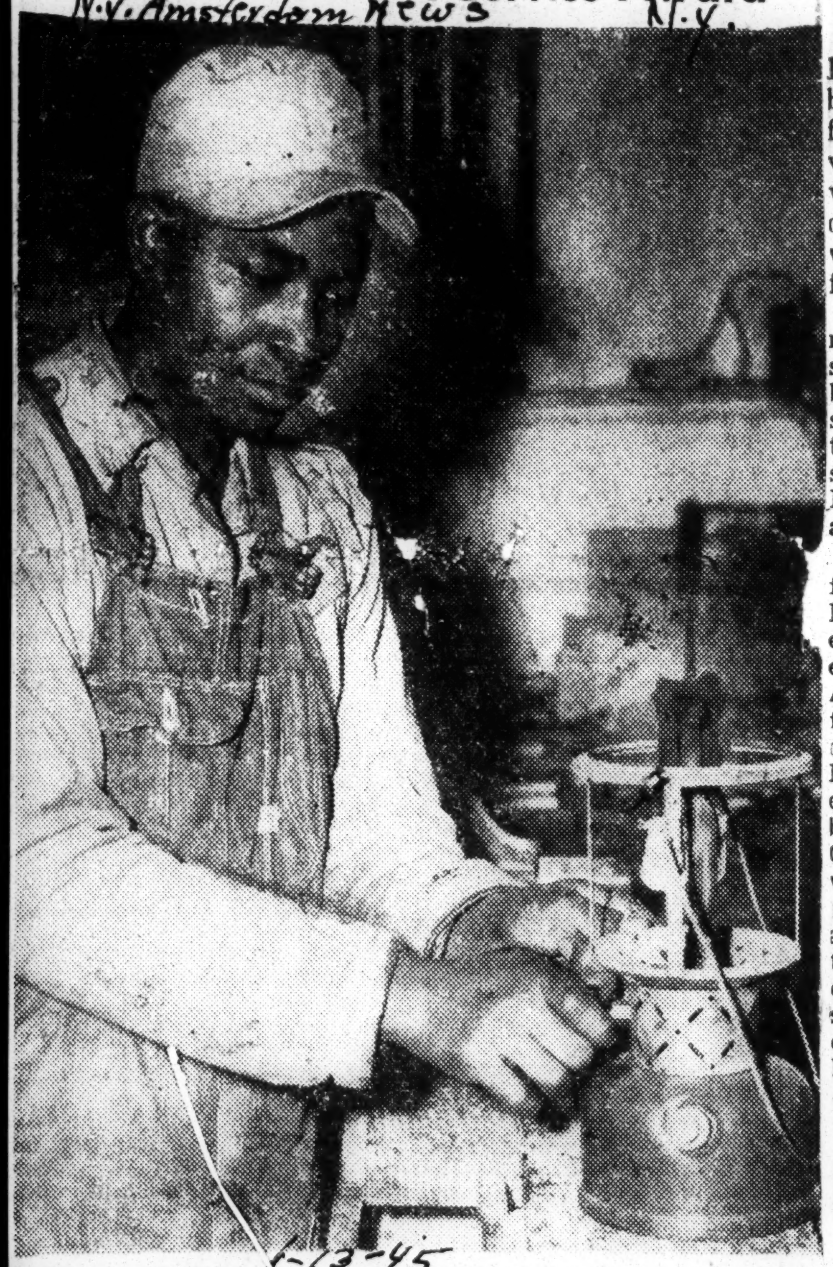
Following is the official citation gro soldier to be awarded the Dis-

56b-1945

Awards for Valor

Wins Meritorious Service Award

N.Y. Amsterdam News N.Y.



JOHN T. TOMKINS, foreman of the wood and metal shop, Maintenance Branch, Army Service Forces, Camp Wheeler, Ga., who, when confronted by first Italian, then German prisoners of war assigned to the shop, learned both languages in order to better instruct the workers in the jobs at hand. For this achievement, nad for his initiative and ambition, he was presented the Meritorious Service Award, signed by Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding the Army Service Forces and Maj Gen. Frederick E. Uhl, commanding the Fourth Service Command.—Army Signal Corps Photo.

1-13-45

Daring And Perilous Attack Wins Silver Star, 5 Bronze Stars

Norfolk Journal & Guide

1-13-45 Va.

Commando Tactics Used In Spectacular Raid Along Riviera Coast In Italy; Men Find It Harder To Withdraw Than Attack

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN

Journal and Guide War Correspondent

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WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY'S GOTHIC LINE—(Via Wireless)—Heroism, excitement and drama, blended with commando tactics as exciting as any in fiction, featured a violent raid by units of the 92nd Infantry Division along the heavily fortified Italian Riviera Coast last week. The bronzed 92nd warriors advanced under cover of a smoke screen and worked in behind the enemy lines where they fought for hours killing Germans, knocking out fortifications and capturing prisoners.

In moving off on this perilous mission, the 92nd units were supported by a terrific artillery barrage and by massed tank support. The units struck along the beach and then suddenly swerved inland surprising the Kraut defenders by a rear guard attack. 1-13-45

The Germans fought back fanatically alerting the enemy in the entire area. A terrific fight developed with the Nazis using every possible weapon. Our troops were outnumbered and some of their weapons were jammed by exposure to the salt water and sand. Nevertheless, they blasted the Nazi installations with bazookas and hand grenades.

JORDAN

WIN DECORATIONS

The Negro infantrymen then fought their way out with valor and suffering which has already won for some of the participants, one Silver Star and five Bronze Stars. 1-13-45

The number of men missing in action is not exceptionally heavy considering the nature of the mission and the resulting accomplishments.

RETURN COSTLY

Crossing No Mans Land and advancing behind the enemy lines was not costly at all but a real battle developed when the other German troops in the area had been alerted by the probing action of our troops against the coastal defenders. The narrow coastal strip blazed in battle when the other Krauts joined in the fight. 1-13-45

Our raiders spread into small parties at the height of the fight. One group captured four Germans. After knocking out several pill boxes and fortifications and killing numerous Nazis, the raiders were ordered to make their way back to our lines along the same beach route that they took to get in behind the Nazis.

The battle to get back proved most bitter. Two Nazi prisoners were killed by enemy fire and a third ran away. The harrassed 92nd infantrymen held on to the fourth prisoner through the entire ordeal.

CRAWLED IN SEA 1-13-45

The entire German strength in the area was thrown into battle as our raiders made their way back. Most of the 92nd men crawled along on their hands and knees in the sea water to escape land mines on the beaches and to avoid the intense enemy fire which shelled the beach. When the fire became too intense the men would duck their heads under the water. The weather was near freezing.

Every returning man told a heart-rending story of battle suffering. 1-13-45

Lt. D. A. Harrod, of Washington, a weary and unshaven platoon leader said "It was a nice night for romance but for us it was the nearest thing to hell I have ever dreamed of on earth."

Lt. James T. Owens, of Boston, hailed the superiority of American weapons declaring that the Nazi grenades were nothing but noise.

The soldiers told of last seeing one officer standing waist deep in icy water helping men to crawl back across a canal near our lines. That officer is reported missing in action.

Sergeant Joseph McDowell, of Providence, R. I., repeatedly led squads in knocking out German positions during the height of the blazing battle.

Sgt. Kenneth Evans, of South Hill, Va., had a portable radio shot from his back. 1-13-45

COOKS IN COMBAT

Even the company cooks had a combat role in this spectacular raid. Pfc. Jethro Spikes, of Glenwood, Ga., and Pfc. Moses Stradford, Roselle, N. J., were penned down by fire and Spikes volunteered to crawl through the minefields to bring artillery fire to bear on enemy positions. For his heroism, Spikes was presented the Bronze Star.

Lt. Melvin W. Walker, of Covington, Ky., an officer of the attacking raiders, was awarded the coveted Silver Star as a result of this battle. The citation pointed out that he assisted in directing the fight and when he found that his own gun would not fire because of sand and water, he repeatedly exposed himself to draw enemy fire. On his return to the 92nd base, he assisted in evacuating wounded across a canal and led a group through the withering fire to safety.

SILENCES MACHINE GUN

Another raider receiving the Bronze Star was Pvt. James W. Wilson, of Paulsboro, N. J., who was cited for single-handedly assaulting a Nazi machine gun position, silencing the weapon and enabling the unit to continue their advance.

Bronze Stars also went to three officers of the division headquarters who helped plan the raid.

When the raiding party returned, cold and exhausted, all of the officers of the unit contributed their whiskey rations **to the shivering heroes.**

LT. MASK, WOUNDED IN ITALY, BACK IN STATES

2nd Lt. Joseph W. Mask, of Hamlet, N. C., who was severely wounded while in action with the 92nd division in Italy about three months ago, and who has been encased in a cast for several months, was returned to a hospital in the United States on Christmas Day, it was revealed by his wife, Mrs. Eleanor Graves Mask, of Bennett College, Greensboro.

Lt. Lee A. Archer, Deputy Flight Leader, Gets DFC; Destroys Three Enemy Aircraft

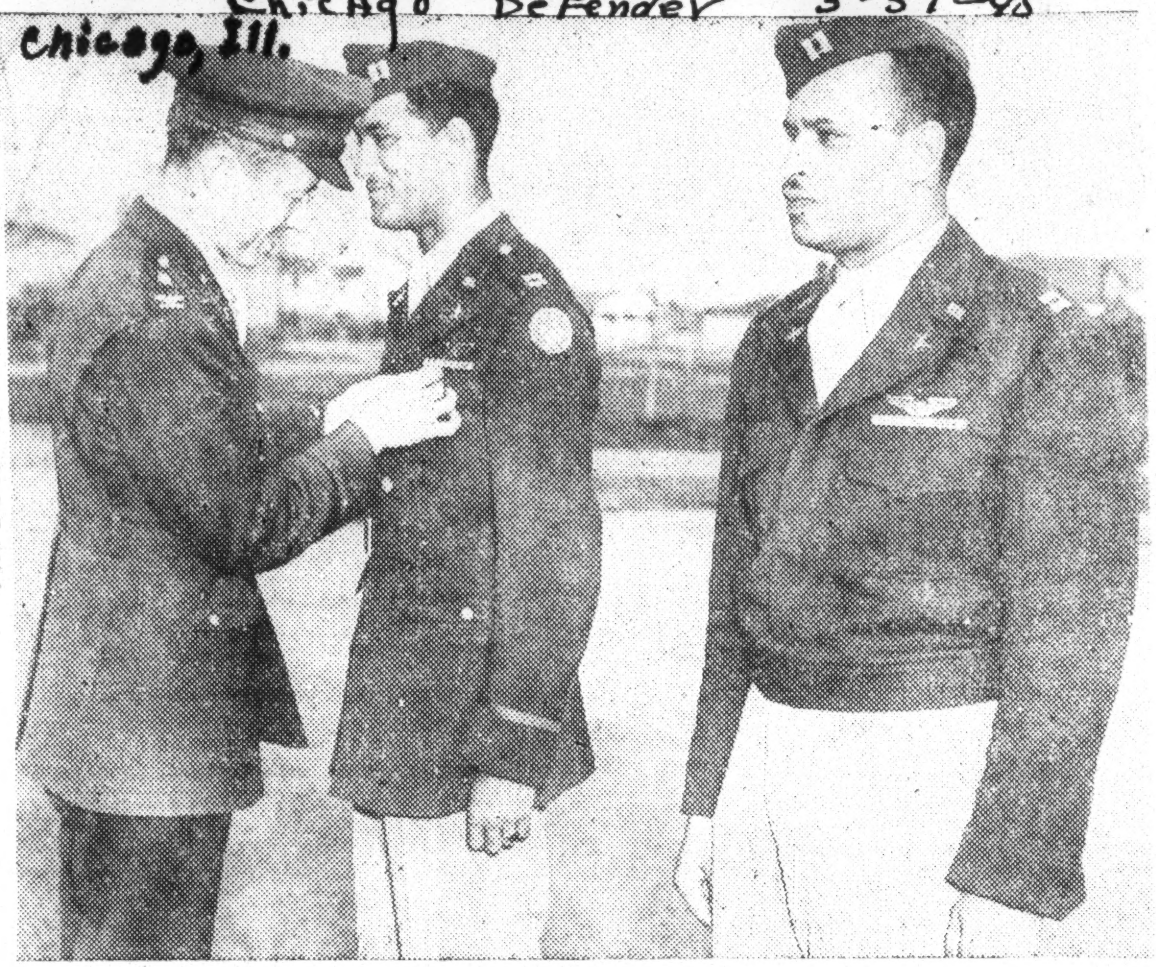
New York Age N.Y. 1-13

15TH AAF IN ITALY — First Lieutenant Lee A. Archer, Jr., 25, been awared the Distinguished Flying Cross. P-51 Mustang Pilot, son of Mr. Lee A. Archer, Sr., of 350 West 119th street, New York City, N. Y., has Lt. Archer is Deputy Flight Leader, Fighter Group, commanded by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. while participating on a scheduled Fighter Group is actively engaged in long range escort mission deep into enemy territory. The Mustang escort for 15th Air Force heavy bombers his formation was assigned to protect bombers and participates in the strafing of enemy aircraft apparently preparing ground targets and installations. Upon The Distinguished Flying Cross the signal from the Group Formation was awarded to Lt. Archer for his skill in flight to meet the attacking enemy display of professional aerial combat against the enemy planes. During the ensuing aerial

EUROPEAN AIR HEROES AWARDED D. F. C.

Chicago Defender 3-31-45

Chicago, Ill.



In an impressive ceremony at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, Capts. Harold E. Sawyer of Columbus, Ohio, and Milton R. Brooks of Glassport, Pa., were awarded the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross for outstanding combat service as fighter pilots on the European war front. TAAF's commander, Col. Noel Parrish, pins the DFC on Capt. Sawyer who also wears the Air Medal with seven Oak Leaf clusters while Capt. Brooks who has been awarded the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf clusters stands by.—USAAF photo.

battle, Lt. Archer encountered and destroyed three enemy aircraft and then provided cover for his fellow pilots who destroyed three additional enemy ships. His flight accounted for a total of six enemy aircraft destroyed and the bomber formation did not experience any loss. 1-13-45

These three victories gained by Lt. Archer gives him a total of four enemy aircraft destroyed in aerial combat, and added to his record of six enemy aircraft destroyed on the ground as well as a large number of enemy rolling stock, makes Lt. Archer the leading individual scorer in his Group against enemy targets. 1-13-45

Has Many Citations

He has been previously awarded the Air Medal with eight Oak Leaf Clusters for "Meritorious achievement in aerial flight as pilot of P-51 type aircraft during sustained operational activities against the enemy."

Prior to his entry into the Air Corps, Lt. Archer served as an enlisted man in the Infantry for more than 18 months. He was graduated from Tuskegee Army Flying School Tuskegee, Alabama and was stationed at Selfridge Field, Michigan with the Negro Fighter Group before leaving America for overseas duty more than 11 months ago.

"For gallantry in action on 8 February, 1945, in Italy, 2nd Lt. Rohr maneuvered his platoon against a strongly fortified enemy position and captured it despite intense enemy artillery, mortar, and machine gun fire. After capturing this initial objective, 2nd Lt. Rohr continued his advance up the mountain side in the face of the continuous hostile fire.

"Successfully capturing the second objective, he then organized his platoon and held the position for two days under unceasing artillery and mortar fire. His efficient use of supporting weapons aided materially in repulsing a strong enemy counterattack. His aggressive performance under extreme combat hazard reflect credit on his organization and to the armed forces." 4-21-45

Lt. Rohr is a former student of A. and T. College here, and a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. While at A. and T. Lt. Rohr was a member of the ROTC and ERC, and he was also active in student affairs.

LT. L. C. ROHR

Journal & Guide

Lt. L. C. Rohr Awarded Silver Star For Bravery

4-21-45

Norfolk Va.

GREENSBORO, N. C. — Lt. Leonard C. Rohr, of Huntington, W. Va., on March 5 received the award of the Silver Star. He is a member of the 92nd Infantry Division, now serving in Italy. The citation read as follows:

Across The Desk

By LUDLOW W. WERNER

N.Y.

New York Age

3-24-45

DEMOCRACY -- 1945 — Writing in the New York Post, for which he is a special war correspondent, Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, in a story datelined Hollandia, New Guinea, paid tribute to Major Hildrus A. Poindexter, world authority on tropical diseases. 3-24-45

Major Poindexter, Negro aide to Col. Dwight M. Kuhns, of Louisville, according to the story, was awarded the Bronze Star for his work in the Solomons reducing the malaria rate 86 per cent. And then Mr. White, wrote this:

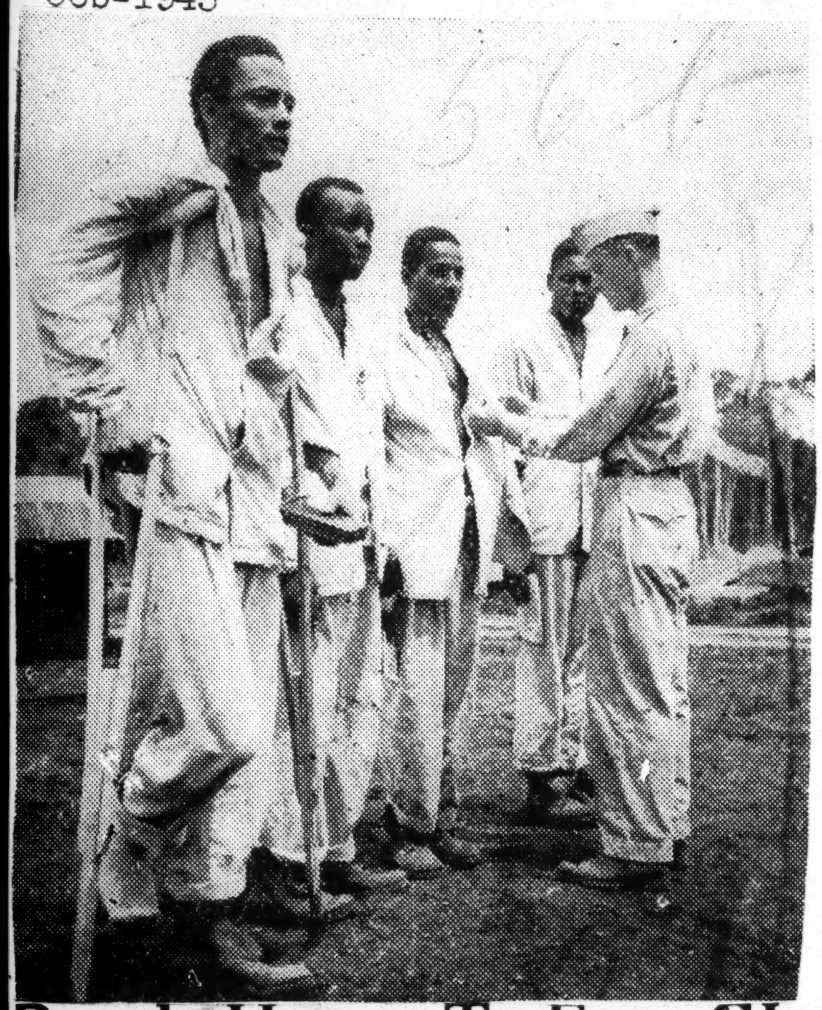
"I asked Kuhns if he had experienced any difficulty among white members of the staff when Poindexter joined him. He said at first there was some objection to Poindexter eating and being housed with the others. Separate quarters had been erected but were soon done away with as staff members recognized the ability and personal qualities of the Negro scientist."

That story was not written from the southern part of the United States about treatment of an eminent Negro physician in the South, but was written from the Pacific theatre of operations where the darker races greatly outnumber the whites.

It was written, too, from a theatre of war which will, unfortunately probably last for several years after cessation of hostilities in the Europaen area, because the philiosophy of, and actions of, the white man in that area have not been entirely of the nature that would engender any other feeling than of the much-vaunted white supremacy ideology.

At a time when democracy is on trial all over the world, it would seem that the white supremacy boys in our armed forces would realize that by carrying into new and strange lands their prejudices and hatreds against the Negro, they are prolonging just that much longer the coming of the peace. And they are also creating suspicions and doubts as to the sincerity of the United States and the kind of democracy it is fighting to preserve and, yes, extend.

56b-1945



Purple Hearts To Four GIs Wounded In Philippines

Pittsburgh Courier Pgh. Pa. 3-10-45

By BILLY ROWE, Courier War Correspondent

IN THE PACIFIC WAR AREA—"Greater love hath no man" than he who withstands the rigors of war in distant lands for the ideals of his country, which backs up right with might. Since entering the Philippines in late October through Leyte, American forces have battered the walls set by the Japanese and today are in sight of complete victory. 3-10-45

White and Tan Yanks alike have died and been wounded in General MacArthur's thrusts to get back that which is America.

Four Tan Doughboys who recently were wounded in action received Purple Hearts from Maj. Kenneth Gee of Iowa at a rear echelon general hospital. Pvt. Clinton Johnson, Philadelphia, was wounded taking ammunition up to the front. A member of the 827th Amphibian Duck Company, QM Corps, he is the husband of Mrs. Barbara Johnson, 1513 South Woodstock Street, Philadelphia. 3-10-45

Pvt. Johnnie M. Gilyard hit the beachhead in the Philippines D-Day with the Ordnance Department. The son of Mrs. Bell Gilyard, 1316 North Sixth Street, Wilmington, N. C., he is with the 595th and was hit by shrapnel while guarding an ammunition dump.

Pfc. John Jones Jr., son of Mrs. Blanche Jones, 1509 Queen Street, Portsmouth, Va., and a member of the 291st Port Company, was wounded while hauling gas.

Pfc. J. B. Shropshire was wounded while his unit, the 991st QM Service Company, was unloading ships in the harbor. From Osyka, Miss., he is the son of Mrs. Annie Turner. Out of action for a while, all of these men expressed the desire to get going again and add to the complete setting of Japan's rising sun.

General Clark Cites Valiant Record Of Men

Atlanta World 1-23-45 Ga.

All Members Of 92nd Division In Northern Italy

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy — Five members of the 92nd "Buffalo" Division, part of the Fifth Army in northern Italy, recently were presented battlefield commissions by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, new commander in chief of the 15th Army Group.

Cited for demonstrated leadership, coolness under fire and ability on the field of battle, the newly-created second lieutenants are: Joseph Bracy of Boston, Massachusetts, and Gilbert Boothe of Forsyth, Georgia, former first sergeants; Frank Whisonant, Washington, D. C., Joeph Fry of Homestead, Penna. and William Hicks of Cleveland, Ohio, former technical sergeants.

BRONZE STAR AWARDS

Both Hicks and Whisonant previously had been awarded Bronze Stars for heroic achievement in action. 1-23-45

In making the presentation, Gen. Clark praised the five men for the natural ability as leaders they had demonstrated in battle. He added that from now on they will be marked men and will be expected to continue the high tradition they have established.

"The job of routing out the enemy from these mountains is an unglamorous one," Colonel Clark said, "but it is a highly important phase of this global war."

ROLE OF GUARD 1-23-45

The General then compared it to the role of the football guard whose very necessary work goes unnoticed by the press, while the running backs grab all the glory.

He added that the Allied Armies are continuing to score over the best enemy divisions in Italy, a fact which plays a big part in the overall war picture.

Major Roberts Wins DFC; Four Made Captains

Norfolk Journal & Guide 1-27-45 Va.

West Va. Governor Names Flying Major Honorary Colonel

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright. Reproduction forbidden)

AN ADVANCED ALLIED AIR BASE IN ITALY—(Via Wireless) — Major George Spencer "Spanky" Roberts, deputy commander of the 322nd Fighter Group and former commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron when this unit achieved its greatest fame, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross here recently after 20 months of overseas flying service.

Simultaneously with the awarding of this distinction to the intrepid flying hero came the surprise announcement that

MAJOR GEORGE S. ROBERTS

the governor of his native West Virginia had made Major Roberts an honorary colonel.

The Air Corps major is a native of Fairmount, W. Va., and is a graduate of West Virginia State College. He was one of the five first Negro graduates of the flight cadet training program at Tuskegee Army Air Field 1-27-45

Major Roberts was cited for the D.F.C. as a result of "his exceptional leadership, coordination and control in leading a formation of Mustang fighters in a strafing attack on airdromes in Yugoslavia, navigating through inclement weather to the target."

The citation said further that "he skillfully dispersed his force to concentrate devastating fire defying the intense anti-aircraft fire thrown up by the enemy defenders of the airdromes. He made repeated passes destroying or damaging every enemy aircraft in the target area. Fourteen planes were known to be destroyed."

Major Roberts, who went overseas as operations officer of the Original 99th Fighter Squadron, in April, 1943, has the air medal with three oak leaf clusters. As operations officer of the 99th, he took command when Col. B. O. Davis Jr., then commanding officer, left the unit to return to the States in September, 1943. Major Roberts, who earned the respect of his flyers by his courageous leadership, took leave in April, 1944, and returned home where he stayed a few months.

He returned to his command in the fall of 1944 and soon moved up to deputy group commander being second in command of the 332nd, ranking behind the present commanding officer, Col. Davis. Major Roberts was group commander when Col. Davis returned to the States this fall on leave for thirty days. 1-27-45

When told of the honor the West Virginia governor had paid him, Major Roberts said: "How is a fellow supposed to feel when he is a major and a colonel at the same time."

Recently promoted from first lieutenant to captain were three squadron intelligence officers in the 332nd and one squadron adjutant. Promotions went to:

Captain John R. Beverly Jr., of Ruther Glen, Va., a former teacher and a graduate of Virginia State College, who is married to Mrs. Mary J. Beverly of Paulsboro, N. J., and who is intelligence officer of a squadron commanded by Captain Melvin Jackson of Warrenton, Va.;

Captain John B. Quick, of 505 Troop street, Brooklyn, N. Y., a graduate of Brooklyn College, husband of Mrs. Marion D. Quick and intelligence officer of a squadron commanded by Captain Andrew D. Turner, of Washington; 1-27-45

Captain Samuel C. Scott, 55 Orient street, Jersey City, N. J., who attended City College of New York, is husband of Mrs. Carolyn Scott and father of Samuel Scott, III, and who is intelligence officer of a squadron and commanded by Captain Lee Rayford, of Washington; and

Captain Paulus Taylor, of 28 Dimick street, Burkeville, Va., Captain Rayford's adjutant, who is a Hampton graduate and formerly the youngest member of the Hampton faculty.

Georgian Gets Silver Star For Act Of Bravery

Atlanta World Ga. 1-26-45

Heroism During Salerno Action Is Rewarded

CHARLESTON, S. C. — (SNS) — A Navy cook from Valdosta, Georgia and Jacksonville, Florida, has been awarded the SILVER STAR for heroic gallantry and intrepidity in action as crew member attached to the USS LST 357 during the amphibious invasion of Salerno, Italy, on September 9, 1943.

The Silver Star was presented in the name of the President of the United States by the Secretary of the Navy. The accompanying citation signed by James Forrestal, cites Jackson: "When his commanding officer and a great number of our troops were seriously wounded by devast-

He is Willie James Jackson, cook third class, United States Navy, who was born in Valdosta, Georgia, but whose official home address is

ing enemy shell fire during initial land operations, Jackson courageously performed his duties as stretcher bearer and, although suffering intense pain from shrapnel wounds received in the head and thigh while administering first aid to his commanding officer, repeatedly exposed himself to the hostile fire in order to care for his comrades and bring in additional casualties. 1-26-45

"By his heroic initiative and untiring efforts in the face of grave peril, Jackson contributed materially to the saving of many men who otherwise might have perished and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Captain Weathers, Memphian, Downs Two German Planes

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.

A crippled American bomber was limping home over Northern Italy last November. A sleek P-51 Mustang, piloted by a Memphis negro, and two other fighter craft roared along as escorts.

Six Nazi fighter planes jumped the Americans, apparently intent on finishing off the bomber which had been "laying the eggs" over Munich.

Downed One Plane

"They were German ME 109's," recalled Capt. Luke J. Weathers 24, former athlete at Booker T. Washington High, yesterday. "They jumped me as the bomber and other escort went on. I got one bandit in range and opened up. He went down.

Weathers
4-9-45

"Another got on my tail and the five started circling me. It looked like they had me so I decided to follow the falling plane down.

"I made a dive, came out of it and looked back. One plane was still on my tail. I was headed back toward Germany . . . and I didn't want to go that way. I chopped the throttle and dropped the flaps to cut my speed quickly. The fellow overshot me and this left me on his tail.

"H was in range and I shot him down. I took out for home. The other four had disappeared. I really felt sorry for my old motor . . . because I really pushed her."

For shooting down two enemy planes, Captain Weathers, now at home at 601-C South Lauderdale on leave, received the Distinguished Flying Cross.

And did the Memphian ever meet the pilot of the wounded bomber he saved? 4-9-45

Met Bomber Pilot

It was in the only night club in Naples when the Memphian was awaiting transportation home. A young white officer came into the club and spoke to a group of negro fliers seated at a table. He told of the fine record made by the negro group and said that one of them probably saved his life, Captain Weathers recalls.

"He told of the experience and we started comparing notes," the Memphian continued. "It turned out that I had been one of the escorts on that mission."

The bomber officer identified himself as a Mississippian . . . a cousin of a former governor of the Magnolia State.

In service since August, 1942, and overseas since December, 1943, Captain Weathers has 112 missions to his credit. He also has the Air Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, the Mediterranean Theater Ribbon with three stars for giving air support to our invading armies. He has eight enemy planes to his credit . . . and three of them are aerial victories. He destroyed the others on the ground.

Captain Weathers served overseas with the all-negro 332nd Fighter Group. Born in Memphis, he left his studies at Zavier University at New Orleans to enter the Army Air Forces. He won his wings and commission as second lieutenant at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., in April, 1943. 4-9-45

Captain Weathers' first aerial victory was won during a mission over Vienna.

Escorted Bombers

"We were escorting the bombers when I spotted a bandit who was waiting for one of the bombers to fall out of formation," the Memphian said. "I asked the squadron commander if I could go after him. We had a pretty good scrap and I got in several hits.

"The enemy pilot bailed out as his plane went down. While he was drifting down on his parachute I circled him and he waved. I waved back. It's just like hunting ducks. The planes are the ducks. You want to knock out the plane . . . not necessarily the men."

Based in Italy, Captain Weathers had six missions over the Ploesti oil fields. 4-9-45

His group flew as escorts for convoys to the Anzio beachhead. He also strafed installations prior to the invasion of Southern France and then on D-Day he escorted bombers taking part in the invasion. 4-9-45

"The experiences have been fine," said Captain Weathers. "But there's nothing like coming home . . . even if I did catch the mumps when I got here."

Sergeant Tells How D.C. Officer Won Silver Star

Afro-American Balt, Md.

U.S. GENERAL HOSPITAL, CAMP PICKETT, Va.—It's hard to get Sgt. Roscoe Thompson of Norfolk, Va., to tell you how he got wounded fighting with the 92nd Division in Italy because the Virginia Union graduate always ends up by telling you what a great guy Capt. Charles F. Gandy was. 5-5-45

Thompson's commanding officer in Company F of the 370th Infantry Regiment, first unit of the 92nd Division to cross the Arno River last fall, for his "gallantry in action" while leading his company, Capt. Gandy was posthumously awarded the Silver Star on March 5.

"Just One of Those Things"

"How I got hit? Oh, it was just one of those things, I guess," said Sgt. Thompson who was wounded by shell fragments in his back, chest, throat and legs by mortar fire when he "left my foxhole to go to the command post to get the password for the night."

Convalescing at the hospital here, Sgt. Thompson, formerly employed at the Norfolk Navy Base, is the son of Mrs. Viola Walker of 910 Hanson Ave., Norfolk. He entered the service in March, 1943, and went overseas in July, 1944.

The Citation accompanying the award of the Silver Star to Capt. Gandy provides official concurrence to Thompson's eulogy. Released last week by the War Department, the citation, in part, reads as follows: 5-5-45

Gandy Citation Quoted

"Captain Gandy personally led his company out in broad daylight and, through further reconnaissance and by personal example and leadership, succeded in getting his entire company across a canal, with an abrupt twelve-foot wall.

"This was accomplished in rain and under extremely heavy enemy fire. Halting the company at its intermediate objective, Captain Gandy went forward alone to reconnoiter the route of the next movement. While engaged in this activity, he was mortally wounded by enemy machine-gun fire."

Wife Accepts Air Medal For Mate Downed in Raid

Washington Tribune
5-31-45 D.C.

Second Lt. Alfred I. Carroll, Jr., 21, of the Army Air Forces and a native Washingtonian, was one of the six heroes honored at Bolling Field on March 28, when Col. John M. Hutchison, commanding the D.C. Air Base, made presentations to next-of-kin of the airmen of Air Medals won in the European Theater of Operations.

Mrs. Geraldine M. Carroll, 4838 Sheriff Road, N.E., wife of the officer, accepted the award for her hero husband. She is a student at Miner Teachers' College.

The lieutenant, at present a prisoner of war in Austria, is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Q. Carroll, 325 Sixty-first Street, N.E. He was graduated from Armstrong High School with the class of '39, and attended Howard University for two years. Prior to entering the service in February, 1943, he was employed by the Government Printing Office.

Lieutenant Carroll was trained as a pilot at Tuskegee, Ala., Army Air Field, and commissioned in November, 1943. In June, 1944, he was dispatched overseas where he saw distinguished service against the enemy until his plane was shot down in July, 1944, in the course of a raid over Austria. 3-31-45

With the award of the Air Medal went a citation "For meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy from June 23 to July 13, 1944."

56b-1945

[redacted] Awards for valor

High-Ranking Officers Laud 866th Port Co.

N.Y. Amsterdam News N.Y. 4-14-45

All-Negro Personnel At Staten Island Terminal Cited For Top Leadership

Less than six months after its activation, the 866th Port Company, with all-Negro personnel, has won two commendations from high-ranking officers for its excellent progress in training.

The first commendation was won in the camp of its activation, and the other was earned at the Staten Island Terminal of the New York Port of Embarkation, where the company is now doing advanced training. 4-14-45

The initial commendation was received on January 3, 1945, from Major General Philip Hayes, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces Depot at Indiantown Gap, Pa., for achieving the rating "superior" in a technical inspection conducted there by a Board of Transportation Corps officers. The citation received by the company congratulated the men "on their excellent leadership, hard work, co-operation and team work."

Citation Indorsements

This citation carried the indorsement of Brigadier General Jesse A. Ladd, Commanding Officer of Indiantown Gap Military Reservation; Colonel F. E. Ambrose, Commanding Officer of the Training Center there; Colonel Frederick S. Gillespie, Chief of Personnel, New York Port of Embarkation; Colonel James A. Stevens, Commanding Officer Port Terminals, and Lt. Col. Lindsey J. Griffith, Commander of the Staten Island Terminal.

The activity of the 866th Port Company which won a second commendation was the breaking of all previous training soldier records for loading supply ships. This the company did during the period February 19 through February 23, 1945. 4-14-45

The feat was described in a letter dated February 23, 1945, from Major Alvin Spiess, Water Division, NYPE, to the Commanding Officer of Staten Island Terminal. Enclosed with the letter were reports showing that the company had loaded and lashed a Liberty Ship in five days, averaging a work-record of 28.2 weight tons per hour during that period. The best day of the record-breaking performance was February 20, when the soldiers loaded 1440 weight tons, averaging 34.7 weight tons per hour.

Record Smashing Job

In expressing his commendation for the record-smashing job done by the company, Colonel Griffith stated that the feat was "just one other indication of the excellent spirit and morale of the company."

In a second indorsement of this commendation, Colonel F. W. Huntington, Commanding Officer of Fox Hills Terminal, Staten Island, N. Y., where the company is quartered, sent his congratulations to the officers and enlisted men of the organization for their latest accomplishment. 4-14-45

Commanding officer of the 866th Port Co. is Captain William A. Williams, of Indianapolis, Ind., who volunteered for officer's training in July, 1943. Captain Williams was a pharmaceutical chemist and an employe of the War Labor Board before he began his Army career. He has captained the company since its formal designation as a Port Company, September 10, 1944.

Other company officers are Lieutenants William G. Pegg, of Omaha, Neb., executive office; Joseph Tandy, of Detroit, Mich., platoon leader; Ulysses Ricks, of Washington, D. C., assistant platoon leader; Gordon F. Flagg, of Washington, D. C., administrative officer, and Bernard A. Smith, of Greenwood, S. C., supply officer.

A Top "Top-Kick"

"Top-kick" of this record-breaking outfit is First Sgt. Ralph F. Dight, of St. Paul, Minn., who has served a three year hitch in the regular army. Sgt. Dight had returned to civilian life when he was inducted in June, 1942, for service in this war. He was a statistician for the U. S. Bureau of Labor, has been an employee of the U. S. Health Department and has held a position in the U. S. Engineers Office during peace time.

First Sgt. Dight attributed the high morale of the company to the fact that the officers work closely with the men, understand their problems, and never demand that the enlisted men do more than they are willing to do themselves in getting their important job of training completed.

866th Port Company Wins Two Commendations

N.Y. N.Y. Amsterdam News 4-14-45

OFFICERS OF THE 866th PORT COMPANY, which won recent commendations at Indiantown Gap, Pa., Transportation Corps Depot, and at the Staten Island Terminal of the New York Port of Embarkation, Stapleton, N. Y., for excellence in training performances, pose for a picture. They are, sitting, left to right: Lt. Joseph Tandy, Detroit, Mich.; Captain William A. Williams, Commanding Officer, Indianapolis, Ind.; and Lt. Bernard W. Smith, Greenwood, S. C. Standing: Lt. Ulysses Ricks, Washington, D. C.; Lt. Gordon P. Flagg, Washington, D. C.; and Lt. William G. Flagg, Omaha, Neb. Lts. Tanday and Ricks have seen service overseas. —U. S. Signal Corps Photo

Pilot Hero Home With 9 Decorations; Flew 142 Missions Abroad

New York Age 1-20-45

N.Y.

MIAMI, Florida — With ribbons indicating nine separate decorations on his blouse, Captain Leonard M. Jackson, 24, of Ft. Worth, Texas, arrived by ATC plane back in the United States at the Air Transport Command's Miami Army Air Field recently for leave and reassignment. 1-20-45

As pilot of a P-40 Warhawk and a P-51 Mustang, Captain Jackson was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with seven clusters. Serving for 15 months in the Mediterranean area, he is officially credited with destroying three German planes.

The veteran was a member of the 99th Fighter Squadron, the first all-Negro unit to go into flying combat. He flew 142 missions with the 12th Tactical Air Force and the 15th Strategical Air Force.

Georgia Professor Cited For Heroism

Atlanta World Atlanta Ga. 5-27-45

FORT VALLEY, Ga. — (SNS) — Word was received at the Fort Valley State College this week that Captain W. S. M. Banks, formerly instructor in Agriculture at the Fort Valley State College, has been awarded the Silver Star for "heroic achievement in action," in the Italian theatre of operations.

A member of a Commando force, Captain Banks' citation reads as follows:

"Captain Banks' company attacked and seized a heavily mined hill. During the following eight-day period, the enemy launched eight separate, determined counter-attacks against the position.

"Captain Bank personally deployed his company, each time convising and encouraging his men, and directing counter mortar and artillery fire time again. On one occasion, he personally commanded a group that repulsed a hostile attacking force, killing one enemy officer and nine enlisted men."

Mississippi Negro Cook Awarded Bronze Star

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn. 1-20-45

For heroism while serving on a landing craft which was sunk, Morris Jackson, negro, a cook third class in the Navy, has been awarded the bronze star. He is now at Chelsea Naval Hospital in Boston, according to notification received by his parents, Henderson and Adeline Jackson of Nesbitt, Miss.

Journal & Guide 6-2-45 Norfolk, Va.

Journal & Guide

RECEIVES POSTHUMOUS AWARD FOR SON — The Rev. William J. Faulkner, Sr., dean of the chapel at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., is shown after he received the posthumous award of the Air medal and four Oak Leaf clusters on behalf of his son, Captain William J. Faulkner Jr., at a special ceremony at the 20th Ferrying Group, Ferrying division, air transport command, Municipal Airport, Nashville. Lt. Robert V. Freeland, public relations officer of the 20th Ferrying Group, is shown with the minister following the presentation. Capt. Faulkner, the first Nashville Negro to receive a commission in the Army Air Forces, was killed Nov. 7, 1944, over Austria while serving as a fighter pilot based in Italy. The Nashville officer was paid a tribute by the Lockheed Aircraft plant at Burbank, Calif., when a P-38 Lockheed Lightning was dedicated in his name March 27. He was employed from October, 1941, to August, 1942, at the plant where he built bombers on the assembly line until he volunteered in the Army Air Forces. His widow in Cleveland, Ohio, was present to christen the plane.

First Negro Awarded Legion Of Merit Aids College Fund

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 6-2-45

FIRST NEGRO—24 TBI DC

NEW YORK—Speaking for "my buddies who are still over there," Sgt. Jerry Davis, first Negro soldier to be awarded the Legion of Merit, appealed to all Americans to support the current United Negro College Fund campaign during an interview at the Fund's national headquarters.

"The war has shown Negro soldiers the importance of education," said Sgt. Davis, "and thousands of them are planning to go to college under the GI Bill of Rights."

When Sgt. Davis visited Fund campaign offices at 38 East 57th street he was met by John D. Rockefeller Jr., advisory committee chairman; Thomas A. Morgan, national chairman, and a group of press photographers and reporters.

HOME IN MACON

Sgt. Davis, whose hometown is Macon, Ga., was wounded by German shrapnel while attempting to bring rations to his gun crew during the battle for Pisa.

He said that his own plans for an education include enrollment at one of the 32 private schools associated with the United Negro College Fund's nationwide campaign for $1,550,000.

The wounded soldier, an artilleryman with the 92nd Division, told of the exploit which earned him the coveted medal almost at the cost of his life.

Last August 30, his artillery battery had been pinned down for eleven hours by intense enemy fire. In order to get food for his outfit Sgt. Davis raced across a shell-swept open area to a mess truck 300 yards away. He secured the food but on the return trip a shell exploded ten feet away and he was hit by a piece of shrapnel. Forty-five minutes later Sgt. Davis underwent a four-and-a-half hour operation and received seven blood transfusions. The shell splinter shattered his left arm, cracked three ribs, fractured his spine and injured his spleen, lung and kidneys.

IN SEVEN HOSPITALS

He has been in seven different Army hospitals and his left arm is still in a sling and he walks with a cane.

On the subject of education Sgt. Davis expressed the belief that many of the returning Negro servicemen will take advantage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, popularly known as the GI Bill of Rights, to continue their education.

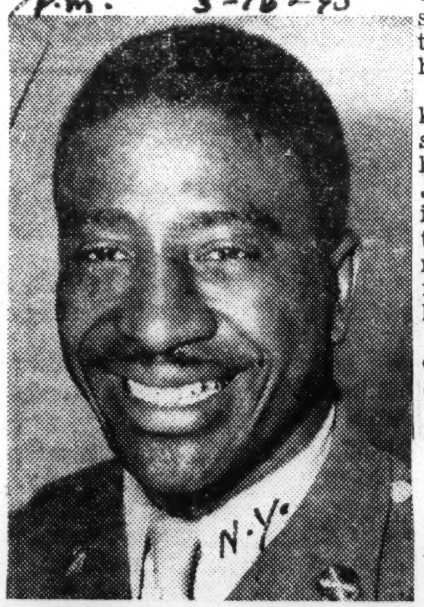
Sgt. Davis desires to be a writer. At one time he did "some spare time reporting" for the Atlanta Daily World. His family lives at 257 Third avenue in Macon and he has two brothers and a sister.

FIGHTERS PRAISED

During the interview Sgt. Davis Clark to Chairman Morgan which endorsed the United Negro College Fund and praised the record of Negro soldiers in the war. Sgt. Davis's old outfit, the 598 Field Artillery Battalion of the 92nd Division, is part of Gen. Clark's 15th Army Group. 6-2-45

Sgt. Davis's Legion of Merit citation reads in part: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service. By reason of his inspiring leadership, his section soon became the best in the battery and continued to improve until it was generally rated the best in the division. As first sergeant he held the reputation of being the best non-commissioned officer in the battalion."

p.m. Hats Off! 5-16-45



N.Y.

Hats off today to another American hero, Sgt. Jerry Davis, of Macon, Ga., first Negro to win the Legion of Merit. He was wounded so severely by German shrapnel while attempting to bring rations to his gun crew during the storming of Pisa that an Army doctor told him afterward he was "playing hookey from hell." Now, nearing complete recovery, Davis plans to attend one of the colleges aided by the United Negro College Fund, whose campaign to raise $1,550,000 for 32 institutions also rates a hats off.

West Pointer Wins Oak Leaf In Pacific Drive

N.Y. Amsterdam News 6-16-45 N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Captain Clarence M. Davenport, Jr., of Detroit, Michigan, a 1943 graduate of West Point and executive officer of the 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion in New Guinea, and Captain Lee V. Futrell, of Sylvania, Ohio, commanding officer of an all-Negro Engineer General Service Battalion in the Philippines, have been promoted to the rank of major, the War Department announced today. Both officers rose from the rank of second lieutenant in a little more than two years.

Major Davenport was the first Negro from the state of Michigan to receive an appointment to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point after maintaining a brilliant scholastic record at the University of Detroit, where he was a pre-medical student.

Parents in Motor City

A resident of Detroit, Major Davenport is the husband of Mrs. Yolandie Davenport and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence M. Davenport, Sr., of 272 Hague Avenue in the Motor City.

His first assignment was to the 207th AAA Automatic Weapons Battalion as a platoon leader, from which position he advanced in rapid succession to adjutant, battalion operations officer and finally battery commander. When the 742nd AAA Gun Battalion was converted into an all-Negro unit early this year, Major Davenport was selected for the responsible position of executive officer and earned his promotion in this capacity.

He was erroneously reported as killed in action at Bougainville several months ago, as a result of his being confused with Lieutenant James Davenport, who was killed in action during a beach assault in the Solomons. The mistake was not discovered until the family and friends of Major Davenport had held memorial services in his honor.

The rugged West Pointer has completed 20 months service in the Southwest Pacific.

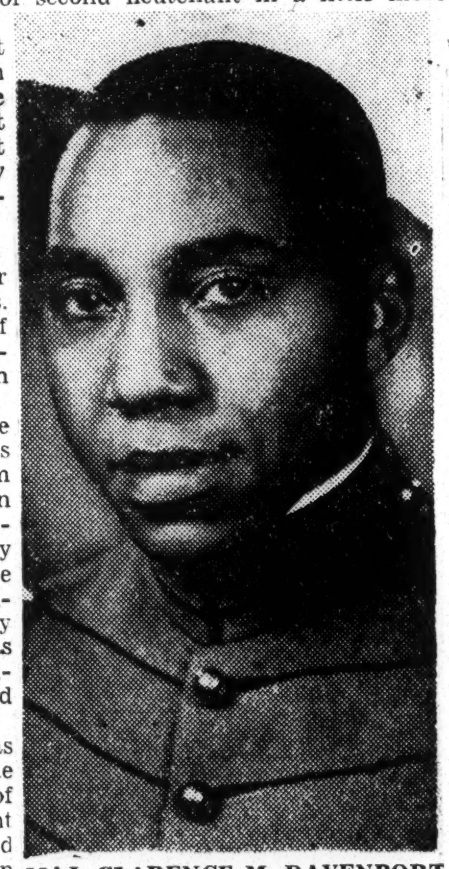
Futrell from Ohio

Major Futrell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Reat Futrell of Sylvania, Ohio. Inducted into the Army December 9, 1941, Major Futrell is married to Mrs. Frances Futrell, 1125 City Park Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. He took his basic training as an engineer at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and was commissioned in August 1942, at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

6-16-45

He attended schools in Sylvania and Toledo, Ohio, and has a brother, Sergeant Thomas D. Futrell, assigned to a Quartermaster truck company in India.

In addition to the Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon, Major Futrell also has been awarded the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with a Bronze Star. He has been overseas 16 months.



MAJ. CLARENCE M. DAVENPORT

6-16-45

Stimson Cites 2 Negro Units

WASHINGTON, June 14 (U.P.)—Secretary Stimson today cited two Negro port companies in the Pacific which have been awarded meritorious service unit plaques. One, commanded by First Lieut. Lewis E. Koppitch of Detroit, landed with assault troops on Carlson Island in the Marshalls to prepare port installations in support of the Kwajalein invasion. The other, commanded by First Lieut. Glenn E. McCreary of Willoughby, Ohio, was cited for efficiency in ship-loading operations in Honolulu.

New York Times

Awards for Valor

Epic Heroism Won Negro Gobs New Glory In Navy

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

5-12-45

By ROBERT LUCAS

With death-spouting guns at Pearl Harbor, Dorie Miller began the heroic saga of Negro heroism in World War II.

Since December 7, 1941 the sweat and blood and lives of Negroes have added chapter after chapter to the proud history of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

V-E Day marks a milestone in the progress of the Negro towards complete integration in the armed forces of the United States.

Negroes Won Equality

But until V-Day, when Negro Leathernecks storm the beaches of Japan and colored coast guardsmen patrol her shores and dusky bluejackets sail her waters, there is still a big job to do.

For discrimination and segregation remain the policy of these traditionally "white" branches of the service.

By their individual heroism and courage, backed up by public pressure from the home front, Negroes have forced navy officials to give them more and more equality.

"Back Door" to Coast Guard

It has been a long, hard pull from the days when Negroes were relegated to the ship's galley as messmen until the present. The blood of colored Coast Guardsmen has tinted the Pacific waters around Tarwawa and Okinawa, and stained the white sands of these Jap-infested islands.

The exact date when Negroes entered the Coast Guard is not known, for they slipped in by accident—through the "back door." In the late Sixties competitive entrance examinations for the Coast Guard were given through the Post Office.

The accompanying questionnaire did not inquire as to race or color since it was assumed that Negroes could not pass. In North Carolina, however, some Negroes passed the examinations and were admitted to the Coast Guard without the realization at Washington Headquarters that they were not white men.

5-12-45

"Always Ready"

The efficiency of their service as surfmen and life-savers was later recognized by making an all-Negro station at Pea Island, N. C.

In June, 1942, another all-Negro station was established at Tiana Beach, Hampton Bays, Long Island. Other colored Coast Guardsmen train at Manhattan Beach, New York. Mounted on horses, Negro Coast Guardsmen patrol the beaches of New Jersey.

Officers commanding these guardians of America's shores, report that Negroes have never tarnished the Coast Guard's motto, "Semper peratis."—"Always ready."

"Fighting Leathernecks"

"From the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli," booms the fighting song of the Marines, and Negroes in the Corps have earned the right to be proud of their title, "fighting leathernecks."

For when Negroes entered the Marines in August, 1942, they broke down a racial barrier set up when the Marine Corps was first organized. Although they have not seen combat duty yet, the fact that colored Marines are now admitted to Officers' Training school proves that they have won their fight for recognition. In the 51st Division at Camp LeJeune, La., are many non-commissioned officers who before World War II were barred because of their color.

When the Secretary of the Navy announced in April, 1942 that Negroes would be recruited for the Navy as apprentice seamen, he emphasized that they would not be commissioned as officers.

However, in March, 1944, 12 Negroes were commissioned as ensigns in the Navy.

By this action and the admission of colored bluejackets to specialists' schools, the Navy showed it was aware of the heroism of Negro messmen who grabbed up machine guns in the heat of battle and proved themselves courageous fighters.

5-12-45

Negro women who have joined the Spars, Waves and Navy Nurse Corps have blazed a trail which will end on the shores of Tokio with complete integration into these branches of service.

Jim Crow Ever-Present

But highlighting the Negro's progress from Pearl Harbor to V-E Day have been cases of flagrant Jim Crow:

STRIKE—A hunger strike by 1,000 Negro Seabees was staged in March, 1945 in a mass protest against Jim Crow conditions and lack of promotions.

The men were members of the famed Construction Battalion who served 21 months in the South Pacific. Their anti-Negro commanding officer was removed and the outfit shipped back overseas after widespread criticism of Navy policy.

MUTINY—Negro sailors refused to load ammunition on the West Coast following the tragic Port Chicago blast, which many of them survived.

5-12-45

A mass mutiny trial of 50 sailors, the first in the history of the U. S. Navy brought to light the Navy policy of relegating Negroes to the most dangerous, least desirable jobs. Public pressure and a brilliant legal defense reduced their punishment to short prison terms. The fight to free them is still going on.

FLOGGING—Four Negro Seabees of the famous 34th Construction Battalion were flogged at Port Heuneme, California, on orders of Dixie-bred Battalion Commander L. G. McBean. McBean was later ousted.

Merchant Marine Democratic

That Negroes in the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard have made good in spite of the Jim Crow which these incidents point up, is a tribute to their courage and faith in democracy.

5-12-45

The Merchant Marine, with its democratically mixed crews and Negro captains, has set a precedent for other services to follow. Captain Hugh Mulzac, skipper of the Liberty ship S.S. Booker T. Washington, was the pioneer in the maritime service which supplies the tools of war to the fighting fronts.

Latest official figures of Negro personnel show:

NAVY—148,768 enlisted men.
WAVES—45; 2 officers.

Marine medals were awarded to 34 men of the Merchant Marine, 28 posthumously—Feb. 1945.

Negro Spars Olivia J. Hooker and Aileen A. Cooke began boot training at Manhattan Beach, New York, April, 1945.

On Guam, 16 Marine cooks dropped their pots and pans to bag seven Japs—Oct. 1944..

Steward's Mate Clement H. Carrington of Brooklyn fought and extinguished a fire which swept the LST on which he served at Leyte—Nov. 1944.

5-12-45

More than 1,000 Negro sailors took part in the invasion of the Philippine slands.

On Peleliu, Palau Island, 200 Negro Seabees volunteered for stretcher bearer duty after two days and nights of unloading ships under murderous Jap fire — Nov. 1944.

The Navy Cross has been awarded Dorie Miller and Elwin Bell.

COAST GUARD—3,556; 4 officers.

MARINE CORPS—15,771; 3 Negroes now in officer training.

Heroes All

5-12-45

A few of the many heroic exploits of colored enlisted men in these branches of service tell part of the story of the Negro's progress.

An all-Negro crew of a Navy patrol boat saved the lives of five white sailors adrift on a raft near Mare Island—Sept. 1944.

Shouting "Marines never retreat!" Cpl. Joseph Gogins of Chicago encouraged an unarmed group of Marines and sailors at Saipan to stand off a Jap attack. When the skirmish was over 7 Japs lay dead —Sept. 1944.

The first Negro Waves to graduate from training school were Harriet Ida Pickens and Frances Willis, who were commissioned lieutenants (j.g.) Dec. 1944.

St. Louis Flyer Wins DFC on Final Mission

327 Mo.

Afro-American

ITALY—Capt. Henry R. Peoples, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Peoples, of 526 Leaton St., St Louis, was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroic execution of a mission in Europe just before V-E Day.

Captain Peoples, attached to the 332nd Fighter Squadron, is a graduate of Sumner High School, St. Louis, and of Hampton Institute.

5-12

CAPTAIN CHARLES THOMAS Ill.

Who was the only Negro to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in World War II. The Detroit youth continued to command his tank destroyer unit in the face of withering Nazi fire although he was wounded. The epic battle of the town of Climbach won him the highest award given any Negro soldier in this war.

THESE ARE OUR HEROES OF WORLD WAR II

Chicago Defender

Chicago — Ill.

DORIE MILLER

Who was the first Negro hero of World War II. The Waco, Texas messman won fame at Pearl Harbor when he grabbed a machine gun during the Japanese attack and fired at the Nippon planes. Miller was awarded the Navy Cross by Admiral Nimitz but later died when he went down in the sinking of a U. S. aircraft carrier.

5-12-45

5-12-45

CHARLES JACKSON FRENCH

Who won nation-wide fame through his extraordinary feat of towing a raft-load of wounded Navy men through Pacific waters for several miles and bringing them to land. French, whose home was in Little Rock, Ark., was heard over a nation-wide radio hook-up on his return to the States and was widely acclaimed for his heroic feat.

Two Port Companies Given Merit Awards

Balt. 7, Md.
AFRO-AMERICAN

WASHINGTON

Two colored port companies, both now in the Hawaiian Islands, have been awarded meritorious service unit plaques. 6-23-45

One, commanded by Ist Lt. Lewis E. Koppitch, Detroit, landed with assault troops January 20, 1944, on Carlson Island in the Marshalls to prepare port installations in support of the Kwajalein invasion. 6-23-45

The other, commanded by Ist Lt. Glenn E. McCreary, Willoughby, Ohio, was cited for maintaining high standard efficiency in ship loading operations in the port of Honolulu.

Col. Davis, Negro, Wins Silver Star

Seattle, Wash.
INDEPENDENT
6-16-45

ROME.—To Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of the Negro 332nd Mustang Fighter Group, was awarded the Silver Star today for gallantry in action. It was the first award of this medal to a Negro piliot. 6-20-45

Negro Pilot Gets Flying Cross

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 29 (AP). — Capt. Charles B. Hall, first negro pilot to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross, said today that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's personal congratulations scared him into a "brace" that lasted until long after the general had left. "I was so nervous that I was still standing at attention ten minutes after he left us," the veteran of 108 combat missions over Africa and Europe said at a war bond rally.

Stimson Honors Two Negro Port Groups

Daily Worker
N.Y.

WASHINGTON, June 14 (UP). — Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson today cited two Negro port companies now in the Pacific which have been awarded meritorious service unit plaques.

One, commanded by 1st Lt. Lewis E. Koppitch, Detroit, landed with assault troops on Carlson Island in the Marshalls to prepare port installations in support of the Kwajalein invasion.

The other, commanded by 1st Lt. Glenn E. McCreay, Willoughby, O., was cited for efficiency in ship-loading operations in Honolulu. 6-15-45

Both companiese now are stationed in the Hawaiian Islands.

THREE DECORATED FOR SAVING TWO IN NEW HEBRIDES

The Washington Tribune
6-9-45 D.C.

The 472nd Antiair Craft Artillery Gun Battalion again recently held the center of attraction in New Hebrides, Southwest Pacific, when it turned out to review to honor three of its personnel who were presented the Soldier's Medal for heroic action.

Recipients of the coveted honor were: Staff Sgt. F. Harold Tinsley, 1023 Florida Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C.; Chief Warrant Officer Laydell Buckman, Detroit, and Crpl. Eddie L. Brown, Perry, Fla.

They were instrumental in saving two individuals from drowning in the Renee River in New Hebrides where the 472nd was stationed some time ago.

African RAF Pilot Cited for DFC

AFRO-AMERICAN
Balt. Md.

LONDON—(ANP)—RAF Pilot Officer Adesonyah Kwamina Hyde, 40, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for "tenacity and unfailing devotion to duty." 6-23-45

Although suffering from pain and loss of blood when his arm was shattered by shell fragments over Les Catelliers in August, 1944, Hyde did not inform his captain of the injury until he had successfully bombed his target.

He refused morphia and would not give up his post until the English coast was sighted. The RAF citation reads: "Pilot Officer Hyde has completed numerous missions, at all times showing skill and enthusiasm for operational flying."

Born at Murraytown, Sierra Leona, he was educated at the Sierra Leona Grammar School and the Methodist Boys' High School, Freetown. He was commissioned in November, 1944, after serving in the ranks.

Ground Crewmen Win Medals, Too:

Norfolk Va.

332nd Fighter Group Mechanics Get Honors Along With Pilots

6-9-45

By Lem Graves Jr.
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright, Reproduction Forbidden)

AN ADVANCED ALLIED AIR BASE IN ITALY—(Via Air Mail)—Aviation mechanic crewss are generally the last folks you'd expect to be wearing fancy medals. Because they don't participate in the glory which goes to air corps fliers to much extent and because they don't have the opportunity for personal heroism which are available to combat ground forces, you just don't expect to see medals decorating their uniform breast pockets.

But you can't keep a good man down and it has been proven by the recent awarding of six Bronze Star medals to the plane crews of the 332nd Fighter Group at an air field overlooking the beautiful Adriatic Sea in Italy.

CAN EARN MEDAL

Even if a guy doesn't have the opportunity to shoot down Jerries or blast Kraut infantrymen, he can, by sincere devotion to duty and by mastering to a high degree the intricate techniques of airplane mechanics, qualify for the nation's top drawer decorations.

This is what these six men have done and the bronze star was presented to them at a special parade ceremony at the airbase recently by Col. T. H. Taylor, wing commander of the 306th Fighter Wing under which the 332nd operates.

Col. Taylor also presented the bronze star to one ground officer, pinned Distinguished Flying Crosses on ten fliers, issued three Purple Hearts to fliers, dished out a gob of Air Medals and clusters, and watched the smart group formation file by in review. 6-9-45

YIELD SPOTLIGHT

On a day when the long forgotten enlisted ground crews, most of whom are highly skilled and exceptionally capable young men, grabbed off a few honors, such "routine" things as DFC's and Air Medals must yield the spotlight while we report, first, the news of the Bronze Star awards for the men who keep 'em flying.

The Bronze Stars were won by the following men:

M/Sgt. Ellsworth H. Dansby, Decatur, Ill., veteran line chief of the original 99th Fighter Squadron, who is deeply and sincerely respected by every pilot and ground man in that pioneering squadron for his work. Mentioned many times for a combat commission, which never materialized, M/Sgt. Dansby, an intensely serious, brilliant college graduate, has always wanted to fly and has, since the 99th first landed in North Africa, kept a watchful eye over the ships his pilots had to fly. He later became a key man in the group's engineering section.

M/Sgt. Alexander Crawford, Dayton, Ohio, another 99th veteran who rose to be line chief and who has the confidence of the pilots who have to take his ships long distances and get back home in them. 6-9-45

M/Sgt. C. C. Corbin, Pulaski, Va., electrical specialist.

S/Sgt. Charles P. Feater, Louisville, Ky., propeller specialist.

And S/Sgt. Elmer H. Wilson Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.

For meritorious service in the performances of his duties, Capt. Paulus C. Taylor, 28 Dimick street, Burkeville, Va., was also awarded the Bronze Star. Capt. Taylor is the adjutant of the 301st Fighter Squadron, commanded by Capt. Walter Downs.

Purple Heart awards went to Capt. Emile G. Clifton, San Francisco, Calif., Flight Officer James H. Fischer, Stoughton, Mass., and 1st Lt. Robert L. Martin, Dubuque, Iowa.

DFC AWARDS 6-9-45

Col. Taylor pinned DFC awards on the fliers during the colorful ceremony. Most of these awards had been previously announced. They were released as soon as the special orders came through. However, those who received their awards at this presentation were: Capt. Robert J. Friend, New York City; Capt. Henry R. Peoples, St. Louis, Mo.; Capt. Marion R. Rodgers, Elizabeth, N. J.; Capt. Charles L. White, Oakland, Calif.; 1st Lt. Roscoe C. Brown Jr., New York City; 1st Lt. Earl R. Lane, Wickliffe, Ohio; 1st Lt. William S. Prive, Topeka, Kan.; 2nd Lt. Charles V. Brantley, St. Louis; 1st Lt. Hanibal M. Cox Jr., Chicago; and 2nd Lt. Vincent I. Mitchell, Mt. Clemons, Mich.

AIR MEDALS

Air medals were awarded to: 1st Lt. Harold L. White, Detroit, Mich.; 1st Lt. Conrad A. Johnson Jr., New York City; 1st Lt. Lewis J. Lynch, Columbus, Ohio; 1st Lt. Hiram E. Mann, Cleveland, Ohio; 1st Lt. Carl X. Ellis, Chicago, Ill.; 1st Lt. Charles A. Hill, Detroit, Mich.; 1st Lt. Rupert C. Johnson, Los Angeles; 1st Lt. Robert W. Lawrence, Bloomfield, N. J.; 1st Lt. Harry T. Stewart, Corona, L. I., N. Y.; 2nd Lt. William E. Rice, Swathmore, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Carl E. Carey, St. Louis; 2nd Lt. John E. Edwards, Steubenville, Ohio; 2nd Lt. George A. Lynch, Valley Stream, N. Y. 6-9-45

2nd Lt. Wyram T. Schell, Brooklyn, N. Y.; 2nd Lt. Samuel L. Washington, Cleveland, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Kenneth Whitney, New York City; Flight Officer Calvin J. Spann, Rutherford, N. J.; Flight Officer Elbert N. Merriweather, Brooklyn, N. Y.; 2nd Lt. John L. Whitehead Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Whitehead, St Paul's Polytecnic Institute, Lawrenceville, Va.; and 2nd Lt. Stephen S. Jenkins Jr., Columbus, Ohio.

ATHLETES HONORED

The wing commander didn't stop there. There were other soldiers to be honored although these were not hero decorations. Members of the 332nd's basketball team, which won the 15th Air Force tournament this spring, were presented the championship awards. Those receiving awards were: M/Sgt. Chester A. Burris, Sistersville, Va., team captain; 1st Sgt. Samuel W. Henderson, New York City; S/Sgt. Augustus B. Harrison, New York City, team's high scorer; S/Sgt. Lionel Grimes, Allison, Ohio; S/Sgt. Julius Lovett, Newark, N. J.; S/Sgt. Willard Wright, Springfield, Mass.; S/Sgt. Robert Jenkins, Springfield, Mass.; S/Sgt. John B. Young, Kansas City, Kan.; Sgt. Cyril O. Byron, Bronx, N. Y.; Pvt. Joseph Spooner, New York City; and Cpl. William Lowell, Westfield, N. J., team manager.

When Col. Taylor arrived at the Northern Italy airbase, he was greeted by Col. B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the fighter group. Following the presentation of the awards, the group formation passed in review before their commanders and the honorees of the occasion.

Decorate 3 GIs In New Hebrides

Chicago Defender 6-2-45 Ill.

WITH THE 14TH AA COMMAND IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—The 742nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion again held the center of attention on this Southwest Pacific island when it turned out recently in review to honor three of its personnel who were presented with the Soldier's Medal for heroic action.

Recipients of the coveted honor were Chief Warrant Officer Laydell Buckmon, Detroit, Mich.; S-Sgt. F. Harold Tingley, Washington, D. C., and Cpl. Eddie L. Brown, Perry, Fla. They were instrumental in saving two individuals from drowning in the waters of the Renee River in the New Hebrides where the 742nd was stationed some time ago. 6-2-45

The presentation of the medals was made by Colonel G. A. Chester, acting chief of staff, 14th Anti-Aircraft Command, and the citations which were given by Major General William F. Marquat, commanding general of the 14th Anti-Aircraft Command, were read by Lieutenant Colonel Michael F. Blenski, his adjutant general.

S.C. Soldier Honored by Soviet Union

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md. 6-2-45

6-2-45

Lieut. Gen. M. J. Savlan, commanding general of a Russian Tank Corps, presents the order of the Soviet Union, 1st Class, to Sgt. Marcon H. Johnson of Charleston, S.C., squad leader of J Company, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, 3rd U.S. Army, at ceremonies held in Czechslovakia.

Benning Sgt. Gets Legion of Merit

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

FORT BENNING, Ga. — S/Sgt. Isaac J. Davis, who won the Legion of Merit for "exceptionally meritorious service with the U.S. Army in North Africa," was at the same time decorated by the President of the Liberian Republic. 6-16-45

Sergeant Davis, a specialist in bayonet and machine gun training, served as instructor in every phase of training as one of a cadre of thirty-eight men selected for an American-operated officer candidate school in Liberia.

Entering the Army in 1941, he landed at Casablanca in February, 1943, with the 367th Infantry Regiment, helped drive Rommel out of Africa, his regiment later being sent to Liberia. He is now mess overseer in the 2nd Battalion of this regiment.

Bronx Hero In France Wins Soldier's Medal

Philadelphia Tribune 7-9-45

NORMANDY BASE SECTION, France— For heroism in saving the lives of several soldiers from drowning on June 7, 1944, Private Herbert R. Brooks of 1533 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York, was recently awarded the Soldier's medal

Private Brooks is now a member of a Transportation Corps unit at a major Communications Zone port in this Base Section. His mother, Mrs. Cora Brooks, lives at the Southern Boulevard address. Phila., Pa.

Meritorious Service Unit Plaque Given Port Company

Afro-American 6-2-45

By ALBERTA WASHINGTON

By Lt. Mc

FRANCE — A port company here was recently awarded The Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for "Superior performance and a high standard of discipline" which contributed to the attainment of their port's operational target. 6-2-45

For the men of this outfit, this award, which came as an unexpected follow-up of Brig. Gen. Roy W. Grower's commendation, means they are entitled to wear the "Wreath of Merit."

Directed by Oklahoman

F/Sgt. Kilgore R. Richards of Boynton, Okla., directs the operations of this unit, which was activated on January 5, 1944, at Camp Planche, New Orleans, La. Following the completions of basic training, this outfit won the title of "The Honor Company" of Camp Planche.

Later, this company moved to Fox Hills Cantonment, Staten Island, N.Y., for advance technical training and orientation for embarkation.

Easterners in this organization include:

PENNSYLVANIA

S/Sgt. Calvin Graham, Sgt. James N. Jenkins, Younkers; T/4s John M. Talley, Frank E. Hicks, Berry Jackson, T/5 Walter H. Boise, Maynard Boston, Walter DeLoach, Walter Gavin, Oscar Lallard, Page A. Savage, Charles H. Burrs, Silas Elliott, Elwood Gray, John Hudson, Heywood Jimmerson;

Pfcs, Ernest Brent, John J. Brown, Chester Brannan, William Canady, William Foster, Daniel McNair, William Morgan, Joe Bennett, John C. Coger, Murray Smith, Pvts. Wesley O. Connor, Truman Howard, Francis McCray and Andrew Ryals, all of Philadelphia;

T/4 Raymond Snowden, Pittsburgh; T/4 James O. Smith, Cpl. Charles Carter, East Pittsburgh; Cpl. Harry L. Warren, T/5 John Crumpton, Harrisburg; T/4 Clarence Butler, Uniontown; T/5 Ulysses Ward, Sharron; Pfcs. William West, Chester; and Robert Warren, Brownsville.

VIRGINIA

T/4 Thomas Graves, T/5s Willie E. Jones, John H. Taboum, Pfcs. Mark Atkins and Lucius Branden, all of Richmond; Pfcs. Charlie Hall, Willie Porter, Pvts. Otis Rawles, Norfolk; T/5 Clinton L. Parrish, Pvt. John Moody, Chase City; Cpl. Bennie W. Lemon, Pfcs. Emmett Reid, Eddie Saunders, Frederick Hall, John E. Fostt, Suffolk; Pfs. Adorsey Colboum, Onancock;

T/5 Emmett N. Blair, Waynesboro; T/4s Frederick Easter, Emporia; George Gilbert, Gretna; T/5 Jacob Stores, Horace Russell, Hampton; Pfcs. George Griggs, Newport, News; Daniel H. Jones, Danville; Charlie T. oJnes and Charlie Parker, Blackstone. 6-2-45

NEW YORK

Sgts. Edward Black, Arthur Rutledge, Cpls. Willie B. Upperman, Willie Fuller and Pvt. Herbert Harvey, all of NYC; and Pfc. Charles Jenkins, Brooklyn.

NEW JERSEY

S/Sgt. Earl Baskerville, Rahway; Cpl. William Ray, East Orange; T/5 Isaac L. Smith and Pvt. Richard W. Barkley, Newark;

SOUTH CAROLINA

S/Sgt. Lonnie V. McClellan, Cope; T/5s Albert Johnson, Montie Saunders, Pfcs. James Glean, Charleston; and Pfc. John C. Coger, St. George.

NORTH CAROLINA

S/Sgt. Dennis Robinson, Durham; and Pfc. Ed McRae, Addon.

Bronze Stars And Legion Of Merit Awards Go To Huachuca Soldiers

New York Age 1-27-45 N.Y.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SHEDD commanding general, Ninth Service Command, ASF, made a flying trip to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, recently, to personally award two Bronze Stars and a Legion of Merit to acknowledge the deeds of soldiers formerly stationed in this command. Pictured above shows General Shedd (right center) pinning the Legion of Merit award on Sgt. Lew Davis, of Scottsdale, Arizona, for his art accomplishments while stationed at Fort Huachuca. Extreme left, Colonel Edwin N. Hardy greeting Mrs. Oscar P. Davenport, Tucson, Ariz., widow of 1st Lt. Davenport killed in the South Pacific, and John Aira, Bisbee, Ariz., whose son Sgt. John Aira was killed in action in Italy. These two were given Bronze Star awards posthumously. In the right background are, right to left, Lt. Colonel C. F. E. Nelson, troop commander and Captain John Holland, Adjutant, for the special review which featured the presentations 1-27-45

—Photo by Cpl. Earl Morse

56b-1945

AMERICAN HEROES OF WORLD WAR II.

This is another of the series on outstanding American heroes of the present war. Subjects for the series are chosen from among heroes who have been decorated for valor. Illustrations are by Clara Fargo Thomas and Alexander Varnak.

By JOHN A. MENAUGH

INDIANS, as every one knows, are plucky fighters. For centuries their ancestors in the forests and upon the plains of this country had to fight for their existence, and today the warrior strain still is strong in Indian blood.

Many are the Indians who now are among our combat troops on the various fronts. Perhaps none, however, is more entitled to respect and admiration for gallantry in action than 6 foot 2 Lt. Ernest Childers of Broken Arrow, Okla., who wears the medal of honor (congressional medal) for conspicuous bravery in the fighting in Italy.

Childers, in whose Creek Indian blood there is a dash of Irish from his mother's side (the Irish are valiant fighters, too), was elevated from the ranks on a battlefield in Sicily for his qualities of leadership. Two weeks after the American landings at Salerno he suffered a broken instep.

It was on Sept. 22, 1943, while he was receiving aid for his injury, that he learned his battalion had been pinned down by heavy machine gun and mortar fire. Disregarding his broken foot, he organized a party of eight men and led it to where the enemy was concealed.

Ordering his men to cover him with their fire, he advanced alone. He killed two Germans who were firing at him from a house. Then he slipped behind an enemy machine gun nest and slew its two occupants with his carbine. He picked off another German gun position and exposed still another to the fire of his men. Finally he captured a German mortar observer. When the affray ended he couldn't remember how many he had slain, but admitted "it will run into numbers."

On April 12, 1944, at allied headquarters at Naples, Gen. Jacob L. Devers placed the blue ribbon of the medal of honor around Lieutenant Childers' neck.

Awards for Valor

Silver Star to Polk Widow

Philadelphia Tribune

The Silver Star was awarded posthumously Tuesday of last week to Mrs. Willis D. Polk, widow of Major Willis D. Polk, killed in action in Italy last February 8.

Reading left to right are: Mrs. Geneva Polk, the Major's mother; Lt.-Col. George R. Bookwalter, who presented the award; Mrs. Polk and her daughter, Geneva.

92nd Soldier Awarded Silver Star In Europe

ST. LOUIS.—For gallantry in action in the European war zone, Cpl. Robert M. Smoot, infantryman, has been awarded the Silver Star, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Smoot, of 309 Third street, Lovejoy, Ill., have been informed.

Cpl. Smoot, a member of the fighting 92nd Division, which is a part of the Fifth Army, also holds the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's badge.

866th Port Company Wins 19th Citation

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Another honor was added to the long list it has won when the 866th Port Company, with all-Negro personnel, was selected last week for the first Unit Award Plaque granted to the unit of the month. The award is the 19th commendation received by that company, a record never before attained within the corps in so short a period of time.

Cited for Bravery

WITH THE 14th ANTI-AIRCRAFT COMMAND, New Guinea — Tech. Sgt. Levy Carter, 30, Kansas City, Mo., has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in New Guinea. Following an enemy artillery barrage which scored a direct hit on a communication hut of the 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, he quickly installed an emergency system which enabled the battalion to conduct counter-battery fire against the enemy.

2 BRONZE STARS WON BY NEGROES

Two Alabama Negroes were listed yesterday by the War Department, Bureau of Public Relations, as being among members of the 262nd Quartermaster Battalion Headquarters who received Bronze Service Stars for the battles of Normandy, Northern France and Germany. The men are Corp. Henry P. Harvest, 607 Court Street, Montgomery, and Corp. Julius C. Adams, Route 2, Verbena.

The 262nd Quartermaster Battalion, which landed in Normandy three days after D-Day as a part of the First Engineer Special Brigade, has been supervising shipment of war supplies to combat troops since early days of the Normandy campaign. The unit's "office" at first was an apple orchard, with ration boxes for desks. From this office were carried on coordinated operations of six service companies forwarding supplies in the U. S. First Army units.

For its part in the beachhead operation, the 262nd has been listed with other troops of the engineer brigade on a special stone monument built over the first German pillbox captured by brigade troops.

Four Alabama Negroes were listed by the Bureau of Public Relations as members of the 657th Port Company, said by the bureau to be one of the oldest transportation units of the Army.

The men are Corp. R. C. Caldwell, of Calhoun County; Corp. Claude Allen, Evergreen; Corp. Acev Gain, Bessemer, and Corp. Gamelia Merkerson, 455 Rogers Street, Gadsden.

Two Alabama Negroes Honored For Service

Two Alabama Negroes, Corp. Henry P. Harvest, Montgomery, and Corp. Julius C. Adams, Route 2, Verbena, were listed yesterday by the War Department Bureau of Public Relations as being among members of the 262nd Quartermaster Battalion Headquarters who received Bronze Service Stars for the battles of Normandy, Northern France and Germany.

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Two Negro GIs With Eisenhower

WASHINGTON—The two Negro soldiers who were selected to accompany General Dwight Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of Allied Expeditionary Forces, at his public ceremonial in the States, are Master Sgt. Sylvester E. Buckner, of Seminole, Oklahoma, and Tech. Sgt. Eugene Jackson, of Mepia, Texas.

Sgt. Buckner, 27, served as chief clerk of the 613th Quartermaster Depot Supply Company, which operated in the ETO. He is graduate of Central High School in Omaha, and joined the Army in 1939 while a student at the University of Omaha. He won the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement.

Sgt. Eugene Jackson, 25, served as warehouseman for the same company. He joined the Army in 1939, and wears the Bronze Service Star. Both of the men are eligible for discharge under the point system.

Battle-Tested

Hero Awards To Forty In 761st Tank Outfit

Pitts. Pa.
Pittsburg Courier

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY IN AUSTRIA—(Delayed)—Forty heroes of battle action with the 761st Tank Battalion, first tank battalion ever to enter combat with all-Negro enlisted personnel and a mixed staff, recently received awards and decorations from Maj. Gen. Willard G. Wyman, Commanding General of the XX Corps' Seventy-first Infantry Division, with which they finished the war against Germany.

Men of the 761st spearheaded the Seventy-first drive for a distance of 465 miles, from the Rhine at Oppenheim to the May 6 junction with elements of Field Marshal Koniev's First Ukranian Army at the Enn River, near Steyr, Austria. The forty officers and enlisted men received the Bronze Star Medal.

THREE POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

Three other officers and four enlisted men had received the award of the Silver Star, three posthumously, and one in "absentia."

Second Lieut. Warren G. H. Crecy of Corpus Christi, Tex.; Sgt. Ervin Latimore, Winston-Salem, N. C., and Pfc. George C. Blake, of Worthington, Ohio, were presented with the Silver Star. Capt. David J. Williams II, Pittsburgh, Pa., received the Silver Star, "in absentia." To First Lieut. Kenneth W. Coleman, Washington, D. C.; First Sgt. Samuel J. Turley, Bronx, N. Y., and S/Sgt. Reuben Rivers, Tecumseh, Okla., went posthumous awards of the Silver Star. 7-7-45

Among the forty who received the Bronze Star Medal was the commanding officer of the 761st Tank Battalion, ex-all-American grid star, Lt. Col. Paul L. Bates of Boonton, N. J., who commanded the now-famous Task Force Rhine, which battered through the toughest part of the Siegfried Line's mountain defense belt in the Nieder Schlettenbach - Reisdorf - Klingenmunster area. Colonel Bates' tankers supported the Second Battalion of the 103rd Infantry Division's 409th Regiment, which was reinforced by a detachment of engineers and a reconnaissance platoon from the all-Negro 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion. They accomplished this mission in three days, knocking open a big hole through which passed the Fourteenth Armored Division on March 24.

BRONZE STAR MEDALS

Others awarded the Bronze Star Medal were:

Capt. Garland N. Adamson, Chicago, Ill.
Capt. Charles A. Gates, Kansas City, Mo.
Capt. Philip W. Latimer, Silesbee, Tex.
Capt. William L. O'Ddea, Newark, N. J.
Capt. Leonard P. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.
First Lieut. Thomas E. Bruce, Fort Scott, Kas.
First Lieut. Harold Kingsley, Chicago, Ill.
Second Lieut. Frank C. Cochrane, Beacon, N. Y.
Second Lieut. Moses E. Dade, Washington, D. C.
Second Lieut. Joseph A. Tates, Baltimore, Md.
Chief W/O James E. Williams, Detroit, Mich.

Maj. Russell C. Geist of Upper Darby, Pa., executive officer of the battalion, received a cluster to a Bronze Star Medal previously awarded. Major Geist, Captains Latimer and O'Dea are white; the remaining officers are Negreos.

BRONZE STAR AWARDS

The following enlisted men also received the Bronze Star:

M/Sgt. Ernest D. Hill, Chicago, Ill.
T/Sgt. William H. Newkrik, Ypsilanti, Mich.
T/Sgt. Louie Palmer Jr., Chicago, Ill.
T/Sgt. Archie C. Young, Everett, Pa.
S/Sgt. Buck A. Smith, Muskogee, Okla.
S/Sgt. Johnnie Stevens Jr., Atlanta, Ga.
Sgt. Charles P. Ashby, Inwood, Long Island, N. Y.
Sgt. Moses Ballard, Washington, D. C.
Sgt. Simon Brooks, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Sgt. Daniel Cardell, New York, N. Y.
Sgt. Ivery Fox, Salisbury, N. C.
Sgt. James Hawkins, Kokomo, Ind.
Sgt. Otis Johnson (with Cluster), Chicago, Ill.
Sgt. Louis M. Daniel, St. Louis, Mo.
Sgt. Paul H. Murphy, Philadelphia, Pa.
Sgt. Isiah Parks, Charlotte, N. C.
Sgt. Crawford O. Pegram, Natchitoches, La.
Sgt. Ray Robinson, Pawhuska, Okla.
Sgt. James I. Rollins Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.
Sgt. James E. Stewart, Toledo, Ohio.
Sgt. Emery G. Thomas, Youngstown, Ohio
Corp. George Goines, Philadelphia, Pa.
Corp. Austin C. Jackson, New York, N. Y
Corp. Dwight Simpson, Rock Island, Ill
Pfc. Edward C. Jones., Louisville, Ky.
Pfc. Leonard Smith, Jamaica, N. Y.

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40 Heroes Of Tank Battles Awarded Medals In Austria

Chicago Def.

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY IN AUSTRIA—(Delayed) — Forty heroes of battle action with the 761st Tank Battalion, first tank battalion ever to enter combat with all-Negro enlisted personnel, and a mixed staff, recently received awards and decorations from Major General Willard G Wyman, commanding general of the XX Corps' 71st Infantry Division, with which they finished the war against Germany. 7-14-45

Men of the 761st spearheaded the 71st's drive for a distance of 465 miles, from the Rhine at Oppenheim to the May 6 junction with elements of Field Marshal Koniev's First Ukranian Army at the Enn River, near Steyr, Austria. The forty officers and enlisted men received the Bronze Star Medal.

Three other officers and four enlisted men had received the award of the Silver Star, three posthumously, and one in "absentia."

Second Lieut. Warren G. H. Crecy of Corpus Christi, Texas; Sergeant Ervin Latimore, Winston-Salem, N. C., and Pfc. George C. Blake, of Worthington, Ohio, were presented with the Silver Star. Captain David J. Williams, II, of Pittsburgh, Pa., received the Silver Star, "in absentia." To First Lt. Kenneth M. Coleman, Washington, D. C., First Sgt. Samuel J. Turley, Bronx, N. Y., and Staff Sgt. Reuben Rivers of Tecumseh, Okla., went posthumous awards of the Silver Star.

Negro GI Decorated As Eastland Raves

Chicago Def.
(AINP)

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP) — Home on furlough, war-wounded Capt. Beauregard King, nephew of the Rev. B. G. King, prominent local clergyman, was notified of the "Award of Bronze Star medal," by Gen. McAuliffe "for heroic achievement in action." 7-14-45

This citation, ironically, was received by the battle-marked hero of the 614th Tank Destroyer battalion on the day Sen. Eastland of Mississippi was libeling Negro soldiers in the U. S. Senate.

332nd GI Awarded Soldier's Medal

Balt. Md.
Afro-American

Risked Life to Save Drowning Tommy

OTHERS IN UNIT STUDY

7-7-45

Release of Officers With Points Stopped

By FRANCIS YANCEY
AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy
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CATTOLICA, Italy (By Cable) — For extraordinary heroism above and beyond the call of duty voluntarily and at the risk of his own life, Cpl. Daniel Ferniel, Los Angeles, of the 332nd Fighter Group was recently awarded the Soldiers' Medal for rescuing a drowning British soldier.

The British Tommy was swimming off the coast of Pacific Beach near here from a raft located out beyond breakers approximately three hundred yards from shore when he suddenly began to yell for help.

Attracted by the frantic cries of the drowning soldier, Corporal Ferniel, with utter disregard for his own personal safety immediately plunged into the high surf and swam to the drowning man.

Administered First Aid

Despite the struggling soldier's great weight and cramped condition, the corporal towed him to safety and then administered first aid treatment while awaiting an ambulance. The citation accompanying the award reads, "By his great courage and professional skill, Corporal Fernier saved the life of the Allied soldier."

The morale of the officers' division of the 332nds Homeward Bound Marching Orders Club received a severe blow here recently when it was announced from higher headquarters that no more officers in the Mediterranean theater with 85 points or over could be released.

Shortage in Theater

It was pointed out that in this theater 33.4% of all the officers have a score of 85 points or more and that there has been an overall shortage of officers in the MTO for several months.

The future use of the group, it is said, might determine the possible release of the officers since the War Department has ordered that all units dispatched to the Pacific must be sent with full strength of officer personnel.

While the European theater has announced a policy of making non-essential officers with 85 points or more eligible for release, MTO has pointed out that many times as many officers are on duty in the ETO.

Replacement Pools Smaller

Furthermore, it adds, ETO's large replacement pools had allowed essential units to draw on low score officers for replacements which is not the case here in the MTO. 7-7-45

Since it will be sometime before the entire group leaves for the United States many of the enlisted men and officers here are taking advantage of the Army education program for university study and will spend four weeks of study at the University of Florence in the same city. Among the 332nd men now attending are:

Lt. Felix McCrory, Yuma, Ariz., mathematics; Cpl. Robert Laws, 415 Schwartz Ave., Baltimore, psychology; Lt. James Fischer, Stoughton, Mass., languages;

Sgt. James Hills, Athens, Ga., sociology; Sgt. Unias Atkins, Oxford, N.C., government; Cpl. Clarence Farquhar, Du Quoin, Ill., music; Sgt. Calvin Dacus, Des Moines, Iowa, business administration.

Veterans in Italy have been able to radio telephone to folks at home since July 1. Any Tan Yank who wishes may for the sum of $12 plus local rate carry on an intimate uncensored conversation with anyone he wishes in the States for three minutes.

Virginian Talks with Wife

The first and only Tan Yank I met in the long line waiting to call the States was Sgt. Charles Whims of South Boston, Va. Following a thirty-five second connection Whims was connected with his wife, Mrs. Rosa N. Whims in Rome, Ga.

For first time in the fourteen months he has been overseas he talked with his wife and 3-year-old daughter.

Sergeant Whims didn't tell me the text of his conversation but said his wife and child's voices were clear and that both he and his wife were so excited that most of the time was spent in asking questions no letter can answer.

56b-1945

D.C. Boy New "Dorie Miller"

Afro-American

Helped Save Carrier After Attack

7-7-45

MOTHER PROUD

Balt. Md.

Youngster Ran Away to Join the Navy

WASHINGTON

The proudest mother in Washington was Mrs. Douglass Crawford, 92 S St., S.W., mother of Seaman Herbert J. Crawford, when she was informed of her son's heroism in helping to save the carrier U.S.S. Bunker Hill.

The carrier was struck by suicide planes off Okinawa on May 11 and limped into port for repairs at Bremerton, Wash.

Mrs. Crawford told the AFRO Wednesday:

"I'm mighty proud of my boy, but he has always been determined that he would do something for his country."

Mrs. Crawford, who has another son in the Navy and a third who was discharged from the Army last March, said that she was proud that her youngest son, Herbert Joe Crawford, a steward's mate aboard the Bunker Hill, had done his duty like a man in the time of crisis.

The giant carrier, which has figured in every Pacific invasion and campaign during the past year, lost 392 of her crew and was turned into a blazing inferno when two Japanese suicide planes crashed into her off the coast of Okinawa.

Thereafter, for more than five hours, officers and members of her crew battled valiantly amid flames and exploding ammunition and gasoline to save their ship.

Prominently mentioned among those whose efforts made it possible to keep the vessel afloat was Crawford.

According to the Navy report released Wednesday night, young Crawford fought the fires for five hours in spite of the terrific heat and smoke.

His refusal to quit or give way to the flames is credited with materially aiding the effort to control the raging fires. 7-7-45

7-7-45

SM1/c HERBERT J. CRAWFORD

SURVIVOR OF 'DO OR DIE' REAR GUARD BROUGHT HOME

7-8-1945

Miami Whipper

NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION, CAMP SHANKS, N. Y. —Veteran of 172 days of continuous front-line action, and survivor of a desperate rear guard whose orders were to stand or die, Sgt. Joseph W. Hawkins, of 72 Mill road, Hempstead, Long Island, recently passed through Camp Shanks with a group of liberated American prisoners.

From the Omaha beachhead in France, his outfit, the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion of the First Army, was in every action up to and including the Belgian Bulge. It was in Belgium as a member of a 155-mm howitzer battery that Sgt. Hawkins came face to face with the full fury of Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt's desperate Panzer hordes.

7-14-45

He was left behind with a small holding force to cover the hurried withdrawal of his battalion with only small arms and a few hastily placed mines to block the enemy's advance. After holding out for considerable time, the little group was overwhelmed by sheer weight of numbers early on the morning of December 17, 1944, near the fortified town of Sharenburg, on the Seigfried line.

In sub-zero weather, while suffering from exposure and the pain

Awards for Valor

Finally, on April 29, the 14th Armoured Division of General Patton's 3rd Army battered the Germans into submission and once again liberated Sgt. Hawkins and his stricken companions.

At Camp Shanks Sgt. Hawkins tore into some really fine American chow. He had a steak, fresh milk, fruit and ice cream. It went good. But better yet goes the 60-day furlough he is spending in Hempstead. 7-14-45

Famed 104th Volunteers Get Medals

Chicago Defender

Pittsburg Courier

PHOTO ON PAGE 9

Pg. 1 & 2

WITH THE 104th TIMBERWOLF DIVISION IN GERMANY —Shortly after ten Negro doughboys of the 104th Timberwolf Division received the praises of five generals and awards they had won in combat while fighting alongside their white comrades against the enemy in Germany, it was announced by high Army officials that the 104th will leave intact soon for Pacific duty after stopovers in the United States.

Negro members of the combat division were former rear-echelon Quartermaster Corps soldiers who had asked for a chance at front-line infantry fighting.

During the ceremonies held deep within conquered Germany, three of the Tan Yanks received the Silver Star and seven the Bronze Star. 6-23-45

PRAISED BY DAVIS

Taking an active part in the ceremonies was Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis of the Inspector General's office, European Theatre of Operations. Addressing the troops, he said: "You have been given a chance, and you have won the respect and friendship of your comrades . . . You have proved white and Negro soldiers can serve and fight side by side."

Their own commanding general, Maj. Gen. Terry Allen of the fighting Timberwolves, pinned the medals on their uniforms.

"We're all proud of you," General Allen told them. "You're a better bunch of soldiers than the men I saw when you first joined the Division back at Cologne," he added—and the Negro troops remembered the tough, realistic training they had received at the Timberwolf Reinforcement Training Center, the famed 104th camp, where soldiers new to the front received combat tips from battle-wise veterans.

PROVED GOOD COMBAT TROOPS

6-23-45

The troops were proud themselves when Brig. Gen. Charles Trueman Lanham, the assistant division commander, and a general who spent much of his time up front, told them: "I have never seen any soldiers who have performed better in combat than you."

Their record spoke for itself. They had taken many a town during the Timberwolf Division's lightning thrust past the Rhine. One of their men had been recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross, a decoration ranking only behind the Medal of Honor.

They smiled when the general told of the first Negro soldier he had seen in combat—a youth who had insisted on wiping out an enemy sniper's post although already painfully injured—but they remembered how nervous they had been when the first machinegun bullets went over their heads, and how they had overcome that "stage fright" which inevitably comes to all fighting men. They applauded enthusiastically when General Lanham thundered: "I want you with us when we go after those Japanese."

CITATIONS READ

Also present at the ceremony were Brig. Gen. Richard C. Partride, chief of staff of the Seventh Corps, and Brig. Gen. William Woodward, 104th Division artillery commander. Col. Bartholomew R. DeGraff, chief of staff of the Timberwolves, read the citations, and the 104th Division Band, one of the few bands in the European Theatre to win the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, played the Star Spangled Banner on the field, where Nazi storm troopers had once goose-stepped to the strains of the "Horst Wessel."

Receiving the Silver Star were Pfc. June Jefferson Jr., 343 Bainbride Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Pfc. Ben T. Brown, 5018 Washington Avenue, Charleston, West Va., and S/Sgt. Claude Pierce Jr., 308 South Fifth Street, Easton, Pa. Each received the Silver Star for gallantry in action. 6-23-45

HEROES UNDER FIRE

Jefferson was credited with attacking and destroying an enemy tank crew singlehandedly in a captured German town, April 9 of this year. Brown went "beyond the call of duty" to save the life of his platoon leader, a feat that made it necessary for him to risk his own life by dodging enemy machinegun fire, April 1. Pierce was credited with saving the lives of an entire tank crew, April 13. Under heavy enemy fire, he extinguished the flaming tank and recued the wonnded men.

Tan Yanks of the 104th receiving the Bronze Star were Sgt. Ocie J. Calhoun, 612 East Trent Street, Flint, Mich.; T/Sgt. Howard Williams, 284 East Warren Street, Detroit, Mich.; Pfc. Silas Smith, 473 Hancock Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Pfc. Peter Dodson, 81 Orchard, Roslyn Heights, Long Island, N. Y.; S/Sgt. Garnet A. Travis, 1 Columbus Street, Lawton, Okla.; Pfc. James E. Hallums, 218 Lee Street, Anderson, S. C., and T/Sgt. Leon A. Whitcrof, RFD 1 Clay, Pa. 6-23-45

BRONZE STAR HEROES

Calhoun was credited with leading his squad of men into a German town under heavy enemy fire, flushing out enemy troops and capturing several prisoners . . . Williams crossed 600 yards of open terrain and guided two litter bearers to a wounded Yank lying exposed to enemy fire . . . Smith crossed a fire swept bridge at great risk to his life to reconnoiter territory on the other side, discovered an enemy half-track and several soldiers, set the tank on fire withh is last grenade and captured or killed the enemy troops . . . Dodson killed an enemy tank commander with a captured pistol and took other members of the tank crew as prisoners . . . Travis led a patrol through enemy lines by using a captured self-propelled gun to knock out an enemy bazooka and bring about the surrender of two Nazis . . . Hallums enabled his task force to continue through a captured town by knocking out snipers . . . Whitcraft obtained information that enabled his tank commander to fire several rounds and disable an enemy tank, forcing the supporting infantry to withdraw.

DISTRICT CADET GETS TOP HONORS AT MOTON FIELD

Outstanding cadet for Class 45-E, which was graduated from primary flight training at the 2164th AAF Base Unit, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., last week, was George M. Wharton, son of Mrs. Cordella H. Wharton, 1924 Eleventh Street, Northwest.

Wharton was awarded a $25 War Bond as outstanding cadet, a rating based on military bearing, leadership ability, PT ability, general attitude, etc. He was also awarded a $10 GI War Bond, for having attained the highest ground school average for the class.

His average, one of the highest ever made at the school, was 92.5. The ground school average is based on average grades made in all subjects contained in the ground school course.

Wharton is a graduate of Dartmouth College, and also attended Temple University. His wife, Mrs. Dorothy E. Wharton, lives at 226 W. 150 Street, New York.

Interested in different types of athletics, music, and art, as well as flying, Wharton was inducted into the armed forces on March 3, 1944, and was transferred to Moton Field last December to begin his primary flight training.

Fired Machine Gun from Hip

AFRO-American
Balt, Md

11 Get Bronze Star for Heroism in Italy

2-3-45

D.C. LT. PROMOTED

92nd's Highest Scorer Killed 15 in 1 Day

By MAX JOHNSON

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WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—(By Cable)—T/5 Jefferson H. Hilliard of Brooklyn, N.Y., was awarded the Silver Star this week for single-handedly accounting for 14 German casualties during an enemy thrust at 92nd Division lines in the Serchio River Valley sector on December 26.

Eleven others in the division, four of them Easterners, received Bronze Stars for heroism in this and other recent engagements with the enemy. They are:

Sgt. Orva Snelling Barnwell, SC; T/5 William H. Lewis, Arista W.Va.; T/5 Joseph Hill, Saint Stether, S.C.; Pvt. Willie L. Wheeler, Clairton, Pa.; First Sgt. G. Clendening, Pvt. Julius Poole, and Pfc. Vernon M. Alexander, all of Cleveland; Pvt. Willie F. Teal, Buena Vista, Ga.; Pvt. Frank Walker, Dallas, Tex.; Pfc. John Nealy, Chicago; T/Sgt. Charles A. Pulliams, San Antonio, Tex.

Hilliard Nears Record

Hilliard's efforts in the Serchio affair made him the 92nd Division's second highest scorer in enemy casualties during a single day's activity. Pfc. Ollie V. Ammons of Lonoke, Kans., credited with 15 during a patrol clash last November, holds the record. Pvt. Jake McInnis, Mount Olive, Miss., is third with 13, scored in the same month.

Hilliard was a member of a Cavalry reconnaissance unit holding a flanking strong point when the Germans struck in the Serchio area the morning of December 26. This strong point was one of the enemy's objectives.

Official Citation

Hilliard's citation recounting this experience read in part:

"During this activity he accounted for at least twelve enemy casualties while he and his assistants were the target of an intense mortar concentration.

"When a maneuver by superior enemy forces made their position untenable, T/5 Hilliard was ordered to cover the withdrawal of the other men.

"He removed his machine gun from its tripod and fired from his hip, carrying the cartridge belt on his shoulder while his assistant carried the tripod.

"Firing in this manner until his ammunition was exhausted, he accounted for at least two more enemy casualties."

Assistant Decorated

Pvt. Teal was Hilliard's assistant in this action and received a Bronze Star for his gallantry.

Hilliard is 26. His wife, Mrs. Carol Hilliard, lives at 227 McDonough Street, Brooklyn.

Sgt. Snelling won the Bronze Star when, serving as an ambulance driver on December 5, he evacuated 17 wounded men under such extremely heavy enemy fire that the task was offered only to volunteers.

T/Lewis, T/5 Hill, Pvt. Walker and Pfc. Nealy were cited for evacuating wounded under similar circumstances on other recent occasions.

Braved Enemy Fire

Pvt. Poole won his star for volunteering and successfully repairing a communications wire under enemy mortar fire at one forward artillery observation post on November 12, on an occasion when communications were critically needed for the safety of men in that area.

Pvt. Wheeler was cited for sticking to his observation post on November 16 in the face of heavy enemy fire and directing successfully artillery fire on German strong points. Pfc. Alexander was cited for performing similar duty on November 5.

T/5 Pulliams, a member of the 92nd Division's quartermaster unit, and First Sgt. Clendening won their stars for being outstanding examples of the character of men the Division and the Army desires.

Promotion of the week was that of First Lt. Millard D. Smallwood, 2111 Second Street, Northwest, Washington, who was raised from the rank of second lieutenant.

A recent bronze star recipient, Smallwood is a combat infantry officer in the 92nd. His wife, Lois, lives at his Washington address.

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Cpl. Jefferson H. Hilliard, of 227 McDonough Street, has been awarded the Silver Star for killing fourteen Germans in one day.

His wife, Mrs. Carol Hilliard, unaware of her husband's heroism, was surprised and speechless. "He's that way about service awards."

Mrs. Hilliard told the AFRO that her husband has been in the Army for almost three years now. At first, he was assigned to the cavalry, but has more recently served with the quartermaster corps.

She last heard from him about a week ago, and in his letter he wrote:

Tells What Letters Mean

"I will be O.K., I hope. I have had some narrow escapes. Lawrence [their 6-year-old son] really gave Santa Claus an order. Did Santa fill his order? No, I will answer that—it was impossible.

"And, darling, take it easy and remember that I am the fellow who is never satisfied but loves you more than life itself.

"You will never know what your letters mean to me even though I may tell you. But I will never be able to express how much they do for me and how much they mean to me. No, you will never know!"

Corporal Hilliard is only 26. He was born in Rocky Mountain, N.C., and came to New York fifteen years ago. Educated at P.S. 178 in Brooklyn, he left high school and became a truck driver.

Wants to Open Business

"Jefferson was transferred overseas six months ago," his wife continued. "There's no use in telling you that I'm constantly worrying about his well-being. I'm so glad that he's a hero. Think of it—killing fourteen Germans in one day!

"He writes me and says that he would like to move to the country and go into the cleaning and dyeing business after the war's over. I guess a good many of the returning service men will want to strike out for themselves when they come home."

The Hilliards have two children, Lawrence, 6, and Laura, six months old.

"Jefferson's a hero now," Mrs. Hilliard added, "and the whole neighborhood will know it today. I only hope that he comes home well to his family."

Courier
Pgh., Pa.

HE CAN'T FORGET—Wearer of the Air Medal and Purple Heart, First Lieut. Henry A. Wise Jr., Chariton, Va., has been awarded the Certificate of Valor. Shot down over the Ploesti oil fields, captured and made prisoner by the Nazis in Bulgaria, the officer was freed in three weeks by Russian troops. A former fighter pilot with the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, Lieutenant Wise is now a student at the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.—U. S. Signal Corps Photo.

The editor is Pfc. John D. Montgomery of Corona, N.Y., who has received the praise of the South Pacific Base Command and Stateside publishers. His staff includes Pfc. Jerome A. Cohen, Atlantic City, N.J., and Cpl. Philip Harris, New York City.

Records Set

Island records for handling vital war materials have been set and maintained by details under Sgts. Theodore Grimes, Utica, N.Y., and Junious Pearson, Jr., Buffalo, N.Y.; Cpls. Willie Lyons, Neptune, N.J., and James F. Brabham, Jr., Brooklyn, N.Y.

One group established a record of loading, unloading and storing over 200 tons of supplies in an 8-hour shift. This averaged over five tons for each man. This record still stands.

The following Easterners are among section leaders of the company, which was cited for "superior performance of duty and the achievement and maintenance of a high standard of professional and military proficiency."

Transportation and mess: S/Sgt Milton Stewart, Welch, W. Va.; T/5 Herman A. Morris, Neptune N.J.; labor: 1st Sgt. Hayes H. Howard, Jr., Salisbury, N.C.; supplies and post exchange: S/Sgt. Nathaniel Hudson, South Hill, Va., and Pfc. Harry H. Harding NYC.

Officers Of 92nd Cited For Heroism

Chicago Def.

HEADQUARTERS, 92nd Infantry Division, Italy—Two Negro officers, one who "set a heroic example of the fighting man's desire to close with the enemy and destroy him," and the other, whose "aggressive leadership was an inspiration to the officers and men of his organization," have been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy in Italy, the War Department announced this week.

7-21-45

Recipients of the awards are First Lt. William E. Porter, 1018 West Spring street, Lima, Ohio, and Second Lt. Reuben L. Horner, 915 South Fremont avenue, Tucson, Ariz., both members of the 92nd Infantry Division.

When his platoon was pinned down by fire from enemy automatic weapons last December 5, Lieutenant Porter cleared the way for his men by advancing alone, killing the German officer in charge, and forcing his men to surrender.

Second Lieutenant Horner's platoon, holding a mountain position, was the object of five vigorous and determined enemy counter-attacks during the day. In a continuous rain of hostile fire, Second Lieutenant Horner coolly deployed his own small arms and automatic weapons and personally directed counter artillery and mortar fire so aggressively that all five enemy actions were successfully repulsed.

QM Unit on Guadalcanal Awarded Merit Plaque

Balt. Md.

Afro-American

GUADALCANAL — The first colored service unit in this area and one of seven units of the 525th Quartermaster Group to receive the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque was the 3243rd QM Service Company, the War Department announced last week.

Activated less than 18 months ago, the unit received many letters of commendation and praise from visiting high ranking official including Lieut. Gen. Wilhelm D. Styer, now commanding general, Pacific Command of USAF, Western Pacific.

7-28-45

Paper Highly Rated

The company has its own official publication, Hilltop News, which is rated one of the best in the South Pacific.

Veterans Get Awards At Retreat

The Call 5-18-45 Kansas City, Mo.

Cited at Tuskegee For Extraordinary Achievement in Air

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD. —(ANP)—At impressive retreat ceremonies held here Tuesday, during which military personnel of the entire field participated, 12 returned veteran pilots were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flights in the European Theater of War. 5-18-45

The recipients were:

Capts. Elwood T. Driver of Trenton, N. J.; Howard L. Baugh of Petersburgh, Va.; Arnold W. Cisco of Chicago, and Albert H. Manning of Spartansburg, S. C.

First Lts. George M. Rose of Brooklyn; Laurence D. Wilkins of Los Angeles; Dempsey W. Morgan of Detroit; Leonard F. Turner of Washington, D. C.; Felix J. Kirkpatrick of Chicago; John F. Briggs of St. Louis, and William W. Green of Staunton, Va.

Col. Noel F. Parrish, commanding officer of Tuskegee Army Air field, in speaking before a capacity audience of military personnel at the post amphitheater immediately following the retreat ceremonies, lauded the flyers for their achievements. 5-18-45

Twenty-six pilots, who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, and eight enlisted men who have been awarded bronze and battle stars, participated in the program. They were:

Maj. Lee Rayford and Capts. Howard L. Baugh, Milton R. Brooks, Arnold W. Cisco, Claude B. Govan, John Daniels, Joseph D. Ellsberry, Elwood T. Driver, Samuel L. Curtis, Charles B. Hall, Melvin T. Jackson, Charles E. McGee, Henry B. Perry, Richard C. Fullam, Harold E. Sawyer, Albert H. Manning, Edward L. Toppins and Luke J. Weathers Jr.

First Lts. John F. Briggs, Felix J. Kirkpatrick, Dempsey W. Morgan, William H. Green, George M. Rhodes, Leonard F. Turner and Laurence D. Wilkins.

The enlisted men were:

First Sgt. Elbert Sampson, 1st Sgt. Cecil McCray, Cpl. Jimmie Johnson, Pfc. Edgar Smith, Pfc. Thomas Smith, Pvt. John Price, Pvt. William H. Miles and Pvt. J. D. Godium.

The text of the citation for the recipients of the DFC, is as follows: 5-18-45

"For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight in the European Theater of War. Consistently, throughout many combat missions against highly important and strategic enemy installations, the personnel listed below have demonstrated the highest order of professional skill heroism, leadership and devotion to duty. Although regularly and frequently opposed by large numbers of enemy fighters, together with intense, accurate and heavy anti-aircraft fire during which their aircraft were at times seriously damaged, these men have fought through to their targets and aided in the destruction of these vital objectives. Despite severe and adverse weather conditions, rugged terrain and many other major obstacles and hazards, these men have gallently engaged, fought and defeated the enemy without regard for their own personal safety and against great odds. Their conspicious and extraordinary achievements throughout these many missions against the enemy have been of inestimable value to successful combat operations and have reflected great credit upon themselves and the armed forces of the United States of America."

Gets Combat Bar

N.Y. Age N.Y.

Pictured above is Officer Candidate Vernon Joell, of 1535 Southern boulevard, Bronx, New York, who has just been awarded the Merchant Marine Combat Bar at the U. S. Marine Service Officers School, Fort Trumbull, New London, Connecticut, confirming active service with the U. S. Merchant Marine on board his ship which was engaged in direct enemy action during the invasion of France. 3-17-45

They were subject to air raid attacks twice a night and as a result of this enemy action, many ships were lost. His wife, Mrs. Mary Joell, lives at the same address. Mr. Joell has been shipping out with the Merchant Marine for over a year and wears the Atlantic and Pacific War Zone Bars. Officer Candidate Joell has been assigned to the Engineering Course and when he successfully completes it, he will be shipped to the out as a Third Assistant Engineer and an Ensign in the U. S. Maritime Service.

Over 1,500 Get Medals For Work Against Hitler

Memphis Courier 4-18-45 Memphis-Tenn

Few Front-Line Changes Since Position Assumed

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy Since their first combat team crossed the Arno River last September to capture the city of Lucca, men of the 92nd Infantry Division have won seven awards of the Legion of Merit, 65 Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, four Air Medals and 1,377 Purple Hearts, the War Department announced today.

At the end of their first six months in combat, the "Buffalos" had received 5,991 Combat Infantryman Badges. Altogether, 7,000 officers and men of the division had received recognition for their efforts in action against the enemy Seven men who stood out in the field of battle had earned commissions on the spot and many others were being considered.

FEW FRONT—LINE CHANGES 4-16-45

Regarding operations, the 92nd Division had seen only negligible changes in its front-line positions. One major drive, launched in February, gained some ground before the Germans sacrificed much in men and material in pushing the division back to its original starting point. Sharing the assignment of pinning down Wehrmacht divisions in Italy, the 92nd was confronted by the loftiest peaks and mountains in the Apennines.

Many heroes, whose exploits earned the praises of high ranking Army leaders, emerged from the division's first half-year of combat. Daring fighters like Captain Charles F. Gandy and Second Lieutenant Theodore O. Smith of Washington, D. C.; Sergeant Rodger Holmes, of Hodges, S. C.; Major Willis D. Polk, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Sgt. Jefferson H. Hilliard, of Brooklyn, New York; Private First Class James Robinson, of Atlantic City, New Jersey; and Private Jake McInnis, of Prentiss, Miss., have lived up to the finest traditions of the United States Army.

SEVERAL COMMISSIONED

Quick recognition, in the form of commissiosn as second lieutenants, came to the following men while on the battlefields: First Sergeant Gilbert Boothe, of Forsythe, Ga.; First Sergeant Joseph Bracy, of Boston, Mass.; Technical Sergeant Frank Whisonant, of Washington, D. C.; Technical Sergeant Joseph Fry, of Homestead, Pennsylvania; Technical Sergeant William Hicks, of Cleveland, Ohio; Technical Sergent Caesar O. Rucker, of Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Staff Sergeant Ernest L. Carlton of New York City, and Technical Sergeant John Birdsong of Washington, D. C.

Pricking of the German lines by patrols, which constantly probed for weak points in the coastal ramparts of the Gothic Line, characterized the chief activity of the 92d Division. The wily Jerry, who used natural mountain barriers masterfully, made all maneuvering for the attacking elements just about the toughest in modern warfare.

HEROIC CONDUCT 4-18-45

In the course of one patrol action, Staff Sergeant Mansfield Mason, of Baltimore, Maryland, notably distinguished himself by heroic conduct. Acting on information that some Germans had been seen to enter a house near a certain village, Mason's patrol, under the command of 2nd Lieut. Wilbur E. Ledbetter, of Washington, D. C.; surrounded the building and effectively covered all its approaches. Staff Sergeant Mason then crawled to within 30 feet of the dwelling in the face of withering machinegun fire. He hurled three hand grenades into the building and shifted his position slightly. Out walked five Germans, including an officer, to surrender.

First Lieut. William E. Porter, of Indianapolis, Ind., who was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, exposed himself to enemy arms while his company advanced on its objective under a hail of machinegun fire. With his unit pinned to the ground, Lieut. Porter succeeded in eliminating the machinegun nest, killing the German officer in command, and forcing the gun crews to surrender. 4-18-45

NON-COMBATANTS CITED

Men of non-combatants units also won their share of awards. Private First Class Walter L. Gillis, of Jonesboro, North Carolina, a member of a medical detachment, administered first aid to members of an attacking platoon while in tense enemy fire created havoc with the terrain. Although he was in full view of the Germans he did not falter in his efforts to see that all who needed medical attentions were treated. He then assisted in evacuating the casualties.

"Magnificient" is the way Major General Edward M. Almond, Commander of the 92nd, describes his division's artillery. Time and time again, 'Buffalo' infantrymen, sweating out a tight spot, have seen perfectly placed artillery fire shatter hostile emplacements and break up repeated and determined German counter-attacks. "Boy, that artillery was great," said many 92d doughboys upon return from skirmishes with the enemy. 4-16-45

General of the Army George C. Marshall was the first five-star general to inspect the 92nd Division. In an official statement, the Army Chief of Staff said that what he had seen in Italy was "very reassuring."

Five D. C. Men Help Handle 75,000 Wounded Since D-Day

Washington Times-Herald - D.C.

The Meritorious Unit Service Plaque, the first such award given a unit of this type, has been presented recently to the 703rd Medical Sanitary Company in England, which has five Washington members, "for actively participating in the evacuation of battle casualties from the Contient June 6 to August, 1944, in an exemplary manner," it has been reported. 4-28-45

This duty was performed under the most adverse weather conditions, time, and unfavorable circumstances. Capt. Paul E. Johnson, Jr., 32, of Chicago, commands the company which had handled more than 75,000 patients since D-Day in Normandy.

The Washington members are: Sgt. Edward E. Smith, 37, of 1516 R St., N. W.; Crpls. John W. Ross, 22, of 632 Delaware Ave., S .E.; James W. Lewis, 25, of 1134 Seventh St., N. W.; Pfc. Herbert E. Brooks, 24, of 415½ First St., N. W., and Percy E. Morris, 28, of 2819 Eleventh St., N. W.

Atlanta World

HE SMASHED THE SIEGFRIED LINE — Captain Charles L. Thomas of Detroit, Michigan who, this week won the War Department's second highest honor when he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy. Captain Thomas led a column of Tank Destroyers in a break-through of the Siegfried Line last December and, though severely wounded, refused to leave his men until the situation was well in hand. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

Negro GIs Often Cited for Valor

Detroit Free Press 4-8-45

From Our Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—American Negroes are fighting this war as well as servicing it.

Growing lists of War and Navy Department citations attest to that. Detroit, Michigan -

They run all the way from the Soldier's Medal to the Distinguished Service Cross.

They are being won in the air, on the ground and at sea.

* * *

BY LAST SEPTEMBER, 411,368 of the 701,678 Negroes in Army service were overseas.

Of that number, 5,084 held commissions.

More than 148,000 Negroes are in the Navy. The Marine corps has 15,702, the Coastguard 3,556.

Negro girls are serving both as Waves and WACs.

* * *

MILITARY CITATION reports give a good cross-section of Negro service.

Here are a few, briefed down:

The Coveted Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, an all-Negro 155-mm. howitzer outfit, for sticking to its guns with the famous 101st Airborne Division, and firing all around the compass in the heroic defense of Bastogne. 4-8-45

The Distinguished Service Cross was awarded to Capt. Charles L. Thomas, twenty-four-year-old Negro commander of a tank destroyer company, who shot his way through the Siegfried Line in a blaze of fire from enemy rockets, artillery and machine guns.

Though severely wounded, he secured his objective.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Thomas of 5877 Beechwood Avenue, Detroit.

* * *

THE ALL-NEGRO Mustang fighter group, led by Col Benjamin O. Davis, chalked up its two hundredth combat mission in February as escort for heavy bombers without losing a single bomber.

Davis holds the Legion of Merit, his fighter group 63 distinguished flying crosses won in 8,000 sorties.

Now with Gen. Patton's free-wheeling Third Army well east of the Rhine, the all-Negro 761st Tank Battalion captured two bridges and four towns during the 26th "Yankee" Division's assault on Metz last November 8.

* * *

FIGHTING OF THE Negro combat teams is not confined to the European Theater. 4-8-45

The 93rd Infantry Division acquitted itself well in its baptism of fire a year ago in Bougainville, according to War Department records.

Seventy-five per cent of the first Negro antiaircraft artillery unit collected good conduct medals and some won purple hearts in clearing the air over New Guinea of Jap planes.

The Call 5-25-45 Kansas City, Mo.

WIFE OF PILOT GETS POSTHUMOUS AWARD.—Mrs. Louise Phillips Nightingale, the wife of Lt. Elton H. Nightingale, a member of the 332nd Fighter Group who has been missing in action since Nov. 27, 1944, is shown receiving a posthumous award of the Air Medal and two Oak Leaf Clusters. The award was presented by Col. Neal F. Parrish, commanding officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, during a formal retreat ceremony held last week. The citation was "for meriterious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activity against the enemy from August 18 to August 27, 1944, from August 28 to September 21, 1944, and from September 22 to November 6, 1944." A former student at Tuskegee institute, Mrs. Nightingale was attended at the ceremony by Mrs. Fleetwood W. McCoy and Lt. Walter R. Harley.—Official U.S. AAF photo.

Gets Bronze Star As Eastland Raves

Is back Oklahoma City, Okla.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (ANP) —Home on furlough, war-wounded Capt. Beauregard King, nephew of the Rev. B. G. King, prominent local clergyman, was notified of the "Award of Bronze Star medal," by Gen. McAuliffe "for heroic achievement in action.

This citation, ironically, was received by the battle-marked hero of the 641th Tank Destroyer battalion on the day Sen. Eastland of Mississippi was libeling Negro soldiers in the senate under immunity. 7-14-45

A comrade of Capt. King wrote him a letter in which was packed this striking comment:

"Gen. McAuliffe, who has gone back to the States, came out and gave the third platoon "C" company the Presidential Unit Citation ribbons, and Silver Star to Capt. Smith and Sturckey and Serreo Nelson. Nelson's platoon, with a platoon of light tanks from the 761st attached, tangled with the Krauts after we broke through the Siegfried line and had quite a hand to hand battle and did a lot of good work.

"Sgt. Spencer banged one German over the head as the German was trying to shoot Nelson, and all in all, there was a lot of fighting, and good work on the part of our men."

The citation to Capt. King reads, "On March 15, 1945, Capt. King planned and organized a small task force for an attack on France. Leading his men in the attack, Capt. King was severely wounded by enemy automatic weapon fire. After falling to the ground, he called to his second in command and urged him to continue the attack, which resulted in the capture of the village and the taking of a number prisoners. Capt. King's outstanding leadership reflected the highest tradition of military service." 7-14-45

Quitman Negro Sailor Cited Posthumously

Atlanta, Georgia Cont.

QUITMAN, Ga., July 11.—A Negro sailor from Quitman, Charles Wesley Giddens, has been posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart by the Navy Department. He lost his life in the Pacific on Oct. 29, and his parents, Ernest Giddens and Rosa Lena Giddens, of Quitman, received the decorations this week. Details concerning the presentation of the Bronze Star showed Giddens' heroic action in diverting a Jap suicide plane from crashing the flight deck of the ship.

Giddens was steward third class and a member of a crew of a 20 mm. gun tub aboard a vessel when Japanese aircraft launched a violent attack against the ship. One fanatical pilot attempted a suicide dive on the ship and in the face of almost certain death, Giddens remained steadfast at his station and bravely continued his performance of duty until the plane crashed. 7-12-45

Bolden Describes Agony, Death In Pacific Jungles

Atlanta Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

By FRANK E. BOLDEN,
NNPA War Correspondent

ALONG THE STILL ROAD, INDIA-BURMA (Delayed) — Last night a boy died. It doesn't make much difference whether you knew him personally or not. The important thing is that he died—died in that poignant and awful loneliness out here in the gloomy silence of the jungle thousands of miles from home—died after rendering a service far beyond the call of duty—an unselfish service— a service that saved the lives of two other comrades, but which cost him his own. 7-11-45

Last night in those agonizing hours of unspeakable isolation, he went through a thousand deaths without the one thing which might have helped a little—the sound of a familiar voice, like Mom's, or the pat of a friendly hand, like Dad's.

The pain was terrible enough. But there was that dreadful burden of thought in those last endless hous—the thought of home—the thought of the little frame house with its green flower bedecked, and freshly-cut lawn; all surrounded by the white-washed picket fence, punctuated by the perpetually-creaking gate, whose hinges Dad was always going to oil but never quite got around to—and of course, the thought of his childhood sweetheart, Mary, whose goodbye kiss, sealed their solemn pledge to each other, still lingered on his lips; brought some measure of comfort to his torture-wracked body. 7-11-45

And what about the old gang that used to hang out at "Harry's" the corner drug store, and while away the extra hours sipping 'coke's" and playing the jukebox? Sure, he would see them again. And he musn't forget the little tan-roadster that he had planned to buy, once he returned home. And oh yes, in this hour of retribution he could not help but think of the little brown, ivy-covered church, where first his mother had carried him in her arms as a baby to be christened in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost—and where he had learned to repeat "Our Father which art in heaven"—and his favorite "Suffer the little children and forbid them not. . . . "And now was the time to repeat over and over the "keys to the kingdom" which his minter has said, "unlocked the door t' heaven for all good Christians wh sought admittance"—yes, he would repeat it, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." Oh, God, would not somebody help him, please? He felt so all alone. He had always wanted to be at home when he died. But God did not will it so. This boy boy died that night, and far away from home. 7-11-45

That's the way that I would have written the story of the last moments and death of 23-year old Pfc. Otto Stringer, Jr., of 1125 Chaba St., Birmingham, Alabama, and a member of a colored engineer unit serving here in Burma, who made the supreme sacrifice while attempting to save the lives of two white soldiers, had I been present one year ago when the accident happened.

The facts and details were told to me by some of his comrades-in-arms who are still wroking here on the Road. 7-11-45

It was a cold mroning in Jan., and Pfc. Stringer was taking his regular turn at traffic-guard duty on the then-called Ledo Road. He adjusted the collar of his jacket, as he walked from one diesel road flare to another, trying to keep warm. His teeth were chattering from the biting cold. He was engrossed in the pleasant reminiscences of home and loved ones, of and of his post-war plans—all thoughts which generally run panoramic fashion through the mind of any lonesome GI, who must stand the lonely vigil of guard duty, especially on a chilly night.

Stinger was deep in the threes of his reverie, when a truck driven by two white engineers came rolling down the hill, south of his post. This was not unusual. Many trucks had rambled down this hill on numerous occasions before when he had been on guard duty. But this one was different. It was out of control. Death was riding at the wheel.

Suddenly, the truck careened crazily, and ran straight into the bank at the foot of the hill, near where Stinger was walking his post. As it crashed into the soft earth, the vehicle knocked over one of the flares. The quick-thinking sentry hastned towards the tangled wreck. The drivers yelled to him to keep his distance because there was high-explosive powder aboard. But the brave GI Samaritan disregarded the warning, and kept advancing. He would help them.

He had moved but a few yards towards the trapped occupants of the truck, when the powder exploded, and all were instantly enveloped by the searing flames. It was indeed a miracle that they were not killed right thee on the spot. 7-11-45

Other guards and GI's hearing the explosion, hurried to the scene and arrived in time to see the gallant Stringer, his entire body aflame, tugging with almost superhuman strength at the helpless, burning soldiers in the cab of the truck. He was able to free them, and then proceeded to carry the victims, one by one, several yards to safety.

A volunteer rescue squad tried to move in to aid the wounded soldiers, but had to pause momentarily because the flames were too hot. When it was able to penetrate the ring of fire, it found the two white soldiers conscious, but the "human torch" unconscious.

The squad wrapped the cinder-like forms in blankets and carried them to the hospital, a few miles away. July 11, 1945

Soon after his admittance, Stringer regained consciousness, and with his face etched deeply with agony lines from the excruciating pain, mumbled through puffed lips that he wanted a chaplain. To him he made his confession, and bade farewell to all of his dreams and post-war ambitions. Then he lapsed into a delirous coma, and in his delirum mumured repeatedly about all those things which home meant to him.

He died without learnnig that his rescured companions would live. They buried him in the bowels of the green hell of the jungle, where the cruel fates of war had decreed that he be sent to serve the cause of liberty.

His name is legend among the men here along the Road.

Oh yes, someone did say that he received a posthumous waard; citation or something like that But he died last night you see. There's no getting round that.

Croix De Guerre Given Atlantan

Atlanta Daily World 7-11-45 Ga.

WITH ADVANCE SUPPLY FORCES IN GERMANY — Corporal George W. Edwards, 1105 St. Charles Place, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia, a chauffeur assigned to the 524th Quartermaster Car Company, has been awarded the Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star, for distinguished service rendered in the presence of the enemy.

Corporal Edwards, the only Negro soldier among 15 GIs awarded the decoration, in a recent ceremony, is a driver with G-1 Section, Advance Section Communications Zone, in Germany. The recommendation to higher headquarters read, in part: 7-11-45

"Corporal Edwards, having driven the Deputy Chief of Staff and Headquarters Commandant, Advance Section, Communications Zone on Command Post reconnaissance to Le Mans, France, prior to the entrance of the infantry, was caught with his vehicle in sniper fire outside the former headquarters of the German Seventh Army. Corporal Edwards dismounted, took cover, and covered the reconnaissance party until the firing subsided." The Georgian also was cited for directing a convoy to safety during an enemy air-attack, without regard for his own welfare. Twenty low-flying German planes were involved in the strafing. Entering the Army January 18, 1943 at Fort Benning, Georgia, Corporal Edwards took his basic training at Camp McCain, Mississippi. He arrived overseas in December 1943 and on the Continent July 1, 1944 His aunt, Mrs. Maria Fickling, resides at the St. Charles Place, address. 7-11-45

Croix de Guerre Penn. For Georgia Corporal Philadelphia Bulletin 7-14-45

WITH ADVANCE SUPPLY FORCES IN GERMANY—Corporal George W. Edwards, of 1105 St. Charles Place, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia, a chauffeur assigned to the 524th Quartermaster Car Company, has been awarded the Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star, for distinguished service rendered in the presence of the enemy.

THIRD U. S. NEGRO IS AWARDED DSC

Ala.

WASHINGTON, July 10—(AP)—Award of the Distinguished Service Cross to a Negro officer who killed or wounded nine Germans while single-handedly knocking out three enemy machine-gun nests and an observation post was announced today by the War Department.

First Lt. Vernon J. Baker, 25, is the third Negro to receive the DSC in this war. A rifle platoon leader in the 92nd Infantry Division, he is a native of Cheyenne, Wyo. His wife, Helen S. Baker, lives at 122 10th Avenue, North, Birmingham, Ala. Bkm. Age H.

Baker won the decoration last April 5 near Viareggio, Italy, with a one-man assault against enemy positions which had been holding up the advance of his battalion.

The citation said he killed five Germans and killed or wounded four more. 7-12-45

92nd Officer Wins DSC for Heroism

Peoples Voice 7-14-45

ROME (ANP)—The first Negro officer of the famed 92d Infantry division to win the Distinguished Service Cross is Lt. Vernon J. Baker of Cheyenne, Wyo. Lt. Baker received his award, the nation's second highest, last week from Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, jr, commander of the U. S. Fifth army, for personally destroying three enemy machine gun posts and an observation post in an attack in the northern Appennines last April 5. He killed or wounded nine Germans.

Nation's Second Highest Award Given 92nd Lieut.

Philadelphia Tribune
Phil., Penn.

ROME, Italy — (ANNP) — The first Negro officer of the famed 92nd Infantry division to win the Distinguished Service cross is Lt. Vernon J. Baker of Cheyenne, Wyo. 7-14-45

Lt. Baker received his award, the nation's second highest, last week from Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., commander of the U. S. Fifth army, for personally destroying three enemy machine gun posts and an observation post in an attack in the northern Appennines last April 5. He killed or wounded nine Germans. 7-14-45

In addition, he voluntarily led a battalion the following night through a mine field and heavy fire to an objective and covered the evacuation of the wounded from an exposed position. Pfc. John L. Weakley, of Chicago, was one of the nine men of the 92nd division to receive silver stars. Major Gen. E. M. Almond, division commander, received an Oak Leaf cluster.

92nd Officer Is Awarded DSC; 9 Others Cited

Chi. Ill. Chicago Def.

ROME — Lt. Vernon J. Baker of Cheyenne, Wyo., on Saturday became the first member of the 92nd Infantry Division to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, nation's second highest award for valor. 7-7-45

The young Wyoming officer, who on April 5 personally wiped out three German machine gun nests and an observation station during his unit's offensive in the northern Appennines, was presented the coveted decoration by Lt. Gen. Lucian Truscott, Jr., commander of the U. S. Fifth Army.

On April 6, Lt. Baker volunteered to lead a 92nd battalion through a heavily mined field under withering fire to an objective where it covered the evacuation of wounded Allied soldiers from an exposed position.

Also decorated on Saturday were nine other members of the 92nd who received Silver Star medals from Gen. Truscott. Maj. Gen. E. M. Almond, commander of the division was awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster at the ceremony.

Pvt. John L. Weakley of Chicago was one of the Silver Star recipients.

Seven Engineers Decorated For Heroism In Italy

Put Out Fires Of Cars Loaded With Explosives

Atlanta Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

HEADQUARTERS, AA SERVICE COMMAND, Mediterranean Theater of Operations—Seven Negro Engineers, who ignored the intense heat of blazing freight cars packed with explosives to bring a threatening holocaust under control, have been awarded the Soldiers Medal, it was announced today. 7-21-45

All members of the 1246th Engineer Composite Platoon, they were: Technician Third Grade Manuel Reed, Liberal, Kansas; Sgt. Samuel L. Brantley, 566 Erstine St., Detroit Mich.; Sgt. Octav M. Jensen 200 W. 130th St., New York; Cpl. George A. Bradley, DeFuniack, Fla.; Technican 5th Grade, Dallas Austin, Holly Springs, Miss.; Pfc Harold Bardell, 2913 Belmont St., New Orleans, La.; and Pvt. Rufus Barner, Iverness, Mississippi.

Following is the official citation:

"For heroism. On December 13 1944, a fire broke out in the freight yards of Foggia, Italy, where numerous rail cars filled with bombs of varying sizes and gasoline tanks were side tracked awaiting delivery to their destination. Two tank cars and two loads of fragmentation bombs were ablaze when the crew responded to the alarm and, disregarding the danger of an explosion at any moment, they immediately began segregating the burning cars, thereby reducing the possibility of the fire spreading.

"They continued to brave the intense heat of the burning cars until the blaze was completely extinguished and the bombs cooled sufficiently to eliminate the danger of an explosion. Their resolute courage and outstanding devotion to duty in the face of great danger undoubtedly saved many lives, both military and civilian, in addition to large amounts of vital war material, and reflects great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States."

Colonel Roland Birn, Corona, Long Island, New York Commanding Officer of the Allied Air Force Area Command, pinned the medals on the heroes in a ceremony at Foggia, Italy.

Major Letcher Gets Bronze Star for Salerno Action

Afro-American - Balt. Md.
7-21-45

IN ITALY—Major Henry M. Letcher, former Washington school teacher, recently received the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement in connection with his work with the 99th Fighter Squadron in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations, including North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Major Letcher, who has been executive officer of the 99th since August, 1943, was cited for his "Continual display of exceptional leadership, ability, aggressiveness, creativeness, and ability to improvise from captured and abandoned enemy equipment, serviceable equipment that was used by his squadron."

In Salerno Invasion

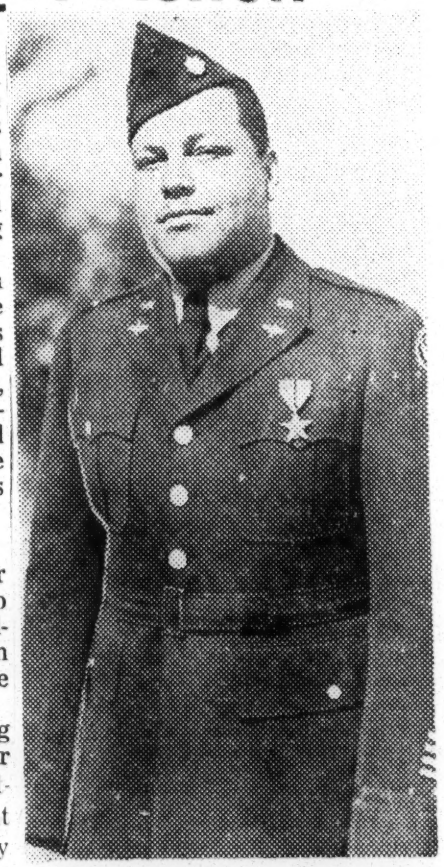
He was especially praised for his leadership during the Salerno Invasion, Sept., 1943, when an advance party of the 99th landed on the beach under his command. The citation read:

"Although the party was being fired upon intermittently, Major Letcher (then lieutenant) exhibited calmness, tact and excellent leadership ability by expeditiously directing the unloading of his squadron's motor transportation and equipment from the LST.

"Upon completion of this task, he personally directed his men to cover in the face of repeated shell fire from the enemy. During the same night, Major Letcher and his small party were assigned a sector of road to defend in case the anticipated breakthrough by the Germans materialized. The assignment was carried out in an exceptionally courageous manner by the entire party." 7-21-45

Major Letcher was in command of 80 men of the 99th at the time, the party arriving in Italy 20 days in advance of the remainder of the squadron. He wears nine service stars on his European-African-Middle East campaign ribbon.

He is married to Mrs. Evelyn H. Letcher, 239 Division Ave., N.E., Washington.



MAJ. HENRY M. LETCHER

Gets Bronze Star Medal As Eastland Libels GIs

The Informer - New Orleans - La.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. —(ANP)— Home on furlough, war-wounded Capt. Beauregard King, nephew of the Rev. B. G. King, prominent local clergyman, was notified of the "Award of Bronze Star medal," by Gen. McAuliffe "for heroic achievement in action."

This citation, ironically, was received by the battle-marked hero of the 614th Tank Destroyer battalion on the day Sen. Eastland of Mississippi was libeling Negro soldiers in the senate under immunity. 7-14-45

A comrade of Capt. King wrote him a letter in which was packed this striking comment.

"Gen. McAuliffe, who has gone back to the States, came out and gave the third platoon "C" company the Presidential Unit Citation ribbons, and Silver Star to Capt. Smith and Sturckey and Serreo Nelson. Nelson's platoon, with a platoon of light tanks from the 761st attached, tangled with the Krauts after we broke through the Siegfried line and had quite a hand to hand battle and did a lot of good work.

Sgt. Spencer banged one German over the head as the German was trying to shoot Nelson, and all in all, there was a lot of fighting, and good work on the part of our men." 7-14-45

The citation to Capt. King reads, "On March 15, 1945, Capt. King planned and organized a small task force for an attack on France. Leading his men in the attack, Capt. King was severely wounded by enemy automatic weapon fire. After falling to the ground, he called to his second in command and urged him to continue the attack, which resulted in the capture of the village and the taking of a number of prisoners. Capt. King's outstanding leadership reflected the highest tradition of military service."

56b-1945

Awards for Valor

Mariner's Medal Awarded 52-Year-Old Wounded Veteran Seaman for Heroism

AFRO-AMERICAN - 7-14-45

Balt, Md.

NEW YORK—For heroism and injuries received when his ship, the S.S. Agwimonte, was attacked on Jan. 12, 1943, Ralph Coombs, 51, boatswain and quartermaster in the Merchant Marine, was presented the Mariner's Medal on July 6.

The presentation was made during the fifth annual convention of the National Maritime Union at Manhattan Center.

Coombs, who lives here in New York City, was also given a statement signed by E. S. Land, head of the War Shipping Administration, congratulating him on receiving this award by authority of the Congress of the U.S.

Still Incapacitated

Still using a cane to support his injured leg and suffering from a broken left ear drum, Coombs gave for the first time his account of battle with the enemy for which he was cited.

The ship, sailing alone on a voyage heading back from Malta by way of the Cape of Good Hope, and carrying high explosives, had news that a convoy ahead of it was being blasted from the air, he said.

"We, ourselves, were being raided by enemy planes at least seven times a day," he said. "Suddenly, at about 11:30 p.m., we were attacked by a German raider.

Worked at Gun 6½ Hours

"I was in the messroom when I heard the alarm bell ring. Before I could get outside, the raider was throwing shells at us. I got to my station on the big 5-inch gun as the No. 1 loader.

"Actually, I worked at that gun from 11:30 that night until 6 in the morning, when the enemy was finally driven off and disappeared.

Stuck at Station

"During the action, a shell fell on my foot and it started bleeding. It bled for almost six hours—but I didn't leave my station. Meanwhile, the concussion from being near the big gun fractured the lower bone of my left ear."

Although the Agwimonte was scarred all over from the shells that hit it, he added, it didn't get a direct hit and no one else was injured seriously.

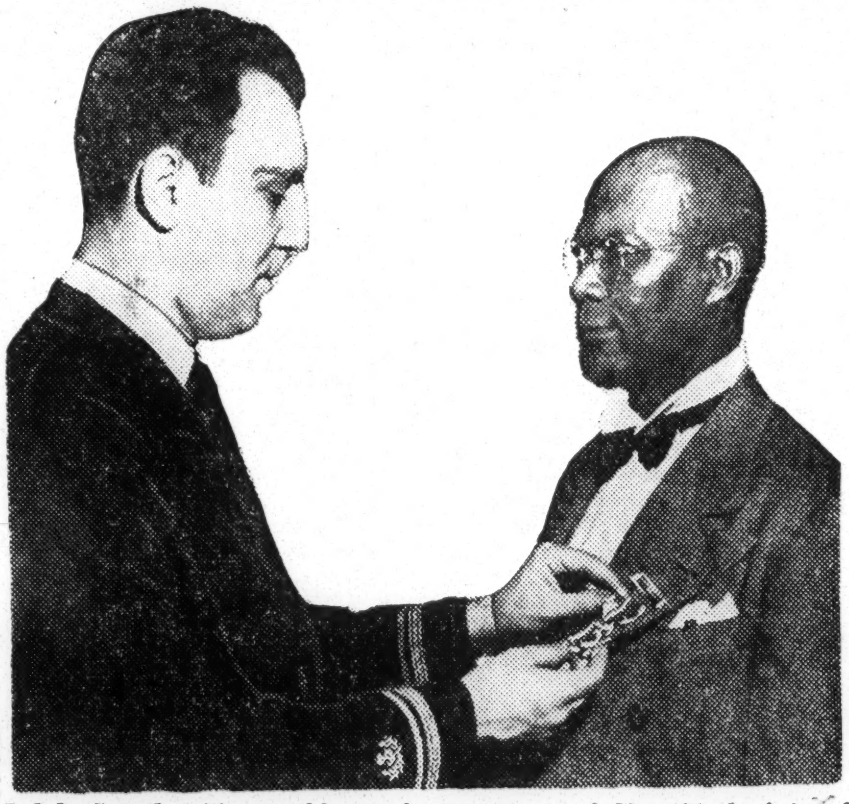
He said further that the extent of damage to the raider was not known but that she disappeared when daylight came. 7-14-45

"She was a bigger and faster ship than ours, and we had to keep zigzagging to keep from being hit," he explained.

Coombs, despite his injuries, has gone to sea several times since, and intends to ship out again next week. His ear is still very bad and he has a constant ringing despite all the medical attention he has had.

He has been in the Merchant Marine for 30 years and has traveled to Greenland, Iceland, Africa, Europe, Russia and all the theatres of this war. 7-14-45

Honored Before Maritime Union



Ralph Coombs, 52-year-old merchant seaman of New York, injured when his ship was attacked while returning from Malta, is shown as he received the Mariner's Medal for heroism at the National Maritime Union's fifth annual convention in New York City on July 6.

Forced to Abandon Ship

In addition to his Mariner's Medal, he also has a silver star and a Merchant Marine combat bar for having been torpedoed and for losing his ship in other engagements.

In that same year, 1943, a wolf pack of 34 German subs attacked and sunk his ship. He was forced to take to a lifeboat and was picked up by a British rescue ship and taken to Halifax.

SEVEN PACIFIC VALOR AWARDS

Pittsburgh Courier

HEADQUARTERS, 41st DIVISION, FAR PACIFIC—Within the past month, seven Negro soldiers have been decorated for acts of valor, while serving on the field of battle with the famed 41st Infantry Division.

The awards were presented by Maj. Gen. Jens A. Doe, commander of the Jungleers, at ceremonies held at this Far Pacific outpost. The recipients of the Bronze Star Medals are: 2-3-45

Sgt. Otho Hampton, Lexington, Miss.; Corp. Frank Greenwood, Freeport, L. I.; Pfc. James J. Jamison, New York City; Corp. John Weaver Jr., Wagoner, Okla.; Pfc. Paul Brown, Duson, La.; Corp. U. L. Brown, Fort Worth, Tex., and S/Sgt. Bernard Hall, Detroit.

Officers in Italy Win Silver Stars

Philadelphia Pa.

HEADQUARTERS 92nd Infantry Division, Italy — Two Negro officers, one who "set a heroic example of the fighting man's desire to close with the enemy and destroy him," and the other, whose "aggressive leadership was an inspiration to the officers and men of his organization," have been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy in Italy, the War Department announced today. 7-21-45

Recipients of the awards are First Lieutenant William E. Porter, 1018 west Spring street, Lima, Ohio, and Second Lieutenant Reuben L. Horner, 915 south Fremont avenue, Tuscon, Arizona, both members of the 92nd Infantry Division. 7-21-

D C Chaplain Wins Bronze Star Medal

New York N.Y.

Amsterdam News

Cited for Meritorious Achievement In Action Against Enemy, Feb. 8th

HEADQUARTERS, 92nd Infantry Division, Italy—For meritorious achievement in action against the enemy on February 8, 1945, Chaplain (Captain) Douglass F. Hall, 1325 Wallach Place, Washington, D. C., has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal. 7-21-45

A former Washington, D. C., newspaper reporter and columnist, Chaplain Hall is assigned to the 370th Infantry Regiment. The official citation reads as follows:

On February 8, 1945, while his battalion was in the attack against enemy positions, Chaplain Hall, the battalion chaplain, was in the forward areas giving comfort and encouragement to the men of the Anti-Tank Platoon.

"When wounded by enemy artillery which fell in the area, he, showing great courage and devotion to duty, and after having his wound dressed at the Battalion Aid Station, returned to the forward areas, where the men of his battalion were engaged with the enemy, and remained there throughout the action, giving comfort to the wounded and serving as an inspiration to the unit. During both static and moving situations, Chaplain was in the forward areas on numerous occasions, cheering the men on the front lines and offering all possible assistance.

"Chaplain Hall has constantly been a source of inspiration to the soldiers of his battalion and his devotion to duty reflects on the traditions of the United States Army."

Major Henry Letcher Gets Bronze Star

Norfolk, Virginia Journal & Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Major Henry M. Letcher has received the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, which includes North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. 7-14-45

Excerpts from citation and narrative are as follows: "Major Letcher has continually displayed exceptional leadership ability, aggressiveness, creativeness, and ability to improvise from captured and abandoned enemy equipment, serviceable equipment that was used by his squadron."

LED SALERNO PARTY

"On 19 August 1943, Major Letcher was appointed executive officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron by Colonel B. O. Davis. On September 12, 1943 of the Salerno Invasion, Section I of the advance party of the squadron landed on the beach at Salerno under the direct command of Major Letcher. Although the party was being fired upon intermittently, he exhibited calmness, tact, and excellent leadership ability by expeditiously directing the unloading of his squadron's motor transportation and equipment from the LST.

"Upon completion of this task he personally directed his men to cover in the face of repeated shell fire from the enemy. During the same night Major Letcher and his small party were assigned a sector of road to defend in case the anticipated breakthrough by the Germans materialized. The assignment was carried out in an exceptionally courageous manner by the entire party."

7-14-45

NINE SERVICE STARS

Major Letcher has been authorized to wear nine service stars on his EAME Theatre Ribbon.

Prior to his being called to active duty he served as instructor of ceramic art at Howard University; later he was appointed to the teaching staff at Phelps Vocational School in Washington, D. C.

Haiti Honors World Hero

N.Y. 7-21-45

New York Amsterdam News

GENERAL OF THE ARMY DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, center, is shown wearing Haiti's highest honor presented to him by the Girard Lescot, Haitian Foreign Minister, as Haitian Ambassador Andre Liautaud looks on with a smile of satisfaction. The ceremony took place in the Haitian Embassy in Washington last week. General "Ike" is shown wearing the Grand Cross of the National Order of Honor and Merit of the Republic of Haiti. M. Lescot, who was his country's chief delegate to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, is a son of Haiti's President Elie Lescot. 7-21-45

SYRACUSE, N. Y.
HERALD-JOURNAL
Circ. D. 100,292

JUL 13 1945

Negroes Prove Their Mettle as Soldiers

Lt. Vernon J. Baker of Cheyenne, Wyo., is the third Negro soldier to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in the present war. In a one-man assault against enemy positions which had been holding off his unit in Italy he killed five Germans and wounded four more.

Recently a Southern Senator declared that Negroes are poor soldiers. United States Army military authorities immediately denounced that statement as untrue. Lt. Baker has shown an example of the best kind of military service. Other Negroes, whole regiments of them, have proved their worth and valor and to belittle them as soldiers is unfair. The Negro race has done its part well in fighting for America.

Two Alabama Negroes Honored For Service

Two Alabama Negroes, Corp Henry P. Harvest, Montgomery, and Corp. Julius C. Adams, Route 2 Verbena, were listed yesterday by the War Department Bureau of Public Relations as being among members of the 262nd Quartermaster Battalion Headquarters who received Bronze Service Stars for the battles of Normandy, Northern France and Germany.

The 262nd, which landed in Normandy three days after D-Day as part of the First Engineer Special Brigade, has been supervising shipment of war supplies to combat troops since early days of the Normandy campaign. For its part in the beachhead operation it has been listed with other troops of the engineer brigade on a special stone monument built over the first German pillbox captured by brigade troops.

Honored by U. S.

N.Y. N.Y. Amsterdam News.

RALPH COOMBS, merchant seaman, who was awarded the Mariner's Medal last Friday in token of injuries received and the gratitude for devotion and sacrifice of his government. Mr. Coombs was wounded in January, 1943.

Taken Prisoner While in Italy

Afro-American Balt. Md.

Awarded Silver Star Posthumously

7-28-45

92ND VETERAN New Yorker Joined by Wife, Md. Wac

BALTIMORE

Literally returning from the dead, S/Sgt. John Williams, who was awarded a posthumous medal by the War Department, was reunited with his wife, a Baltimore Wac, at the home of his parents in Utica, N.Y., last week.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams, were notified in April of the Silver Star award to their son for gallantry, and he was reported by the Army Command headquarters in North Italy to have saved the lives of two friends at the cost of his own.

Visits in Baltimore

He and his wife, Sgt. Enolia D Williams of Camp Gruber, Okla. visited her family at 639 W. Lafayette Ave., on Wednesday.

The sergeant is now able to tell his own story. He had been overseas more than a year with the 92nd Infantry Division.

While leading a platoon assigned to cover a withdrawal, he and two other men were separated from their unit by a concentrated barrage of artillery. 7-28-45

Tackles Disguised Nazi

Later the three men approached a house guarded by a German in a U.S. uniform. They identified the German by his speech and as he drew his gun, Williams tackled and downed him.

The sergeant was taken prisoner, but his two companions, who escaped amidst a hail of German bullets, believed him mortally wounded and reported him as dead.

Liberated by 99th

He was liberated from a concentration camp by the 99th Division shortly before V-E Day and heard the victory broadcast while on a plane en route to Rheims.

The sergeant sent his own cablegram notifying his wife and parents that he was alive and well.

Wac Williams traveled from her station to Staten Island to meet her husband's troop ship.

The two have been married 18 months, and Mrs. Williams has been in the service 30 months. She has a mother, Mrs. Enolia Dyer Goodwin, and two sisters living at the Baltimore address. Before joining the Army, she was employed at the signal depot at Camp Holabird.

S/SGT. JOHN WILLIAMS

Two Brothers in Service

Sergeant Williams has two brothers in the service. They are Cpl. Fred L. Williams in France and Pfc. David Williams in the South Pacific.

Major Polk Gets Silver Star Medal Posthumously

AFRO-AMERICAN

Balt, Md.

PHILADELPHIA

The Silver Star Medal awarded posthumously to Major Willis D. Polk, local psychologist, who was killed in Italy on February 8, was presented to his daughter, Janice D. Polk, 4, during an impressive ceremony at the Custom House on Tuesday.

The presentation was made by Lt. Col. George R. Bookwalter in behalf of President Truman and the War Department. The citation was recommended on February 22, in Italy, by Maj. Gen. E. M. Almond, 92nd Division commander. 6-23-45

Guests at Ceremony

In addition to his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Polk, and mother, Mrs. Geneva Polk, present at the ceremony were Lionel M. Harper of Washington, Patrick J. McNelis, who represented local postal clerks, and members of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.

A native of Laurel, Del., Major Polk, a member of the 366th Infantry, was commissioned a second lieutenantin 1930, and was one of the city's highest ranking Army officers.

He was a graduate of Central High and Howard University, and received the master and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Pennsylvania.

The citation with the award stated:

"On February 8, in Italy, Major Polk was in command of an infantry battalion participating in task force operations of infantry, tanks, and engineers in an offensive against the enemy.

"During the planning of the attack, he displayed great initiative and zeal and had his men in a high state of willingness to close with the enemy before the jump-off time.

Killed by Sniper

"Shortly after the launching of the attack, the battalion's sector was subjected to intense enemy artillery and mortar fire. Major Polk then personally went out to encourage the troops and, while doing this, was hit by artillery fragments. 6-23-45

"Despite his wounds, he refused to be evacuated and remained with his troops. As he personally led them toward their objectives, he was hit and killed by an enemy sniper.

"His courageous determination and aggressiveness inspired the officers and men of his organization and exemplified the high traditions of the United States Army."

10 GI's in Mixed Combat Unit Honored for Heroism

AFRO-AMERICAN

Balt, Md.

6-23-45

GERMANY — In a ceremony deep within conquered Germany, ten colored doughboys of the 104th Timberwolf Division this month recieved the praises of five generals and awards they had won in combat while fighting alongside their white comrades. 6-23-45

"I have never seen any soldiers who have performed better in combat than you," Brig. Gen. Charles T. Lanham told the men. "I want you with us when we go after those Japanese."

Commander Proud of Men

"We're all proud of you," declared Maj. Gen. Terry Allen, division commander. "You're a better bunch of soldiers than the men I saw when you first joined the division back at Cologne."

Also present was Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, who told the former Quartermaster Corps soldiers, "You have been given a chance, and you have won the respect and friendship of your comrades."

Other generals present who commended the GI's were Brig. Gens. Richard C. Partridge, chief of staff of the Seventh Corps, and William Woodward, 104th Division artillery commander.

3 Receive Silver Star

Receiving the Silver Star were Pfc. June Jefferson, Jr., of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pfc. Ben T. Brown, Charleston, W.Va., and S/Sgt. Claude Pierce, Jr., Easton, Pa. The Bronze Star Medal was presented to the following:

T/Sgt. Leon A. Whitcroft, Clay, Pa.; Pfcs. Silas Smith, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Peter Dodson, Roslyn Heights, L.I., N.Y.; and James E. Hallums, Anderson, S.C.; Sgt. Ocie J. Calhoun, Flint, Mich.; T/Sgt. Howard Williams, Detroit, and S/Sgt. Garnet A. Travis, Lawton, Okla.

Fires Tank; Kills Crew

Pfc. Jefferson was decorated for crossing "open fire-swept terrain in face of direct fire" on Apr. 9, and dropping grenades into the open turret of an enemy tank, causing it to catch fire. As the crew emerged, he killed them with his rifle.

The Silver Star went to Pfc. Brown for saving the life of his platoon leader. He crawled 100 yards under enemy machine-gun fire to get to the wounded man, administered first aid, moved him, and then went for an aid man.

Also cited for helping to evacuate a wounded soldier was T/Sgt. Williams, who received the Bronze Star Medal.

Rescues Trapped Tankmen

Although twice knocked from a flaming tank on Apr. 13 by concussions of near misses from enemy artillery fire, S/Sgt. Pierce, then a private first class, climbed back, extinguished the fire, and removed the trapped crew.

Sgt. Calhoun was cited for exposing himself to lead his men into a town to make contact with another unit. He then led a squad in flushing out enemy soldiers and capturing several prisoners.

Encountering enemy troops on his return from a mission, Pfc. Smith therw his last grenade, setting a half-track afire, and then killed or captured several enemy troops.

Captured Tank Crew

The Bronze Star Medal was awarded to Pfc. Dodson for his courage in leading a patrol into enemy territory. Despite a wounded hand, he killed an enemy tank commander and the rest of the crew surrendered.

While a private first class, S/Sgt. Travis, as leader of a patrol was held up by gun fire, set out alone to eliminate it. He scored a direct hit on the gun, causing two enemy soldiers to surrender and the others to flee.

Helped Get Snipers

Private First Class Hallums was decorated for his action in helping to clear a town of enemy snipers, thus paving the way for a task force to go through the town without casualties.

The Bronze Star Medal went to T/Sgt. Whitcroft for fearless courage displayed in obtaining information which led to the disabling of an enemy tank which blocked the progress of an Allied column.

Bronze Star Given to 839th Engineer

Balt, Md.

AFRO-AMERICAN

IN THE PHILIPPINES—S/Sgt. Mazorne Elmore of Shelby, N.C., and a member of the 83rd Engineer Aviation Battalion, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic and meritorius achievement. 6-23-45

The North Carolinian was honored for singlehandedly building a levee around engineer equipment worth many thousands of dollars, thus saving it from the violent current of flood waters caused by a dam break farther upstream. 6-23-45

Sergeant Elmore entered the Army at Fort Meade, Md., in October, 1942. He has been overseas 22 months and has seen service in Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines. In addition to the Bronze Star Medal, he is entitled to wear a battle star on his Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine Liberation Campaign ribbons.

Soldier's Medal to Lt. Robinson

Balt., Md.

Risked Life to Save Troops in Fire

IS WITH 93RD

Mother Gets Citation From Son in Pacific

Afro-American

7-7-45

BALTIMORE

Lt. John C. Robinson Jr., of Baltimore, a member of the 93rd Infantry Division on duty in the Pacific has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for unusual heroism beyond the call of duty, his family was notified this week.

The citation, which was forwarded to his mothr, Mrs. Clara R. Overton of 1520 E. Monument St., recites how Lt. Robinson "at great risk to himself and through his own initiative and courage," evacuated injured and salvaged valuable property, when a plane crashed and burned in a bivouac area in the Los Negros Island in the Admiralty group.

Many Lives Saved

The crash endangered the lives of many troops then asleep in the area, and the citation says that Lt. Robinson, "succeeded in so inciting troops under him that lives were saved where they would have perished."

LT. JOHN C. ROBINSON

"With complete disregard for his own safety," the citation adds, "Lt. Robinson entered the conflagration of burning gasoline and exploding small arms ammunition and without hesitation began the evacuation of injured and salvaged valuable property . . . This action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Military Service . . . "

In Army 4 Years

Lt. Robinson is a native Baltimorean and the son of the late Dr. John C. Robinson. He is a graduate of Howard University and was employed as an airplane draftsman in Washington before induction.

He has served in the Army 4 years, the past 18 months in the Pacific. His wife, the former Miss Catherine Russell, is a graduate student at Atlanta University.

A brother, Kenneth, is a cadet at the Tuskegee Army Flying School.

Company Commanding Officer

Mrs. Overton said that in his last letter to her, her son mentioned that he was in a hospital for a cold. Since receiving notice of his heroism, she feels he might have suffered slight injuries.

In the letter, he also mentioned that he has recently been elevated to commanding officer of Co. K, but added that while he appreciated the honors, things would not look right until he could see Baltimore again.

ORLEANIAN AWARDED COVETED SILVER STAR FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION ON ITALIAN FRONT

New Orleans, La.

Louisiana Weekly 7-7-45

It is evident that Senator Eastland (Dem.) of Mississippi is willfully ignorant of the true facts concerning the Negro soldier's performance in World War II. Discrediting Senator Eastland's FEPC filibustering charge, made Saturday, that Negro troops were "abysmal failure" is the War Department's announcement of the Silver Star Award being made to New Orleans' own Captain William S. M. Banks Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William S. M. Banks Sr., of 3649 Erato Street, for gallantry in action in Italy on July 10, 1945. The Silver Star is the third highest ward, only the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross precede it. Captain Banks, former Dilard athlete, YWCA worker and school teacher, is only one of the many Negro soldiers who have performed with more credit to the American way of life on the battle front than the willfuly ignorant Senator from the backwoods of the Delta has in the Senate. 7-2-45

CAPT. W. S. M. BANKS, JR.

The citation which Captain Banks received is as follows: "William S. M. Banks Jr., 01295957, Captain, Infantry, United States Army. For gallantry in action from February 6, 1945, to February 14, 1945, in Italy. Captain Banks' company attacked and seized a heavily mined hill. During the following eight-day period, the enemy launched eight separate, determined counter attacks against the position. Captain Banks personally deployed his company each time, constantly supervising and encouraging his men and directing mortar and artillery fire time and time again. On one occasion he personally commanded a group that repulsed a hostile attacking force, killing one enemy officer and nine enlisted men. Captain Banks' extreme effective personal leadership of his company under combat conditions was in keeping with the gallant traditions of the United States Army. Entered military service from Fort Valley, Ga."

The citation was signed by Major General E. M. Almond, Commanding General of the 92nd Division at that time. Captain Banks was commander of Company E, 365th Infantry Regiment, attached to the 92nd Division.

Native Kansan Is Bunker Hill Hero

the Call, Kansas City, Mo.

By HARRY McALPIN

7-6-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — The second battle of Bunker Hill—70 years after the American Revolution was fought for freedom—like the first, had a Negro as the outstanding hero. He was Steward's Mate 1-c Herbert Coo Crawford, a native of Coffeyville, Kas., now of this city.

This battle of Bunker Hill was fought in the Pacific ocean against the Japanese. The Bunker Hill is an aircraft carrier, flagship of Admiral Marc Mitscher's Task Force. She was smashed by two Japanese suicide planes on the morning of May 11, according to Navy reports.

For hours, her crew battled against attacking planes and fire and explosions within the ship. It was a battle for survival. Credit for surviving is heavily heaped upon Crawford by the carrier's skipper, Capt. George A. Seitz, also of Washington.

For five hours, Crawford fought the fires despite the terrific heat and smoke. His refusal to quit or give way to the flames is credited with materially aiding the effort to control the raging fires, the Navy said.

The death list of the Bunker Hill numbered 373, and another 264 were wounded and 19 missing.

The ship was standing off Okinawa, and some of her planes were just returning for refueling, while others were battering Jap installations on the island. Suddenly, a single-engine Jap fighter plane wave-skimmed in from the starboard quarter, loosed a 500-pound delayed action bomb and crashed among 34 planes on the flight deck poised for a take-off. The smashing plane fired the deck immediately.

Within seconds, another Jap plane, a dive bomber, struck from astern, dropped a second 500-pound bomb that exploded on the gallery below the torn flight deck and then caromed into the deck at the base of the carrier's island and the bridge where Admiral Mitscher was directing the task force operations.

When the fires were brought under control, the ship limped under its own steam to Bremerton, Wash., where it is now undergoing repairs. 7-6-45

Crawford, the hero, is a native of Coffeyville, Kansas. He worked at the Clarifying company here before he went into the Navy in March, 1943. Two months later he was assigned to the Bunker Hill when she was commissioned, and he served on it in the European theater until August, 1944, when he was home on furlough.

His mother, Mrs. Douglas Crawford, of 92 S Street, S. W., said that he went to the Pacific early this year and had been in 13 invasions there.

Crawford has three brothers, Shore Patrolman 3-c Cecil B. Crawford on duty at Detroit Mich.; Corp. William L. Crawford who was honorably discharged from the Army in March; and Fred Crawford, a District employee. He has a sister Phyllis Crawford who works as secretary in a lawyer's office.

N.Y. Seaman Gets Mariner's Medal

afro-American

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK — The second colored merchant seaman to receive the coveted Mariner's Medal this month from the U.S. War Shipping Administration for injuries during the Sicilian invasion and heroism is George Watson, a veteran of 19 years at sea. 7-21-45

Watson, who lives at 313 W. 145th St., was one of only 15 men saved when his ship was destroyed by German dive-bombers. On board at the time were 168 crew members and 159 troops.

Trapped Amidship

"I guess it just wasn't my time to go," was the way he explained it to the AFRO last week. He said his ship was prepared to land the troops on the Sicilian coast when it was hit by enemy Stukas.

"I was trapped amidship and it took a little time before I could extricate myself and jump overboard. We knew the ship was doomed. Balt., Md.

I swam hard to get away from the fiery waters.

"I saw a drum of high octane gasoline from my ship floating around, and I grabbed it and held on, although it could have blown up at any minute." 7-21-45

Unconscious 3 Days

He was soon picked up by a PT boat and taken to a destroyer where he was given first aid. He had severe burns on his right hand, which was also ripped wide open. Watson still bears some bad scars on his hand.

"They transferred me to a hospital ship," he continued, "which went to Tripoli. When I got there, they found that I needed three and a half pints of blood plasma. I was unconscious for three days."

Lauds Army Treatment

"I want to give my thanks to the Army for the swell treatment they gave me," Watson said. "If it hadn't been for them, I wouldn't have survived."

He explained that he got along very well with all the white seamen on board his ship, even though he was the only colored man.

In addition to his Mariner's Medal, he has also received a Silver Star, indicating loss of ship in action.

"I've sailed all over the world," he told the AFRO, "and I expect to ship out very soon. I have no preference. I am willing to go anywhere they send me."

Watson is married, and has a 3-year-old son.

GEORGE WATSON

Awarded D. S C.

Philadelphia Tribune

Pa.

7-21-45

First Lieutenant VERNON J. BAKER, 25, of Cheynne, Wyoming, who recently was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action" with the 92nd Infantry Division in Italy. The intrepid platoon leader, who is the third Negro to win the DSC in this war, killed or wounded nine Germans while personally knocking out three enemy machine gun nests and an observation post. His wife, Mrs. Helen S. Baker, lives at 122 10th avenue, north, Birmingham, Alabama. — (Photo by Bon-Art from Bureau of Public Relations)

56b-1945

Awards for Valor

25-Year Old Negro Outstanding Hero of Allied Attack on Cherbourg

Savannah Tribune

Savannah Ga.

by Associated Negro Press Correspondent

2-12-45

Paris--(ANP)--Five hundred Nazis were either killed, wounded or captured by Antoinne Montbrun, a 25 year old Negro from Martinique, during the bloody battle of Cherbourg. Young Montbrun is acknowledged as the outstanding hero of Cherbourg. His dauntless courage and fanatical nationalism are comparable to that of the late Felix Eboue.

I was informed that Antoinne is the assistant jailer at the Mason d' Arrest and I immediately headed there for an interview. When I arrived at the ancient building, I found it untouched by the ravages of war in the town. It was typical of French prisons. There was even a quaint sound of antiquity in the resonance of the prison bell as I rang for admittance. The massive steel doors closed behind me with exacting promptness which might suggest an overture to a prison term. But I had come to interview a black hero and it was up to me to decide how long I wanted to remain in the jail.

I found myself closeted with a slim chocolate colored lad about five feet six inches, whose zealous patriotism, sparkling eyes and expressive hands convinced me that he only understood one language—that of fighting Germans. Antoinne's parents in Martiique are farmers but he decided not to follow the same occupation. He joined the merchant navy at 14 and was trained as a navigator.

Antoinne worked on a ship ship named the Orica and ran between L'Harye and America. When the war broke out he was going on a voyage to Valperaiso and Panama. His ship afterwards called at Halifax for important cargo which had to be delivered to England in a convoy. From England his ship went to Harve where he received his mobilization papers.

Young Antoinne immediately joined the navy, a place where he was best suited, and was assigned by request to serve on the Dilligant, a destroyer which was later bombarded off the coast of Holland. The Dilligant was towed into the harbor of Cherbourg just at the time when things had begun to look very serious for France.

Antoinne answered the urgent call for men to form a volunteer force in Cherbourg in order to stop the rapidly approaching Germans, who were threatening the very life of France at this time. Antoinne joined but France surrendered in the meantime. With Nazi cunning and daring, the Germans were rolling all over France with amazing swiftness. Antoinne's volunteer force established a line at Saint Sauvaur Levicomte just outside Valognes. But this line was easily cracked by the blitzkrieg tactics of Hitler's victorious panzer divisions.

The commandant gave orders to attack the Nazis wihtin range of fire. Nothing could have pleased the young warrior more than such a command Antoinne was in the front line of the forces. He was eager. The men in the rear told him not to shoot at the Germans in defiance of the commandant's order. 2-12-45

"I must obey," Antoinne replied. "Well,, replied his comrades, "If you aim at the Germans again we are going to shoot you. It is no use shooting at the Nazis when they have an overwhelming superiority of men and materiel. Let us lay down our arms and surrender."

The spirit of the young warrior had been crushed. He could not fight under the Teutons, a name used in contempt for Germans. Antoinne broke his rifle in despair and threw it into the river.

Fifteen minutes later Antoinne and his comrade were prisoers and en route to a concentration camp at St. Lo. They were not even given the "luxury" of a ride in a cattle van. They walked 55 miles to their imprisonment. The Germans immediately erectd the color bar. A large number of Senagelese was in the prison cage and together with Antoinne they were thrown into a separate camp 2-12-45

The Nazis, however, served the same slop to all prisoners but Negro prisoners were made to work in the snow for long periods during the perishing cold days of 1940 while the whites remained indoors. Some of the Negro prisoners died from undue exposure. They were fired upon by the Nazis on the slightest pretext, especially if they accepted food from civilians. But the Nazis will shoot anybody. On one occasion, three whites were shot and 3 wounded; one Negro was shot, four wounded.

2-15-45

After six months as a prisoner of the Nazis, Antoinne convinced them he was crazy. Antoinne and his pals had been transferred to Cherbourg where the German torture continued. Sometime a prisoner would be ordered to report to the guard house and upon his arrival the order would turn out to be a mistake. On the way back to his cell he would be shot in the back. Antoinne did not really collapse under the strain of prison life but the Germans thought so. They called in a French specialist to examine him and was told that Antoinne was positively crazy. The Nazis immediately released him with identity papers certifying that he was crazy.

Once free, Antoinne hurried to join the resistance movement. The local chief had seen Antoinne several times before and was impressed with his personality. The resistance movement chief warned Antoinne what kind of torture to expect if captured, namely, the pulling out of each finger nail; being poked with a hot iron and the slow roasting torture, which is to be placed in front of a fire to burn slowly. That did not frighten Antoinne.

2-12-45

He joined and was assigned to the action group. (The resistance movement was composed of two groups, the action group and the information group). Antoinne broke down in tears when he accidentally missed his first resistance movement assignment. But his chance came for action when the American army arrived in France.

He seized an abandoned German rifle and rushed to one of the forts in Place Divette. The god of Nemesis was now on his side and he had at last embarked on his revenge against the Teutons. At the Place Divette, he wounded a German and captured 77 others, turning them over to the first American troops. Later, he accompanied American troops across the town to Place Napoleon where he killed a German and climbed on top of an American tank to show the way to the arsenal where mines had been laid. Mounted on a German bicycle he directed two American soldiers to the Place Vasteville where he killed three Germans and captured 30 prisoners who were placed in an American truck and taken away 2-12-45

Antoinne knew exactly where the Germans were hiding, because there was excellent team work between the information department and theaction department of the resistance movement. By this time, night was approaching. They camped until the next morning, then started for Beaumont-Hague to join the American forces in that area and to find suitable position for the attack of Beaumont.

Antoinne killed two Nazis in Beauumont and six at Chebourg Before he finished his revenge he accounted for 500 Germans killed, wounded or captured.

The black hero of Cherbourg is slated for decoration soon.

DSC Winner On US Tour

N.Y. Post

The Voice

The second Negro to received the Distinguished Service Cross, Captain Charles L. Thomas, now in New York, was interviewed by the metropolitan press Tuesday morning at 90 Church st.

While participating in a battle to capture the village of Climbach, France, December 1944, Thomas was wounded in his chest, legs and left arm. Despite the pain caused by these wounds Thomas directed his men until he realized that he could no longer command. He signalled his platoon commander, and thoroughly oriented him on enemy gun disposition and the general situation. Only then did he permit himself to be evacuated. 7-28-45

All of his wounds have thoroughly healed except his arm which was badly shattered. He was in three hospitals in France and two in the States, where he has received treatments. He expects to have an operation upon the shattered nerves in his arm in the near future.

Thomas, who entered the army in 1942, went overseas last summer and returned this March. Before the war he was a student of aeronautical engineering at Wayne University. He plans on returning to school to study mechanical engineering after he is released from the army.

Lt. N. Alsbrook, Distinguished Fighter Pilot, Home on Leave

the Kansas City Call. 4-6-45

"For extraordinary heroism" is the citation listed on the papers accompanying a Distinguished Flying Cross, but 1st Lt. William Noel Alsbrook, home on leave from the Italian-African theatre of war, prefers to talk of the future he is planning for himself, his wife, the former Miss Louise Brown of Chicago, and their nine-month old son he had seen for the first time last Sunday.

Of course, there was the time that Capt. Creston Gleed told his men that "All of you Misters ain't comin' back this time," just before the most dangerous mission, and all did come back—that time. And Lt. Alsbrook lost the tail of his plane another time, when he was forced to bail out. But he likes to reminisce over his early ambition to be a flier.

Years ago, this Kansas City, Kas., boy who sold The Call was asked by his employer, Milton H. Bledsoe, Kansas side office manager, what he would like for a gift. "Airplane pilot's goggles" was the request. This was his first flier's "equipment." Now he speaks of strafing missions and daring exploits as we would discuss eggs for breakfast.

The Distinguished Flying Cross was awarded to the young veteran about 15 days before he left the combat area and because he has not seen the papers, the fighter pilot is not certain just which of his exploits are mentioned.

(In a news story by Max Johnson, war correspondent in Italy, published in The Call of March 9, there was an account of a "strafing field day" in which 80 enemy installations and supply trains in Southern Germany were destroyed or damaged. Ten locomotives, two enemy aircraft and a power station were completely destroyed. Lt. Alsbrook received the DFC for participating in this engagement, according to the correspondent.) 4-6-45

Strafing in Hungary and elsewhere, dive-bombing, escorting bombers over enemy areas, landing with only a three-minute supply of gasoline at another time—this is only a brief mention of his unusual experiences. For the last-named adventure, he was made a member of the Three-Minute Egg club, an unofficial but exclusive organization. The Caterpillar club, on whose roster are those forced to make a parachute jump, has his name on the roll. 4-6-45

Lt. Alsbrook has the air medal—for expert flying formation—plus three oak leaf clusters, each for additional achievement. There is no doubt that he will receive other awards.

About prejudice? "I have no cause for complaint," says the flier. "No favoritism whatever has been shown. Daring missions are always passed around to the six fighter groups in the same succession." To correct the misconception that all Negro fliers are in the 99th, Lt. Alsbrook explained: "The 332nd Fighter Group includes three squadrons—the 99th, the 100th, and the 301st. The 332nd Fighter Group includes all Negro fliers now in combat. Each fighter group has a different color for the tails of its planes—our are red."

A graduate of Sumner high school in this city, Lt. Alsbrook received two years' training in aeronautical engineering at the University of Kansas, before Pearl Harbor. His pilot training was at Tuskegee Air Field and at Selfridge Field in Michigan. He went to Europe as a replacement pilot in the original 99th Pursuit Squadron which later was transferred from the 12th to the 15th Air Force. 4-6-45

"Please remind everyone that the hometown papers, even those several months old, are always good news to us. We read every ad and keep up with the business places too.

"Now, commercial flying would be a great field—" and he was dreaming and planning again for his family—especially William Noel Alsbrook 2d—with whom he is visiting at 1148 Armstrong.

The distinguished flier is the son of Mrs. A. B. Hunt and the brother of James Alsbrook, a defense plant employe of this city. Another brother, Adolphus, lives in Minneapolis.

Kansas City

LT. and MRS. ALSBROOK and SON

RECENT REPORT THROWS LIGHT ON DEATH OF DORIE MILLER WHILE IN COMBAT ZONE

Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla. 1-27-45

Flattop Is Hit by Torpedo When Crew Believed All Enemy Ships Far Away

WAS STILL MESSMAN WHEN HE MET DEATH

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(ANP)—The true story of the death of Dorie Miller now stands revealed. In a thrilling account of the "Tragedy of the Liscome Bay," Robert L. Schwartz, Y 2-c, Yank navy correspondent, tells the story. "The baby flat-top, Liscome Bay, was sunk by a torpedo on the day before Thanksgiving of 1943," Schwartz begins his saga. "The Liscome Bay was on her first battle assignment covering the occupation of Makin in the Gilberts.

"The submarine attack was a complete surprise. It was the Liscome Bay's third day of the invasion and her crew had lost the tenseness that goes with the beginning of a long operation. Only their standard occupational alertness remained. The scuttlebatt reported that the nearest enemy ships were two days away.

"The torpedo struck a half-hour before dawn and it was still dark when the Liscime Bay sunk. 1-27-45

"General quarters had sounded at 0505, in keeping with the strict custom of sending men to their battle stations at dawn and at dusk in combat zones. Five minutes later a lookout shouted, "Christ, here comes a torpedo."

"It struck near the stern of the port side. The whole after section broke quickly into flames and mist of the crew stationed there died instantly.

"The casualty list for the Liscome Bay was the second largest of any navy vessel in the war. The complement for baby flattops has never been revealed, but they probably carry about half the 2000 men alloted to big aircraft carriers. Only 260 were saved.

"Ironically, many of those men who died in the after end of the Liscome Bay might have been saved if they hadn't been called to battle stations before the torpedo struck. They would have been asleep in the crew quarters forward. 1-27-45

"Most of the men in the stewards' branch of the navy are Negroes. They wait on tables, serve as orderlies and work in the officer's galleys.

"There was an unusual messman on the Liscome Bay. The son of an impoverished farmer near Waco, Texas, he had joined the navy to help his family earn a living.

"It was in the ill-fated Arizona that he became famous. During the Pearl Harbor attack he rushed to the bridge and manned a machinegun. For this action, Dorie Miller won the Navy cross.

"In the Negro world Dorie Miller became an idol. There were fan clubs organized for him and songs written about him. His mother was brought up from Waco for a big rally in Harlem. She spoke to the people there.

"I just got a letter from Dorie," she said. "He don't write much, but he said he thought he'd be home around 1945." 1-27-45

"Dorie Miller was in the after section of the Liscome Bay and was not a surviver."

It would have been interesting for the writer to have told some of the duties the Negro mess attendants have to perform during battle. They have the most dangerous assignments, for the most part, such as handling ammunition in the magazine and passing shells and powder up from the hold of the ship for gunners. They also have other assignments equally as dangerous.

56b-1945

Awards for valor

D. C. Chaplain Wins Bronze Star Award

Atlanta Daily World Ga.

HEADQUARTERS, 92nd Infantry Division, Italy — For meritorious achievement in action against the enemy on February 8, 1945, Chaplain (Captain) Douglass F. Hall, 1325 Wallach Place, N. W., Washington, D. C., has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

A former Washington, D. C. newspaper reporter and columnist Chaplain Hall is assigned to the 370th Infantry Regiment. The official citation reads as follows:

On February 8, 1945, while his battalion was in the attack against enemy positions, Chaplain Hall, the battalion chaplain, was in the forward areas giving comfort and encouragement to the men of the Anti-Tank Platoon.

"When wounded by enemy artillery which fell in the area, he showing great courage and devotion to duty, and after having his wound dressed at the Battalion Aid Station, returned to the forward areas, where the men of his battalion were engaged with the enemy and remained there throughout the action, giving comfort to the wounded and serving as an inspiration to the unit. During both static and moving situations, Chaplain Hall was in the forward areas on numerous occasions, cheering the men on the front lines and offering all possible assistance.

2-21-45

"Chaplain Hall has constantly been a source of inspiration to the soldiers of his battalion and his devotion to duty reflects on the traditions of the United States Army."

Ten Proud Doughboys Decorated in Germany

Union 6-23-45

Five generals praise infantrymen for heroic action in racially mixed combat units. Three of those honored are from New York. Make history for Negro troops.

N.Y.

WITH THE 104th TIMBERWOLF DIVISION IN GERMANY—In a ceremony deep within conquered Germany, 10 Negro Doughboys of the 104th Timberwolf division this month received the praises of five generals and awards they had won in combat while fighting alongside their white comrades against the enemy. They were former rear-echelon Quartermaster Corps soldiers who had asked for a chance at front-line infantry fighting. Now they were receiving the Silver Star and Bronze Star Medals they had won in that fighting.

"You have been given a chance, and you have won the respect and friendship of your comrades," Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis told the men, as giant transport planes circled overhead.

Their own commanding general, Major General Terry Allen of the fighting Timberwolves, pinned the medals on their uniforms.

6-23-45

"We're all proud of you," General Allen told them. "You're a better bunch of soldiers than the men I saw when you first joined the division back at Cologne" he added—and the Negro troops remembered the tough, realistic training they had received at the Timberwolf Reinforcement Training Center, the famed 104th camp where soldiers new to the front received combat tips from battle-wise veterans.

RECORD SPEAKS

The troops were proud themselves when Brigadier General Charles Trueman Lanham, the assistant division commander and a general who spent much of his time up front, told them: "I have never seen any soldiers who have performed better in combat than you."

Their record spoke for itself. They had taken many a town during the Timberwolf Division's lightning thrust past the Rhine. One of their men had been recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross, a decoration ranking only behind the Medal of Honor.

They smiled when the general told of the first Negro soldier he had seen in combat—a youth who had insisted on wiping out an enemy sniper's post although already painfully injured—but they remembered how nervous they had been when the first machine gun bullets went over their heads, and how their hatred for the Nazis had overcome that "stage fright" which inevitably comes to all fighting men. They applauded enthusiastically when General Lanham thundered: "I want you with us when we go after those Japanese."

6-23-45

Also present at the ceremony were Brigadier General Richard C. Partridge, chief of staff of the Seventh Corps, and Brigadier General William Woodward, 104th Division artillery commander. Colonel Bartholomew R. DeGraff, chief of staff of the Timberwolves, read the citations, and the 104th Division Band, one of the few bands in the European Theater to win the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque, played the "Star Spangled Banner" on the field where Nazi storm troopers had once goose-stepped to the strains of the "Horst Wessel."

The Silver Star, for gallantry in action, was awarded to Pfc. June Jefferson jr, of Brooklyn, NY; Pfc. Ben T. Brown of Charleston, W. Va; and Staff Sgt. Claude Pierce jr, of Easton, Pa. The Bronze Star, for heroic action beyond the line of duty, went to Sgt. Ocie J. Calhoun, of Flint, Mich; Tech. Sgt. Howard Williams, of Detroit; Pfc. Silas Smith, of Brooklyn, NY; Pfc. Peter Dodson, Long Island, NY; Staff Sgt. Garnet A. Travis of Lawton, Okla; Pfc. James E. Hallums, of Anderson, SC, and Tech. Sgt. Leon A. Whitcroft, of Clay, Pa.

How Lt. Baker Won the DSC

Afro-American

(REPRINT FROM THE BUFFALO-)

Lt. Vernon Baker of Cheyenne, Wyoming always did like to fire a rifle—ever since he was a kid.

This week he became the first colored officer of the 92nd Infantry Division and in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations to win the Distinguished Service Cross—the nation's second highest award.

He's won the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, but had his field day on April 5, when his deadeye marksmanship and coolness won him the DSC.

Thought His Number was Up

Baker had a premonition this day, he'll tell you, thought his number was up, and wore his new officers' "greens" just in case.

It was a dawn attack. The 92nd Division's 370th Infantry regiment was to take the high ground to the right of Highway 1 on the coastal anchor of the Gothic line. C company was ordered to take Hill X.

8-4-45

Left Weapons Platoon

Hill X was a key terrain point, overlooking the Ligurian sea coast and before any concerted drive up the coastal drive could materialize, it was necessary to wipe out the enemy installations on this vantage spot.

The rolling barrage of artillery had already started. The first volley fell short. Lt. Vernon Baker, a short, wiry-framed youth, led his weapons platoon up the draw toward the objective. A rifle platoon had gone ahead and had already reached more than halfway up Hill X.

Deploys Machine Guns

Baker decided to move his platoon on ahead quickly, to stay ahead of the artillery barrage falling at ten-minute intervals. Then with his objective in sight, he deployed his machine guns to cover the approach of the riflemen.

As he moved forward to reconnoiter, he noticed two cylindrical objects pointing out of a slit in a mound at the very edge of the hill overlooking the flat land.

Thinking they were machine gun barrels, he crawled slowly towards the mound, stuck his M-1 rifle into the opening. He waited for almost 60 seconds and when nothing happened, looked into the aperture.

Baltimore, Md

Kills Germans

There were two Jerries there; one slumped over in his chair next to a BC scope which Baker thought at first was a machine gun.

The other German was crawling toward a stack of "potato-masher" grenades and just as he reached for one Baker wheeled to the other end of the observation post, pulled the pin from one of his own grenades, and tossed it inside.

He then quickly cut the telephone wires, placed a hand grenade in the cradle of the BC-scope, pulled the pin and moved out of the OP.

Breakfast "Kaput"

As he moved forward to another position, he stumbled upon a well camouflaged machine gun nest, but the two-man crew was away from the gun, only a few yards, eating breakfast.

The breakfast ended suddenly for these two Jerries and then Baker set up his own machine gun crew at the same spot.

German Misses Mark

The small ravine approaching the objective had to be cleared of the enemy and Baker rejoined his company commander for further orders.

While the two officers were discussing plans, a Jerry popped out of a concealed dugout just below them and tossed a hand grenade which fell long from its mark and failed to explode.

Seeing he missed, the German darted for the dugout as Baker took aim. It was the last grenade thrown by this member of the Werhmach (sp).

8-4-45

Wipes Out Enemy Fort

Sensing more trouble, Baker immediately procured a sub-machine gun, several enemy "potato-mashers" he acquired at the first enemy observation post.

He retraced his steps to proximity of the dugout and when another unwary German soldier, shirtless, raised his head—that was the end of him.

Wasting no time and taking no chances, the Cheyenne platoon leader pumped the remainder of a thirty-round magazine into the well-constructed enemy fort and then tossed his two captured mashers for good measure.

Mortar Barrage

A pall of smoke shrouded the entrance. He waited for it to clear and entered cautiously. It seems another breakfast came to an abrupt halt; three enemy soldiers lying motionless on the floor.

When Baker rejoined his company commander, he learned that a hand-grenade fight had developed and that enemy mortar fire was taking heavy casualties.

Enemy Ruse Fails

Somewhat later the enemy unleashed another heavy mortar barrage which preceded a Jerry counter attack in platoon strength.

The enemy soldiers disguised themselves as medics and advanced under the protection of a flag bearing a red-cross insignia.

But when Jerry attempted to set up a machine gun carried by disguised litter-bearers, they became easy targets and the cheap ruse ended with dead and wounded strewn on the southern slope of the battalion objective.

The wounded had to be taken out and Baker volunteered to cover the evacuation with his accurate marksmanship.

As he started to leave, another mortar barrage fell in the area and four Jerries appeared on the hill's crest.

From his concealed position behind a bush, Baker knocked off one and waited for the others to re-appear.

Two More Nests Erased

Nothing happened so he caught up with the eight men evacuating the wounded. A Jerry sniper killed the only medic left and mortar wounded a member of the platoon.

The sniper was accounted for, but more trouble was encountered as the party ran into two machine gun nests by-passed earlier in the attack.

Covered by the fire of one of his men, Baker then moved slowly to the positions and destroyed them both with hand grenades, clearing the way for the safe evacuation of the wounded to the battalion aid station at the bottom of the hill.

Hill X was still a stumbling block. But, meanwhile, Lt. Vernon Baker had himself a field day.

He always liked to fire a rifle—ever since he was a kid.

Seven Engineers Decorated For Heroism In Italy

Atlanta Daily World

Put Out Fires Of Cars Loaded With Explosives

G2.

HEADQUARTERS, AA SERVICE COMMAND, Mediterranean Theater of Operations—Seven Negro Engineers, who ignored the intense heat of blazing freight cars packed with explosives to bring a threatening holocaust under control, have been awarded the Soldiers Medal, it was announced today.

7-21-45

All members of the 1246th Engineer Composite Platoon, they were: Technician Third Grade Manuel Reed, Liberal, Kansas; Sgt. Samuel L. Brantley, 566 Erstine St. Detroit Mich.; Sgt. Octav M. Jensen 200 W. 130th St., New York; Cpl. George A. Bradley, DeFuniack, Fla.; Technican 5th Grade, Dallas Austin, Holly Springs, Miss.; Pfc. Harold Bardell, 2913 Belmont St. New Orleans, La.; and Pvt. Rufus Barner, Iverness, Mississippi.

Following is the official citation:

"For heroism. On December 13 1944, a fire broke out in the freight yards of Foggia, Italy, where numerous rail cars filled with bombs of varying sizes and gasoline tanks were side tracked awaiting delivery to their destination. Two tank cars and two loads of fragmentation bombs were ablaze when the crew responded to the alarm and, disregarding the danger of an explosion at any moment, they immediately began segregating the burning cars, thereby reducing the possibility of the fire spreading.

"They continued to brave the intense heat of the burning cars until the blaze was completely extinguished and the bombs cooled sufficiently to eliminate the danger of an explosion. Their resolute courage and outstanding devotion to duty in the face of great danger undoubtedly saved many lives, both military and civilian, in addition to large amounts of vital war material, and reflects great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States."

7-21-45

Colonel Roland Birn, Corona, Long Island, New York Commanding Officer of the Allied Air Force Area Command, pinned the medals on the heroes in a ceremony at Foggia, Italy.

6 Aboard Carrier Get Bronze Star

Afro-American

Stayed at Guns Until Plane Crashed Deck

Baltimore, Md.

ALL STEWARD'S MATES

8-4-45

First Reported to Have Received Navy Cross

NORFOLK, Va.—For heroism in action aboard the aircraft carrier USS Intrepid on Oct. 19, six steward's mates who manned their anti-aircraft guns until a Japanese suicide plane crashed in flames among them have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Earlier reports from official Navy Department sources said that the six steward's mates had been awarded the Navy Cross, but the release was withdrawn with no explanation of why the less significant Bronze Star was substituted. Consistent failure of the U.S. armed forces to award the higher decorations to deserving colored service men has been the subject of considerable public comment.]

The men, all volunteers, had been assigned to operate the 21-millimeter gun by the gunnery officer of the Intrepid, an Essex class carrier which was damaged four times by attacking Japanese planes.

Those awarded the Bronze Star are:

Eli Benjamin, 20, SM2/c, Norfolk, Va.; Johnell Copeland, 19, SM2/c, Haines City, Fla.; Harold J. Clark, 25, SM1/c, West Palm Beach, Fla.;

Que Gant, 22, SM1/c, Atlantic City, N.J.; James E. Dockery, 38, SM1/c, Newark, N.J., and Alonzo A. Swann Jr., 19, SM1/c, Steelton, Pa.

The awards were made by Vice-Admiral John S. McCain (USN), commander of Task Force 38, who cited each man "for distinguishing himself by heroic and meritorious conduct in operations against the enemy."

The citations accompanying the medals are identical and read as follows:

"When a Japanese dive-bomber attacked from the starboard side of the ship, he continued to operate his portside gun in its fire over the flight deck, although it became apparent that the enemy plane was headed directly for his gun tub.

Four Formerly Wounded

'His gun fired until the enemy plane crashed into his tub. The courage and skill he displayed were at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service."

Benjamin twice has been wounded during action with the Fast Carrier Task Force in the Pacific, while Clark, Swann and Dockery also have been wounded in action.

Bronze Star for Sergeant Major

Pittsburgh Courier

WITH THE 93rd INFANTRY DIVISION IN THE PHILIPPINES—For meritorious service in the support of military operations against the enemy at Finschhafen, New Guinea, M/Sgt. William E. McKoy, who already wears the Good Conduct Medal, the Pre-Pearl Harbor Ribbon, and the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Ribbon, with two Battle Stars, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

8-11-45

The award was presented to Sergeant McKoy, while the Ninety-third Division was on Morotai.

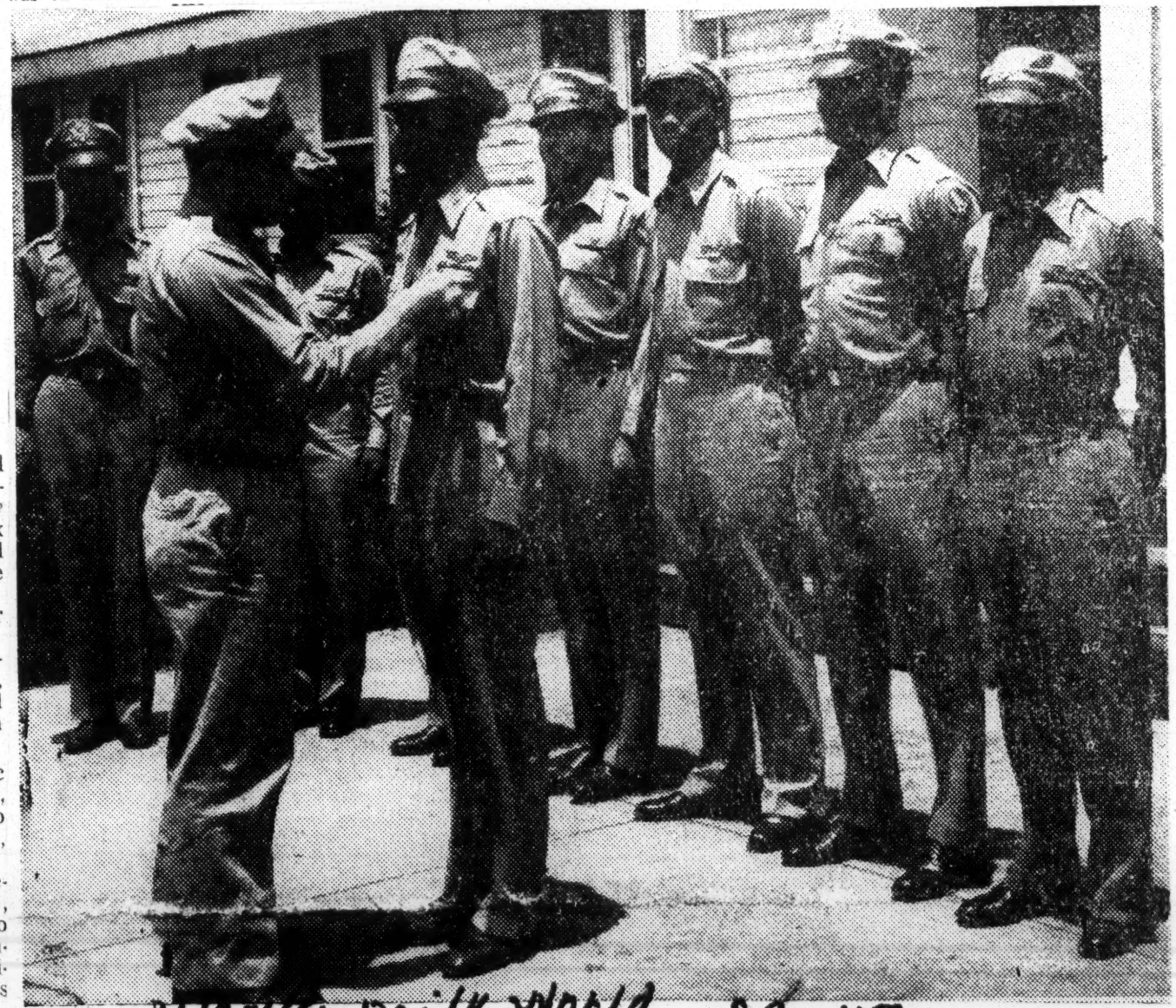
969th Artillery Given Citation

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—For its historic nine-day stand at Bastogne last December, during the Battle of the Bulge, the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, composed of colored enlisted men and white officers, was given a Presidential citation last week in Vouziers, France.

When the award of the Presidential citation to the 101st Airborne Division first was announced earlier this year, no mention was made of the 969th, but this and other attached units were included later.

Actual presentation to some units was delayed because they were on the move through Germany when the 101st was honored.



Atlanta Daily World 8-9-45

PILOTS RECEIVE DFC AT T.A.A.F.—8 veteran combat pilots were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross at the Tuskegee Army Air Field recently for outstanding service with the 332nd Fighter Group in the European Theatre of Operations.

Lt. Col. Donald G. McPherson, Deputy Commander, is shown pinning the medal on Capt. Leonard M. Jackson, Fort, Worth, Texas. The other honored officers are, reading from letf to right: Capt. Elwood T. Driver, Trenton, N. J.; Capt. Arnold W. Cisco, Alton, Ill.; Capt. Luke J. Weathers, Memphis, Tenn.; Capt. Howard L. Baugh, Petersburg, Va.; 1st Lt. Herman A. Lawson, Marysville, Calif.; 1st Lt. Dempsey W Morgan, Jr., Detroit, Mich., and 1st Lt. Leonard F. Turner, Washington, D. C. (Offical U S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command)

Kansas Citian One of Group Decorated

Mo.
Kansas City
The Call
1-26-45

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent in Italy

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY.—Official recognition for their outstanding heroic activities during clashes with the enemy on this Fifth army front, brought silver and bronze stars this week to 25 members of the 92nd division. 1-26-45

Silver Star decorations went to: 2nd Lt. Theodore O. Smith, Washington; 1-Lt. Melvin W. Walker, Covington, Ky.; S-Sgt. William F. Morris, New York City.

Bronze Stars were awarded: Pfc. Milton Hall of Kansas City, Mo.; 2-Lt. Millard B. Smallwood, TSgt. Albert T. McReynolds, Sgt. James Daugherty, all of Washington; S-Sgt. Eugene Jones, Roanoke, Va.; Pfc. Samuel Corbett, Durham, N. C.; Sgt. Richard O'Neal, Trenton, N. J.; Pvt. James M. Wilson, Paulsboro, N. J.; S-Sgt. Ernest F. Prescott, T-5 Garvall H. Booker, Pfc. Jethro Spikes, all of New York City; S-Sgt. Francis J. Minton, New Rochelle, N. Y.; Pvt. Camille DuBois, Hartford, Conn.; Chaplain Lt. Col. Louis J. Beasley, Atlanta, Ga.; T-Sgt. Arthur Long, Tampa, Fla.; Sgt. Charles W. Francis, Selma, Ala.; S-Sgt. James Talbert, Mobile, Ala.; Sgt. Thomas Ruff, Jacksonville, Fla.; Cpl. Henry Small, Compti, La.; Pvt. Willie F. Teal, Buena Vista, Ga.; S-Sgt. Howard Washington, Cpl. Ernest Hamilton, both of Houston, Texas; S-Sgt. Keith A. Goodall, Los Angeles, Cal. 1-26-45

Outstanding among the citations was that which brought a Silver Star to Lt. Smith 1924 Howard university graduate, formerly employed by the postal section of the war department in Washington. Smith was decorated for leadership with a small patrol which successfully accomplished a difficult mission, the night of Jan. 11, capturing some and the extermination of other units of enemy troops from mountainous fortified positions of costal sector on this fifth army front.

Smith led his 14-man patrol two miles across a mined area, through enemy lines to climb from a rear mountain to the top where the enemy unit was holding out.

Smith and his men captured two Germans and killed four others there. 1-26-45

Lieutenant Walker, a member of Unit number 1, won the Silver Star for gallant action December 29 when he directed a raiding party across the enemy observed canal to successfully destroy the hostile installations, despite the intense opposition.

S-Sgt. Morris, a member of the 92nd Cavalry reconnaisance unit, won the Stars for directing effective artillery fire on the enemy during the recent Serchio River affair and holding the strong point in face of the heavy mortar and automatic weapon, fire, until his outnumbered unit could effect an orderly withdrawal to previously prepared fortifications.

Most of the Bronze Star awards were for bravery on Parto or during enemy fire, which enable the successful accomplishment of missions or resulted in safeguarding the lives of comrades.

Lieutenant Smallwood is among the latter classification. He is credited with saving the life of a wounded soldier November 15, by stopping a vehicle on the road in the midst of intense army fire to pick up a man from the roadside and drive him to the Medical Station. 1-26-45

T-Sgt. McReynolds, a platoon sergeant, was cited for single-handedly holding off the unit enemy with a machine gun while the platoon withdrew to safety during an operation November 18, when they faced unexpected opposing machine gun mortar fire.

Chaplain Beasley was cited for his action November 1 when enemy artillery fire forced him to abandon a Jeep near the front lines and wounded three soldiers in a building where he sought protection. He hastily extricated them safely to an Aid Station despite the continued shelling.

S-Sgt. Prescott won an award for the invention of a device adding greater stability to the Base Plate 81 MM guns and thereby increasing their effectiveness.

Sergeant Minton, a member of the Combat Engineer battalion, was cited for heading a Platoon December 21 which constructed a badly-needed bridge at an extremely difficult point in record time. Others cited were:

Colonel Howard Queen, of Parkersburg, Tenn., former head of the infantry regiment, in this theater, is on his way home and the outfit is now headed by its former executive officer. Illness is believed to be the basis of his relief of command. Colonel Queen has been ill for the past two months.

GALLANTRY LAUDED BY TASK FORCE CHIEF

Ill.
Chicago Defender
1-20-45

Detroit Captain May Get Distinguished Service Cross

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH 7TH ARMY IN ALSACE—"For my boys I would not take all the gold in the world!"

That stirring tribute was bestowed this week on the surviving soldiers of a heroic Negro tank-destroyer battalion which smashed through the strong German Siegfried line into the Saar basin.

It came from Lt. Col. Frank Pritchard of Lansing, Mich., commander of the unit and respected by his men as a father, on the occasion of awards for 30 soldiers for heroism in the stirring battle fought viciously from Climbach to the Siegfried line.

Many fell in the fight but never flinched. 1-20-45

One stalwart, Capt. Charles L Thomas of Detroit, won outstanding glory and has been recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross.

Thrilling Saga

Near the front lines where many of their comrades were mowed down by Nazi bullets, I heard the thrilling saga of the unit's terrific drive into Germany

It was a story of "too much heart and courage" beating back virtually superior Nazi firepower

Lt. Col John P. Blackshear of Charleston, S. C., task force commander, paid his respects to the pluck of the Negro troops with the comment:

"I never saw so much mass bravery." 1-20-45

But it was the inspired individual soldiers, every man a hero on his own, that displayed gallantry on the field.

There were men like Captain Thomas, who won his DSC citation, by defying Nazi fire to answer with burst for burst from his machine gun.

Meet Blanket of Fire

Leading the column uphill was Captain Thomas in an M-20 armored car with Cpls. Bradley Norman and Horace Whitfield of Durham, N. C., and Benjamin Shinsoster of Metter, Ga. Halfway up the incline, the column was met with a blanket of Nazi mortar, machine gun and artillery fire.

When the column halted temporarily, Captain Thomas informed the task force commander, Lt. Col Blackshear, "I'm going ahead."

Flanking the approaching U.S troops on a high ridge, the Nazis, anticipating a field day, gave the oncoming column "everything in the book." 1-20-45

In the first barrage, one German shell struck the windshied of of Thomas' vehicle, while another ripped the wheels from the light armored car. Scrambling to the .50-caliber machine gun atop the car, the captain proceeded to answer the Nazis burst for burst.

When wounded, Thomas was immediately replaced by Norman and Whitfield who gave a splendid account of themselves until they were also hit. Capt. Thomas managed to crawl under the overturned armored car as Lt. George W. Michell of 1300 Carolina street, Gary, Ind., assumed command.

Reinforcements Arrive

Lt. Michell ordered two tank-destroyer guns towed from the rear of the column by M-3 halftracks, set into position and manned by 10-man crews while the Germans poured their relentless fire on open terrain targets.

Skilfully directing fire into Nazi strongholds, Pvt. Leon Tobin of Monroe, La., took everything they could offer while his comrade lay mortally wounded beside him. When Cpl. Peter Simmons, after giving everything he had, was silenced by enemy fire, Pvt. Whitl Knight jumped into position to knocked-out armored car, dragged him out, and under withering shell fire, walked 100 yards with the wounded officer in his arms to medical aid. Sgt. Paul Warner of Cressmon, Tenn., ran 75 yards under fire to give the company commander first aid.

Into the Reich!

In spite of the fact that they remained under fire for five hours with dead and wounded comrades all about them, a gallant band of 54 American soldiers marched up the hill arm in arm to penetrate the Siegfried line and enter the Reich. 1-20-45

Lt. Col. Frank Pritchard of Lansing, Mich., commander of the TD unit and respected by his men as a father, was visibly shaken after the battle but said quietly "For my boys I would not take all the gold in the world." Thus did another Negro combat unit combine with fellow soldiers to give their all for democracy for all peoples of the world.

Said Lt. Col. Blackshear, "I never saw so much mass bravery."

With tears streaming down his cheeks, Lt. George W. Mitchell named the dead and wounded of his outfit. Recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross was Capt. Charles L. Thomas while the Silver Star went to Pvt. William Phipps of Littleton, N. C., who drove his quarter-ton truck into enemy fire but managed to reach his wounded mates.

Silver Stars were also awarded to Cpl. Peter Simmons, Lt. George Mitchell and Pvt. Leon Tobin.

Awarded the Bronze Star were Lt. Floyd J. Stallings, Cpls. Whitl Knight, Robert W. Harris, James A. Perry, Thomas C. McDaniels, Al Hockaday and Sgts. Dillard Booker, William Tabron and Paul Warner. 1-20-45

Chicagoans with the outfit are Lts. Leonard I. Burch, Joseph L. Keeby, Preston Helm, Ormond Forte and Milton B. Beas.

Two more guns from the rear skirted tanks stalled in mud to reinforce the firing. Sgt. Dillard Booker, a New Yorker, set his gun up in an open field under intense fire and wiped out a harassing enemy machine gun nest. Eagle-eyed Pvt. Thomas McDaniel, Chattanooga, sighting a group of enemy grenadiers attempting to outflank his unit's guns, hopped on a halftrack, manned a .50-caliber machine gun and mowed them down as they crept into position.

Brings Ammo Thru

While men of the 511th Infantry and engineers were being cut down by an extremely effective machine gun nest as fast as they moved up the hill, Cpl. James Perry moved his gun into pinpoint position and blew the worrisome nest to bits. Although seriously wounded, Sgt. William L. Tarbon of Wilson, N. C., continued to swing the orbit of his .50-caliber machine gun mechanically until, exhausted, he toppled from the turret on the halftrack.

Lt. Michell, moving from gun to gun, sighting, firing and supplementing empty gun positions, ordered more ammunition from the rear. At breakneck speed, Cpl. Robert W. Harris, Marcelline, Mo., wheeled his three-quarter-ton truck loaded with ammo past the task force commander who hailed him down with, "You can't go up, you'll be certain to get hit!"

Disregarding orders and self-safety, Harris replied, "Out of my way, sir, I'm going to my buddies!" and rushed the vital shells to the exhausted guns as bullets and mortar shells bounced off and near his truck. 1-20-45

Many Casualties

Twenty-five yards from the gun positions, Harris found only dead and wounded. Ignoring danger, he unloaded the ammunition at each weapon while a steady barrage of fire whistled past.

Renewed fire came from a gallant little band on the crest of a hill and Pvt. Lucius Riley, spotting a straggling band of infantrymen, leaped from his three-inch gun to man one of the .50s on a halftrack and got a "full house." Seeing two German tanks stealing out into the open, he darted to a TD gun and knocked them out of While firing singlehanded, an enemy round caught him and blew the lower portion of his legs and limbs off while he held the lanyard in his hand. Cpl. Al Hockaday of Roanoke, Va., took over and manned two guns by himself, pulling the lanyards simultaneously. 1-20-45 Rescue work was handled efficiently by Lt. Floyd J. Stallings who, although exposed to enemy fire constantly, drove up to Capt. Thomas'

DFC's Awarded 64 Pilots of 332nd in 14 Months

Afro-American
Balt., Md.
4-7-45

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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15th AAF BASE IN ITALY — Sixty-four pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group here commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., have been awarded Distinguished Flying Crosses since the group has operated overseas during the past fourteen months.

The DFC, one of the Air Corps's highest citations, has been awarded the following pilots in the group, according to tabulations made public here this week:

Col. Davis, 32, 1721 S Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C.
Maj. George S. Roberts, 26, of 317 Quarry Avenue, Fairmount, W.Va.
Maj. Lee Rayford, 26, of 1822 Ninth Street, Northwest, Washington.
Capt. Edward C. Gleed, 28, of 1721 Ohio Street, Lawrence, Kans.
Capt. Jack D. Holsclaw, 26, of 2301 W. College Ave., Spokane, Wash.
Capt. Arnold W. Cisco, 24, of 1129 Highland Avenue, Alton, Ill.
Capt. Joseph D. Elsberry, 23, of 1114 N. Washington, Langston, Okla.
Capt. Claude E. Govan, 28, 142 Somerset Street, Newark, N.J.
Capt. Harold E. Sawyer, 24, 1587 North Star, Columbus, Ohio.
Capt. Andrew D. Turner, 25, 1000 Westford Place, Northwest, Washington, D.C.
Capt. William T. Mattison, 30, 1213 Markham St., Washington, D.C.
Capt. Woodrow W. Crockett, 26, of 613½ Vine St., Little Rock, Ark.
Capt. Lawrence E. Dickson, 24, of 220 W. 11th Street, New York, N.Y.
Capt. Samuel L. Curtis, 25, 188 Fairview Avenue, Yeadon, Pa.
Capt. Lowell C. Stewart 26, 1407 E. Washington, Los Angeles.
Capt. Clarence D. Lester, 22, 5321 Prairie Avenue, Chicago.
Capt. Melvin T. Jackson, 26, Warrenton, Va.
Capt. Vernon V. Haywood, 24, 902 Manley Street, Raleigh, N.C.
Capt. Dudley M. Watson, 25, Frankfort, Ky.
Capt. Gwynne W. Peirson, 23, 865 Forty-fifth St., Oakland, Calif.
Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt, 24, 4569 Garfield Avenue, St. Louis.
Capt. Milton R. Brooks, 28, 411 Harrison Street, Glassport, Pa.
Capt. Luke J. Weathers, Jr., 24, 601 South Lauderdale, Memphis.
Capt. Freddie E. Hutchins, 24, 208 N. Bowling St., Donaldsonville, Ga.
Capt. Charles B. Hall, 25, of 80 S. Eighteenth Street, Terre Haute, Ind.
Capt. Alfonza W. Davis, 25, 2118 N. Twenty-ninth Street, Omaha, Neb.
Capt. Edward L. Toppins, 29, 1519 Baker Street, San Francisco.
Capt. Howard L. Baugh, 25, 93 Lee Avenue, Petersburg, Va.
Capt. William A. Campbell, 27, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala.
Capt. George E. Gray 24, 809 McDowell Street, Welch, W.Va.
Capt. Leonard M. Jackson, 25, 1200 Missouri Avenue, Fort Worth, Tex.
Capt. Albert H. Manning, 27, 269 Cemetery Street, Spartanburg, S.C.
Capt. Henry B. Perry, 25, of 519 N. Oak, Thomasville, Ga.
Capt. John Daniels, 29, 15214 Vine Avenue, Hartey, Ill.
Capt. Alva N. Temple, 29, Carrollton, Ala.
Capt. Clarence W. Dart, Jr., 24, of 506 DeWitt Ave., Elmira, N.Y.
Capt. Elwood T. Driver, 23, of 30 Fountain Avenue, Trenton, N.J.
Capt. Aloom F. Ballard, 24, 372 E. Orange Grove Ave., Pasadena, Cal.
1st Lt. William N. Alsbrook, 29, 511 E. Forty-fourth St., Chicago.
1st Lt. Richard H. Arder, 22, 137 Renwick Place, Syracuse, N.Y.
1st Lt. Milton S. Hays, 23, 3771½ LaSalle Avenue, Los Angeles.
1st Lt. Edward M. Thomas, 29, 1245 W. 107th Place, Chicago.
1st Lt. Charles W. Tate, 22, 1004 Decatur, Pittsburgh.
1st Lt. Herman A. Lawson, 28, Marysville, Calif.
1st Lt. Laurence D. Wilkins, 25, 1355 E. Fifty-third St., Los Angeles.
1st Lt. Roger Romine (deceased), 829 Thirty-sixth St., Oakland, Calif.
1st Lt. Luther H. Smith, Jr., 24, 901 Twenty-third St., Des Moines, Ia.
1st Lt. William H. Thomas 26 1431¼ W. Sixth St., Los Angeles.
1st Lt. Felix J. Kirkpatrick, Jr., 29, 4155 Prairie Avenue, Chicago.
1st Lt. William W. Green, Jr., 24, 29 Park Boulevard, Staunton, Va.
1st Lt. Lee A. Archer Jr., 25, 350 W. 119th Street, New York, N.Y.
1st Lt. Frank E. Roberts, 28, 94 Harrison Street, Boston.
1st Lt. Geo. M. Rhodes, Jr., 23, of 331 Jefferson Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.
1st Lt. Willard L. Woods, 26, 1906 S. Lauderdale, Memphis.
1st Lt. Norman W. Scales, 26, of 1107 Myrtle Street, Austin, Tex.
1st Lt. Walter J. A. Palmer, 23, 3762 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.
1st Lt. Leonard F. Turner, 26, 244 P Street, Northwest, Washington.
1st Lt. Dempsey W. Morgan, Jr., 25, 6062 Calfox, Detroit.
1st Lt. Robert L. Martin, 26, 560 Hill Street, Dubuque, Ia.
1st Lt. Lawrence B. Jefferson, 27, 1029 Sigsber, Grand Rapids, Mich.
1st Lt. John F. Briggs, Jr., 24, 3651 Finney Street, St. Louis.
1st Lt. Spurgeon N. Ellington, 25, 1302 N. Highland Ave., Winston-Salem, N.C.

Air Medals are awarded after a pilot has flown five sorties against the enemy. Consequently, all of the group's flying personnel now have either been awarded Air Medals or are entitled to them.

Tuskegee Flyers to Spark Philly's Freedom Day Fete

AFRO-AMERICAN-Balt., Md.
1-27-45

PHILADELPHIA.

The presence of Lt. Robert W. Diez, holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross, and a crew of fliers from Tuskegee Institute's pilot training school will add military touch to the National Freedom Day program to be held in the Chamber of Commerce, February 1.

Congressmen Dawson of Illinois and Powell of New York, Senator Mayers of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune, Mrs. Beulah Whitby, Roscoe Dunjee, Mayor Samuels of Philadelphia and a score of other celebrities have indicated that they would attend.

With the topic "Making Freedom Effective for All Men in All Human Relations," as the theme of the meeting, addresses on labor, employment, GI bills, the FEPC and other issues wil be made.

Delegates appointed by the governors of many States will bring greetings. 1-27-45

Officers of the National Freedom Day committee, Major R. R. Wright, president; Bishop David Sims, vice-president; I. N. Patterson, secretary, and Dr. D. W. Henry, treasurer, are busy putting the finishing touches on the meeting.

Yank Tells How Dorie Miller Died

AFRO-AMERICAN
1-27-45 Balt., Md.

WASHINGTON (ANP) — The true story of the death of Dorie Miller now stands revealed. In a thrilling account of the "Tragedy of the Liscomo Bay," Robert L. Schwartz, Y 2/c, Yank Navy correspondent, tells the story.

"The baby flat-top, Liscomo Bay, was sunk by a torpedo on the day before Thanksgiving o 1943," Schwartz begins his saga "The Liscomo Bay was on her firs battle assignment covering the oc cupation of Makin in the Gilberts

"The submarine attack was a complete surprise. The scuttle butt reported that the nearest en emy ships were two days away The torpedo struck a half hour before dawn and it was still dark when the Liscomo Bay sank.

Called to Battle Stations

"General Quarters had sounde at 0505, in keeping with the stric custom of sending men to thei battle stations at dawn and at dusk in combat zones. Five minutes la ter a lookout shouted, 'Christ, here comes a torpedo.'

It struck near the stern of the port side. The whole after section broke quickly into flames and most of the crew stationed there died instantly. 1-27-45

"Most of the men in the steward's branch of the Navy are colored. They wait on tables, serve as orderlies and work in the officers' galleys. There was an unusual messman on the Liscomo Bay. The son of a farmer near Waco, Texas, he had joined the Navy to help his family earn a living.

"It was on the ill-fated Arizona that he became famous. During the Pearl Harbor attack, he rushed to the bridge and manned a machine gun. For this action, Dorie Miller won the Navy Cross. Dorie Miller was in the after section of the Liscomo Bay and was not a survivor."

Colored Sergeant Gets Posthumous Award For Daring

Nashville Globe
Nashville, Tenn.
6-15-45

Oklahoma City, Okla—Staff Sergeant Rueben Rivers of Tecumseh, Oklahoma was honored posthumously by the awarding of the Nation's third highest award, The Silver Star Medal at a ceremony prior to a review of the troops stationed at Will Rogers Field. Colonel John E. Bodle, Commanding Officer of the Oklahoma Station presented the medal to the father, Mr. Will Rivers.

The following is cited from the official citation: 6-15-45

"Staff Sergeant Rivers, a tank platoon sergeant was in the leading tank, when a road block was encountered which held up the advance. With utter disregard for his personal safety S. Sgt. Rivers courageously dismounted from his tank in the face of directed enemy small arms fire, attached a cable to the road block and had it moved off the road thus permitting the combat team to proceed. His prompt action prevented a serious delay in this offensive operation and was instrumental in the successful assault and capture of the town. His brilliant display of initiative, courage and devotion to duty reflects the highest credit upon Staff Sergeant Rivers and the Armed Forces of the United States."

Birmingham Negro Third To Win Coveted DSC

Birmingham News Ala.

First Lt. Vernon J. Baker, 25, whose wife, Helen S. Baker, lives at 122 10th Avenue, North, became the third Negro to receive the Distinguished Service Cross in this war, when announcement of the award was made by the War Department according to an Associated Press dispatch from Washington. 8-20-45

The Negro officer, who killed or wounded nine Germans while single-handedly knocking out three enemy machine-gun nests and an observation post, won the decoration last April 5 near Viareggion, Italy. A rifle platoon leader in the 92nd Infantry Division, Baker made a one-man assault against enemy positions which had been holding up the advance of his battalion. The citation said he killed five Germans and killed and wounded four more.

Baker is a native of Cheyenne, Wyo.

92nd Div. Lieutenant Awarded Silver Star

Philadelphia Inquirer
8-11-45

WITH THE AIR SERVICE COMMAND IN GIOIA, ITALY: —First Lieutenant William E. Wright of Philadelphia, Pa., has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action the sixth of February 1945 on the Italian front.

A platoon leader with Company "I" of the 365th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Infantry Division, Lt. Wright was presented the medal by his Battalion Commander, Major William E. Wren Jr. 8-11-45

The citation read in part: "During an attack by his company an enemy machine gun firing from an emplaced position, delayed the advance of the troops and caused a large number of casualties. . . Lt. Wright located the weapon and moved to outflank it. After reaching a position from which he could observe the hostile weapon and crew, he stood upright to deliver gun, on the enemy emplacement.

"He drew fire upon himself, a bullet piercing his helmet, but not harming him, and calmly emptied his tommy gun at the enemy crew, until it was silenced. The troops then proceeded to advance. Lt. Wright's aggressive courage under extremely dangerous combat hazards exemplified the heroic traditions of the United States Army"

Lt. Wright is the son of Mrs. Laura Wright, 129 La Pierre avenue, Magnolia, New Jersey. His wife the former Dorothy Gilmore, resides at 43 north 58th street, Philadelphia. He enlisted in the service October 1940. Overseas for more than ten months, he is now engaged in securing a large airdrome in Southern Italy.

Killed at Least Fifty Germans

Hero, Wounded Eight Times, Recommended For Medal of Honor, Receives DSC

The Pittsburgh Courier

EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the first story written on the returned Negro veterans of the ETO who volunteered for infantry combat duty last winter following the German break-through in Belgium in December 1944.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

By JAMES E. SMITH 9-29-45

NEW YORK—The story that came from the lips of 27-year-old S/Sgt. Edward A. Carter of Los Angeles, Calif., platoon leader of Company D, Fifty-sixth Armored Infantry Battalion, Twelfth Armored Division, Ninth Army, who arrived here Sunday morning aboard the Army transport SS E. B. Alexander, will sound almost incredible.

Although wounded eight times and armed only with a tommy-gun and five hand grenades, he killed twenty-six German infantrymen, destroyed two enemy machine-gun nests, wiped out one mortar squad and captured two prisoners single-handed, making a total of fifty Germans killed and two captured. The action took place just before the dramatic crossing of the Rhine River at Spryer, Germany, March 23, but even this feat and the recommendations of his superior officers that he be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor brought him only the Distinguished Service Cross, thus making him the fourth Negro to receive the medal in this war.

JERRY CUTS LOOSE

The young non-com, a slight quiet man, told his story in a very modest manner:

His battalion was moving up to cross the Rhine, he said, but it was necessary to take the town of Spryer first. They had come close to the town when the Germans "cut loose with their 88's." The tank column that supported his outfit refused to advance any further and dispersed, despite the urgings of the men for them to continue.

OFFERS TO LEAD WAY

The holder of the Nation's second highest award for valor said that he offered to lead the way into the town with his squad, whereupon he and his men began to advance across the open area before Spryer. This was done, he said, before they knew that the tanks were not following them. When that was discovered, it was too late. They were cut off completely from their lines.

"Jerry opened up with everything he had," he declared. "Our small group was cut to ribbons. Only one other man and myself remained alive. I don't know what happened to the other fellow after we got into the town."

ENTIRE SQUAD DESTROYED

Continuing, Sergeant Carter said that before he could hit the dirt three bullets from a "Burp-gun" plowed through his left arm, knocking him over. With the thought of how his entire squad had been destroyed, and the sight of his own blood he became "boiling mad."

"The hell that was being loosed by those Germans convinced me that I only had a few minutes to live," he said, "and I decided that if I had to die, some of those Jerries would meet me in hell."

CHARGES MACHINE GUN

He jumped up and charged the machine gun which had wounded him. A grenade tossed into the midst of the crew silenced them all forever. From there he never stopped. A mortar squad was lobbing shells into American lines. Two grenades took care of them.

Still running, he was knocked down again by bullets number four and five. This time he was tossed five feet by the force. When he hit the ground bullets splattered around him like rain drops. He lifted his head to see from which direction the fire was coming; another bullet tore through his shoulder for number six.

FOURTH DSC WINNER—S/Sgt. Edward A. Carter, Los Angeles, Calif., has been awarded the fourth Distinguished Service Cross to go to a Negro in World War II for his extraordinary courage against the Germans, fifty of whom he is reported to have killed during an action in which he received eight wounds.

REALLY GETS MAD

He lay where he fell for some time, trying to take some of the "wound pills" he carried. As he raised his canteen to wash the tablets down with some water, another slug crashed through his hand.

"This really made me mad," Carter said, "but there wasn't much I could do.

"As I lay there I saw an entire squad of Germans coming toward me in a skirmish line. I opened fire on them with the tommy. Got every one of 'em."

CAPTURES TWO

At this point, Carter said, he thought it was time to move again, but an even bigger bunch of Jerries were coming at him. He said it looked as if there were at least twenty men, but he didn't know. He used three clips of ammunition on them and killed all except two. These were the two he captured.

He said that he kept the two Germans he had captured (one an officer) as close to him as he could, hoping that the enemy would not attempt to kill him while he was with their own men.

"It seemed to work for a while," he declared, "but the artillery opened on me as soon as the infantrymen withdrew. One shell landed too close and I decided to get away from that place."

TAKES COVER

Taking the two prisoners with him, he took cover behind a shell-gutted building. An 88-mm. "blew hell out of that wall." Splinters from the shell dug into his legs, but the dust from the hit gave him a screen and he made his way behind it with his prisoners.

Only one other shell was fired, he said, and by this time he was just fifty yards from his own lines. As escape seemed so near, the Germans made one last effort to stop him, but his tommy-gun spoke again and three more fell.

NO TIME TO COUNT

Sergeant Carter maintains that he has no idea how many Germans he killed because he didn't have time to count them, but his officers who followed his story, accounted for at least fifty and for this he was recommended for the Congressional Medal of Honor" for completely demoralizing the enemy."

Sergeant Carter is married to Mrs. Mildred Carter of Los Angeles and has two sons, Edward Jr. and William. He was born in the States, but was educated in Calcutta, India, and Shanghai, China. He hopes there is a discharge awaiting him after his more than two years overseas.

Joe Louis Awarded Legion of Merit

The Washington Post D.C.

New York, Sept. 23 (INS).—Staff Sergt. Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion, was awarded the Legion of Merit today at Fort Hamilton. 9-24-45

The award was made by Maj. Gen. Clarence H. Kells, commanding general of the New York Port of Embarkation.

General Kells said in his citation that Louis had been a model soldier and also had entertained "two million soldiers in the European, North African, Mediterranean and Italian theaters as well as in the United States by frequent boxing exhibitions which entailed considerable risk to his boxing future as heavyweight champion of the world."

General Kells added that Louis had made "one of the greatest contributions of all in helping to develop a reconditioning program for veterans returning from overseas.

GI Band Wins High Praise

Pittsburg Courier Pittsburg Pennsylvania 10-22-45

WITH U. S. SUPPLY TROOPS IN FRANCE — The 201st Army Ground Force Band recently received a letter of commendation from the commanding officer of headquarters command of Oise Base Section. The Negro unit has only served four months in the European Theater.

The commendation signed by Lieut. Col. W. H. Boshoff, read in part:

"During the time your band has been assigned to this command from the point of view of military bearing, military appearance and operational performance, it has been rated by me as superior.

BETTER THAN SUPERIOR

"The only reason that I am rating you as superior is that regulations do not permit me to make a better rating."

Members of the unit are:

W/O Charles L. Turner, Steubenville, Ohio.
T/Sgt. Osmund A. Peters, New York, N. Y.
S/Sgt. Charles P. Baskerville, Freehold, New Jersey.
T/4 Ralph C. Carson, Pittsburg, Kas.
T/4 Joshua Tate, Baltimore, Md.
T/4 Leonard Cox, Baltimore, Md.
T/4 Elasko Thigpen, East St. Louis, Ill.
T/4 Robert B. Williams, Chicago, Ill.
T/4 William H. Young, Middletown, Ohio.
T/4 Henry H. Jones, Chicago, Ill.
T/5 Marshall B. Allen, Louisville, Ky.
T/5 Roger Bryan, Cambridge, Md.
T/5 Herman B. Fowlkes, Chicago Heights, Illinois.
T/5 Samuel H. Johnson, Chicago, Ill.
T/5 Lusius R. Patton, Jackson, Miss.
T/5 Clarence K. Terry, Bronx, N. Y.
T/5 Clarence H. King, Des Moines, Iowa.
T/5 George A. Wesson, Chicago, Ill.
Pfc. Wesley E. Terry, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Pfc. William S. Ellington, Nashville, Tenn.
Pfc. Albert Farwell Jr., Webster Groves, Missouri.
Pfc. Frederick D. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.
Pfc. Eugene M. Woods, Detroit, Mich.
Pfc. Robert E. Tucker, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Pvt. Theodore H. Turner, Steubenville Ohio.
Pvt. William E. Brown, Baltimore, Md.
Pvt. Leonard Francis, New York, N. Y.
Pvt. Ocell M. Carter, New York, N. Y.

With 92nd

MPs Awarded Unit Plaque

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 9-15-46

WITH THE NINETY-SECOND DIVISION IN ITALY—The Meritorious Service Unit Placque has been awarded MPs of this division "for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks, from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31, 1944, in Italy."

"Despite numerous attached units," the citation accompanying the award says, "an exceptionally wide front, and the complications and problems arising therefrom, the services of the MP platoon were constantly directed toward fullest support of the fighting troops. 9-15-45

"Whether engaged in the defense or protection of vital installations, the control of traffic, or the general enforcement of military regulations, the high determination and untiring co-operation of each member contributed immeasurably to the morale and combat efficiency of the entire division."

Negro Pilot Awarded Silver Star

FREDERICKSTED, V.I.

ROME—(AP)—Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr. commander of a Negro fighter group was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry today. This was the first time this medal had been awarded to an American Negro pilot. St. Croix West End News

Colonel Davis, son of Brig. Gen. B.O. Davis, of Washington, was cited for personally having led a group in a strafing attack on rail targets in Austria which resulted in damaging or destroying 35 locomotives, 52 railcars, four barges and one enemy plane. 9-2-45

LEM FOSTER WINS AWARD

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. 10-6-45

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — The emblem for Meritorious Civilian service was awarded to Lemuel Foster, racial relations analyst for the Army Service Forces last Friday afternoon by Maj. Gen. Joseph N. Dalton, director of personnel, ASF.

Awarded Legion of Merit

The Afro American

Baltimore, Maryland 9-29-45

T/SGT. JOE LOUIS BARROW, world's heavyweight champion, who was awarded the coveted Legion of Merit during ceremonies Sunday at Fort Hamilton, N.Y. The ceremony was broadcast during the Army Hour over NBC.

The New York Amsterdam News

Artist Gets Purple Heart 27 Years Late

New York, New York 9-29-45

WEST CHESTER, Pa. (ANP).—Horace Pippin, artist, has been awarded the Purple Heart after waiting 27 years.

Wounded in the Champaigne sector in France, Sept. 29, 1918, while serving in the infantry, Pippin was notified Tuesday that he has been awarded the Purple Heart by the War Department.

D.C. 93rd Officer Gets Bronze Star

The Afro American 9-22-45

MOROTAI ISLAND—Lt. Frank F. Daughton, of 413 I St., S.E., Washington, a member of the 93rd Infantry Division, was recently warded the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

He was cited for leading a patrol which, after trailing the enemy and spending the night near their bivouac, attacked their position on July 3 killing four Japanese soldiers and capturing enemy documents and ordnance.

Gets Silver Bars

Recently promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, Daughton is a graduate of Howard University and a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. His wife and daughter Frankeye, live in Washington.

Among 93rd enlisted men who have been commened for excellent performance of duty is M/Sgt. George T. Melton of Morristown, N.J., who is in charge of the base engineer carpenter and sign painting shop. Baltimore, Md.

The sergeant's wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Melton, lives at 1337 First St., N.W., Washington.

Gets Croix de Guerre

Afro-American 9-22-45

Baltimore, Md.

M/SGT. NEWTON R. WILSON, of Talcott, W.Va., who was awarded the Luxembourg Croix de Guerre recently for the outstanding part he played in the Third Army's liberation of the grand duchy of Luxembourg. The presentation was made by Prince Felix in the presence of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr., at his Third Army Headquarters in Germany. Sergeant Wilson was the highest non-commissioned officer to be singled out in the Third Army for the award.

Merit Award To Major Roberts

The Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois 10-13-45

WASHINGTON — Major Homer B. Roberts, chief of the Negro interest section, press branch, war department bureau of public relations, was awarded the Legion of Merit medal for "exceptionally meritorious" service in "the establishment and maintenance of effective public relations on behalf of Negroes in the army." The award was made Monday. 10-13-45

DECORATED FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK

Post, St. Louis Argus, St. Louis, Missouri

MAJOR HOMER B. ROBERTS

10-12-45

Major Homer B. Roberts, since August, 1943, Chief of the Negro interest Section, Press Branch, War Department Bureau of Public Relations, today received the Legion of Merit for "exceptionally meritorius" services in "the establishment and maintenance of effective Public Relations on behalf of Negroes in the Army," the War Department announced.

A veteran of the World War, Major Roberts first enlisted in the Army as a private in December, 1917, and served overseas with the 92d Infantry Division where he was elevated to a first lieutenancy in the Signal Corps. At the conclusion of the war he returned to his automobile business in Kansas City, Mo. which was considered as one of the most successful business ventures in the city.

10-12-45

Reporting for duty as a captain on October 3, 1942, Major Roberts was assigned as Public Relations officer and Commanding officer of the Military Police Detachment at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Atlanta (Ga.) Daily World

POSTHUMOUS AWARD IN THE PENTAGON— Miss Ouida Moman, 1410 Hopkins Street, N. W. Washington, D. C., looks on as the Bronze Star Medal was posthumously awarded her brother, 1st Lieut. Hubert M. Moman, Jr., for meritorious service in combat with the 92nd Infantry Division in Italy, is pinned on her father, Mr. Hubert M. Moman, Sr., by Brigadier General Robert N. Young, Commanding General of the Military District of Washington.

A leader of one of the first units of his regiment to enter combat, Lieutenant Moman was killed in action last December 19. His citation, which was read at the ceremony held in the Pentagon Building, August 7, stated: "his tireless efforts did not cease until he was killed by a mine explosion." (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public Relations)

8-14-45

Atlanta Daily World (Ga.)

DECORATED FOR SERVICES ON RHINE—First Lieutenant Paul E. Leacraft, 1925 Market Street, Greensboro, N. C., receives the Bronze Star Medal from Colonel Ragnar E. Johnson, of Columbia, S. C., for meritorious services at Cologne, Germany last April 7. He displayed courage and conspicuous heroism while directing the emplacing of smoke generators at the Rhine while under enemy fire. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo from BPR.) 9-4-45

28 Heroes Receive Medal Of Honor—No Negroes.

Pittsburgh Pa. 9-1-45 Courier

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Twenty-eight outstanding heroes of World War II were personally presented the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Truman at the White House last week. No Negroes were included among the honorees.

The incident recalled the fact that no Negro has been awarded the top military honor of this country in this war nor since 1898.

Marchbank Gets Medal

Pittsburg Courier 9-1-45

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — Major Vance Marchbank, flight surgeon with the 477th Composite Group, received the Bronze Star Medal in a military ceremony here last Saturday. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., field commander, made the award.

Highest Award Given 332nd

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Mission Over Berlin

9-8-45

Rates Unit Citation

1ST TO GET AWARD

Presentation Follows Change in Command

BULLETIN

NAPLES — The remaining members of the 332nd Fighter Group are expected to leave for the United States about Sept. 18.

By FRANCIS YANCEY
AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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LUCERA, Italy (By Cable)—Drawn up for what will probably be their last parade formation overseas, proud officers and enlisted men of the 332nd Fighter Group recently received the Army's Distinguished Unit Citation.

[EDITOR'S NOTE—This award is sometimes erroneously referred to as the Presidential Unit Citation which is given only to Naval units.]

The award, the first received by a large all-colored unit, was presented for outstanding performance of duty while escorting heavy bombers over Berlin March 24, 1945, on one of the 15th Air Force's longest missions over enemy territory.

9-8-45

Followed Change of Command

In presenting this well deserved but belated award, Brig. Gen. William L. Lee, commanding general 15th Air Force, lauded the assembled men for the superior record which the group amassed while in combat.

9-8-45

It took a change in commanding generals to bring about this award.

Early in June when asked why the group had not received a unit citation, Brig. Gen. D. C. Strother a Texan, said that the matter had been considered, but nowhere could be found a mission outstanding enough to merit the award.

Prior to the ceremony in which General Lee attached the unit citation streamer to the group's standard, Col. Elmer J. Rogers, chief of staff, 15th Air Force, read the following citation:

59 Fighters on Mission

"On March 23, 1945. the group was assigned the mission of escorting heavy bombers attacking the vital Daimler Benz tank assembly plant in Berlin, Germany.

"Realizing the strategic importance of the mission and fully cognizant of the amount of enemy resistance to be expected and the long range to be covered, ground crews worked tirelessly and with enthusiasm to have the planes at the peak of mechanical condition to insure success of the operation.

"On March 24, 1945, 59 P-51's rendezvoused with the bomber formation. Through superior navigation and maintenance and strict flight discipline the group formation reached the bomber formation at the designated time and place.

Downed 8 Jet Planes

"Nearing the target, 25 enemy planes were encountered which launched relentless attacks in a desperate effort to break up and destroy the bomber formation.

"Displaying outstanding courage, aggressiveness, and combat technique, the group immediately engaged the formation in aerial combat. In the ensuing engagement that continued over the target area, gallant pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group battled enemy fighters to prevent breaking up of the bomber formation thus jeopardizing successful completion of this vitally important mission.

9-8-45

"Through superior skill and determination the group destroyed three enemy aircraft, probably destroyed three, and damaged three.

"Among the claims were eight of the highly rated enemy jet-propelled aircraft, with no losses sustained by the 332nd.

Ground Installations Damaged

"Leaving the target area and en route to the base after completion of the primary task, planes of the group conducted strafing attacks against enemy ground installations and transportation with outstanding success.

"By conspicuous gallantry, professional skill and determination of the pilots together with outstanding technical skill and devotion to duty of the ground personnel, the 332nd Fighter Group has reflected great credit upon itself and the armed forces of the United States of America."

Who Can Wear Award

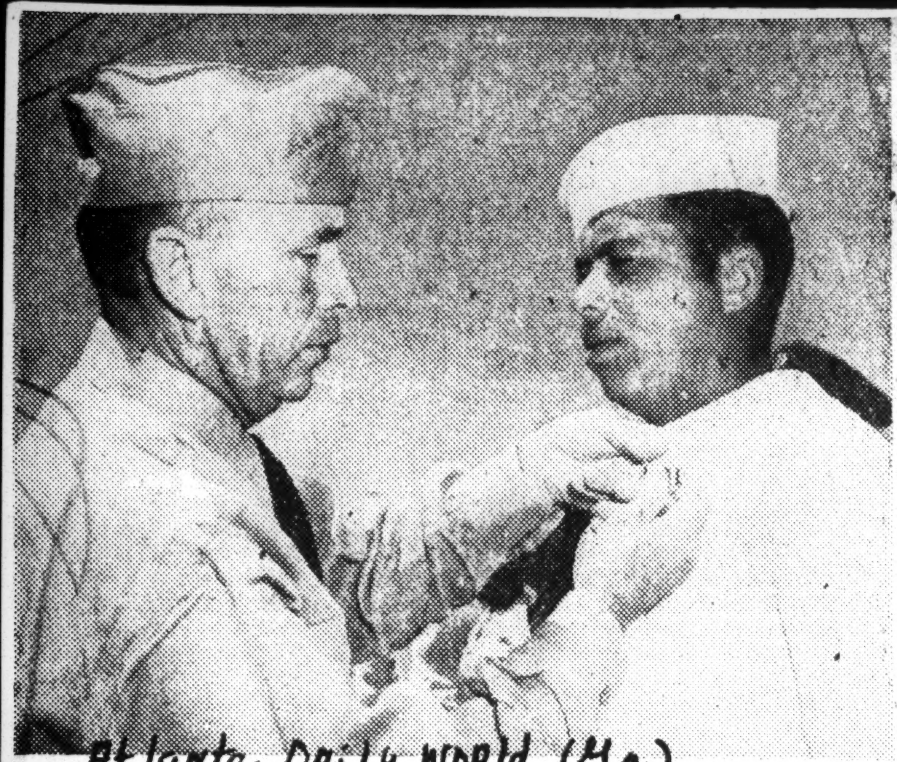
Only personnel here with the 332nd on March 23 and 24, 1945 are entitled to wear the award. Men who have since joined the group may wear the framed blue ribbon over the right hand breast pocket.

8-8-45

The only two members of the unit unable to wear the award are two enlisted men who were in the stockade when the mission was made.

1,578 Missions Flown

The group has flown 1,578 combat missions during its participation in seven campaigns. The personnel has been awarded 865 individual awards, and pilots of the group successfully accomplished more than 15,500 individual sorties against the enemy, and destroyed or damaged more than 400 enemy aircraft.



Atlanta Daily World (Ga)

SOMMERVILLE SUBMARINE SAILOR COMMENDED — At a submarine base in the Pacific, Pasquale Brienza, 21, Seaman, first class of Sommerville, N. J., receives a Letter of Commendation from Fleet Admiral C. W. Nimitz "for distinguishing himself by meritorious conduct in action" while serving as lookout on a submarine on war patrol. The sailor was a chemical company employee before entering the Navy. The letter, presented by Commodore G. Morgan, commanding officer of the base, reads: "His exceptional skill and attention to duty contributed materially to the successful execution of attacks which resulted in sinking enemy vessels. His conduct throughout was an inspiration to all with whom he served." (Navy Photo)

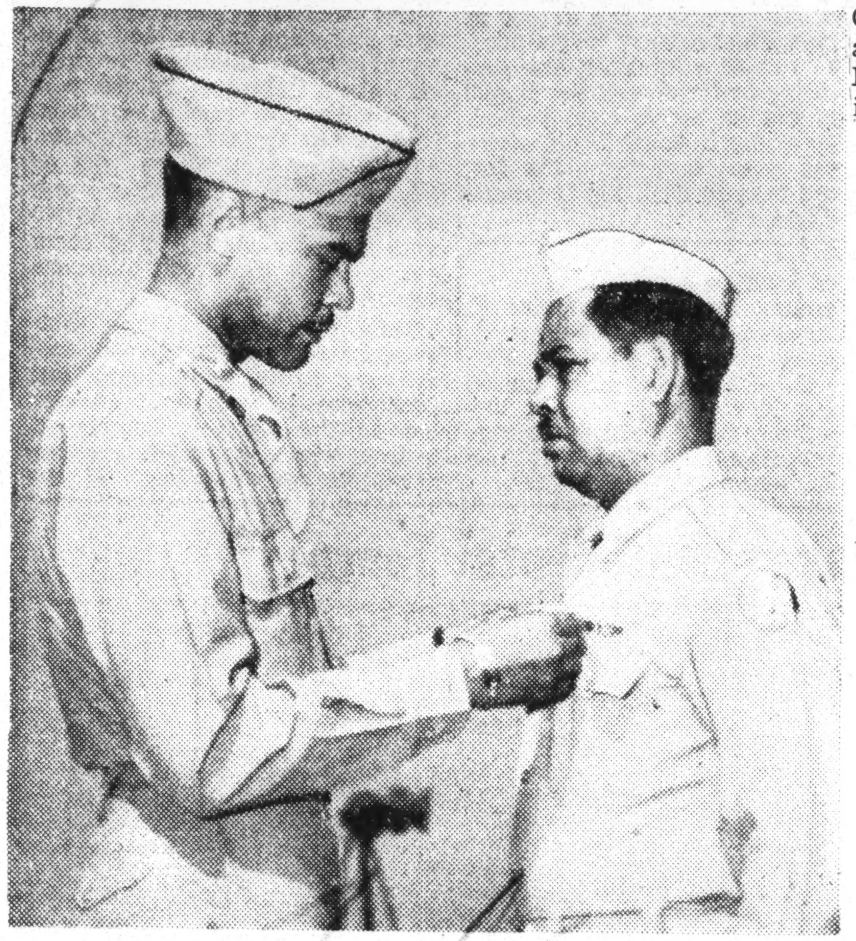
9-4-45

Kansas City, Mo.
8-3-45
The CALL

8-3-45

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS WINNERS.—These two young officers have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action", the second highest honor which can be hestowed upon a serviceman. At the left is Captain Charles L. Thomas, officer in a tank destroyer battalion, who is shown during an interview in New York. He won his DSC in the battle of Europe. He was wounded several times in action near Climbach, France. His home is in Detroit. At the right is 1st Lt. Vernon J. Baker, 25-year-old youth from Cheyenne, Wyo. He is a platoon leader with the 92nd division and won his DSC in Italy. He killed or wounded nine Germans while personally knocking out three enemy machine gun nests and an observation post. His wife, Mrs. Helen S. Baker, lives in Birmingham.

Flight Surgeon Gets Bronze Star



Col. B. O. Davis is shown awarding the Bronze Star to Major Vance H. Marchbanks, former flight surgeon with the 332nd Fighter Group overseas and now stationed at Godman Field, Ky. Major Marchbanks was cited for his exceptional care of the pilots' health which was instrumental in aiding them to fly a seventy-mission tour of duty instead of the usual fifty missions.

BOUND BROOK, N. J.
CHRONICLE

AUG 30 1945

Negro Unit Is Given Citation

Corporal James Winkey, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Winkey of Finderne, was a member of the 969th FA Bn., a hard-fighting Negro unit that recently received the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation. Corporal Winkey, who is proud to be a member of this unit, sent the following newspaper clipping home to his parents from Forchenberg, Germany where he is presently stationed:

Vougiers, France, Aug.—The 969th FA Bn., a hard-fighting Negro unit that took part in the defense of Bastogne, received the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation in a ceremony in this little Ardennes town yesterday, the first Negro battalion in this war to be so honored.

The unit was decorated 216 days after a 4th Armored Div. task force, spearheading the relief for the U. S. Bastogne garrison, broke through to make contact with the Americans.

The original citation was awarded to the 101st Airborne Div. "and its attached units for extraordinary heroism and gallantry in defense of the key communications center of Bastogne, Belgium," during the most critical phase of the Battle of the Bulge.

Von Rundstedt's December offensive through the Ardennes gave the Negro artillerymen of the 969th an opportunity to win a place in America's military hall of fame. They were in position northeast of Bastogne when the German breakthrough came, and were ordered to move south. Arriving at Bastogne, the 969th was called on by Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, acting commander of the 101st, to help stop the Nazi thrust.

The decision to stand and hold the town against overwhelmingly superior enemy forces was later described by Gen. George S. Patton Jr. as "a stroke of genius." The successful defense of Bastogne was decisive in stemming Von Rundstedt's attack.

Corporal Winkey entered the service on December of 1942 and before that time worked at Calco Chemical Division of American Cyanamid Company. He has a brother Norman Winkey who was inducted into the service yesterday.

Virginia Flier Gets Tito Medal For Bravery

Norfolk Virginia Journal and Guide
11-3-45

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — (NNPA) — Presentation of the Partisan Medal, third class, from Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, was made to First Lt. William W. Green, 24, of Staunton, Va., by Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commanding officer of Godman Field, last Saturday.

The medal was awarded to Lt. Green by Marshal Tito for heroism. Flying a P-47, on Oct. 3, 1944, he blew up an ammunition dump in Yugoslavia. He had to bail out of his plane but was rescued by the Partisans with whom he spent four days. The Russians flew him back to Naples.

In Yugoslavia, Lt. Green said, he saw girls, 14 and 15 years of age, doing the work of men in the Partisan Army. "They didn't all have uniforms," he said, "but they had guns and grenades."

He added that Yugoslavs were very grateful to him because the ammunition dump he destroyed had been the source of a costly attack on Marshal Tito's men.

"I hope some day I can go back to Yugoslavia for a visit," he said.

The Partisan Medal is a red star with two crossed rifles and is a military award for heroism in the war of liberation.

Lt. Green has the Distinguished Flying Cross with six Oak Leaf Clusters, three battle stars, and a Purple Heart. He was a member of the 332nd Fighter Group.

56b-1945

Hero Is Awarded The Silver Star

N.Y. Amsterdam News 3-3-45

Saves Mate With Unexploded Mortar Shell In His Leg; Twenty Others Receive Awards

By MAX JOHNSON

(Amsterdam News and Afro-American)

N.Y.

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY.—One of the most unusual acts of heroism in this theatre of war, the rescue of a wounded soldier who had an unexploded mortar shell in his leg, was recorded here this week after Pvt. James Robinson, of Atlantic City, had been awarded the Silver Star.

Pvt. Robinson, more than six feet in height and weighing 200 pounds, was the man so honored. His bravery under fire was revealed for the first time last Monday although it occurred last November 9.

21 Get Awards

At decoration ceremonies, Pvt. Robinson and 20 others received the Silver and Bronze Star which cited them for outstanding combat activities. Pvt. Robinson, the citation said, rescued another soldier although he was nursing a machine gun wound in the shoulder at the time. 3-3-45

They were out on patrol, the story goes, when the 19-year-old Atlantic City man was struck by enemy fire. About 100 yards away, another soldier was struck in the leg by a shell which did not explode.

Pvt. Robinson crawled forward in clear view of an enemy observation post, removed the shell from his buddy's leg and pulled the latter back towards the rear.

Among the recipients of the Bronze Star were Lieut. Philip W. Grayson, of New York City, who was commended for excellent performance in the line of duty; Pvt. Quincy A. Day, also of New York, and 17 other soldiers from other sections of the country.

TEXT OF CITATION

The accompanying citation signed by James Forrestal, cites Jackson: "For conscious gallantry and intrepidity in action as crew member attached to the USS LST 357 during the amphibious invasion of Salerno, Italy, on September 9, 1943. When his commanding officer and a great number of our troops were seriously wounded by devastating enemy shell fire during initial land operations, Jackson courageously performed his duties as a stretcher bearer and, although suffering intense pain from shrapnel wounds received in the head and thigh while administering first aid to his commanding officer, repeatedly exposed himself to the hostile fire in order to care for his comrades and bring in additional casualties.

"By his heroic initiative and untiring efforts in the face of grave peril, Jackson contributed materially to the saving of many men who otherwise might have perished and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval service."

Apparently Jackson's heroism has not earned him a promotion, for he was cook, third class at the time of this action. He is still cook, third class.

Silver Star To Navy Cook For Bravery

Norfolk-Journal & Guide Virginia 2-3-45

By Associated Negro Press

CHARLESTON, S. C.—Willie James Jackson, a navy cook from Valdosta, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla., has been awarded the Silver Star for his heroic efforts in saving the lives of many comrades aboard the LST 357 (landing ship tank) during the amphibious invasion of Salerno, Italy. Previously he was awarded the Purple Heart.

Jackson, rated third class in the Navy, was born in Valdosta, Ga., but his official home address is now 534 Hushman lane, Jacksonville, Fla. The Silver Star was presented in the name of the President of the United States by the Secretary of the Navy. He received it on landing here last week.

Rescues GI; Given Medal For Heroism

N.Y. Amsterdam News 3-3-45

N.Y.

Risked Life To Save Mate Who Tumbled Into the Icy Waters Somewhere In France

WITH THE 535TH COMPANY, France.—Risking his life to save a soldier who tumbled into the icy waters of this port city's outer harbor from aboard the first troop transport to arrive here, a Negro private, Hamilton Allen, Jr., 23, Box 15A, Cypress, Texas, has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism.

Presented to him before a full company formation by Colonel August H. Schroeder, Port Commander, the Soldier's Medal is given for heroism in operations not involving the enemy.

"Man Overboard"

Working as a stevedore aboard a transport, Private Allen swung into action the minute the "man overboard" sounded. A soldier, weighted down with a full field pack, had slipped between the big vessel and unloading barges. Private Allen shinnied down a rope into the water, seized the man, and hauled him to safety. In the water, both rescuer and victim were in deadly peril, since a slight roll in the sea would have sent the barge crashing against the transport's hull, crushing them both.

"We are proud of Private Allen's prompt and courageous action," said his commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Frank L. Kiefer, of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. "His initiative and resourcefulness reflect credit upon himself, his battalion and the United States Army."

Medal Ceremony

At the Medal ceremony, the Texas soldier's Company paraded in his honor and a large military band played, the Stars and Stripes snapping in a stiff breeze before the procession.

Before entering the service, Private Allen was employed in dairy and farming work. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Allen, Sr., reside at Cypress, Texas.

DECORATED FOR BRAVERY

Savannah Ga.

Savannah Tribune 3-3-45

Capt. Walter H. Dabney, commander of Co. B, 366th Infantry, 92nd Division, who was recently awarded the Silver Star for gallantry inaction and the Purple Heart because of wounds sustained as he was leading his company in a difficult advance during the fighting in Italy.

An engineer in peacetime, Capt. Dabney is a graduate of Howard university and holds a master's degree in engineering from Iowa State college. He and his wife, Myrtle, reside at 2038 18th street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Capt. Dabney was an engineer on the Ida B. Wells housing project in Chicago when it was built and a governmental project in Gary, Ind., also—(ANP). 3-3-45

Atlantan Gets Heroism Medal

Atlanta World 1-14-45

Risks Life In Rescue Attempt

Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (SNS)—Announcement was made Saturday of the award of the coveted Navy and Marine Corps Medal to Steward's Mate, second class Edward King of Atlanta for his heroic attempt to rescue a shipmate from drowning.

In the Navy for two years and five months, Steward's Mate King resides at 781 Fraser Street.

His citation reads: "For heroic conduct as a member of the crew of an aircraft carrier while attempting to rescue a comrade from drowning off the Majure Atoll, Marshall Islands, April 7, 1944.

"Hearing a cry for help and seeing one of his shipmates struggling in the swift current about 40 yards from shore, King, with two other men, swam out toward the drowning seaman, but was unable to get a secure hold on him. 1-14-45

"Battling the strong undertow, King tried desperately to save his companion but became exhausted and was finally picked up by a harbor patrol and carried to safety. His extreme bravery in the face of grave danger was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Navy Service." 1-14-45

The citation, presented aboard ship by Captain N. W. Taylor was signed by Randall Jacobs, chief of Naval personnel.

Negro Sergeant Wins Legion of Merit Award

1-6-45

Richmond Dispatch - Va.

ATLANTA, April 5—(AP)—First Sergeant Jerry B. Davis, 36, of Macon, Ga., today become the first Negro in the country to win the Legion of Merit—fourth highest army decoration.

The medal was presented to Davis at a special ceremony here at Lawson General Hospital, where he is a patient. Brigadier-General William L. Sheep, commanding officer of the hospital, pinned the decoration on the soldier's blouse.

Davis led the best section in the Ninety-Second all Negro Division in Italy and was wounded bringing rations to his gun crews during a heavy enemy barrage at the battle of the Arno River.

92nd DIVISION MEN GET BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

The Guardian-Boston Mass 1-27-45

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—Five members of the 92nd "Buffalo" Division, part of the Fifth Army in northern Italy, recently were presented battlefield commissions by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, new commander in chief of the 15th Army Group. 1-27-45

City for demonstrated leadership, coolness under fire and ability on the field of battle, the newly-created second lieutenants are: JOSEPH BRACY of Boston Massachusetts, and Gilbert Boothe of Forsythe, Georgia, former first sergeants; Boston, Mass

Frank Whisonant, Washington, D. C., Joseph Fry of Homestead, Pennsylvania, and William Hicks of Cleveland, Ohio, former technical sergeants. Both Hicks and Whisonant previously had been awarded Bronze Stars for heroic achievement in action.

In making the presentation, General Clark praised the five men for the natural ability as leaders they had demonstrated in battle. He added that from now on they will be marked men and will be expected to continue the high tradition they have established. 1-27-45

The job of routing out the enemy from these mountains is an unglamorous one," General Clark said, "but it is a highly important phase of this global war."

Presidential Unit Citation To Marines

Atlanta World Ga. 2-1-45

By PFC'S JARVIS ROBINSON AND LEONARD VAUGHN, USMC SOMEWHERE IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC (Delayed)-(ANP)

-Members of the 3rd and 4th platoons of the Negro 3rd Marine Ammunition company have been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for "outstanding performance in combat during the seizure of Japanese held islands" and for serving valiantly as one of the various attached units of the 4th which have won this coveted citation in World War II: These are the Marine units Marine Division.

Aircraft Group 22 June, 1942; W ak e Detachment-(including VMF-211 of MAG-21)- Dec. 8 to 22, 194-, Wake Island; 1st Mar. Div. Reinf.-Aug 7 to Dec. 9, 1942, Guadalçanal; 2nd Mar. Div. Reinf-Nov. 20 to 29, 1943, Tawara and 4th Mar. Div.- 2-1-45

General Alexander A. Vandergrift, commandant of the Marine Corps, had just recently praised these Negro Marines and others for showing unwavering bravery in action at Saipan, Guam and Peleiu.

Negro Marines are adding n e w milestones for our race by covering themsleves with glory in battle out here in the vast Pacific.

Heroic Chaplain

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

CAPT. THOMAS A. JENKINS chaplain with a quartermaster truck group in Italy, who was recently awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action with the Fifth Army. The chaplain, a native fo. Charlotte, N. C., was cited especially for his disregard for his own safety while administering to the wounded and dying.

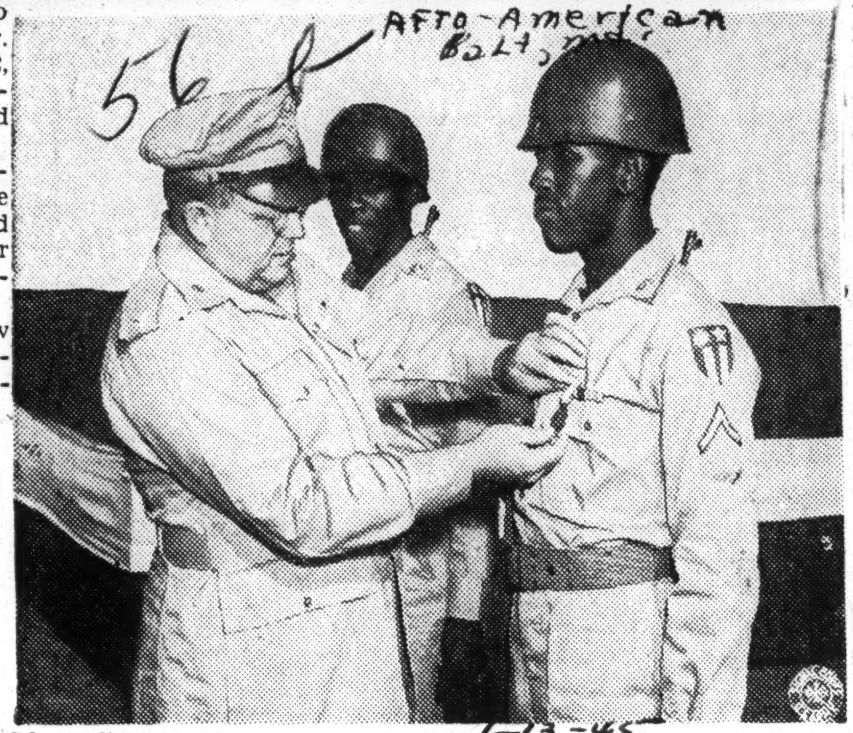
Lt. Wendell P. Imes Gets Purple Heart Posthumously

New York Age 3-3-45 N.Y.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Lieutenant Wendell Phillips Imes, only son of President and Mrs. William L. Imes of Knoxville College, has received posthumous honor in the award of the Purple Heart, in a communication authorized by the President of the United States, sent through the War Department under date of February 6, 1945, and two citations, for military merit and for wounds received in action, resulting in his death. 3-3-45

Baltimore GI Honored for Heroism

AFRO-American Balt, Md. 1-13-45



Pfc. Julius R. Lockley, Jr., of Baltimore, who recently rescued a pilot from a crashed U.S. Army plane after swimming and wading through the muck and gasoline-covered water of a swamp, is shown receiving the soldier's medal for his heroism from Col. A. M. O'Dell in Calcutta, India. The soldier, a former musician, is the son of Bishop Julius R. Lockley, Sr., of 1516 W. Lanvale Street, and has been in the India-Burma theater since October, 1943. He is a member of the unit which has led the world ten successive times in the handling of vitally needed war materials.

Laborer Turns Linguist in Army Shop, Wins Citation

AFRO-American Balt, Md. 1-13-45

ATLANTA.—John T. Tomkins, graduate of his native Eatenton, Ga., high school, who could speak only English when he came to Camp Wheeler in February, 1943, now speaks two foreign languages—Italian and German—and received a Meritorious Award recently. Tomkins, originally a shoe repairman, later transferred to the wood and metal shop, of which he ise now foreman, received the award from the Army Service Forces, signed by his commanding officer and the commanding general of the Fourth Service Command.

Coupled with the fact that he now can speak two foreign languages is his native initiative, ambition and foresight that have won him a promotion for outstanding accomplishment. So, he gets the citation, the promotion and additional pay in his present job as foreman. 1-13-45

It Happened Like This

It all happened this way:

Tomkins went to work in the maintenance branch February 15, 1943, as a junior shoe repairman. On May 1, 1943, he was transferred to the wood and metal shop as a blacksmith helper, doing forge work and soldering.

The investigation that won for him the promotion, citation and more pay, points out that he grasped the principles of the work and quickly learned soldering and the how and the why of that job. 1-13-45

About that time four Italian prisoners of war were assigned to duty in the wood and metal shop, which brought on complications. The investigation report records that there was a white man employed as foreman of the shop. He could not speak Italian and the Italians could not speak English.

Succeeds White Foreman

The report adds that the white foreman could not handle the necessary paper work, increased when the Italians came, so Tomkins was made foreman and it wasn't long before things were running more satisfactorily.

Tomkins says the German language was easier for him to learn than the Italian. The German language, he says, has some words that sound something like English, but the Italian hasn't.

N.Y. Pilot, Lt. Lee Archer, Gets DFC

AFRO-American

FIFTEENTH AAF IN ITALY. —First Lieut. Lee. A. Archer, Jr., 25, son of Lee A. Archer, Sr., New York City, and deputy flight leader in a squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group, was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Balt, Md. 1-13-45

The medal was awarded Lieutenand Archer for action while on a bomber escort mission. Sightng a flight of enemy aircraft apparently preparing to attack the bombers, he led his flight to meet the attacking planes.

Destroyed Three Planes

Lieutenant Archer, who had earned the Air Medal with eight Oak Leaf Clusters, encountered and destroyed three enemy aircraft and then provided cover for his fellow pilots who destroyed three more. Not a bomber was lost. 1-13-45

The victories gave the lieutenant, an enlisted infantryman for eighteen months, a total of four enemy aircraft destroyed in aerial combat, with six enemy aircraft destroyed on the ground. He is the group's leading individual scorer.

Liberia Honors Capt. Bouyer

New York Amsterdam News N.Y.

RECOGNIZING HIS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES to the Liberian Republic while serving in Africa with the 25th Infantry Station Hospital, Captain Harsba F. Bouyer, a medical officer stationed at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona, was recently made a Knight Official of the Order of African Redemption by President William V. S. Tubman of Liberia. As a Knight Official, Capt. Bouyer has received Liberia's highest military honor. He is an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist of Chicago. In the picture, Capt. Bouyer is shown with Lt. Rachael Garrett, ANC, of Richmiod, Va., as she pins on the Liberian honor award.—M.

56b-1945

Major Poindexter Decorated For Malarial Control Work

Journal & Guide Norfolk Va. 3-3-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Major Hildrus A. Poindexter, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in support of military operations against the enemy at Treasury, Solomon Islands, in the Southwest Pacific area.

MAJOR H. A. POINDEXTER

3-3-45

During the period of June 15 to Oct. 30, 1944, Major Poindexter not only acted in the capacity of an infantry division malariologist, but also performed additional duties of an island command malariologist. **By his skillful work the rate of malaria fever was materially reduced.**

HARVARD GRADUATE

Major Poindexter holds the degree of M. D. from Harvard University and the Ph. D. degree from Columbia University. He is professor and head of the department of bacteriology and public health in the medical school at Howard University, and is the author of many articles on tropical diseases.

3-3-45

At the outbreak of the war Major Poindexter had just returned to the university from Porto Rico and Central America where he had been engaged in special research work in malaria fevers and other tropical diseases.

Major Poindexter is married and his wife, Mrs. Ruth G. Poindexter, lives at 513 23rd place, Northeast, Washington, D. C.

93rd Men Win Medals In Pacific

Peoples Voice N.Y. 3-3-45

Flash

WITH THE 93RD INFANTRY DIVISION IN NEW GUINEA — The story of the 93rd Infantry Division this week is a story of heroism in face of the enemy, promotions for jobs well done, and awards for proficiency and exemplary conduct in action against the enemy. Three heroes were expecially outstanding. 3-3-45

Sergeant Frank Portee, of Clover, South Carolina, has been decorated with the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Purple Heart. Sergeant Portee was advance scout for a reconnaissance patrol operating in enemy territory when he was suddenly fired on by a Jap sniper. A .25 calibre bullet struck him in the arm and he slumped to the ground, firing as he fell. Though wounded, he returned the fire with such accuracy that the sniper abandoned his position, thus permitting the rest of the patrol to come up and form a circle.

Crawling into the center, without assistance, Sergeant Portee directed the fire of his patrol until the danger point had been neutralized. After receiving first aid, he then continued to perform as advance scout for the patrol until its mission had been completed.

The story of Private First Class Samuel King of Melwood, Arkansas, is another story of heroism. While out on a special mission with a unit dispatched to secure information and fight if necessary. Private First Class Smith came face to face with three Japs charging him with fixed bayonets. With deadly coolness, Smith killed all three with a burst of lead from his automatic rifle. One of the dying Japs fell almost at the feet of the straight shooting doughboy. This week Smith was still in action, having been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

3-3-45

The story of Captain Edgar G. Davis of the 93rd is a typical story of hard work with promotion as the reward. This week an announcement from General of the Army Douglas MacArthur's Headquarters said Captain Davis was advanced from first lieutenant.

As regimental communications officer, Captain Davis, then a lieutenant, had the direct supervision of the broad network of communications for the Division which is so essential to a unit in combat in the jungle. Captain Davis, a native of Montclair, New Jersey, came all the way through the ranks to his present grade.

Awards for Valor

Two Orleanians Awarded In Italy

Louisiana Weekly New Orleans, La.

WITH THE AAF ENGINEER COMMAND IN ITALY. — Two former New Orleans residents now serving with a veteran Negro aviation engineer battalion building airfields for the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces in Italy, were recently awarded the Mechanic's Bar for qualifying as outstandingly efficient operators of airfield construction equipment.

Sergeant George H. Hawkins, son of Mrs. Maude Joseph of 2325 S. Johnson St., was employed by A. Huber & Sons of 4800 Canal St., before joining the service in April 1942. Married, his wife, Ruth, lives at 1003 N. Claiborne Ave., with their 28-month old daughter, Jocelyn. 3-3-45

Sergeant Otis Kendrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benton Kendrick of Amite, left his position with the New Orleans Drainage & Construction Co., to enter the Army in June 1942. His wife, Estella, lives in Amite with his parents.

Both men, veterans of 23 months overseas, have seen active duty in North Africa and Italy building the bases from which have been launched the mighty air blows that pulverized Southern Germany and the Balkans.

Decorate Men for Bravery

Kansas City Call 3-2-45

Silver Star To One for Super-Courage

By MAX JOHNSON

NNPA War Correspondent in Italy

WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY. — A Silver Star for one of the most unusual heroic acts of bravery ever recorded in this theater of war was awarded Pfc. James Robinson, 19, of Atlantic City, N. J., during decoration ceremonies at 92nd Division headquarters Monday. Twenty other members of the division received bronze stars citing them for outstanding combat activities.

Robinson, who stands 6-2 and weighs 200 was commended for his gallant action Nov. 9 when though wounded himself, he risked his life to rescue a companion pinned down by an unexploded mortar shell in the leg. 3-2-45

Through Enemy Fire

Withdrawing with his unit following contact with the Germans, Robinson, with a machinegun wound in his left shoulder, suddenly saw a member of his company approximately 150 yards from the enemy position, pinned to the ground with the unexploded shell in one leg.

Despite his shoulder wound, Robinson went through intense enemy fire to the aid of the wounded man. In full view of the enemy and exposed to their fire, he extracted the unexploded shell not knowing at the time when it was timed, then carried his wounded companion to safety behind his own lines.

One of Bravest Rescues

This action here is deemed one of the bravest rescues by a member of the 92nd. Robinsin is single. His mother, Mrs. Louise Robinson, lives at 1830 Washington Ave., Atlantic City. 3-2-45

Bronze Star recipients:

Ist Lt. J. T. John W. Bailey, Easton, Md.; Ist. Lt. Philip W. Grayson, New York City; 2nd Lt. Charles A. Kinder, Montgomery, W. Va.; S-Sgt. Roy S. Savage, Fort Bragg, N. C.; Pvt. John A. Ellis, Elizabeth City, N. C.; Pfc. Walter L. Gillis, Jonesboro, N. C.; Pvt. David Smith, Rocky Mount, N. C.; Sgt. Orva Snelling, Barnwell, S. C.; Pvt. Reuben E. Avery, Greenville, S. C.; T-Sgt. Howard W. Edwards, Trenton, N. J.; T-Sgt. Robert M. Thomas, Atlantic City; Pfc. Freddie W. Bryant, Philadelphia; Pvt. Quincy A. Day, New York City; S-Sgt. Caesaro Rucker, Houston; T-5 Clyde D. Barnett, Philadelphia; Pfc. John Nealy, Chicago; Pfc. George W. Bedell, Girardeau, Miss.; Cpl. Theodore Merritt, Jessup, Ga.; S-Sgt. Peter Brown, Houston; Pvt. Louis C. Caldwell, Gulfport.

Lt. Bailey won his Bronze Star for his action on Nov. 15 when he was acting as advance observation post lookout during the attack of certain troops. He left his relatively safe position to take charge of these troops after enemy gun fire caused them to become disorganized.

His action is credited with saving the situation so that our troops could proceed effectively on their mission which proved of vital importance. 3-2-45

Lt. Grauson was commended for excellent performance of his duties as registration office with one division of the regiment. Lt. Kinder was cited for bravery during the Dec. 26 thrust against the Germans in the Serchio section.

When the communication wires between his regimental and battalion commend posts on opposite sides of the river were severed by artillery fire, Kinder voluntarily took a Jeep on four separate occasions on an enemy-observed road in the midst of heavy shellfire to keep the commanders of both positions in communication with each other.

S-Sgt. Savage was commended for his preseverance in single-handedly fighting off an enemy attack on a house by hand grenades on Nov. 12, thus saving his companions as well as himself from death or capture.

Pvt. Ellis Browning, automatic rifleman with a patrol which infiltered the enemy lines at one point on Nov. 22, ambushing 20 Germans, killing five and wounding 7, covered the final forced withdrawal of his companions so effectively that no casualties were suffered during this highly successful mission.

Pvt. Gillis was cited for administering first aid to injured companions in a particularly hazardous frontline spot during one occasion of fierce fighting on October 21.

Sgt. Snelling, ambulance driver, was commanded for evacuating wounded under similar circumstances. Pvt. Avery and T-Sgt. Edwards won their awards for rescuing wounded companions pinned down from machinegun fire. 3-2-45

In this instance, Edwards, exposed himself to wipe out a German machinegun squad. T-5 Thomas, radio operator of the unit, was cited during an attack by taking an exposed position after enemy artillery had severed wires.

Citations to the others were for bravery and outstanding acts under similar circumstances.

Cpl. John C. Moody, member of an ordnance unit with the 92nd, received the Fifth Army athletic award for outstanding ability and accomplishments during the Spaghetti Bowl football game on this 5th Army front on New Year's Day. "Big Train" Moody, former Morris Brown star, highlighted the game, scoring three of the 5th Army team's four touchdowns.

Capt. Walter H. Dabney Awarded Purple Heart

Amsterdam News 1-6-45

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Capt. Walter H. Dabney, commanding officer of Company B, 86th Infantry, is convalescing in a hospital in Italy after being wounded in battle. He has received the Purple Heart Medal and has been recommended for the Silver Star for gallantry in action. Capt. Dabney, an architectural engineer by profession, is a graduate of Howard University and lives at 2038 18th St., N. W., this city.

Chaplain Douglass Hall a Captain

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt, Md. 1-6-45

56 b

Douglass Hall, formerly a member of the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN editorial staff, was recently promoted to captain. He is with the 92nd Infantry Division in Italy. 1-6-45

Informed of his promotion at a Fifth Army chaplains' meeting, Captain Hall went to the nearest PX to purchase double bars for his shoulders. He was late.

Chaplain Clarence Wormley (engineers) of Atlanta, promoted at the same time, was ahead of him and secured the last "tracks" in stock.

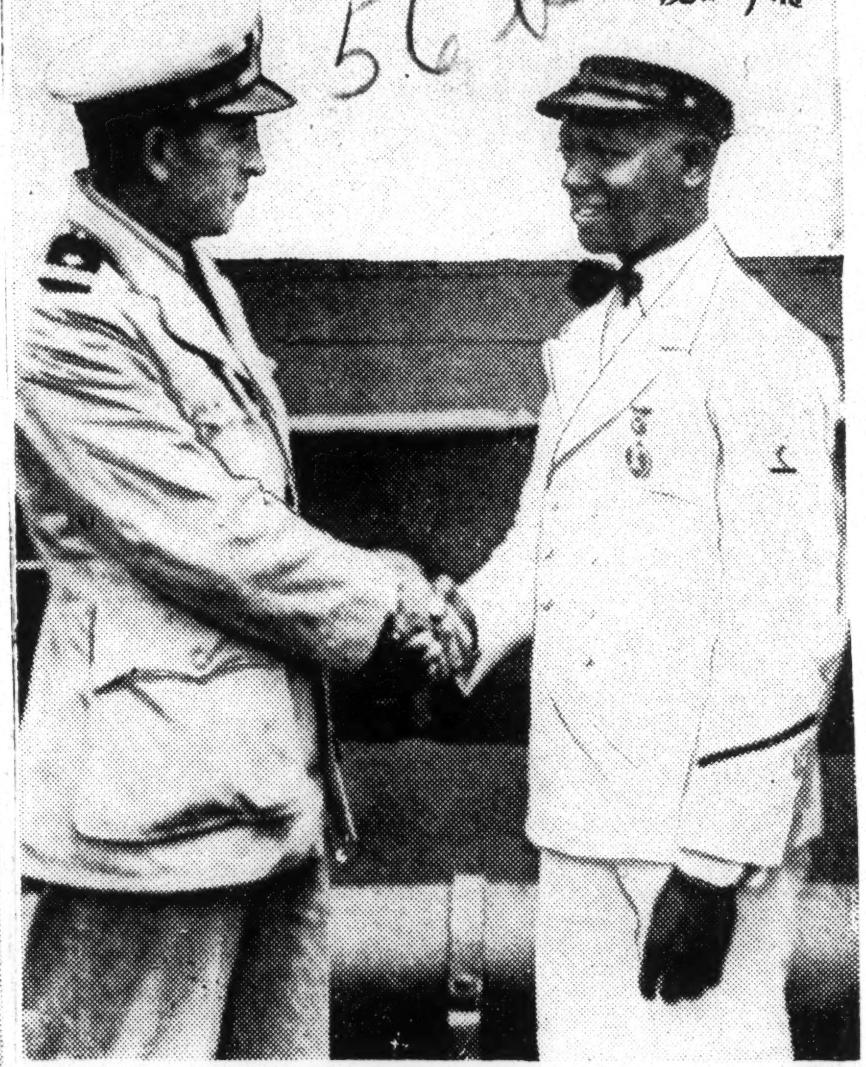
The photographer painted these double bars on Captain Hall's helmet.

Another chaplain, William A. Dickerson of Los Angeles, is assigned to a quartermaster unit.

Purple Heart for Navy Cook

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45 Balt, Md.

56 b



Cook Second Class Reginald Julius of New York City, shakes hands with Lt. Samuel S. Platt, acting commanding officer, aboard the USS Arayat, somewhere in the Pacific after being awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in the battle of Savoy Island.

N.Y. Amsterdam News

1st Negro Sailor Honored Before Capt.'s Merit Mast

N.Y. 1-6-45

BAINBRIDGE, Md. (ANP)—The first colored boy to be brought before a captain's meritorious mast, the seventh such mast since the inauguration of the center two years ago, George S. L. Bragg, steward's mate first class, has been commended for outstanding performance in assigned duties as assistant company commander and company commander in the steward's mate school at the U. S. Naval Training center here.

He exhibited such qualities of initiative, loyalty, dependability and efficiency as to reflect credit upon himself, his race and his unit.

Won Third Place

Bragg placed third in the first PI Class of 68 men here and since his graduation, has successfully led 10 companies of boys through their training. All companies came out of training with high honors, and there were athletic winners in every sport in nearly every company. Another outstanding feature about Bragg is that he is the only steward mate in charge of a company of recruits, a job he has been doing since February of this year.

Before entering the service in August, 1942, Bragg worked for the Audio Manufacturing company of Flenberg, Conn., where he worked as a foreman for 2½ years before his induction.

Born in Stamford, Conn., George attended grammar and high school there before entering the prep institute in Brooklyn where he studied sound. After completion of this course, he went to work for the Audio Manufacturing company. He is 25 years old and married.

1,377 Purple Hearts In Impressive Record

Journal & Guide Norfolk Va. 4-14-45

Artillery "Magnificent," Says General; Division Does Part In Holding Action

(A Special War Department Release)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—Since their first combat team crossed the Arno River last September to capture the city of Lucca, men of the 92nd Infantry Division have won seven awards of the Legion of Merit, 65 Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, four Air Medals, and 1,377 Purple Hearts, the War Department announced on Monday of this week.

At the end of their first six months in combat, the 'Buffaloes' had received 9,991 Combat Infantry Badges. Altogether, 7,000 officers and men of the division had received recognition for their efforts in action against the enemy. Seven men who stood out in the field of battle had earned commissions on the spot and many others were being considered.

Army Leaders High In Praise Of Unit

Regarding operations, the 92nd Division had seen only negligible changes in its front-line positions. One major drive, launched in February, gained some ground before the Germans sacrificed much in men and material in pushing the division back to its original starting point. Sharing the assignment of pinning down Wehrmacht divisions in Italy, the 92nd was confronted by the loftiest peaks and mountains in the Apennines.

Many heroes, whose exploits earned the praise of high ranking Army leaders, emerged from the division's first half-year of combat. Daring fighters like Capt. Charles F. Gandy, and 2nd Lt. Theodore O. Smith of Washington, D. C.; Sgt. Rodger Holmes of Hodges, S. C.; Major Willis D. Polk of Philadelphia, Pa.; Sgt. Jefferson H. Hilliard of Brooklyn, N. Y. Pfc. James Robinson of Atlantic City, N. J.; and Pvt. Jake McInnis of Prentiss, Miss., have lived up to the finest traditions of the United States Army.

Men Have Won Battlefield Commissions

4-14-45

Quick recognition, in the form of commissions as second lieutenants, came to the following men while on the battlefield: First Sgt. Gilbert Boothe of Forsythe, Ga.; First Sgt. Joseph Bracy of Boston, Mass.; T/Sgt. Frank Whisonant of Washington, D. C.; T/Sgt. Joseph Fry of Homestead, Pa.; T/Sgt. William Hicks of Cleveland, Ohio; T/Sgt. Caesar O. Rucker of Fort Sam Houston, Texas; S/Sgt. Ernest L. Carlton of New York City, and T/Sgt. John Birdsong of Washington, D. C.

Pricking of the German lines by patrols, which constantly probed for weak points in the coastal ramparts of the Gothic Line, characterized the chief activity of the 92nd Division. The wily Jerry, who used natural mountain barriers masterfully, made all maneuvering for the attacking elements just about the tougest in modern warfare.

Story Of Heroic Patrol Action

In the course of one patrol action, S Sgt. Mansfield Mason of Baltimore, Md., notably distinguished himself by heroic conduct. Acting on information that some Germans had been seen to enter a house near a certain village, Mason's patrol under the command of 2nd Lt. Wilbur E. Ledbetter of Washington, D. C., surrounded the building and effectively covered all its approaches. S/Sgt. Mason then crawled to within 30 feet of the dwelling in the face of withering machinegun fire. He hurled three hand grenades into the building and shifted his position slightly. Out walked five Germans, including an officer, to surrender.

First Lt. William E. Porter of Indianapolis, Ind., who was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, exposed himself to enemy arms while his company advanced on its objective under a hail of machinegun fire. With his unit pinned to the ground, Lt. Porter succeeded in eliminating the machinegun nest, killing the German officer in command, and forcing the gun crews to surrender.

Medic Braved Enemy Fire To Do Duty

4-14-45

Men of non-combatant units also won their share of awards. Pfc. Walter L. Gillis of Jonesboro, N. C., a member of a medical detachment, administered first aid to members of an attacking platoon while intense enemy fire created havoc with the terrain. Although he was in full view of the Germans, he did not falter in his efforts to see that all who needed medical attention were treated. He then assisted in evacuating the casualties.

"Magnificent" is the way Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, commander of the 92nd, describes his division's artillery. Time and time again, "Buffalo" infantrymen, sweating out a tight spot, have seen perfectly placed artillery fire shatter hostile emplacements and break up repeated and determined German counter-attacks. "Boy, that artillery was great," said many 92nd doughboys upon return from skirmishes with the enemy.

General of the Army George C. Marshall was the first five-star general to inspect the 92nd Division. In an official statement, the Army chief of staff said that what he had seen in Italy was "very reassuring."

Air Decorations To 332nd

Seven In Col. Davis' Outfit Awarded The Flying Cross

Pittsburgh Courier 5-10-45 Pg. 1, Pt. 2.

By COLLINS GEORGE, Courier War Correspondent

AT AN AIR BASE IN ITALY—During recent decoration ceremonies, Col. Y. H. Taylor, commanding officer of the wing to which Col. B. O. Davis Fighter Group is assigned, pinned the Distinguished Flying Cross on seven heroic officers of the group for "meritorious achievement and heroism in combat against the enemy."

He also pinned the Bronze Star on four enlisted men for "meritorious service in support of military operations against the enemy." Thirteen Air Medals also were awarded. 3-10-45

SEVERAL HONORED

The Distinguished Flying Cross went to William N. Alsbrook, Kansas City, Mo.; Clarence W. Dort, Elmira, N. Y.; Sgurgeon Ellington, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Richard S. Harden, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.; Robert Martin, Dubuque, Iowa; Charles Tate, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Edward M. Thomas, Chicago.

Chief interest in the ceremony centered around the awarding of the Bronze Star to S/Sgt. Elliott W. Lucas, Washington, D. C., whose brother, First Lieut. Wendell M. Lucas, received the Air Medal at the same ceremony. Sergeant Lucas won his star for designing and constructing a power-driven hydraulic test stand which reduced the time required for inspecting hydraulic systems of P-51 type aircraft.

Another enlisted man receiving the Bronze Star was Corp. John T. Fields of Renfroe, Ala. He is an expert aircraft armorer and gun expert. 3-10-45

FLIGHT CHIEF GETS STAR

Other men receiving the Bronze Star were T/Sgt. Roland L. Poindexter of Norfolk, Va., and M/Sgt. Nathaniel Wade, Bellaire, Ohio. Roland is an aircraft armorer and trouble shooter, and the latter is a squadron flight chief.

Winners of the Air Medal included First Lieut. Wendell M. Lucas, Washington, D. C.; Second Lieut. Gentry Barnes, Cleveland, Ohio; Leonell Banam, Pascagoula, Miss.; Harold H. Brown, Minneapolis, Minn.; John W. Davis, Kansas City, Mo.; William Walker, Atlantic City, N. J.; Samuel W. Watts, New York City; James A. Wilson, Marion, Ind., and Flight Officers Charles V. Brantley, St. Louis, Mo.; Joseph Chineworth, Bloomfield, Iowa; Thomas Hawkins, Glencock, N. J.; Robert Pillow, Nashville, Tenn., and Vincent Williams, Los Angeles, Calif.

Presidential Citation To Unit

Memphis World 3-20-45 Tenn

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, France—The 969th Field Artillery Battalion, a Negro 155mm cutfit was one of 34 odd units receiving citations in the name of the President of th United States to the 101st Airborne Division for action in the Bastgne area when SHAEF announced Monday.

Men of the 969th stuck to their guns and fired all around the compass during the defense of encircled Bastogne even though mortar bombs fell on them like rain The unit which landed in France last July was attached to the 28th Infantry Division at the time of the German attack. At one time, when enemy pressure increased and casualties became heavier, all except the actual cannoneers fought infantry fashion 3-30-45

The 101st Airborne Division and certain attached units were formally presented with the honor on March 15. Twenty-five other odd units, including the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, were not present because operations required their presence elsewhere However, appropriate ceremonies will be held for these units at a future date.

Heroic Action Against Nazis Brings Awards

New York Amsterdam News 3-24-45 N.Y.

Truman K. Gibson In Italy Reviewing 92nd Division; Names of Honorees Listed

By MAX JOHNSON
(NNPA War Correspondent)

WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—The 77th is taking advantage of the lull which has gripped the 92nd Division since its recent attack action. Major Gen. Edward M. Almond, its commander, this week decorated thirty two of his men, three of them posthumously, for outstanding heroism during past clashes with the enemy on this 5th Army front.

Truman K. Gibson, civilian Aide to Secretary of War Stimson, who has spent the past week observing various units of the 92nd, and Major Gen. Otto L. Nelson, deputy Theatre Commander, aided Gen. Almond in decorating heroes during an impressive ceremony. 3-24-45

Posthumous Awards

Posthumous awards included: Major Willis D. Polk, 468 Fiftieth Street, Philadelphia, and Capt. Charles F. Gandy, Jr., 604 Emcree Avenue, Greenville, S. C., Silver Stars. 2nd Lt. Theodore O. Smith, 821 Division Avenue, Washington, D. C., Oakleaf Cluster to Silver Star.

Other recipients included Silver Stars to: Capt. Raymond A. Diggs; Lt. Harold W. McLeod, Washington; Capt. James A. Martin, Dalton, Mass.; Lt. Vernon C. Dailey, Jacksonville, Ill.; Lt. William E. Porter, Lima, Ohio; S/Sgt. Oscar Simpson, Canton, Miss.

Bronze Star Recipients

Bronze Star recipients: 1st Lt. Arthur W. Williams, Brooklyn, N. Y.; 1st Lt. Andrew W. Walker, Tuskegee, Ala.; 1st Lt. Harry R. Janzen, Dinuba, Calif.; 2nd Lts. Joseph G. Burgess, New Rochelle, N. Y.; James D. Pearce, Dallas, Texas; Isias D. Williams, Savannah, Ga.; S/Sgs. Oliver Martin, New York City' Alexander Grant, Jr., Savannah, Ga.; Cassar P. Spearman, Los Angeles, 1st Sgts. Benjamin K. Boone, Tuskegee, Ala.; Joseph F. Strong, Lexington, Ky.; Sgs. Harry L. Spaulding, Cape May, N. J.; Granville B. Williams, New York City; James P. Page, Pulaski, Miss.; T/4 Sidney Mayers, Trenton, Miss.; T/4 Charles B. Brown, Kalamazoo, Mich.; T/4 George Coleman, Raymond, Miss.; Pfcs. W. L. Gillis, Jonesboro, N. C.; Russell M. Harrison, Greenville, S. C., was killed last October when he led his company in an attack, taking a difficult objective under extremely heavy enemy fire shortly after a 92nd combat team took the historical town of Lucca. After his company fought to the objective, Capt. Gandy was shot when he advanced alone to reconnoiter the route of his company's next movement.

First wounded by a shell fragment while leading the fight for this objective he was evacuated in spite of his injury, shortly after a heavy enemy fire was killed by an enemy sniper while continuing to direct the battalion's fire. His wife, Dorothy, lives in Philadelphia.

Major Polk Killed 3-24-45

Major Polk was killed February 8 when, as commander of the battalion, he first crossed the Cinquale Canal during the 92nd attack. Captain Gandy, whose wife Gertrude lives in Greenville, S. C., was killed in action.

32 Heroes of 92d Honored --Reporter Not Admitted

N.Y. Amsterdam News 3-3-45

By MAX JOHNSON

(Amsterdam News—Afro-American Correspondent)

WITH 92ND DIVISION, ITALY—In one of the largest and most colorful ceremonies of its kind in recent months here, thirty-two members of the 92nd Division were decorated Friday for various heroic deeds of outstanding commendable activities against the enemy on this 5th Army Front.

Citations included three battlefield promotions of enlisted men to the rank of second lieutenant; three Silver Star awards; ten Bronze Stars; two Oak Leaf clusters to air medals; six air medals and eight commendations. 3-31-45

Major Gen. Willis D. Crittenberger, commander of Fourth Army Corps, and Edward M. Almond, 92nd commander, presented the awards.

I did not hear what Gen. Crittenberger had to say about the 92nd during his speech at luncheon because correspondents, sometimes included among guests in such instances, were this time not only uninvited but actually denied entry.

He Got In, . . Was Put Out

I did manage to slip in after luncheon got underway, but an alert official with an apparent dim view of my protests, ushered me out immediately. 3-31-45

Combat Promotions

Combat promotions to second lieutenants as a result of their proven worth as leaders went to:

T. Sgts. Ernest L. Carlton, Detroit; Caesaro Rucker, Austin, Texas; Andrel Christiansen, 1214 North Frazier, Philadelphia. Silver Star recipients included Pfc. Truehart Fogg, Newark, N. J.; Pfc. Richard Tatum, Jr., Cunard, W. Va.; Pvt. John N. Mitchell, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Fogg was cited for heroism during Serchio action last December 26th, when he killed all in a four man enemy machine gun crew, a twenty-five man German raiding party and single-handedly knocked out another enemy machine gun, thereby saving his platoon from almost certain annihilation.

Tatum, a rifleman, acting as forward observer during a 92nd attack on February 11th, spotted a group of the enemy in a house on his front and directed fire on the building, though under heavy machine gun fire himself. Tatum remained in position and killed six Germans when they sought escape from the building. His action is credited with repulsing a strong enemy attack on his mortar squad position in this instance.

Won Silver Star

Pvt. Mitchell won the Silver Star for action on February 8th, when serving as combat engineer attached to an infantry rifle company. He was assigned the mission of blowing up hostile barbed wire entanglements impeding his company's advance. When additional sniper and machine gun fire held up the company advance by pinning down his company commander, Mitchell killed one enemy sniper, wounded and captured another, making possible his commander's and company's advance.

Bronze Star Winners

Bronze Stars 3-31-45 for outstanding heroic action against the enemy went to:

1st Lts. Andrew Lee, Jr., Cleveland, O.; Joseph L. Stephenson, Goldsboro, N. Carolina; 2nd Lt. Francis P. Mulhair, New York City; T. Sgts. William H. Pris, Fort Riley, Kan.; Willard C. Lawrence, Central City, Ky.; T-5s John Adams, Highpoint, N. Carolina; Marshall Lovelace, DeKalb, Miss.; James W. Walker, Gary, Ind.; Pfc. Raymond Jackson, Camp Blanding, Fla.

Other awards included:

Other Awards

Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medals: 1st Lts. Albert A. Loving, Jr., Chicago; James E. Woodson, Topeka, Kan.

Air Medals: 1st Lts. Louis K. Hanks, Toledo, O.; George E. Pope, Hawkinsville, Ga.; Lloyd R. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; George F. Bizzel, Lancaster, O.; S. Sgt. Marshall R. Hurley, Washington; Sgt. Howard Hollis, Middletown, O.

Commendations: 2nd Lt. Charles R. Walker, Macon, Ga.; T. Sgt. Woodrow Bell, Birmingham, Ala.; S. Sgts. George Brooks, New Orleans; Pfc. Warren H. Brown, Birmingham, Ala.; Embert Madision, New Orleans, and Pvt. Jesse Durham, Marks, Miss.

2nd Lt. Smith, recent Silver Star winner, was killed during a 92nd attack on February 8th. Leading a platoon assigned to assist taking his company's initial objective in one sector of the Apennine mountains, Smith and his men captured nine enemy soldiers and their equipment from well fortified positions, completely neutralizing enemy fire on his company's left flank, thereby facilitating its subsequent advance. Smith was a 1942 Howard University graduate and former Washington postal employee. His father, Frank, lives in Washington.

Gallant Action

The Silver Star was won by Captain Diggs for his gallant action in quickly assuming command of a battalion February 8th after Major Polk, its commander, was killed while rallying his men to continue the attack. Acting battalion executive at the time, Diggs so efficiently took over command that his unit reached the objective and held it until forced back after other elements of the 92nd failed to take objectives in nearby Apennines, exposing them to German shelling from three sides.

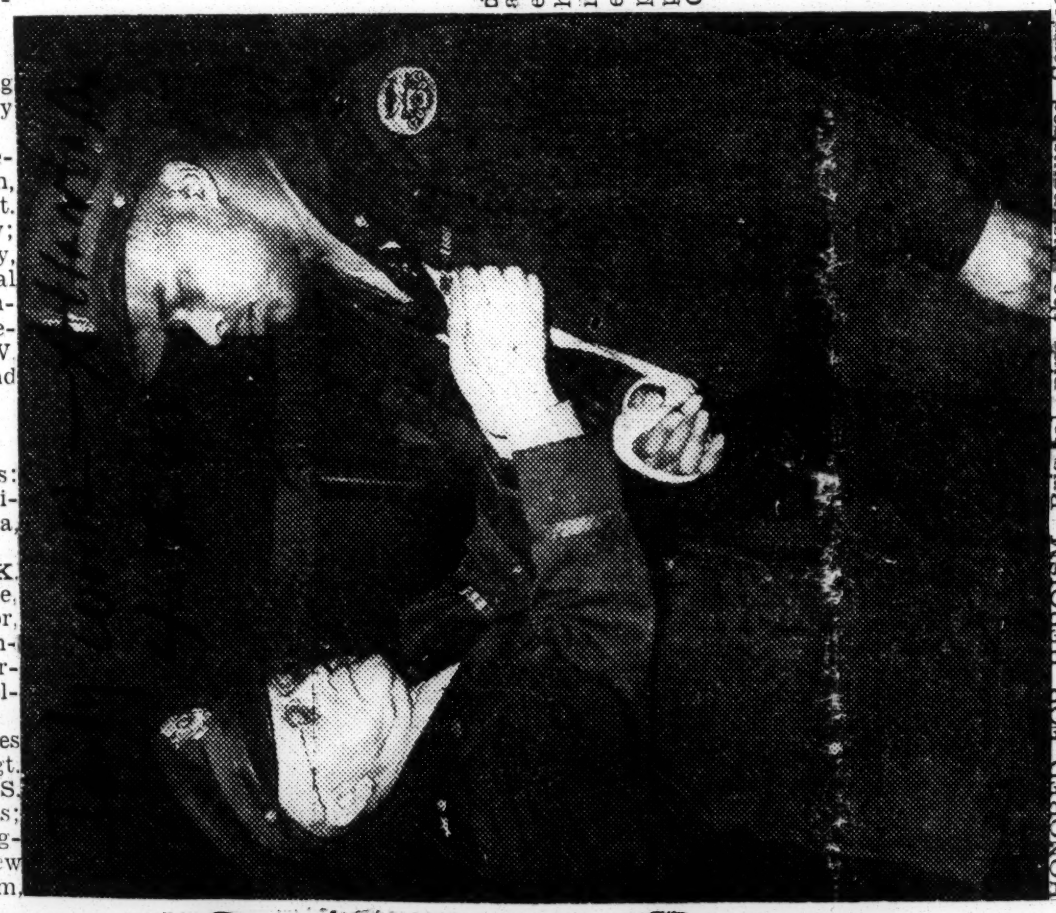
1st Lt. McLeod received the Silver Star citation for heroism during the same 92nd attack on February 10th, when, as company commander, he effectively led his men against fortified positions and was able to take the objective at a great expense to the Germans. His citation read in part: 3-24-45

"Under intense enemy mortar, machine gun and hand grenade fire, Lt. McLeod held his position, continually exposing himself as he moved about securing his company's positions. When finally ordered to withdraw, he had accounted for ten enemy dead and fifteen captured."

Silver Star Winners

Captain Martin won the Silver Star for efficiently taking over command of his battalion on February 10th when its commander was killed during attack action. Lt. Foster, cited for bravery last December 5, when he advanced alone to kill a German officer and forced another enemy soldier to surrender after the two had pinned his platoon down with machine gunfire.

Lt. Dailey won the Silver Star for action last December 10th, when he performed a similar feat while leading a six man patrol. S Sgt. Simpson won the Silver Star for killing a German and forcing another to surrender during a similar patrol action last October 22nd.



HONORED FOR HEROISM—Brigadier General Joseph H. Bastion, the Distinguished Service Cross on Capt. Charles L. Thomas, commander of the Percy Jones General and Convalescent Hospital company in France, for 'extraordinary heroism in action.' He was awarded the Army's second highest decoration for extraordinary heroism in France. Capt. Thomas resides in Detroit, where he was employed by the Ford Motor Company prior to his induction as a private in January, 1942 (Signal Corps Photo.)

Given Legion Of Merit At Ceremony In Ga. Hospital

New York Age 4-14-45 N.Y.

ATLANTA, Ga. — Sergeant Jerry B. Davis, 36, of Macon, Ga., for Thursday was awarded the Legion of Merit — the fourth highest Army decoration — at a special ceremony in Lawson General Hospital where he is a patient.

Sgt. Davis was wounded leading his section in the 92nd Division in Italy to bring rations to his gun crews during a heavy enemy barrage at the battle of the Arno River

93rd Division Ordnance Group Wins Service Unit Plaque

The Kansas City Call—Kansas City, Mo.

Presentation to Men Who Give Superior Performance

4-13-45

WITH THE 93RD INFANTRY DIVISION IN NEW GUINEA.—Presentation of the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque to the Division Ordnance Company, awarded only to units which have demonstrated superior performance and outstanding devotion to duty, was announced today by the Commanding General of the 93rd Infantry Division.

The Negro Ordnancemen established an exemplary record in maintenance by keeping vehicles and weapons in operation under trying conditions and over long periods of time. First Lieutenant Virgil B. Fluegel of Charles City, Iowa, who entered the Army as a private in 1942, and worked his way up through the ranks, assumed command of the company a few months ago. He wears the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with two battle participation stars, in addition to the wreath insignia authorized by the latest award.

Other members of the company are: 4-13-45

Texas: Austin—Pvt. Percy L. Robinson, 2000 Comal St.; Bellville—Tech. 4th Gr., Lee O. F. Johnson, Route 1; Fort Worth—Tech. 5th Gr., Oscar C. Raleigh, 3507 Horn St.; Galveston—Tech. 5th Gr. Willie Jackson, 3204 Avenue C; Galiad—Tech. 5th Gr. Marshall R. Taylor; Giddings—Tech. 5th Gr. Ernest H. Thurman; San Antonio—Master Sgt. Walter C. Middleton, 430 Dawson St.; Pfc. William E. Walsh. 2302 Wyoming St.

56b-1945

Awards for Valor

3 Get Awards Posthumously

AFRO-AMERICAN
Balt., Md.

Truman Gibson at Front for Ceremony

3-17-45

11 ARE EASTERNERS

Ill-Fated Feb. 8 Drive Earned Honors

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY (By Cable) — Taking advantage of the lull which has gripped the 92nd Division since its recent attack action, Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, its commander, this week decorated thirty-two of his men, three of them posthumously, for outstanding heroism during past clashes with the enemy on this Fifth Army front.

Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, who has spent the past week observing various 92nd units, and Maj. Gen. Otto L. Nelson, deputy theatre commander, aided General Almond in decorating the heroes during an impressive ceremony.

Major Polk Honored

3-17-45

Posthumous awards included: Maj. Willis D. Polk, 468 N. Fiftieth Street, Philadelphia, and Capt. Charles F. Gandy, Jr., Greenville, S.C., silver stars; 2nd Lt. Theodore O. Smtih, 821 Division Avenue, Washington, oak leaf cluster to the silver star.

Other recipients of silver stars were:

Capt. Raymond A. Diggs, 1351 Otis Street, Northeast, and 1st Lt. Harold W. McLeod, Washington, D.C.; Capt. James A. Martin, Dalton, Mass.; 1st Lt. Vernon C. Dailey, Jacksonville, Ill.; 1st Lt. William E. Porter, Lima, Ohio; S/Sgt. Oscar Simpson, Canton, Miss.;

Bronze Stars

3-17-45

Bronze star recipients were:

First Lt. Arthur W. Williams, Brooklyn, N.Y.; 1st Lt. Andrew W. Walker, Tuskegee, Ala.; 1st Lt. Harry R. Janzen, Dinuba, Calif.; 2nd Lts. Joseph G. Burgess, New Rochelle, N.Y.; James D. Pearce, Dallas, Texas; Isaiah D. Williams, Savannah, Ga.;

S/Sgts. Oliver Martin, NYC; Alexander Grant Jr., Savannah, Ga.; Caesar P. Spearman, Los Angeles; 1st Sgts. Benjamin K. Boone, Tuskegee, Ala.; Joseph F. Strong, Lexington, Ky.; Sgts. Harry L. Spaulding, Cape May, N.J.; Granville B. Williams, NYC; James P. Page, Pulaski, Miss.;

T/4s Sidney Mayers, Trenton, Miss.; Charles B. Brown, Kalamazoo, Mich.; T/5 George Coleman, Raymond, Miss.; Pfcs. Walter L. Gillis, Jonesboro, N.C.; Russell M. Harris, Washington Courthouse, Ohio; James H. Whitmore, Little Rock, Ark.; Pvts. Calvin A. Pollard, King George, Va.; William S. Cooper, Kansas City, Mo.

Feb. 8 Action Fatal

Major Polk was killed February 8 when, as commander of the battalion which first crossed the Cinqualle Canal during the 92nd Division's attack, he personally led his men into action. First wounded by shell fragment while leading the fight for this objective on the extreme Tyrrhenian sea coastal sector, Polk refused to be evacuated despite his injury and was later killed by an enemy sniper while continuing to direct the attack.

His wife, Dorothy, lives in Philadelphia. 3-17-45

Gandy Killed in October

Captain Gandy was killed last October when he led his company in an attack, taking a difficult objective under extremely heavy enemy fire shortly after a 92nd Division combat team took the historical town of Lucca.

After his company fought to the objective, Captain Gandy was shot when he personally took it upon himself to advance alone to reconnoiter the route of his company's next movement.

Lieutenant Smith's Feat

Second Lieutenant Smith, recent silver star winner, was killed during the 92nd's attack on February 8. Leading a platoon assigned to assist in taking his company's initial objective in one sector of the Apennine Mountains, Smith and his men captured nine enemy soldiers and their equipment from well-fortified positions, completely neutralizing enemy fire on his company's left flank, thereby facilitating its subsequent advance. 3-17-45

Smith was a 1942 Howard University graduate and a former Washington postal employee. His father, Frank Smith, lives at his Washington address.

Takes Over for Polk

The silver star was won by Captain Diggs for his gallant action in quickly assuming command of a battalion on February 8 after Major Polk, its commander, was killed, and rallying the men to continue the attack.

Acting battalion executive officer at the time, Diggs so efficiently took over the command that his unit reached its objective and held it until forced back after other elements of the 92nd failed to take their objectives in the nearby Apennines, exposing them to German shelling from three sides. 3-17-45

Killed 10, Captured 15

First Lieutenant McLeod received the silver star citation for heroism during the same 92nd attack on February 10, when, as company commander, he so effectively led his men against enemy fortified positions that they were able to take their objective at great expense to the Germans. His citation read in part: "Under intense enemy mortar, machine-gun and hand grenade fire, Lieutenant McLeod held his positions, continually exposing himself as he moved about securing his company's positions. When finally ordered to withdraw, he had accounted for ten enemy dead and fifteen captured." 3-17-45

Captain Martin won the silver star for efficiently taking over command of his battalion on February 10 when its commander was killed during the attack action. Lieutenant Porter was cited for bravery last December 5 when he advanced alone to kill a German officer and forced another enemy soldier to surrender after the two had pinned his platoon down with machine-gun fire.

Lieutenant Dailey won the silver star for action last December 10 when he performed a similar feat while leading a six-man patrol. S/Sgt. Simpson won the silver star for killing a German and forcing another to surrender during a similar patrol action last October 22.

Bronze Star Given Two Men For Good Work

Atlanta World
Atlanta, Ga.

3-10-45

One Speeded Up Bridge Building; Bridge Is Saved

WITH U. S. SUPPLY FORCES IN FRANCE — (SNS) — Two Sergeants of the 1313th Engineer General Service Regiment have been awarded the Bronze Star Medal in France — one for building a bridge, the other for saving a bridge already built — Headquarters, European Theater of Operations, announced today.

The awards were presented by Brig. Gen. Charles O. Thrasher, Commanding General of Oise Section, Communications Zone, to Staff Sergeant Carl A. Kemp of Savannah, Georgia, and Sergeant Willie H. Smith, Monroe, La.

3-10-45

BUILT BRIDGE

The citation for Sergeant Kemp stated: "Staff Sergeant Kemp distinguished himself by the supervision of a vital bridge construction job, so that an important road could be put into operation for the movement of supplies to the armies engaged at the front. Sergeant Kemp by his forceful and efficient supervision of the construction details and untiring energy materially assisted the officers of his company who were not familiar with this type of construction, and by so doing affected the completion of the bridge eight days sooner than substantially the rapid supplying of the forces combatting the enemy."

3-10-45

Staff Sergeant Kemp, is the husband of Mrs. Charlesetta Kemp, R. 3, Box 257, Savannah, Ga.

SAVED BRIDGE

The citation accompany the award for Sergeant Smith read: "Sergeant Willie H. Smith distinguished himself by meritorious service in connection with the saving of an important bridge. The river was in flood stage and debris was being washed down stream and piling up aginst the bridge, which was a vital line of communication over which military supplies were being moved by truck to the American armies engaged at the front. Sergeant Smith, with utter disregard for himself, worked long hours in the water helping to get this debris removed and so prevent the loss of the bridge. Through his untiring energy and devotion to duty in the face of great difficulties, he gave direct material assistance to the Armies in combat."

Box 544, Monroe, La.

Silver Star Given for Daring Rescue

AFRO-AMERICAN
Balt. Md.

Removed Unexploded Shell from Pal's Leg

3-3-45

OWN WOUND IGNORED

20 Others in 92nd Get Bronze Star Awards

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92nd DIVISION, ITALY—The Silver Star for one of the most unusual herioc acts of bravery ever recorded in this theatre of war was awarded to Pfc. James Robinson, 19, of Atlantic City, N.J., during decoration ceremonies held at 92nd Division Headquarters Monday when twenty other division members received Bronze Stars, citing them for outstanding combat activities.

Robinson, who stands 6 feet 2 and weighs 200, was commended for his gallant action November 9 when, though wounded himself, he risked his life to rescue a companion pinned down by an unexploded mortar shell in his leg.

Withdrawing with his unit following contact with the Germans, Robinson, with a machine gun wound in the left shoulder, suddenly saw a member of his company approximately 150 yards from an enemy position pinned to the ground with an unexploded mortar shell in one leg. Robinson, despite the wound in his shoulder and intense enemy fire, went to the aid of the wounded man. 3-3-45

Brave Enemy Fire in Rescue

In full view of the enemy and exposed to their fire, he extracted the unexploded shell, not knowing at the time whether it was a dud or timed, then carried his wounded companion to the safety of his own lines. This action is deemed here as one of the bravest rescues ever effected by a member of the Ninety-second. 3-3-45

Robinson is single. His mother, Mrs. Louise Robinson lives at 1830 Washington Avenue, Atlantic City.

Bronze Star recipients are:

First Lt. J. T. John W. Bailey Easton, Md.; First Lt. Philip W Grayson, NYC; Second Lt. Charles A. Kinder, Montgomery, W.Va. S-Sgt. Roy S. Savage, Fort Bragg N.C.; Pvt. John A. Ellis, Elizabeth City, N.C.; Pfc. Walter L Gillis, Jonesboro, N.C.; Pvt. Davic Smith, Rocky Mount, N.C.;

Sgt. Orva Snelling, Barnwell S.C.; Pvt. Reuben E. Avery Greenville, S.C.; T-Sgt. Howard W. Edwards, Trenton, N.J.; T-Sgt Robert M. Thomas, Atlantic City; Pfc. Freddie W. Bryant, Philadelphia; Pvt. Quincy A. Day, NYC;

S-Sgt. Caesar O. Rucker, Houston, Texas; T/5 Clyde D. Barnett, Pittsburgh; Pfc. John Nealy, Chicago; Pfc. George W. Bedell, Girardeau, Miss.; Cpl. Theodore Merritt; Jessup, Ga.; S-Sgt. Peter Brown, Houston; Pvt. Louis C. Caldwell, Gulfport, Miss.

How They Won Stars

First Lt. Bailey won the Bronze Star for action on 15 when acting as advance observation post lookout during an attack by certain troops, he left his relatively safe position to take charge of these troops after enemy machine gun fire caused them to become disorganized. 3-3-45

His action is credited with saving the situation so our troops could proceed effectively on a mission which proved of vital importance.

Lieutenant Grayson was commended for excellent performance of his duties as Grave registration officer with one division of a regiment. Lt. Kinder was cited for bravery during the December 26 thrust by the Germans in the Serchio sector. When communication wires between his regimental and battalion command posts on opposite sides of the river were severed by artillery fire, Kinder voluntarily took a jeep on four separate occasions on an enemy-observed road, midst heavy shell fire, to keep the commanders of both positions in communication with each other.

ember 22, which am-
ment" ...enty Germans, killing
...wounding seven, covered
...al forced withdrawal of his
co...panions so effectively that no
...casualties were suffered during
the highly successful mission.

Pvt. Gillis was cited for ad-
...jured companions in a particu-
larly hazardous front-line spot on
the enemy line at one one occasion, during the fierce

Single-Handed Performance

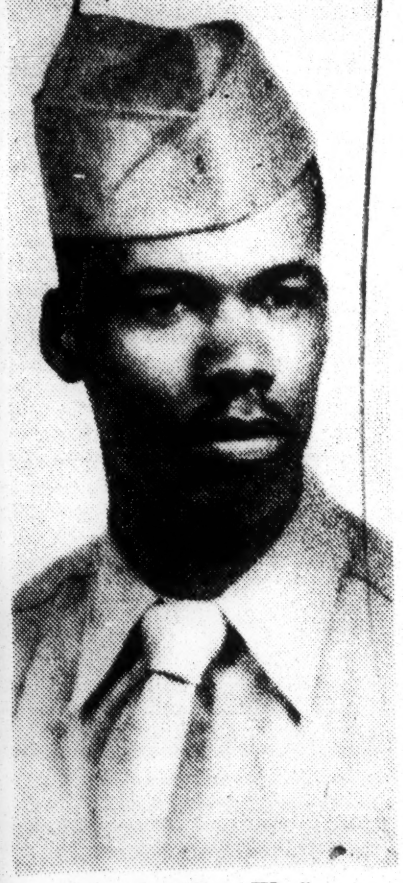
S-Sgt. Savage was commended for perseverance single handedly in fighting off an enemy attack on a house where he and two companions were wounded by hand grenades November 12, thus saving his companions as well as from death or capture, ministering first aid to his himself from Browning, automatic Pvt. Ellis rifleman with a filtered

fighting October 21. Sgt. Snelling, ambulance driver, was commended for evacuating the wounded under similar circumstances.

Pvt. Avery and T-Sgt. Edwards won the award for rescuing wounded companions pinned down by machine gun fire. In his instance, Edwards exposed himself to wipe out a German machine gun squad of three men to accomplish his task. T-5 Thomas, radio operator of the unit, was cited for maintaining excellent communications for the outfit during an attack by taking an exposed position after enemy artillery had severed the wires.

Winner of Purple Heart Killed in Italy Battle

N.Y. Times



Pfc. Cornelius W. Seon

3-22-45

Pfc. Cornelius W. Seon of the infantry was killed by enemy machine-gun fire somewhere in Italy on Feb. 8, according to word received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Seon of 481 McDonough Street, Brooklyn.

He had received the Purple Heart after being wounded in Italy on Nov. 24, 1944, and had the Rome-Arno Battle Star and the combat infantryman's badge.

He was a graduate of Boys High School, where he was on the cross-country team. He had entered Brooklyn College and made the cross-country team, when he entered the Army in October, 1943. He went overseas last July.

Port Soldiers, Crane Mechanics Awarded Bronze Star Medals

Informer Houston, Texas

WITH U. S. FORCES, France.—Two Negro soldiers serving in France, one, an expert crane mechanic from Manhattan, Kansas, and the other, a capable platoon sergeant from New Orleans, La., have been awarded the Bronoze Star Medal, Headquarters, European Theatre of Operations announced today. 2-24-45

The awards were presented to Staff Sergeant Charles R. McCutcheon, 413 Riley street, Manhattan Kansas, and Staff Sergeant Charles Patterson, 2415 LaSalle Street, New Orleans, by Major General Henry S. Aurand ,of Chicago, Illisois, Normandy Base Commander. Patterson is a member of the 658th Port Co.

In the words of his official citation, "Staff Sergeant McCutcheon worked untiringly over long hours performing maintenance work, and in the absence of sufficient trained mechanics performed service over and above that which would normally be expected. He helped train inexperienced mechanics and operators, and his leadership, initiative and service was of immeasurable value in enabling this port to keep all cranes operational, thus allowlowing the port to meet its tonnage discharge goal." 2-24-45

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed McCutcheon, live at the Riley street address.

According to his citation, "Staff Sergeant Patterson, as platoon sergeant, supervised the accomplishment of the discharge of a Liberty ship containing a cargo of critical heavy lifts during periods of total blackout under the most difficult conditions, a few miles from the front lines. Sergeant Patterson's coolness and confidence inspired the men of his platoon to perform their duties efficiently, reflecting great credit on himself and the military service." 2-24-45

His wife, Mrs. Morpril Patterson, lives at the LaSalle street address.

Heroism Wins Bronze Medal

Atlanta World 2-24-45 62.

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

SOMEWHERE IN LUXEMBOURG, — (ANP) — For "meritorious service" aganist a U. S. enemy in France from July 30 to November 30, 1944, Master Sergeant John W. London, Ord. (AM.) Co., has been awarded the Bronze Star medal. 2-24-45

Presentation was made to the Houston non-com at a recent company formation by Lt. Col. Walter E. Ferry, Tulsa, commander Ord. Batt. Col. Ferry in making the award said Sgt. London is the "top master sergeant in the entire ammunition section of the 3rd army." 2-24-45

The citation declared Sgt. London "distinguished" himself by the "superior manner in which he performed his duties as a clerk in the depot office of the Ord. (Am.) Co." It added that the 'initiative he displayed, his untiring efforts and loyal devotion to duty mark him as an outstanding soldier."

SILVER STAR TO NAVAL COOK

2-3-45

Pittsburgh Courier

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP)—A Navy cook from Valdosta, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla., has been awarded the Silver Star for heroic efforts to save the lives of many comrades aboard the LST 357 (landing craft) during the amphibious invasion of Salerno, Italy. 2-3-45

He is Willie James Jackson, cook, third class, United States Navy, who was born in Valdosta, Ga., but whose official home address is now 534 Hushman Lane, Jacksonville. Previously he was awarded the Purple Heart. The Silver Star was presented in the name of the President of the United States by the Secretary of the Navy. He received it on landing here last week.

Legion Of Merit Awarded Georgian

Atlanta World 4-6-45

First Sgt. Jerry B. Davis, of Macon, Georgia, Thursday became the first Negro in the country to win the Legion of Merit--fourth highest Army decoration.

The medal was presented to Davis at a special ceremony here at Lawson General Hospital, where he is a pattient. Brig. Gen. William L. Sheep, commanding officer of the hospital, pinned the decoration on the soldier's blouse.

Davis led the best section in the 92nd All-Negro Division and was wounded bringing rations to his gun crews during a heavy enemy barrage at the battle of the Arno River. 4-6-45

HIT NEAR PISA

The 36-year-old sergeant was hit near Pisa last August 30 and was encased in a body cast from November 1 until a few days ago. A two-ounce piece of shrapnel from a German 88 MM shell entered his right arm, passed through his body and lodged in his spine. His arm was broken, his spleen and kidney ruptured and his spine fractured. The missile was removed from his spine in an operation.

Davis advanced to first sergeant within nine months of his induction and it was his leadership and heroism under fire which earned him the high honor.

FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONDUCT

4-6-45

The medal, the citation stated was awarded for exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service. While a corporal, Davis was assigned as acting chief of the section in Battery A, 598th field artillery regiment and by reason of his inspiring leadership his unit became the division's best. He was considered the best non-commissioned officer in the regiment and his loyalty, leadership and effectiveness under fire contributed largely to the efficiency and morale of the entire battery.

A graduate of Hudson High School, Macon, the sergeant is the son of Mrs. Belle Davis, of 257 3rd Avenue. He was employed as a brakeman for the Central of Georgia Railroad and is now on military leave. He joined the Army in October, 1942.

Houstonian Wins Bronze Star Medal

The Informer Houston

By George Coleman Moore

SOMEWHERE, Luxembourg. — (ANP)—For "meritorious service" against a U. S. enemy in France from July 30 to No. 30, 1944, M-Sgt. John W. London, Ord. (AM.) Co., has been awarded the Bronze Star medal. 2-24-45

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Sgt. London, 23, is regarded as the "brains" of the crack Ord. (AM.) Co., rushed here to support armies resisting the German counter-attack. During the break-through at St. Lo, the liberation of Paris, and the Moselle river crossings Sgt. London and his co-workers were important elements of the victories.

The Ord. Co., composed almost entirely of Louisiana and Texas men, is keeping the ammunition passed. 1-

Awards for Valor

DOUBLE HONORS FOR 969TH FIELD ARTILLERY; WIN PRESIDENTAL CITATION, FRENCH RECOGNITION

Black Dispatch 4-28-45

Okla. City, Okla.

Negro Battalion Given Special Task of Cleaning Out Pockets of Resistance After Big Battle

IN ON BASTOGNE CAMPAIGN

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR (ANP) War Correspondent

WITH U.S. 7th ARMY IN GERMANY—(A.N.P.)—In Germany where I am now installed, I have been given a special assignment with the 7th Army to cover a Negro tank outfit that had distinguished itself in the battle of the Ardennos. When I arrived to find this outfit, I was informed that it had been shifted to another Army sectar Instead, I found that the famous 969th Negro artillery of Bastogne fame was fighting with the 7th army. I immediately attached myself to this unit and was happy to be with it again, more so, to learn about the true story of Bastogne which brought the outfit so much recognition.

The first thing the commander told me was that the battalion had been awarded the Presidential citation for the heroic defense in the "Battle of Bastogne." This citation was included in the same order as the 101st Airborne division. Thus far there has been no official ceremony because the battalion was in continuous action since the Bastogne triumph. In actual fact, the 969th has been in action continuously since its appearance on the western front last July. 4-28-45

Always Called to Destroy Enemy Pockets

This battalion is always called upon to destroy surviving traces of enemy pockets after a big battle. This is the first time a Negro combat unit has received such distinguished recognition.

The 969th has received double honors. In the "Battle of Colmar" the battalion distinguished itself again supporting the 1st French infantry, and the 2nd & 5th divisions that were fighting in the city of Colmar in the Alsace pocket. In recognition of the battalion's brilliant exploits, the mayor has coonferred the honor upon the battalion to use the coat of arms of the City of Colmar. The commanding officer, Lt. Gen. Hubert D. Barnes, told me that the battalion would incorporate the arms in the insignia. 4-28-45

The total amount of decorations the battalion has received amounts to 14 Bronzo stars, one Silver star and one Croix de Gueere. These decorations have the Normandy, Brest and Bastogne campaign. In addition 28 Bronze stars have been recommended.

The record of the 969th has been so outstanding that it is safe to say the battalion will at the close of the war emerge as one of the most formidable combat units to have appeared on the western front. 4-28-45

The battalion commander, Lt. Col. Hubert D. Barnes from Wisconsin, Mass., is a proud man, and justly so, at the inextinguishable glory of his unit. It is due to his skill and coolness in the sombro and terrible moments that the battalion has achieved such a distinguished record. In the outfit, it is the concensus of opinion that during the exciting days of the Bastogne battle, Col. Barnes, was cool, calm and collected. He is remarkable for his friendliness of manner and the absence of those petty jealousies which are apt to irritate Negro soldiers.

Understands Negro Psychology

In actual fact, Col. Barnes understands Negro psychology. If there is any undercurrent of discontent among the men due to race, he would not attempt to arbitrate. His method in dealing with such an affair is simple and effective. Col. Barnes would prevail upon the most enlightened member of the battalion to talk to the men who are dissatisfied, and to present a true picture of the situation. He would purposely select a full-blooded Negro in order that the men would not think that they are being deceived or "sold-out."

Detroit Negro Tells How He Won the DSC

Detroit Freeds 3-19-45

Detroit, Mich.

Capt. Charles L. Thomas, of 5877 Beechwood, who last week became the first living Negro soldier awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, is a modest young man.

He says he didn't do much; it was the men of his tank-destroyer outfit who went ahead and took the town they were attacking in France after he was wounded and knocked out of action.

Thomas

At Percy Jones General Hospital, where he is a patient, Thomas, 24, said he'd like to go back and fight with his outfit again.

"You get attached to men like that," he said. "I'd like to go back and help finish it up with them." 3-19-45

* * *

"WE WERE sent in to take a town," Capt. Thomas said. "We thought there were only three German tanks opposing us. We rode into a sort of trap.

"The first thing we knew, the Germans opened up from the sides of the road and started attacking our flank."

It took the outfit five hours to fight its way out. 3-19-45

Thomas was riding in an armored car, but climbed out of it with a machine gun and blasted the enemy. Not until he was wounded did he cease firing.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Thomas. The elder Thomas is a Ford Motor Co. employee. The son entered the Army as an enlisted man and later was commissioned.

CAPT. R. A. DIGGS GETS SILVER STAR

Washington Tribune D.C.

Capt. Raymond A. Diggs, son of Mrs. Mary F. Diggs, 1351 Otis St., N. E., and a member of the 92nd Infantry (Buffalo) Division with the Fifth Army in Italy, has recently been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on the front in northern Italy. 4-21-45

During a major attack, the captain, a graduate of Dunbar High School and Howard University, was acting executive officer of an infantry battalion. In the initial phase of the force's attack, the battalion commander and plans and training officer were killed. Diggs, without a supporting staff, assumed command. 4-21-45

He received his B.A. in education from Howard in 1933, and his M.S. in 1936. In 1933, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry reserve, promoted to first lieutenant in 1937, and promoted to captain in October, 1941.

In civilian life, he was a school teacher, statistician, and student.

2nd Negro gets DSC

Los Angeles Tribune 3-26-45

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The War Department has announced the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to Capt. Charles L. Thomas, 24-year-old commander of a Tank Destroyer Co. in France, for "extraordinary heroism in action."

Capt. Thomas, who entered the Army from Detroit, is the second Negro in the present war so honored. The other, Pvt. George Watson of Birmingham, received the award posthumously when he distinguished himself at Pordoch Harbor, New Guinea, in March, 1943, assisting several men to safety on a raft from their sinking boat, only to lose his own life.

Suffering multiple wounds in the chest, legs and arms, Capt. Thomas won the Army's second highest decoration for "shooting his way through the Siegfried Line last December in a blaze of fire from enemy rockets, artillery and machine guns," the War Department said. 3-26-45

When Task Force "Blackshear" of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army was organized to storm and capture the strong German fortress at Climbach, Capt. Thomas, then a lieutenant, was ordered to take a platoon of Tank Destroyers of the 614th TD Battalion and keep several of the German gun batteries occupied while the infantry infiltrated into the town around the flanks.

How well he executed his orders is best revealed in the official citation, which reads as follows:

"While riding in the lead vehicle of a task force organized to storm and capture the village of Climbach, France, Lt. Thomas' armored scout car was subjected to intense enemy artillery, self-propelled gun, and small arms fire. Although wounded by the initial burst of hostile fire, Lt. Thomas signaled the remainder of the column to halt and, despite the severity of his wounds, assisted the crew of the wrecked car in dismounting.

"Upon leaving the scant protection which the vehicle afforded, Lt. Thomas was again subjected to a hail of enemy fire which inflicted multiple gun-shot wounds in his chest, legs and both arms. Despite the intense pain caused by these wounds, the lieutenant ordered and directed the dispersion and emplacement of two antitank guns which in a few moments were effectively returning the enemy fire.

"Realizing that he could no longer remain in command of the platoon, he signaled to the platoon commander to join him. Lt. Thomas then thoroughly oriented him on enemy gun dispositions and the general situation. Only after he was certain that his junior officer was in full control of the situation did he permit himself to be evacuated."

Inducted at Fort Custer, Michigan, as a private in January, 1942, Capt. Thomas had advanced to the position of operations sergeant in the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion before he was sent to the Tank Destroyers' Officers Candidate School at Camp Hood, Texas, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant. 3-26-45

After completing an advanced course at the Tank Destroyer School, he was promoted to first lieutenant and sailed overseas as commander of Company C. He was promoted to captain Jan. 1, 1945.

Prior to his induction, Capt. Thomas, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Thomas of Detroit, was a molder and metal pourer for the Ford Motor Company. At the time of his induction he was a student at Wayne University, Detroit.

General Davis Others Decorated

Atlanta World Atlanta Ga.

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

SOMEWHERE IN LUXEMBOURG—(ANP)—Three frist class soldier on the top flight commissioned and non-commissioned officer levels were decorated in the ETO recently for outstanding achievements in the service of their country.

The honorees were Brig. Gen. David B. Jones of the crack 626th Ord. (Am) Co. 4-15-45

Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., ranking Negro U. S. Army officer, of the inspector general's office, 1st Sgt. Raymond L. Jackson and Tech. Sgt. John W. Jones marked the third time 626th personnel had received the medal. M-Sgt. Jackson and Jones were decorated in a surprise ceremony at his Paris headquarters.

Awarding of the bronzo star medal to Jackson and Jones marked the third time 626th personnel had received the medal. M-Sgt. John W. Davis the medal in January.

Gen. Davis received the Lt. Col Walter D. Ferry, Tulsa Okla., commander 150th Ord. Batt. pinned the bronzo star on Jackson of St. Louis and Jones of New York.

Medal for Missing Army Pilot Presented to Mother

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md.

3-24-45

RICHMOND. — Mrs. Julie B Maples of Orange, Va., was presented the air medal which has been awarded her son, First Lieut. Andrew Maples, Jr., who is missing in action, Thursday during special ceremonies at the Richmond Army Air Base.

The citation for the decoration was as follows:

"For meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy from June 7 to June 23, 1944."

The medal was pinned on Mrs Maples by Col. Clayton Hughes commanding officer of the air base. Andrew Maples, Sr., father of the pilot, also attended the ceremony. 3-24-45

Feels Son Alive

Although her son has not been heard from since he was listed as missing as of last June 23, Mrs. Maples said after the ceremony that she felt that he was still alive, probably a prisoner of war.

Lieutenant Maples received his wings at Tuskegee in January, 1942, and went overseas with the 332nd Fighter Group over a year ago.

Mother of 10 Children

Mother of ten children, Mrs. Maples said that her family seemed extremely airminded. One son is a flight officer and now is training as a pilot at Tuskegee; another is stationed with aviation engineer squadron in New Guinea, and third is taking civil areonautics training in Orange.

She has a daughter taking cadet nurse training at Freedmen's Hospital. Mr. Maples himself was a veteran of the first World War, having served as sergeant with the 366th Infantry.

Bias Deplored by MacArthur

AFRO-AMERICAN

3-31-45

General Discounts Rumors About 93rd ARTILLERY CITED

Balt. Md.

Assignment of New Commander Hailed

HOLLANDIA, Dutch New Guinea—"Race has nothing whatsoever to da with a man's ability to fight," General MacArthur told Walter White when he conferred recently with him in the Philippines.

"Any man who says that another man's fighting ability can be measured by color is wrong.

"I learned that," declared the general obviously provoked at the persistent rumors discrediting combat performances of the 93rd Infantry Division, "in serving as a junior officer with the famous 25th Regiment.

"One of the greatest armies I have ever commanded was a Filipino one." 3-31-45

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No Cowardice Displayed

Mr. White in his report stated that recent developments in the attempt on the part of certain persons "to brand colored combat troops as failures and cowards, may backfire."

His ten-day investigation followed rumors that the 93rd Division had broken into port battalions and other labor units because its "reported" cowardice at Bougainville resulted in heavy casualties in the white division next to it.

Not in Beachhead Action

Explaining the situation Mr. White said: 3-31-45

"In the first place the 93rd has never been assigned beachhead action anywhere. The assault on Bougainville took place late in November and early in December in 1943. The 93rd was not ordered to Bougainville until the following April.

"Even Japaneses air activity had by then been stopped to such an extent that movies were being shown on the beach. There were still many Japanese troops on the island had been diriven back into the interior.

"Thus the 93rd did not fail in a beachhead action since it never participated in one nor did any white or any other color soldier or officer receive a pin scratch because of the 93rd.

Artillery Commended

Moreover, he continued, the 25th Combat Team of the 93rd, roughly one-third of the division, the only part given combat duties, performed in such creditable fashion as to elict high praise from American and 37th Division officers. Brig. Gen. W. C. Dunckel, commanding the Americal artillery at Bougainville, in a written and official commendation declared of its 593rd Field Artillery Battalion: 3-31-45

"Your occupation and construction of position arcas has been efficiently accomplished and initial results of your registrations and fire on Japanese troop movements have been very successful.

Called Well Trained

"My observers report that your adjustments have been very accurate, a fact that implies that your personnel has been well trained in the technique of the arm and can apply that training in its first combat service.

"My only regret is that you did not join us earlier. I know that in the future, all officers and men of this unit, will welcome, gladly, the opportunity to serve with the 593rd."

One section of the Combat Team, the 2nd Battalion, Mr. White continued, was assigned to take three days after arrival in Bouganville a strongly fortified Japanese position of five concrete pill boxes.

Action Worthy of Veterans

It did its job so efficiently and promptly that Brig. Gen. Leonard R. Boyd called its accomplishment "commendable even for a veteran outfit, outstanding for a unit in its first action," he added.

According to his report, the only incident revealed in the Army record which could be considered criticism concerns the disorganization which followed a directive given by a white company commander to his three colored lieutenants. 3-31-45

The record revealed that the commander ordered the three "deploy their men around the inside of the horseshoe."

Told to Dig In

When the officer assigned to the furthermost point with fifteen men found themselves tqwms-N men found they were outnumbered and surrounded he asked instructions by radio of his company commanded and was told to dig in and remain there.

"The officer," says Mr. White, "Lieut. Oscar T. Davenport of St. Louis, and eleven men were killed. Disorganization followed as the company led the etreat to the command post in the rear."

New Commander Hailed

However, a better day for the 93rd is forcast in the appaintment of May. Gen. Harry H. Johnson, new commanding general responsible for the unit's combat efficiency.

"He is doing everthing possible," stated Mr. White, "to stop the practice of assignment to the 93rd of white officers who are prejudiced against colored or who failed in other divisions.

Advocates Promotions

"He opposed promotion of such men over competent officers already in the division, especially colored officers.

"The 93rd is General Johnson's second colored command. He trained and led overseas the 2nd Cavalry Division early in 1944."

32 in 92nd Division Cited for Heroic Action in Italy

AFRO-AMERICAN

3-31-45 Baltimore, Md.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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SANSORIGINE. (By Cable) — With the 92nd Division, Italy.—In one of the largest and mo[redacted]lorful ceremonies of its kind [redacted] recent months here, thirty-two [redacted]embers of the 92nd Division were decorated Friday for various heroic deeds and outstanding commendable activities against the enemy on this 5th Army front.

Citations included three battlefield promotions of enlisted men to the rank of second lieutenant; three Silver Star awards; ten Bronze Stars; two Oak Leaf Clusters to Air Medals; six Air Medals and eight commendations. 3-31-4

Maj. Gens. Willis D. Crittenberger, commander of the Army's Fourth Corps, and Edward M. Almond, 92nd commander, presented the awards.

Correspondents Banned

I did not hear whatever General Crittenberger had to say about the 92nd during his speech at a luncheon afterwards because correspondents, sometimes included among the guests in such instances, were this time not only uninvited, but actually denied entry. 3-31-45

I did manage to slip in after the luncheon got underway, but an alert official, with an apparent dim view of my protests, ushered me out immediately.

Combat promotions to second lieutenants as result their proven worth as leaders went to:

T/Sgts. Ernest L. Carlton, Detroit; Caesaro Rucker, Austin, Tex.; Andrel Christiansen, 1214 N. Frazier Street, Philadelphia. Silver Star recipients included Pfc. Trueheart Fogg, Newark, N.J.; Pfc. Richard Tatum, Jr., Cunard, W.Va.; Pvt. John N. Mitchell, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Fogg was cited for heroism during the Serchio action last December 26 when he killed all of a four-man enemy machine-gun crew, helped kill twenty of a twenty-fiveman German raiding party and single-handedly knocked out another enemy machine gun, thereby saving his platoon from almost certain annihilation.

He Killed 6 Germans

Tatum, rifleman, acting as forward observer, spotted a group of the enemy in a house on his front and directed fire on the building though under heavy machine gun fire himself. Tatum remained in his position and killed six Germans when they sought to escape from the building.

This action was credited with repulsing a strong enemy attack on his mortar squad's position in this instance. 3-31-45

Private Mitchell was the Silver Star for action on February 8 when, serving as a combat engineer attached to an infantry rifle company, he was assigned the mission of blowing up hostile barbed wire entanglements impeding his company's advance.

When additional sniper and machine-gun fire held up company advance by pinning down his company, Mitchell killed one enemy sniper, wounded and capture another, making it possible for his company to advance.

10 Get Bronze Stars

Bronze Stars for outstanding heroic action against the enemy went to:

First Lieuts. Andrew Lee, Jr., Cleveland; Joseph L. Stephenson, Goldboro, N.C.; Second Lt. Francis P. Mulhair, NYC; T/Sgt. Robert P. Grant, Detroit;

S/Sgts. William H. Pris, Fort Riley, Kans.; Willard C. Lawrence, Central City, Ky.; T/5s John Adams, High Point, N.C.; Marshall Lovelace, Dekalb, Miss.; James W. Walker, Gary Ind.; Pfc. Raymond Jackson, Camp Blanding, Fla.

Other Awards Given

Other awards included:

Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medals —Lts. Albert A. Loving, Jr., Chicago; James E. Woodson, Topeka, Kans.; 3-31-45

Air Medals—First Lts. Louis K. Hanks, Toledo, Ohio; George E. Pope, Hawkinsville, Ga.; Lloyd R. Taylor, Atlanta; George F. Bizzel, Lancaster, Ohio.; S/Sgt. Marshall R. Hurley, Washington; Sgt. Howard Hollis, Middletown, Ohio;

Commendations—Second Lieut. Charles R. Walker, Macon, Ga.; T/Sgt. Woodrow Bell, Birmingham; S/Sgts. George Brooks, New Orleans; Benjamin Durant, Detroit; Sgt. John E. Joseph Sr. New Orleans; Pfc. Warren H. Brown, Birmingham; Embert Madison, New Orleans; Pvt. Jessie Durham, Marks, Miss.

President Cites Artillery Unit for Bastogne Feat

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md.

3-31-45

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, AEF, France—The 969th Field Artillery Battalion, a colored 155-mm. howitzer outfit, was one of 34-odd units which recently received citations in the name of the President of the United States for action in the Bastogne area when attached to the 101st Airborne Division.

Men of the 969th stuck their guns and fired all around the compass during the defense of Bastogne, even though more than 969th odd units, including the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, were cut off in the like rain. The unit, which landed in France last July, was attached to not present because operations relating to the 28th Infantry Division at the time of the German attack. However, appropriate ceremonies, when enemy pressure units at a future date. one time, increased and casualties became heavier, all except the actual cannoneers fought in the 101st Airborne Division and certain attached units were formally presented with the honor on March 15, Twenty-five other

56b-1945

Civilian Awards

The Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

FOR MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN SERVICE—Miss Edythe Lipscombe, 2013 Alabama Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C., receives the Emblem for Meritorious Service from Brig. Gen. Burton O. Lewis, director of Materiel and Supply, Office of the Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces. Miss Lipscombe, only Negro among seventeen receiving the award, was cited "for outstanding performance of duties as chief, Mail Section, Administrative Branch, Office, Director of Materiel and Supply . . . for initiating a system for controlling suspense date correspondence; and for reviewing and interpreting directives relating to correspondence."—U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo. 11-3-43

No Congressional Medal Of Honor

Negroes Have Received Fewer Top Decorations In This War

Pittsburgh Courier 6-2-45 Pgh., Pd.

Read Rogers' Column on Page 7

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An examination of official records of the War Department reveals that of the Negroes who heroically fought in this war, none has been awarded the Medal of Honor and only two have been decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross. Moreover, Negroes received far fewer top-rank decorations in the recent war in Europe than in World War I in which fewer Negroes were committed to combat over a shorter period.

The most astounding revelation is that no Negro has been awarded the Medal of Honor since it was conferred upon Sgt. Edward L. Baker, Tenth U.S. Cavalry, who was decorated at Santiago, Cuba, in the Spanish-American War in 1898.

(The Medal of Honor was established by an act of Congress in 1862. It is awarded in the name of Congress to an officer or enlisted man of the Army, who, in actual conflict with an enemy, distinguishes himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life and above and beyond the call of duty.)

WON BY 35 NEGROES

Prior to, and including 1898, thirty-five Negroes were awarded the Medal of Honor. The first recipient was Sgt. William H. Carney, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, who was decorated for action near Fort Wagner, S.C., in 1863.

Prior to World War I, there were 1,723 awards of the Medal of Honor—thirty-five to Negroes. Fifteen of the thirty-five were won in the Civil War and the balance in the Spanish-American War and the Indian uprisings.

In World War I and prior to this war, there were 103 awards of the Medal—none to Negroes.

In this war to date, there have been 208 awards of the Medal, divided as follows: Army 147, Navy 33, Marines 27, Coast Guard one—none to Negroes.

ONLY TWO DSCs 6-2-45

Statistics on the conferring of the Distinguished Service Cross reveal that beside Capt. Charles L. Thomas, Pvt. George Watson has been the only other Negro so decorated in World War II in which there have been 3,029 such awards.

Moreover, a comparison of statistics of the two world wars shows that fifty-seven Negroes were awarded the DSC in World War I as compared to two in the three and one-half years of conflict in the present war.

(The DSC was instituted by Congress in 1918, and is awarded to persons who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the U.S., distinguishes themselves by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy.)

In the present war, there have been 416 awards of the Distinguished Service Medal—third ranking decoration. Out of these 416 awards, Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis has been the only Negro so honored.

(Also established in 1918, this award is made to persons who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the U.S., distinguishes themselves by exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility. This award may be made to civilians.)

LOWER MEDALS PREVAIL

The records reveal, further, that some Negroes have received the fourth, fifth and sixth ranking decorations. These decorations are, respectively: the Legion of Merit, Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross. 6-2-45

Most awards to Negroes have been of the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh ranking decorations. These decorations are, respectively: Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal. (Ranks not divided as to valor and achievement.)

Negroes who have won the Congressional Medal of Honor are:

1863—Sgt. William H. Carney.

1864—Sgts. Powhatan Beaty, James H. Bronson, Decatur Dorsey, Christian A. Fleetwood, Alfred B. Hilton, Milton M. Holland, Alexander Kelly, Edward Ratcliff, James H. Harris and Thomas Hawkins; Corp. Miles James and Pvts. William H. Barnes and James Gardiner, Charles Veal and Sgt. Robert Pinn.

1870—Sgt. Emanuel Stance.

1879—Sgts. Thomas Boyne, John Denny and Henry Johnson.

1880—Sgt. George Jordan.

1881—Sgts. George Jordan, Thomas Shaw, Moses Williams and Brent Woods; Pvt. Augustus Walley.

1877—Corp. Clinton Greaves.

1887—Corp. Clinton Greaves.

1889—Sgt. Benjamin Brown and Corp. Isiah Mays.

1890—Sgt. William McBryar and Corp. William O. Wilson.

1898—Pvts. Dennis Bell, William H. Thompkins, Fitz Lee and George H. Wanton; Sgt. Edward L. Baker on July 1.

HONOR MEDAL TWICE 6-2-45

Sgt. George Jordan was twice decorated with the Medal of Honor. On May 14, 1880, he was decorated for heroism at Fort Tulerso, New Mexico. The other decoration came on August 12, 1881, when he was decorated for great bravery at Carizo Canyon, New Mexico. 6-2-45

(Note: It is known that there were Negro officers who served in the Army in the period 1863-1898, but no officers were designated by race at that time. Therefore, there is a possibility that this list is incomplete.)

ROGERS SAYS:

No Negro Has Won Medal of Honor Since 1898 . . . WHY?

Pittsburgh Courier 6-2-45 Pgh. Pd.

By J. A. ROGERS

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, at joint session of Congress, presented to an infantryman the 100th Congressional Medal of Honor to be won in this war by a member of that branch of the service. He said that 223 such medals have been awarded so far in this war. Of these 223 highest decorations, not one was given to a Negro. The nearest to it that I can find is that given to Lieut. Ernest Childers, who, from the published picture I have of him, looks like many a colored person I have seen. Lieutenant Childers is an Oklahoma Indian and as I have shown elsewhere, the Oklahoma Indians are more Negro than anything else. But he is listed as an Indian and I will accept it for that.

Mr. Rogers

Since the Medal of Honor was first issued, that is, in the Civil War, Negroes had been winning it in all the wars until a certain period, of which I will speak a little later on. 6-2-45

JOHN W. CROMWELL in his "The Negro in American History," pp. 249-253, lists forty-two winners of this foremost decoration as follows: Civil War, twenty-one, of which sixteen were in the Army and five in the Navy; Indian Wars, 1879-1890, twelve; Spanish-American War, six, of which two were in the Navy; and other deeds of valor, three. I have checked Cromwell's lists with the official records and have found forty-one, of which there can be no doubt, whatever

Since 1898, Negroes have not received this medal. They did not in World War I, even though some performed deeds of valor that rang through the Nation. Why is this so? Did the extraordinary deeds of valor by Negroes stop in 1898, those decisions, which, as Mr. Truman says, come from the heart and are "a flash of the nobility which we like to think is a part of every American"? Why have none received it in this war? 6-2-45

IT IS FAR beyond me to say whether any really deserved it or not. Probably none did. Still there are certain factors most disquieting to me.

When President Taft took office in 1909, he flatly announced that he would not appoint Negroes to office where it offended the White South. He did that, it was popularly said, to offset the policy of Theodore Roosevelt, whose appointments in the South created many protests. I recall vividly the great indignation of the Negroes when Taft said that.

* * *

TAFT'S POLICY has marked that of every President since. (It is still too early to speak of Mr. Truman in this respect). Woodrow Wilson, Taft's successor, was the great jim crower. And his Republican successors, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover, were but little better. All flirted with the white South for votes.

During Wilson's regime there was a clash on the Mexican border with Pancho Villa. At Carrizal, a Negro, Sgt. Peter Bigstaff, covered himself with glory by charging with his men into the teeth of Mexican machine guns. Bigstaff was acclaimed throughout the Nation, yet he did not get the Medal of Honor. Nor, as I said, did any Negroes get it in World War I, fought under the leadership of Woodrow Wilson. 6-2-45

LET ME REPEAT: I am not claiming that any Negro has deserved this medal since the Spanish-American War, yet I cannot help but wonder why its award to them should have stopped suddenly then. What I do know, however, is that since the Taft Administration there has been a marked tendency to play down the Negro in the Federal Government. Giving the Congressional Medal of Honor to a Negro would be, without a doubt, the rankest kind of "social equality." We recall the great fight waged by the Negro press to get the Navy Cross for Dorie Miller, who, otherwise would have been ignored.

The mere suspicion of why Negroes no longer get the Congressional Medal is, to say the least, distressing. I regret to say it, but I have never been able to shake off the strong conviction that in proportion as the Negro progresses in education and the arts of civilization, the more determined becomes the effort in certain powerful quarters to deny him the rights of American citizenship. The undoubted reason for this is that in proportion as Negroes advance, the more they imperil what certain whites believe is their God-given right to exploit them.

P. S.—I recently mentioned an article by Kurt Jahn on America's Slave Beethoven. This article appears in full in the May issue of "The Negro," published in St. Louis, Ill., F. W. Bond, editor.

Colonel Davis Gets Army's Third Highest Decoration

Afro-American - Balt., Md.

6-16-45

By FRANCIS YANCEY

AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy

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RIMINI, Italy — For gallantry in action as pilot and leader of a group of P51 aircraft on a mission strafing enemy rail targets in Austria April 15, Col. B. O. Davis, commander of the 332nd Fighter Group, was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the U.S. Army's third highest decoration of honor.

Colonel Davis, holder of the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal, with three oak leaf clusters, became the first colored pilot in the history of the U.S. Air Forces to receive the award.

Colonel's Citation Quoted

The citation reads as follows:

"Keenly realizing the necessity of successfully accomplishing this important mission, Colonel Davis was assigned to lead the mission. He exhibited expert navigational skill in leading his group through low clouds and haze to reach the assigned target area.

"Fully aware that the enemy could not be surprised because the area had previously been strafed during the day, Colonel Davis split his group into three squadrons in order to thoroughly cover the entire area.

6-16-45

"Without thought of his personal safety, he led one squadron of twelve planes down to strafe despite the intense ground fire that blanketed the area and difficult terrain features that made strafing hazardous. Leading his squadron gallantly on repeated passes Colonel Davis courageously pressed his attack until he had destroyed or damaged six locomotives.

"The thorough planning, outstanding leadership and professional skill displayed by Colonel Davis enabled the group to destroy or damage 35 locomotives, 8 oil cars, 44 other units of rolling stock, 4 barges, 4 motor transports on flat cars and one plane in the air to thoroughly disrupt the enemy's transportation facilities.

"Despite the hazard presented, and when he might have withdrawn, Colonel Davis remained in the target area more than an hour and only reformed his squadron when no further targets were available.

"By his conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, as evidenced throughout sixty successful missions against the enemy by Colonel Davis, he reflected great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States of America."

The following officers in the group received the Distinguished Flying Cross:

3 Pilots Awarded DFC

First Lieuts. James Lanham 2013 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia Harry T. Stewart, 105-11 34th St., Corona, L.I.; Bertram W. Wilson 58 Hancock St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

The following officers and enlisted men received the bronze star:

Maj. Henry Letcher, 239 Division Ave., Washington, D.C.; First Lt. James M. Fatridge, 1730 Eighth Ave., Huntington, W.Va.; First Sgt. Samuel W. Henderson, 251 111th St., New York City.

Sen. Mead Raps Anti-Negro Talk

Daily Worker N.Y.

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Senator James M. Mead (D-NY) responded today to the appeals that a group of Negro and white FEPC delegates made to him Monday to answer Sen. James O. Eastland's (D-Miss) slanders against colored troops.

Some recent speeches in the Senate have reached a "new low," declared Mead, without naming Eastland directly. Then Mead began reading Navy and Army citations given Negro service men for "extraordinary heroism."

Senators from the polltax states kept silent as Mead read the Navy's tribute to Dorie Miller of Texas, the Negro mess attendant at Pearl Harbor, who carried his wounded captain below, then returned to the bridge to man a machine gun. Miller since perished in action.

Mead continued reading other citations given Negro heroes, then said:

"The Senate should take cognizance of the heroism of the men of this particular group because of what has been said in the chamber in the recent past."

Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash) followed Mead with a stronger tribute to the Negro service men.

7-7-45

Speaking as a Navy veteran he declared that "there have been less difficulties in the Navy with Negro enlisted personnel in so far as patriotism, discipline and court martials are concerned than with any other single group.

Why Tan Yanks Have Not Received Top Army Award

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent

BALTIMORE—If anyone really wants the answer to why no colored soldier or officer has received the Congressional Medal of Honor during this war, the answer is simply that all awards for heroism are stepped down a notch wherever colored are concerned.

Here is a case in point:

Lt. Vernon Baker, 92nd Inf. Div. (c)

vs.

Pfc. James Hendrix, 4th Armored Div. (w)

Lt. Baker accounted for at least fifteen enemy troops in a series of seven fire actions during which he carried out command functions of deploying his own weapons and supervising evacuation of wounded.

3 Machine Gun Nests

He wiped out three enemy machine gun nests, a well-constructed dugout, destroyed enemy equipment, cleared an observation post and silenced a sniper.

Crawling forward to attack the initial enemy gun position and later clearing the dugout were missions he might have easily delegated to others.

The entire operation, obviously over a lengthy period of time, was constantly under heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire.

Lieutenant Baker received the Distinguished Service Cross.

Pfc. Hendrix accounted for about six enemy troops in brazenly attacking two inactive 88-mm. gun posititons, capturing two machine-gun nests, rescuing three buddies from a burning halftrack and rendering aid to two others who lay wounded in a ditch.

His heroics occurred during a single fire action and under intense enemy fire between sundown and dark.

8-11-45

Pfc. Hendrix was promoted to staff sergeant and awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Another to Compare

Another case of stepping down awards a notch:

Pvt. Leon Tobin, 614th Tank Destroyers (towed) (c)

vs.

Sgt. August Brocato—Infantry Regiment (w)

The citation awarding Pvt. Tobin the Silver Star Medal reads:

"During daylight hours of 14 December, 1944 in the vicinity of Climbach, France, Pvt. Tobin, a member of a task force in the attack, went into position in open terrain under severe artillery and small arms fire to man a three-inch gun.

"Although his position was in direct line of enemy fire and full observation he brilliantly and skillfully directed fire into enemy strongpoints.

8-11-45

1 Man on Field Gun

"The intensity of the fire became so severe that his comrades were wounded and killed on all sides of him. In the face of certain self-destruction he gallantly stood at his post manning the gun with the assistance of one comrade.

"He continued to pour fire into the enemy with such relentless furor and utter disregard of his life that they became confused. When his comrade was killed he remained at his post until cut down by direct fire . . ."

Sgt. Brocato's citation awarding him the Distinguished Service Cross reads:

"While advancing on well-prepared and stubbornly defended enemy positions near St. Marie Aux Mines, France on 29 November, 1944, Sgt. Brocato and his squad were pinned down by devastating enemy machine gun fire.

"Carefully observing the position of machine gun firing from his right, Sgt. Brocato courageously moved forward alone in an attempt to eliminate the hostile weapon.

"Undaunted by rapid bursts of fire directed at him, he crawled to within 100 yards of the gun and, leaping to his feet, charged the emplacement, firing his rifle from his hip. He killed the gunner, wounded two of the crew and forced the remainder to withdraw in confusion."

SGT. JOE LOUIS AWARDED LEGION OF MERIT MEDAL

The Louisiana Weekly New Orleans Louisiana 9-29-45

The award of the Legion of Merit to Technical Sergeant Joe Louis Barrow, Detroit, Michigan, was announced today by the War Department. Major General Clarence H. Kells, commanding general of the New York Port of Embarkation, pinned the medal on the heavyweight boxing champion in ceremonies held at Fort Hamilton, New York.

Awarded for "exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services from August 30, 1943 to October 10, 1944," the medal was accompanied by the following citation:

"As a member of a Special Services Division mission which toured through Army camps in the United States and the European, North African, Mediterranean and Italian theaters of operation, Technical (then Staff) Sergeant Barrow has entertained 2,000,000 soldiers by frequent boxing exhibitions which entailed considerable risk of his boxing future as the champion heavyweight of the world, but he willingly volunteered such action rather than disappoint the soldiers who desired to see him in the ring.

"Whenever possible he visited the camp and theater hospital and his encouragement to sick and injured soldiers had a definite recovery value and morale lift. His services merited and received acclaim from ranking commanders in the various theaters."

56c-1945

Camps

Chinchilla And Watermelons Gravely Considered By Senate

The Montgomery Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(AP)—The Senate looks forward hopefully this week to getting down to some very special legislation involving such things as chinchilla farming and Rastus Davis' missing watermelons. 12-17-45

Also, if the press of other business permits, the lawmakers may clarify the status of employes of the cobbler shop at the Naval Academy, grant relief for financially embarassed convicts, and vote on taking away the special privilege of Army officers to buy surplus government shotguns.

All are items on the calendar of favorably reported bills, which may be acted upon before the Christmas recess.

Although it may come as a surprise to fur-bearing varmints, the agriculture committee has recommended that the raising of chinchilla, karakul, fox, rabbit, mink, marten, fisher and muskrat be classed as an agricultural occupation involving domestic animals.

Clinton Anderson's department of agriculture would supervise fur farming operations, rather than Harold Ickes' Interior Department.

Rastus Davis' $100 claim against the government for 300 watermelons he missed from his patch near Camp Fannin, Texas, already has been okayed by the House. He based his claim on circumstantial evidence—a well beaten path, littered with watermelon rinds, leading from his melon plantation to the military reservation. 12-17-45

If other bills become law, the civilian cobblers at the Naval Academy will become civil service employes, indigent convicts won't be reqiured to serve out more than 30 days solely for nonpayment of fines, and Army officers will have to take their chances with enlisted men and civilians in buying surplus government shotguns.

It's doubtful whether Senator Tom Stewart (D), Tennessee, will demand action on his Senate resolution 185.

It requests OPA to quit rationing butter and meat.

56c-1945

WHY JAMAICANS RIOTED AT CAMP MURPHY

Public Opinion

Kingston, Jamaica

This is an editorial article reproduced from the *Wisconsin CIO News* of Sept. 7 last. It throws further light on the recent riot at Camp Murphy, Florida among West Indian farm workers:

Last week the newspapers reported a riot of West Indian contract labourers stationed at Camp Murphy in Hobe Sound, Florida. Four Camps were burned to the ground. Scores of Barbadians and Jamaicans were sent to hospitals with busted heads. A large number landed in jail.

Why did all this happen? What a tragic aftermath to their seemingly fruitful experience in the United States.

The press reported that the West Indians rebelled because they did not want to be sent home! There were other accounts even more far fetched than that. 9-26-45

JAMAICAN REPORTS

Jamaica

A report of the incident was just received by the Wisconsin CIO News from Henry Gunter, former Jamaican contract worker at Allis-Chalmers and active member of Local 248, UAW-CIO.

The facts show that these workers, having completed their service to the war effort in easing manpower shortages on back breaking, low-paid jobs which were hard to fill, are now no longer useful. Their contracts, which guaranteed fair treatment and no racial discrimination on the job, have now expired, and so the rules no longer hold. And just in case some of them may have gotten erroneous ideas about American "democracy" they were sent Florida to finish off their American experience.

FOOD TROUBLES

Here, according to Gunter, is what they found: "The conditions here are terrible. There are about nine thousand men stationed here. Some have been here for more than three weeks in crowded unbearable quarters with no expectation of being sent home early.

"Think of this: it takes from two to three hours to get in the mess hall, owing to the length of the line. Most of us are half dead from fatigue and hungry before we get a glimpse of food.

"We are kept like cattle and guarded by white sheriffs who have been mistreating our boys. I was told that some of the workers are in jail. This made the boys very angry thus four camps were burned to the ground. There was a rebellion among the men and a number of the boys are in the hospital. Some were badly beaten up by the sheriffs. I am indeed troubled as to whether we will reach Jamaica safely or not, for the least sign of any mistreatment will result in another outbreak." 9-26-45

AMERICANISM?

Is this what some of our simon pure patriots call Americanism?

Is this American appreciation for those who came thousands of miles to a foreign country to do the dirty work no one else would do?

This calls for immediate protest from union members against the intolerable treatment of our West Indian fellow-workers. Wire the war Manpower Commission and State Department about this at once. Demand an investigation of this situation. Act now!

Camps

Conditions At Camp Murphy Said Considerably Improved

Public Opinion, Kingston, Jamaica

Reproduced from the Miami Herald Jamaica

CAMP MURPHY, FLORIDA, Sept. 12: Camp Murphy has been blazing with activity for the past fortnight, caused the most part by the anxiety of West Indian workers to be shipped home, and by a shooting incident which occurred in the Camp.

On Sunday evening, Sept. 9, a Jamaican worker was seen by members of a patrol improperly dressed outside his barracks. He ran when the patrol stopped near him. He was fired at, and the bullet missed him and went into a nearby barracks and lodged itself in the knee of another worker who was in bed at the time. 9-27-45

Mr. Roy Abendana, Assistant Liaison Offifer lost no time on Monday morning in communicating details of the situation to Washington for further action. Mr. Abendana has been doing a very great job on behalf of West Indians in Florida. Through his instrumentality many amenities which were hitherto lacking have been initiated.

The management of the Camp has been co-operative in bringing about better conditions, and the workers are taking full advantage of anything that may be provided for their welfare. The outrageous conditions existing in and around the Camp are definitely against the wishes of the management, but only a stern and determined worker like Mr. Abendana could have brought about the recent improvements. He is determined that the shooting and the beating of West Indians must be stopped, and he has accomplished a great deal in that direction. 9-27-45

RECREATION

Barbadians have been showing their wares against Jamaicans at cricket, and there have been a number of soccer matches between these colonials.

There are a good many recreation halls with juke boxes, table tennis, books, and magazines, and a number of other outdoor games such as croquet and baseball.

With all this however there is much to be desired here. The management needs a better understanding of the average West Indian, and vice versa. 9-27-45

There have been a number of arrests at West Palm Beach during this fortnight. Jamaicans who dared to visit that town without their identification certificates on Monday were thrown into jail, and detained for hours. Again Mr. Abendana had a job on his hands, and he acted just as soon as he was informed.

Summing up the situation, conditions on a whole, have been considerably improved over the past month: There are still about five hundred men in camp to be shipped out by the end of the month. What is necessary at the moment is adequate transportation to bring the men home. Most of the discontentment and disorder is engendered by congestion.

Charge Negro GI Died After Brutal Beating at U.S. Camp

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
12-19-45

LONDON, Dec. 17 (UP).—Charges that an American Negro private died after brutal beatings at the Lichfield Military Detention camp were introduced today during the third week of investigations into conditions at the camp.

Capt. Earl J. Carroll, San Francisco, said he would attempt to prove that Pvt. Eril L. Bolton, Chicago, died enroute to France of an inter-cerebral hemorrhage "possibly caused by his head being rammed against a cement wall" at the prison.

Carroll said Gen Dwight D. Eisenhower had ordered an investigation of Bolton's death. The preliminary diagnosis showed the cause to be a malignant brain tumor but doctors later reported there was no evidence of malignancy and external blows could have caused death. 12-18-45

Several prisoners told the court martial today of many alleged brutalities at Litchfield.

56c-1945 Camps

GI 'Crime Wave' Is Propaganda

People's Voice N.Y. 3-24-45

By LLEWELLYN RANSOM

POISON

As the Army prepares to buildan eight-ft. enclosure around Fox Hills Camp on Staten Island and establish a possible jimcro bus line, as a result of a cry of "rape" immersed in a maze of doubts and conflicting stories, "Don't Fence Me In" is the solemn dirge of thousands of fine young GI's who see themselves as the dregs of the Army, who have labored uncomplainingly at the lowliest and most menial tasks in the service of the nation, never sharing the public notice except for that provided by race-haters and sensation-mongers of the daily press. 3-24-45

3-24-45

The Right Way. Clarence De Hart, local prexy of the NAACP and Director of the Booker T. Washington Center on Staten Island, gives theatre ticket to a smiling GI, who worked in Tennessee Gov. Cooper's office for two years.

While Staten Island borough president Palma characterized the so-called "crime wave" on the Island as "a lot of propaganda—most of it untrue," and army officials insisted that the transfer of troops last week was part of regular routine and carried no stigma, New York daily papers continued to tie up their distorted stories of robberies, muggings and rape with the removal of 600 soldiers from Fox Hills. This only threatens to stir up the growing hysteria in the area.

THUMB BITTEN 3-24-45

Using the word Negro freely, the daily press reported last week pathetic stories of the raping of a 25-year-old GI w[illegible] by a Negro soldier in her fr[illegible] yard. Her claim that she ha[illegible]itten the thumb of her rapist [illegible] over 3,000 hard-working soldiers to be pulled from their beds at 2 am for police inspection.

Although the odds of finding a sore thumb of some nature, among the nearly 8,000 displayed, were good, police inspectors carried on their search and never caught up with the bitten thumb. Doubt increased when it was learned that the woman was not the wife of a GI eight months dead, as was claimed at first, but that of a civilian five years dead. Further contradictions arose with testimony that the attacker wore a white shirt and was light-complexioned and had straight hair.

Although Staten Island is a Port of Embarkation where countless numbers of troops leave for foreign ports, every notorious incident is laid to the Negro labor troops. This fact is attributed by some to the fact that Negro troops were never wanted in this area by prejudiced elements in the population.

PRESS HYSTERIA

No public attention has been given to reports of a Negro woman raped by white soldiers on the Island, nor to the many incidents of Negro soldiers attacked by white sailors with weapons. Negro servicemen, on the other hand, are searched before leaving camp, according to their own testimony.

This sudden and strange hysteria prevailing in the daily press, yet not shared generally by Staten Islanders except for small group petitioning Washington and Governor Dewey for the removal of the camp, is based upon but two serious incidents. The first occurred March 2 when a citizen was stabbed and a policeman was disarmed and pummeled; and the second is last week's rape charge.

LOCAL PAPER FAIR

The *Staten Island Advance* has been under criticism because it has refused to play up every rumor against Negro soldiers. It has praised them editorially and asked the public not to judge a group by the acts of a few. It made no racial distinctions in its stories of the recent rape charges.

NAACP local president and Director of the Booker T. Washington USO Center in Staten Island, Clarence De Hart, told *PV* that he gets a cross-section of the men from Fox Hills and that 99 per cent of them are orderly and well-behaved. He said practically all minor disorders are caused by a few men who have been drinking.

"No Racial Uprising At Camp Livingston," Army Officials Say

Houston Texas Informer

NEW ORLEANS.—There is no truth in the story of a threatened uprising at Camp Livingston, nor in the stories that 300 Negro soldiers have gone AWOL since March 1, and that one sick Negro soldier was shot on orders of an officer while another was unjustly sentenced to life imprisonment, public relations of Camp Livington told Informer Sentinel representatives who investigated the rumors during the past week. 4-7-45

"We have many Negro soldiers at this post undergoing infantry training as are thousands of our white troops. The great majority are a credit to the army and a credit to their race. Stories which tend to discredit them, because of the misbehavior of a few, only tend to lower morale," the report stated.

"It is our sincere desire to present the story of the Negro soldier as he really is—a good American doing a commendable job, as reports from overseas have clearly shown.

"We sincerely appreciate your interest in tracking down rumors before publishing heresay evidence, and trust we can count on your assistance in picturing the fine job the Negro soldier is doing."

The statement was in reply to an inquiry made by John E. Rousseau, Jr. of the Informer-Sentinel staff, after stories of a reported uprising among Negro soldiers at Camp Livington reached New Orleans.

Public Relations Officer T. V. Wick, First Lieutenant, said in a letter to the Informer-Sentinel that probably the rumors had been based on the following facts: 4-7-45

1. On March 1, 1945, a Negro private, whose name was withheld, used abusive language to his first sergeant, also a Negro, and otherwise behaved in a manner unbecoming a soldier. The sergeant preferred charges against him, and a Negro guard was called to take him to the post stockade. The private refused to go and during the ensuing argument was shot in the foot by the guard. He was immediately taken to the station hospital for treatment. Investigation on this case has not been completed. All parties involved, however, will have a just hearing before a courts martial.

2. Regarding the Negro who received a life sentence: Private Arthur P. Beard, 19, of Baltimore, Maryland, Negro soldier training with IARTC, Camp Livingston, was sentenced to life imprisonment by a general court martial, March 2, 1945, for violations of the 64th Article of War. Three specifications of the charge were drawing a bayonet on an officer, striking an officer, and failure to obey a direct order from an officer.

The officer exercising general court martial jurisdiction has not yet reviewed the case. The sentence will not be final until reviewed by the judge advocate general, Washington, D. C.

3. The statement about Negro AWOL's in typical of those started to discredit the Negro race. The Provost Marshal's records show that only a dozen Negroes have gone AWOL since March 1, and many of these have since been returned to military custody."

The disarming of the men despite Army regulations, it is said, is only aggravating the tension created by the setting up of a separate colored officers' club and discriminatory acts by other group and post officers. 4-7-45

Severo, ground officer, to Godman Field, Ky., where the group was stationed before the transfer.

[illegible]MY's at Freeman Field Disarmed

FREEMAN FIELD, Ind.—Military police at this post, the new training center for the 477th Bombardment Group, have been relieved of their arms and permitted to carry only night sticks, reliable reports here indicate.

Further unrest, observers say, has followed the return of two supposed leaders of the rebellion, Lt. William Ellis, pilot, and Lt.

GI 'Crime Wave' on Staten Island Laid to Agitators

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-24-45

9-24-45

By SAMUEL HOSKINS

NEW YORK.—Behind the accusation directed at the soldiers of the Fox Hills Cantonment, Staten Island, are a few unfortunate incidents, a batch of unsubstantiated complaints and a hint of deliberate agitation.

According to all available evidence, however, all the tumult and shouting that the service men are responsible for a "crime wave" and are a menace to the civilian population definitely is unjustified.

What AFRO Probe Reveals

Investigating the situation, I found that: 3-24-45

1. There have been complaints about the stationing of colored soldiers at the Fox Hills Terminal since it was established last April.

2. Both Army and police authorities, until the recent outburst on part of borough officials and New York City newspapers, have handled a delicate situation with commendable tact and skill.

3. The bulk of present civilian agitation comes from a small section of the population, mostly in the vicinity of Stapleton, Clifton, Concord and Grasmere.

Political Conspiracy Hinted

4. The intensity of the agitation against the soldiers increased as it became more certain that the New York Legislature would pass a State FEPC law and hit a climax when Governor Dewey signed the measure on March 11.

5. The majority of the soldiers at the terminal are bitter and resentful of the inference that a service man is guilty of the alleged attack last Tuesday night on Mrs. Christina Cortopossi, 25, white, of 20 Bowen Street, Stapleton.

(The daily papers first emphasized the angle that she is the widow of a soldier killed in France, but later retracted it.)

Saw Civilian Flee Scene

The day following the woman's report to police that she had been attacked by a colored soldier as she was about to enter the back door of her home, four soldiers signed an affidavit to the effect that at the time of the alleged attack they saw a man of light complexion in civilian clothes running toward the cantonment.

They say he ran toward the barbed wire fence around the camp, climbed through and disappeared. 3-24-45

While Army officials refused to comment on the statement, there seems to be doubt among them that one of their men is the guilty party.

Recent developments, however, have resulted in an increase of racial tension, both on the part of civilians and service men, and with the slightest provocation there can be more unpleasantness.

Trouble Began Last April

The real beginning of the complaints was last April when the camp was established on the site that formerly was the Fox Hills golf links over the protests of residents of the immediate area.

There were few complaints at first, but with the urgency of getting war materials loaded on ships bound for war zones little attention was given them. They finally decreased to a minimum.

Detective's Story Cited

Here is the story of Detective Lieut. James McIvor of the St. George detective bureau:

Last summer and fall there were some reports of various petty violations, of some muggings and robberies.

December, 1944, and January and February of 1945 were comparatively quiet months. Then in February and March—as if coinciding with Allied victories—complaints against the soldiers increased. There was talk of circulating a petition for removal of the camp.

Continuing, the detective pointed to two arrests.

One was in February of two GI's charged with beating a civilian whom they met on the streets with his wife and child.

The men were turned over to the Army for court-martial, but as yet they have not been tried because of a lack of evidence.

Second Arrest in March

The second arrest was in March 7, that of Pvts. Curtis Williams, 25, of Dallas, Texas, and Hayward Arrington, 25, of Norfolk, Va., charged with assault on Sherman Ivory, 25, white, and shooting at Patrolman Stephen Crowe, 32, both of Stapleton, according to the detective.

Between these two incidents complaints and rumors—some petty, some baseless and some wild—have cropped up thick and fast.

For instance, there was the report that colored soldiers killed a bemedaled veteran who had just returned from Europe. When the "story" did not appear in the papers, it was rumored that the Army had ordered the incident "hushed." 9-24-45

Other Hoaxes Cited

Another was that a group of soldiers walked out of a liquor store without paying for six bottles. It turned out that the merchant sold the goods on credit and was paid the following day.

There was also the rumor that a GI attempted to pull a woman from her toilet stool through the bathroom window.

One night police received a call from an excited housewife who demanded that something be done about the "situation." It seems that while walking near the camp she suddenly discovered two service men behind her.

Spoke to Her, She Ran

The woman quickened her pace, and finally broke into a run when one of the men said "good evening."

One person questioned made the observation that Staten Island is part of the district represented by State Senator Robert E. Bainbridge, one of the six senators to vote against the FEPC bill.

They recalled that he was on the same side of the fence as Assemblyman William R. Stuart (R), Steuben, who in February predicted that enactment of the bill would provoke race riots and a renaissance of the KKK.

Link Palma, Farrell to Move

I learned, also, that Borough (Richmond) President Joseph A. Palma and District Attorney Farrell M. Kane were leaders in the movement. 3-24-45

Palma is said to have made nightly visits to the area several days prior to the attack report, and later, with several high officials, "to observe the precautions being taken against possible new outbreaks."

Mr. Kane issued a public statement that there had been thirty-five complaints of beatings and forty of molesting women.

Also, he made an hour's speech before the grand jury outlining the attacks and robberies, and told how " a N---- (sic) soldier beat and raped the 25-year-old widow of a soldier who died in France."

Colored Guards In West Point Welcome To 'Ike'

Philadelphia Tribune

WEST POINT, N. Y.—Lined up at the Washington Gate to greet the Eisenhower party as it arrived at the West Point Military Academy on Wednesday was an honor guard composed of the academy's Negro cavalry detachment and the academy band.

Two tank destroyers, with crews at attention, completed the picture as the general's car pulled up at the leaf-bowered gate amid the booming of the cannon in the background. 6-30-45

When the 700 cadets lined up in full field dress with helmets and battle packs, General Eisenhower strode out with Vice Admiral Alan G. Kirk and Capt. Harry Butcher both of his staff, with General Wilby and Col. Legare Tarrant, acting commandant of cadets, for inspection.

At their heels was a Negro color guard, carrying a five-star flag white in a red field, for General Eisenhower, a three-star flag set in blue for Admiral Kirk and a two-star red flag for General Wilby.

Racial Epithet Found on Programs Issued at Fla. Naval Chapel

Afro-American

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Navy personnel attending Sunday services at Saufley Field chapel on July 15, found on the third page of their printed programs a poem containing the word "n - - -." Baltimore, Md

The name of the author of the poem, entitled "My Job," and written in dialect, was not given, nor was any explanation made of its connection with the services which were conducted by Chaplain Richard H. Allmon.

Commander C. P. Kerschner is the commanding officer at the field. 8-4-45

Army Moves Negro GIs In N. Y. Rape Hysteria

Chicago Defender - Chicago Ill.

3-24-45

By EARL CONRAD
(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK.—A recurrence of a wide-spread smear campaign against Negroes in the daily press here, resulted this week in the transfer of 1,000 Negro soldiers from Staten Island to stations elsewhere in the nation.

Yelling "crime wave" on Staten Island, the local dailies are playing up numerous alleged assaults, robberies and other incidents on the island where several thousand Negro troops have been engaged in longshore work.

The climax came with the charge of rape lodged by a white woman who asserted that the crime had been committed by a Negro soldier last Tuesday.

Soldiers Testify

However, four soldiers who were garrison prisoners at the time the 25-year-old woman was attacked as she entered her home, signed affidavits saying that they saw a man of light complexion and straight hair running toward cantonment.

He wore a white shirt, the soldiers said, and ran into the barbed-wire strung around the camp, then climbed through the camp and disappeared.

More than two companies of Negro soldiers, numbering about 450 troops, began moving Saturday and three other companies are being shifted this week, New York Port of Embarkation authorities revealed. 3-24-45

Times, Post on Bandwagon

In a story headed "Police and Army Fight Crime Wave—Transfer of 1,000 Negro Soldiers Begins," the staid New York Times implies that the soldiers are entirely responsible for unrest on the island.

Even the liberal N. Y. Post which should know better leaped on board the "crime wave" bandwagon with a top of the page story last Wednesday shouting, "Troops Inquiry Asked in Staten Island Violence."

On the following day the Post, like all the other newspapers, had to backwater with the announcement that the rape might have been the work of a white civilian.

Although the Army spokesmen who announced the removal of Negro troops from the area emphasized that the men being shifted were under no cloud of suspicion, they also made known additional steps being taken to "meet the problem."

To Fence Them In

An eight-foot fence will be built around the cantonment, officials stated. An application for authority to erect an extra gatehouse at the entrance will be sent to Washington; permissions will be sought to bui'd a recreation center or service club within the station, which thus far has none.

In addition, an Army bus service operating every half-hour between the camp and the Staten Island ferry has been ordered. Previously, men of the station wishing to visit Manhattan had access only to the Richmond route of the commercial bus line with the result that recreation has been strictly limited. 3-24-45

The Times story explained that men, unable to get bus service, strolled through the streets of Stapleton, Grassmere and Concord and authorities think this situation contributed to the crime wave."

Ga. Draft Steps Up For Deferred

Atlanta World

7-10-45 G2

ALBANY, Ga. — (SNS) — One hundred and fifty-six registrants, whites and Negroes between the ages of 18 and 26 years and having farm deferments, will be sent to induction stations shortly for pre-induction examinations, according to information revealed here.

According to information released, 130 Negroes and 26 white men in the county hold such deferments. The Negroes will go to Fort Benning and the white men to Fort McPherson.

GEORGIA AWAITS NEW ORDERS 1-10-45

New draft board regulations calling for the induction of men under drastically lowered physical standards, and of any occupational deferred registrants who change jobs without draft board consent, are now in the mails for all Georgia local draft boards.

Col. J. N. Keelin, Jr., in charge of Selective Service for Georgia, said he expected the orders to reach all local boards by Wednesday of this week at the latest. Many of the draft boards were to have gotten the new regulations Tuesday, he added.

BIG ARMED PATROL ON STATEN ISLAND

New York Times

Police and Army Fight Crime Wave—Transfer of 1,000 Negro Soldiers Begins

3-16-45

The heaviest armed patrol yet assigned to the area was on guard last night throughout Stapleton and other Staten Island towns plagued in recent weeks with robberies, muggings and molesting fo civilians.

Determined to stamp out the wave of crime, authorities disclosed yesterday that more city poliec and additional trained military police would be on duty in the section, and that 1,000 of the Negro soldiers stationed at the Fox Hills Cantonment, believed to be the source of much of the trouble, had been ordered transferred to stations elsewhere in the nation. More than two companies of men, numbering about 450 soldiers, were already on the move yesterday, and three other companies are to be shifted in the near future.

Men Not Under Suspicion

3-16-45

The transfer will reduce the number of soldiers at the cantonment, which serves as a training center for stevedore work and as an embarkation point for men going overseas, to about 2,400. Army spokesmen emphasized that the men being shifted were under no cloud of suspicion, and that some of the transfers had been ordered before the series of attacks and robberies drew attention to the station. Most of the five companies being sent out are new, having arrived only recently, they said.

Army officials made known additional steps to meet the problem. An eight-foot fence is to be built around the entire cantonment; an application for authority to erect an extra gatehouse at the entrance will be sent to Washington; permission will be sought to build a recreation center or service club within the station, which thus far has none, and an Army bus service operating every half-hour between the camp and the Staten Island ferry has been ordered.

Recreation Has Been Limited

3-16-45

Previously men of the station wishing to visit Harlem had access onl yto the Richmond route of the commercial bus line, with the result that recreation has been strictly limited. Many men, unable to get bus service, strolled aimlessly through the streets of Stapleton, Grassmere and Concord, and authorities think this situation contributed to the crime wave.

Four Negro soldiers who were garrison prisoners last Tuesday night at the time a 25-year-old woman was attacked and raped as she entered her home, gave evidence yesterday that the assailant may not have been a Negro soldier, as the woman reported. The four signed an affidavit saying that at the time of the crime they saw a man of light complexion and straight hair running toward the cantonment. He had on a white shirt. The men said he ran into the barbed-wire strung around the camp, then climbed through it and ran through the camp and disappeared. 3-16-45

Army officers did not comment on the statements. City police, however, said they again talked to the victim yesterday and she reasserted her conviction that the man was a Negro soldier.

Staten Island President Hits 'Crime Wave' Bunk

Daily Worker N.Y.

3-17-45

By JOHN MELDON

Staten Island Borough President Joseph A. Palma told the Daily Worker yesterday that reports in New York City newspapers about a "crime wave" on the island "is a lot of propaganda—most of it untrue."

The borough chief would not discuss the matter further than that stating that the situation was entirely in the hands of local law enforcement agencies and army authorities. 3-17-45

Staten Islanders, ranging from municipal leaders to the man in the street, are angry at irresponsible news stories appearing in some New York papers regarding a non-existent "crime wave" attributed to Negro troops stationed on the island.

A series of minor incidents, including one alleged rape, of which there is no evidence or proof, has been blown up to scare-head proportions by certain New York papers, with the result that many civilians on the island, heretofore friendly with the Negro soldiers, are becoming alarmed. 3-17-45

Under the barrage of distorted news stories, and needled by certain elements on Staten Island who are anti-Negro, and local police authorities have established a big armed patrol while the army has set about erecting an eight-foot barbed-wire fence around the large Fox Hills army post at Stapleton, where some 4,000 Negro troops are being trained for army shipping chores.

Army officials will provide additional recreational facilities for the Negro troops through a service center within the troops' post, and have moved to put on extra bus lines to enable the soldiers to have more direct transportation facilities to Manhattan and Harlem when on leave. 3-17-45

BEHIND THE HULLABALOO

But what's behind the hullabaloo in the New York newspapers? Why all the talk of a "crime wave" when actual police records show that outside several street brawls and a holdup, the 4,000 troops have gotten along splendidly with the white civilian population? Where there's smoke there's fire. The real facts in the case are that a small group of Negro-baiters on the island are highly displeased with the establishment and activities of a local race-relations group set up a few months ago under the sponsorship of Borough President Palma and a group of liberal-minded editors, educators, Negro and white leaders.

3-17-45

Known as the Council for Democracy, the group has conducted highly laudable activities and has wide support among the citizenry as well as official backing from such organizations as the Staten Island American Legion, the Girl Scouts, the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, Negro-white church, civic and trade union groups.

The conferences, restaurants and theaters by Staten Island Borough President Palma and the local merchants were universal in their praise of the soldiers, and that no discrimination was practiced against them.

On several occasions, the Staten Island newspapers and the local editorially praised the Negro troops for their population.

Reports in New York papers that the army was moving hundreds of Negro troops to other parts of the country, in alarm over the alleged and non-existent "crime wave," are based upon either misinformation or outright distortions.

3-17-45

"The army has been regularly rotating the troops in and out of the Fox Hills post," a municipal leader said. "Once they are trained they are sent to other parts of the country."

Clarence De Hart, local NAACP leader and head of the big Booker T. Washington USO center for the Fox Hill soldiers, told the Daily Worker yesterday that the erection of a special service center for the troops at the Fox Hill base should not interfere with the Negro soldiers obtaining their regular passes to go to the USO center, or into town.

BROTHERHOOD PARLEY

On Feb. 20, in commemoration of Brotherhood Week, some 150 persons representing virtually the entire community, attended an all-day session dedicated to betterment of nity while on leave. A check-up of

Negro Soldiers Are Shifted After Crime Wave

Courier-Journal
Louisville Ky.
3-16-45

New York, March 15 (U.P.)—The New York Port of Embarkation announced today that five companies of Negro troops would be moved immediately from the Fox Hills Cantonment on Staten Island, an area that has been terrorized recently by a crime wave. 3-16-45

The troops, numbering about 1,000, will be transferred to other installations. All five companies arrived at the base within the last two months during which time there has been a series of unsolved robberies, beatings and attacks on women.

Davis To Command The Field

Pgh. Pa.
Pittsburg Courier

By JOHN H. YOUNG III

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—We had just completed the simulated bombing mission to Tokyo when Colonel Davis drove up to the line on an inspection tour. I asked him for an interview and he said that although he was very busy he would be glad to talk with me. He suggested that I come over to Group Operations. 6-30-45

When I arrived at Operations, Colonel Davis was talking with Lieut. Daniel James, who had temporarily taken over duties as group operations officer. The colonel was pointing out the necessity for keeping at least sixty per cent of the aircraft in the air each day. Finally his conversation with Lieutenant James was ended and the colonel and I rode back to the line to talk and watch the boys land the sleek, silvery B-25s.

WANTS DISPOSAL OF REMAINING CHARGES

First, I wanted to know if Colonel Davis was intending to do anything about the three Negro officers still held under arrest for allegedly "jostling" the provost marshal in connection with his attempt to keep them from entering a "white" officers' club ste up by Colonel Selway (at General Hunters' approval) at Freeman Field. He had evidently given the subject much thought.

Colonel Davis said that he had talked the matter over before coming to Godman. He said that he would ask for immediate disposal of the case by the War Department. This was believed to be an indication that he had been of the opinion that the case had been dragged over long enough.

Next, I wanted to know if Colonel Davis would become commanding officer of the field as well as the 477th. He said that he would become base commander as well in about ten days. This removes any doubt that Colonel Selway will remain at Godman Field.

PROMOTIONS FOR PRESENT OFFICERS

Colonel Davis was then questioned about the men that he was bringing from overseas to take over position with his new unit.

"Here is the thing I have been trying to impress on everyone," he offered. "The men now in these bomber squadrons will still run them. I am not bringing in fighter pilots to replace them."

We then talked about the problem of promotions since most of the men coming in with Colonel Davis already outrank men of the 477th. He said that he believed that there would be a new table of organization which would allow additional rank because of the merging of what had been four squadrons into two in the composite group. Besides, the Colonel added, the men now coming into the unit are veterans of combat and would be added protection to the untried 477th. This he held to be more important than the subject of promotions. "Furthermore, as soon as the men of the 477th have proven themselves in combat I am going to place them in positions occupied by the veteran pilots we are now bringing into the unit," he declared.

NAMES STAFF

Colonel Davis then outlined for me the veterans of combat that would take over new positions with the 477th. He said that Major James Ramsey would be replaced by Major Vance H. Marchbanks, who would become group flight surgeon. The others, and their new positions were: Major Edward C. Gleed, operations officer, assisted by Captain Stanton and Lieut. Daniel James, bomber pilots; Major Elmer Jones, commanding officer of service group; Capt. Arthur Turner, Capt. Morris Johnson, Major Thomas Money, group executive; Capt. William R. Thompson, group armament officer; Capt. John R. Beverly, group intelligence officer; Capt. Dudley Stevenson, group communications officer; Capt. Omar G. Blair, commanding officer, material squadron; Capt. John H. Williams, commanding officer, enegineer squadron, and Major William Campbell, commanding officer, Ninety-ninth Fighter-Bomber Squadron.

Colonel Davis pointed out that Major Campbell, who was commanding officer of the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron in the European Theatre was a great and respected fighter pilot. He said that Major Campbell was assembling the pilots for the fighter-bomber unit.

SERVICE GROUPS OFFER PROBLEM

Colonel Davis explained that the seven enlisted men he had brought over with him were expert technicians on the P-51 fighter plane. They were brought here in anticipation that the P-51 (Mustang) would be used by fighter pilots. He said that instead they would fly the durable P-47 (Thunderbolt), and did not know where these seven men would be assigned.

The colonel was then queried on the difficulties involved in such an immediate transfer and subsequent replacement of so many men. He admitted that there would be quite a job to be accomplished on this score. He pointed out that replacement of the service squadron personnel was a major problem because few if any Negro officers had been previously assigned to this squadron. On the contrary, some forty-two white officers had been assigned to this unit under Colonel Selway.

Colonel Davis concluded: "Yes. We are bound to experience some difficulty for the next few days, but I am certain that these two squadrons will be ready in a surprisingly short time."

Col. Davis Transfers All White Personnel

Pittsburg Courier
Pgh., Pa. 6-30-45

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — Less than thirty minutes after the final ceremony had ended here last Thursday Col. B. O. Davis Jr. had transferred all of the white personnel out of the 477th, and was busy at his desk reorganizing and shifting his Negro personnel into important positions. The colonel had gone to work with his traditional exactitude and brevity.

The order transferring the white personnel—clearly demonstrated how Colonel Selway, at the instigation of General Hunter, Commanding Officer of the First Air Force, had usurped the cream of all of the important positions on the post for his white personnel.

IMPORTANT POSTS HELD BY WHITES

Under Colonel Selway, not a single Negro held a position of importance (or any other kind) in the headquarters of the 477th. Besides Colonel Selway, there were two lieutenant colonels, five majors and one captain—all white—transferred out of headquarters. There was only one Negro major on the whole field and he was a medical officer.

All four of the bombardment squadrons were headed by white personnel. They were Major Raymond Gandy and Capt. Eugene Endicott of the 616th; Major Gordon Berk and Capt. Earl Griffin of the 617th; Capt. Raymond Schreck and Capt. Curtis Youngblood of the 618th, and Major John Tyson and Capt. Murlin Brock of the 619th.

Colonel Davis Placing Negroes In Command

Atlanta Daily World

Transition In Complexion Of Personnel Noted

Atlanta, Ga.
7-13-45

WASHINGTON— (ANP)—A complete transition in the complexion of the personnel identified with the Godman Field air forces base and the 477th Composite group stationed there is being effected under the command of Col Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., it is learned here.

Col. Davis assumed command of the group on June 21 and of the base on July 1. Immediately after these transfers of authority had been made, white officers holding down command and administrative posts at Godman began being shifted to other assignments, at Fort Knox and elsewhere.

ARRIVE AT FIELD

Already a substantial number of Negro officers from the Tuskegee Army airfield have arrived at Godman and have taken over administrative positions formerly held by whites. Others are expected to follow.

Sunday week ago a contingent of Negro WACs numbering 30 arrived at the field also and are now handling the clerical work for the base and the group. These jobs were formerly held by white civilians in many instances. Col Davis is reported to favor the use of as much military personnel as possible. An even larger number of WACs are expected to follow the first ones. 7-13-45

The table of organization at Godman still calls for a complement that included lieutenant colonels and majors. It is to be expected that qualified Negro officers will not fill those ranks and carry the responsibilities that go with the jobs.

8,000 Integrated at Ohio Air Fields

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

By LEON W. TAYLOR

DAYTON, Ohio (ANP) — Nearly 8,000 colored workers have been integrated here at the Wright and Patterson Army Air Fields. 7-21-45

At both fields, colored workers are in all branches of civilian employment, ranging from maintenance, semi-skilled and clerical workers to engineers and chemists who are making experiments for the advancement of American air power.

From All Sections

These workers came from all parts of the country. The inhibitions of some, the prohibitions of others, personal likes and dislikes, have vanished in answer to the summons for national strength and a shouldering of the greatest concerted effort in world history.

They work as one. The finese of integration stands as a tribute to patriotism and those charged with harmonizing social differences.

The extent of integration at first is hard to visualize, so complex are its many branches. When one traverses long corridors, and through different departments, the realization grows that here are governmental groups coordinated and efficiently manned in a democratic way.

No Conflict

In the processes of integration at Wright and Patterson Fields, there is no conflict with genuine ability. There is no bitterness between black and white.

Private industry has yet to approach the perfect detail achieved in these bustling workshops of the national government.

This union of common, cosmopolitan effort has forged a governmental productive chain from the human resources of America's forgotten people.

56c-1945

Slated to Leave in Late Summer or Fall

Afro-American

6-30-45

Colonel Davis's Bomber-Fighter Outfit to Be Based on Okinawa

Balt., Md.

By B. M. PHILLIPS
Staff Correspondent

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—The new 477th Composite Group, formerly the 477th Bombardment Group (medium) headed by Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., who assumed command of both the unit and this base in ceremonies here Thursday, is Pacific-bound.

Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, acting commanding general of the Army Air Forces, who flew here from Washington to install Colonel Davis in his new post, announced that the group would leave the States in late summer or early fall and would be based on Okinawa.

General Baker, former commander of Allied Air Forces in the Mediterranean where Col. Davis commanded the 332nd Fighter Group, said: "It was upon my personal recommendation and insistence that Colonel Davis is to take command of this group because of the excellent work I saw him do overseas."

MacArthur Welcomes Aid

He added that Gen. MacArthur when asked whether he would accept the 477th in the Pacific replied, "I'll take anybody willing to fight the Japs."

The reconstructed 477th will be known as the 477th Composite Group because it is to include two bomber squadrons and a fighter squadron from the 332nd. The remainder of the 332nd will be held in reserve.

Colonel Davis is expected to earn promotion to brigadier general, like his father, through his new assignment and it is fairly certain that he will be elevated before the group moves to the Pacific.

(Recommendations to that effect have already been made. His name now has to be submitted by President Truman for Congressional approval but in the face of his record, it is doubtful that it will be opposed.)

Gen. Davis, Gibson Attend

General Davis, Truman Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, and Brig. Gen. Edgar T. Glenn, chief of staff of the 1st Air Force, also flew here for the ceremonies.

6-30-45

Colonel Davis was presented to the 4,000 officers and men who turned out in formation at 10:30 a.m. and in the afternoon the 425 officers were apprised of the Pacific assignment.

Colonel Davis did not address the group on either occasion but his father, General Davis, said the new job carries with it "great responsibility" and urged the men to live up to the fine record flyers have made in Europe and Italy.

General Glenn promised that the Army Air Forces will do everything possible to equip the new unit for combat duty and confirmed a statement by General Eaker that the B-25's which they will fly in the Pacific are the best medium bombers.

Promotion Assured

Mr. Gibson assured the group that under the new setup they will have every opportunity for promotions and that there is no ceiling on ability. He cited General Eaker as an example of "the very fine men in the Army."

Colonel Selway, who has been the group's commanding officer since its activation and has been blamed for many of the abuses it has suffered during its stormy career, was on hand for the ceremonies but no mention was made of a new assignment for him.

He will remain here until all equipment and materials are properly turned over to Col. Davis.

Camps

Ousted Colonel Selway Blamed

Chief difficulties of the 477th under Colonel Selway centered around democratic use of officers' clubs first at Selfridge Field, Mich., Freeman Field and here at Godman.

6-30-45

Selway chose to ignore an Army order forbidding segregation in officers' clubs and mess halls. Matters came to a head on April 12 when the 477th was at Freeman with the mass arrest of 101 officers for refusing to acknowledge a base order restricting student officers to a separate club.

Next day the unit was transferred here to Godman and charges against the 101 were dropped after a War Department probe.

However, three of a group of 61 who were arrested for attempting to enter an officers' club on April 5 and 6 were charged with "jostling an officer" and are still restricted to the barracks and mess hall.

6-30-45

3 Still Restricted

They are: Second Lts. Shirley Clinton, Camden, N.J.; Marsden Thompson and Roger Terry, both of Los Angeles. The War Department has refused to comment on an investigation which has been completed for several weeks.

The assignment of Colonel Davis to Godman will virtually turn it into a colored base. Godman is part of huge Fort Knox which is nearly 40 miles from the nearest city, Louisville.

Besides the 477th, the 387th Service Units, all colored, are based here. The dozen or so white officers attached to the 477th are already moving out and it is expected that Colonel Davis will supplant them with picked men who returned with him from overseas.

White Officers Going

The white officers who served as commanding officers of the four squadrons of the 477th were replaced by colored officers several weeks ago. They are: 616th, Capt. Charles Stanton, Portland, Oregon; 617th, Capt. Fitzroy K. Newsome, N.Y.; 618th, Lt. J. Y. Carter, Durham, and 619th, Capt. C. I. Williams, Lima, Ohio.

Capt. John W. Rogers of Chicago replaced the white CO who headed the Combat Crews' Training School which is under orders to transfer to Walterboro Army Base, S.C.

3 NEGRO OFFICERS TRIED BY FELLOWS

Chicago Defender

FT. KNOX, Ky., July 2—(AP)—An all-Negro court martial today began the trial of three Negro officers at Godman Field here for "disobedience of a direct order" as an outgrowth of an incident last Spring at Freeman Field, Ind.

The Public Relations Office here identified the defendants as 2nd Lts. Marsden Thompson and Roger Terry, Los Angeles, and Shirley Clinton, Camden, N.J.

7-3-45

Counsel for the officers also are Negroes, listed as Theodore Berry, Cincinnati; Charles Tyler, Chicago; 2nd Lt. William C. Coleman and 1st Lt. Edward K. Nickols.

Witnesses in the trial are to be both Negro and white soldiers who were at Freeman Field when Negro officers attempted to visit a club that the commanding officer had set aside for white officers. The defendants have been confined to quarters since April 5 pending the outcome of a War Department investigation of the incident.

2 NEGRO SOLDIERS GUILTY OF ASSAULT

New York Times

Convicted by Jury of Attack on Citizen and Policeman on Staten Island Dec. 2

ACCUSED DENY CHARGE

6-27-45

Mistaken Identity Is Their Defense but Victims Point Them Out in Court

Two Negro privates, arrested during the period when it was charged a crime wave existed near their cantonment at Fox Hills, S. I., were found guilty of assault in Richmond County Court yesterday.

The prisoners, Curtis Williams, 24 years old, of Dallas, Tex., and Hayward Arrington, 25, of Norfolk, Va., were accused of having beaten and stabbed Sherman Ivory, 34, a civilian of Port Richmond, on Dec. 2, and of having assaulted Stephen H. Crowe, motorcycle patrolman attached to the St. George station. A jury of nine men and three women returned the verdict of guilty.

The maximum penalty for the crime is ten to twenty years. The defendants, who appeared throughout the trial in uniforms, were committed to the city prison by Judge Thomas J. Walsh for sentence on July 13.

The defense of the soldiers was mistaken identification. Both testified in their own behalf that they were miles away from the scene of the crime. Their testimony was corroborated by five witnesses, including two Negro Wacs. The principal witness for the State were Mr. Ivory and Patrolman Crowe.

6-27-45

Mr. Ivory testified that he and several friends were standing at the corner of Broad and Gordon Streets, Stepleton, waiting for a bus, when they were approached by seven Negro soldiers, including the two defendants, who without provocation attacked him. After he was knocked down, he was stabbed in the left side with a service knife.

He identified Williams in court as the man who had stabbed him.

Mr. Crowe, who was off duty and in civilian clothes, testified that he had gone to Mr. Ivory's assistance. The same soldiers attacked him and Williams fired two shots at him, he declared. Later, he testified, when the defendants were arrested, the revolver was found in Arrington's possession.

The two soldiers were defended by John McK. Minton, former assistant District Attorney under the late Gov. Charles S. Whitman, when he was District Attorney of New York County, and by Stanley J. Fuld, a former assistant District Attorney under Governor Dewey when he was prosecutor of New York County. They were assigned by Mayor La Guardia's committee on unity.

6-27-45

Godman Field Gets Negro Finance Officer

Pittsburgh Courier

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—(ANP)—Lieut. Francis A. Ramsour of Winston-Salem, N. C., who was the first Negro to be graduated from the Army's Finance School at Fort Ben Harrison, Ind., last February, has been assigned to this post.

7-14-45 Pgh-1/5

Godman Field Case Held Good War Dept. Strategy

Afro-American 7-7-45 Balt., Md.

Naming of All-Colored Court-Martial Board to Try Officers Seen as Face-Saving Move

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The War Department "outsmarted" the colored people in the Godman Field case. Although it should be given credit for its strategy, the colored people should pierce the defense and strike back with clean, hard blows.

It was a smooth bit of strategy to put Col. B. O. Davis Jr., in command of the 477th Composite Group (Fighter-Bomber), and then four days later announce referral to a general court martial of the cases of three 477th officers.

The three officers, Lts. Roger Terry, Marsden Thompson and Shirley Clinton, have been held in arrest since April on charges of violating the 64th Article of War in connection with entering a "white officers' club."

All-Colored Court Named

It was even smoother strategy for Maj. Gen. Frank O. D. Hunter, commanding general of the First Air Force, to name an all-colored court, including Colonel Davis, to hear the charges preferred by Col. Robert Selway.

This is all designed, apparently, to take the heat off the War Department if the three men are convicted. They would then be convicted by members of their own race—so the cry of discrimination logically could not be made.

It is almost certain they will be convicted, for in the Army's court-martial procedures, extenuating circmustances do not count. The court will listen to the mitigating or extenuating circumstances, but will give them no weight in the decision.

No Objection Possible

Having accepted the transfer of command at Godman without insisting that these pending cases be cleared up first, we must admit that we were out-maneuvered. It will accomplish us little to object to the court-martial's decision.

However, there is a weak point in the War Department's defense. Are Major General Hunter and Colonel Selway to go scot-free, without being charged and court-martialed for having deliberately misapplied and misinterpreted Army regulations?

Such dishonesty is not becoming an officer of the United States and must certainly violate some of the Articles of War.

General's Orders Obeyed

Colonel Selway, carrying out General Hunter's orders and policy, issued a base regulation on April 9, and ordered all the colored officers to sign an endorsement to indicate they had read and understood it.

Refusal of 101 of the officers to sign is what led to their arrest and subsequent reprimand—which is still a part of their personnel files, so far as any of them know.

The base regulation set up separate facilities of all kinds for what it described as two different types of personnel—base, command and supervisory personnel in one group, and "trainee" personnel in another.

Already Trained Men

Both Colonel Selway and General Hunter must have known that the medical officers who had qualified as flight surgeons, having completed all the required Army medical training, and had behind them years of private medical practice, could not be classified as "trainees."

7-7-45

However, they were — because they were colored. Army justice in time of war is a grim thing—but it should work the same for everyone, regardless of race, creed or rank.

All-Negro Courtmartial Airs Disobedience Case

Afro-Am. Mont. Reduction

FORT KNOX, KY., July 2.—(AP)—An all-negro court martial today began the trial of three negro officers at Godman Field here for "disobedience of a direct order" as an outgrowth of an incident last Spring at Freeman Field, Ind.

7-3-45

The public relations office here identified the defendants as Second Lieut. Marsden Thompson and Roger Terry of Los Angeles and Shirley Clinton of Camden, New Jersey.

Counsel for the officers also are negroes, listed as Theodore Berry, Cincinnati; Charles Tyler, Chicago; Second Lieut. William C. Coleman and First Lieut. Edward K. Nickols.

7-3-45

Witnesses in the trial are to be both negro and white soldiers who were at Freeman Field when negro officers attempted to visit a club that the commanding officer had set aside for white officers. The defendants have been confined to quarters since April 5 pending the outcome of a War Department investigation of the incident.

Col. Davis Effects Transfers of 477th

Afro-American

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A complete change of the personnel identified with the Godman Field Air Force base and the 477th Composite Group stationed there is being effected under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., it is learned here.

Following his assumption of command of the group on June 21 and of the base on July 1, white officers holding command and administrative posts at Godman began being shifted to other assignments, at Fort Knox and elsewhere.

7-14-45

In an effort to obtain colored officer and enlisted personnel to fill their posts and others, Colonel Davis flew to Tuskegee Army Air Field last week to confer with Col. Noel F. Parrish, commandant there.

Balt., Md.

Draws From TAAF

Already a substantial number of officers from TAAF have arrived at Godman and others are expected to follow. The table of organization calls for a complement which included lieutenant colonels and majors.

The first to arrive was Lt. Francis A. Ramseur of Winston-Salem, N.C., the first colored graduate of the Army finance school at Fort Ben Harrison, Ind., who has been attached to TAAF since February.

In addition, 30 colored Wacs arrived at the base last week to handle the clerical work formerly entrusted to white civilians in many instances. Colonel Davis is reported to favor the use of as much military personnel as possible.

7-14-45

Godman Field Gets Additional Negro Officers

Chicago Def.

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. — The exodus of white officers from and the assignment of additional Negro officers to Godman Field kept the Kentucky air base commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., in the news this week.

Col. Davis assumed command of the group on June 21 and of the base on July 1. Immediately after these transfers of authority had been made, white officers holding down command and administrative posts at Godman began being shifted to other assignments, at Fort Knox and elsewhere.

Already a substantial number of Negro officers from the Tuskegee Army airfield have arrived at Godman and have taken over administrative positions formerly held by whites. Others are expected to follow.

7-7-45

A contingent of 30 Negro WACs has also arrived at the field and is now handling clerical work for the base and the group. These jobs were formerly held by white civilians in many instances. Col. Davis is reported to favor the use of as much military personnel as possible. An even larger number of WACs are expected to follow the first ones.

The table of organization at Godman still calls for a complement that included lieutenant colonels and majors. It is expected that qualified Negro officers will fill these ranks and carry the responsibilities that go with the jobs.

[illegible] AT GODMAN. Black Dispatch 7-7-45
by Harry McAlpin

Godman Field.- (NNPA)- "It's the best thing that could have happen for the men in this command as well as for the officers," is the way most of the enlisted men I talked to expressed themselves concerning the change of command of the 477th Bombardment Group from Col. Robert Selway to Col. B. O. Davis Jr. last week.

Terming the ceremonies attendant upon the transfer as the greatest thing they have seen since they came into the army, most of the men said they expected it would settle a lot of problems and give the fellows an incentive to work.

They pointed with pride to the noticeable spirit of the men during the parade and review staged for the new commander. The fact that negroes were part of the reviewing party and that for the first time they were being led by Negro officers had no little part in their feelings.

Everybody has been worrying this change for some time, they declared. As a result, they said, the morale will be better.

"Everything from segregation to rotten GOs has been our lot," one man declared. "We hope to see a change as result of the change of command."

"Since the change has come, I know we will succeed," said another.

In the group from whom thses expressions came were Corp. James Hutcheson of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Lt. Douglas Robinson of Philadelphia; Pfc. Lee Chetstore, Phi. Pfc. John F. Jackson, Chicago; Pl. Officer Willis, Brooklyn; Pl. Officer [illegible], New York City; Cpl. Edward Cutchell, Phil.; and Pvt. James [illegible], Washington, D.C.

56c-1945

JAMAICAN WORKERS GASSED IN NOTORIOUS CAMP MURPHY

Public Opinion The National Daily

Kingston, Jamaica 10-2-45

Eugene Thompson, returned worker from the U.S.A., gives an interesting account of his experiences at Camp Murphy.

"When the war was over, we were sent to Camp Murphy, the correct name of which is Fort Murphy," he said. "A crowd of us left on three buses on a Thursday night. We made five stops in all to change buses, travelling a distance of about 1,000 miles.

"At all these stops we were refused to be served a meal; we were told that 'this is a white man's country—no niggers allowed.' The drivers of the buses were O.K. and we sang right through the trip, hungry though we were.

"On Saturday afternoon we became desperate. We were now without food and water for about 40 hours. We appealed to the driver of our bus and he took us out of town twenty miles to a little restaurant where we had to go in the back. We were served milk and cheese sandwiches. The milk was sour.

BREAD FOR SUPPER

"We arrived at Fort Murphy that night and were given some bread for supper. We were then herded into barracks without beds or sanitary conveniences of any kind. The toilet was marked 'Out Of Use.' We had to get blankets or old bags the best way we could to sleep on that night. The next morning we were able to get beds that others had slept on.

Two days later when we were at the mess hall waiting to get a meal, there were some pushing and jostling. Someone said we should leave for the food was finished. We couldn't leave because it was only about 15 minutes since they had started to serve us.

"Suddenly I saw what looked like fog coming through the hall. My eyes started to burn, and everybody tried to get out as quickly as possible. We afterwards learned that they had used gas on us.

"On the day of the riot everybody as usual was pushing to get a meal at the Mess Hall when a fight started between a Jamaican and a Barbadian, and it developed into a free for all fight.

WORKERS BEATEN.

"The Manager tried to stop it, but had to call in the police. Order was restored quickly. The police then went in among the Jamaican barracks and beat up several men; quite a few of the lads were sick in bed and innocent of any part in the fighting, but they were beaten up just the same.

"One policeman went through the crowd and said, 'Take off your hats when the order is given' then BANG! he hit you over the head with his baton. Most of the hospital cases were caused from beating administered by the police.

"One Jamaican lad was hit across his back, then on his Head. He fell unconscious. He was subsequently taken to the hospital. 10-3-45

"While the police were beating up the Jamaicans, they said: 'You niggers are like the Japs and Germans—a set of bastards!"

EXPERIENCES OF JAMAICAN INDUSTRIAL WORKER IN U.S.

Public Opinion-The National Daily

Kingston Jamaica 10-2-45

Eugene Thompson of 15½ Georges Lane, Kingston, a returned industrial worker from the U.S. in a statement to PUBLIC OPINION yesterday said that after six months of hard work in that country he was glad to be back home.

"I have paid more money for dues and taxes than I have been able to save," he said. "The least I pay for one week is $4 and the highest $6, plus Union dues, $10 to join and $1.50 per week, and of course, no Union Card, no work."

He had seen the slum areas of the Deep South, with their thatched huts, dilapidated homes, places where the farm animals and the people live together, He had seen white girls walking in the cow pens carrying pails of milk They were uncouth, ignorant, and they persisted in calling Negroes 'niggers'.

He had worked in a stone quarry, and had been gassed in the South in trying to get himself a morsel of food. "I have been refused to be served a meal unless I was prepared to have it sitting near to a latrine."

CAMP MURPHY

"I have seen my fellow-Jamaicans beaten up at Camp Murphy," Thompson said, "and I have been told that 'niggers', Japs, and Germans are the same. I have seen Jamaicans put their refuse on the staircase of their lodgings as a mark of protest, before better accommodation was provided for them."

He arrived in New York on January 29,1945, and with others was met by Capt Acheson who had recruited them in Jamaica. They travelled by train to philadelphia, and by truck from the station to an old hospital building on South Street.

There was no heating. The building was open and it was impossible for anyone to stay there, so they all took up their things and started to leave. A Mr. Radeing told them to take whatever sleeping things they could and follow him.

TERRIBLE FOOD

"Some of us sleep on his verandah, and others in a restaurant that stayed open all night. In the morning we were instructed to start working at the Franklin sugar Refinery. Some of us signed on and started working. That night our things were removed to lodgings where there weren't enough beds for all of us, and there was no heating in our rooms. Many of us had to sleep on the floor for quite a few nights, and to go to the sanitary department we had to walk through the dance hall which was kept open all night The food was terrible; nothing but sausages, stale meat, and sour milk."

Mr. Thompson said that they appealed to the Manager of the sugar refinery without any results. At the end of 3 months the Manager agreed to take $7 weekly from their pay (previously they had been paying $13 per week for their lodgings) and it wasn't compulsory anymore for the men to stay there if they did not wish to. The majority of them left and found lodgings elsewhere. 10-2-45

"I was fortunate to stay with a nice family who treated me as one of themselves", Thompson said. "They charged me only $6 per week.

WEEK WITHOUT WORK

"Our three months had now expired, and we had to renew our contract at the end of two weeks. After the renewal we were told that a meeting would be called to find further work for us. We stayed on for a week without any work before we were informed that some of us should report to work at Campbell's Soup Co., and the others to the War Man Power Office the next day."

They were told to go to the quarry the next day at a place called Kingston, to break stones. All of them refused and appealed to the WMP Manager for a better type of work. They were told that if they didn't work, they would be sent home. 10-2-45

"The majority of us went to the quarry," Thompson said, "to find it a place that no human being should ever be asked to live in. The mess hall was next to a pig sty, and all the mosquitoes in the world seemed to be there. The place was so stink that we could hardly breathe."

All of us decided to return to Jamaica. We were given the choice of returning or working in a Distillery plant. Of course we decided to work at the Distillery, where we remained until the war was over,

(Tomorrow Mr Thompson's interesting narrative will be continued. when his experiences at Camp Murphy will be recounted)—EDITOR.

WEST INDIANS TERRORISED IN FLORIDA

By VENICE T. SPRAGG

Public Opinion

WASHINGTON—The Nazi like treatment accorded West Indian labourers awaiting repatriation at Camp Murphy, Florida, was revealed in a letter made available to the Defender this week. 10-12-45

Brought into the United States under a contractural agreement between the British government and the War Manpower Commission acting for the United States government, some 16,000 Jamaican, Barbados, and Bahamian workers whose labour is no longer needed here are being shipped back home. Camp Murphy is the chief repatriation center.

The letter, written by a former assistant camp manager at Camp Billy Mitchell Field, Milwaukee, Wis., was sent to fellow workers and warned "Do, do, for God's sake, tell the rest of men that its a friendly advice I am giving them: before coming to this camp ask to be sent to the worst jail in America."

HELLISH CONDITIONS

Describing the camp as "hell," the writer declared: "if you are tough as iron you would cry over conditions in this camp."

Written a few days following the recent riot at the camp in which numbers of the workers were severely injured the writer implored, "tell the others before they come down here strike and go even to prison, for you will not lose your life in prison, but its only God can save you here."

Local authorities attributed the flare up to a resentment on the part of the workers to being returned to their homes to face again low pay, and poor living standards. 11-11-45

NO INFORMATION

Although there is a WMC representative attached to the camp to date the agency has released no information on the riot although it is reliably learned that they are fully apprised of all the details.

In one quarter it is said that WMC is hopeful that all of the workers will be shipped out before full knowledge of the situation is obtained by the public.

There are indications that WMC officials are seeking to wipe their hands clean of the whole affair disclaiming any further responsibility for these foreign workers. However under the arrangements through which they originally were brought in, there are many who feel that the commission has a responsibility which ceases only when these men are properly repatriated and under conditions conducive to their orderly transfer and personal safety.

POLICE CRUELTY

At the time of the riot there were some 3,500 men in the camp awaiting transportation facilities. The author of the letter described the conditions under which they lived as follows:

"The police, them just come and order the boys to kneel down, and strike them in their heads with their baton."

He said, "One of our real nice boys, Rupert Johnson, was laying in bed durihg the riot, and ordered by police to get up, because he did not jump fast, they hit him in the head with the baton, and break his head, but its not very serious."

Kingston Jamaica

SHOT AT

Describing still another incident, he continued, "Worst of all—a fellow that came along with us this evening was trving to get something for his bed (as all of us did) and somehow he was fired at with a revolver which must have gone through his shirt sleeve, and was well battoned and taken to the hospital without even seeing the barrack he was going to stop in".

The writer indicated he was exercising extreme caution for his own personal safety. He said, "I won't go outside for they are trying to take the men for birds." He added, "*The police told the men that they hate them more than the Japs and show them the machine guns*, also hoping for a chance to mow them down."

Kingston Jamaica

BITTERNESS

Remorseful, he told his friends, "Its cruel to see we have played such a part in this their war (for we never had what to fight for) and now these are the treatment we get in return." 10-12-45

Then with a bit of homespun philosophy he concluded, "Anyway, I can only say, God bless his wonderful race, and help them to know that—the small stones that gill the crevices are as essential to the firm wall as the large ones—and so are races."

There still remains in the United States some 9,000 West Indian workers who must go through Camp Murphy under similar conditions.

Any workers who refuse to go through the center as directed will be picked up by the immigration authorities, but some feel they would be assured a more safe conduct to their homes, finally.

APPEAL TO BRITISH

Recently Bindley C. Cyrus, Chicago attorney, and president of the American West Indian Welfare Association, and Joseph R. Alvarenga, first vice president, also of Chicago paid a visit to the British Embassy here, urging the British government to take whatever steps possible to slow-up transfer of West indian workers until adequate transportation can be obtained.

Here in Washington, eyes are turning to the Foreign Labour Section of the War Manpower Commission, of which J. Dewey Coates is chief, to see what moves that office is going to make on behalf of these workers who are in the United States by arrangement of his office.

56c-1945 Camp Plauche , Louisiana

Mutiny Following Demotion Of V. I. Officer Averted At Camp Plauche (Louisiana)

7-23-45

St. Croix Avis 7-23-45

Riot Squad Called Out; Articles Of War Read

Saint Croix, ~~Virgin Islands~~ U. S. A.

According to information received here from Camp Plauche, Louisiana, yesterday, Virgin Islands soldiers last week reached a stage of near mutiny following the unexpected demotion of First Sergeant Sigurd Petersen and Sergeants Horatio Millin & Joseph Francis. High tension and unrest were reduced only after the intervention of the Post Commander who conferred with non-commissioned officers and promised restoration of all the men's stripe. He also severely chastized the officer in command of the company.

According to the report by the Daily News Sgt. Sigurd Peterson of 872 Port Company, was informed that he would be retured to Puerto Rico. No reason for this action was given. It came as a blow to the company as Peterson had been serving in the capacity of 1st Sgt. ever since the company had been activated in Puerto Rico in 1944.

In Petersen's place was named Oliver Scatliffe, the ex-policeman. While the company held no prejudice against Scatlifee, its members found the situation ratter puzzling. Nevertheless, the routine of the company proceeded as usual. 7-23-45

Sgt. Petersen was demanded by the Company Officer, Lt. Imbeie to write a letter requesting that he be reduced in rank without prejudice, and that if this were not done he would be reduced to a private and transferred to the 873rd Port Co. Also to be reduced were Sgt. Horatio Millin, and Joseph Francis of St. Croix.

Tension then mounted, and non-commission officers torn off their stripes and returned them to the Company Officer. After severel incidents, things reached the stage where the Commanding officer of the post was summoned. He arrived and handled the situation in a most admirable manner. He dismissed the pressing officers and gathered all the non-commissed officers and held an informal meeting wiih them. He pried to the roots of the dissatisfaction. When the meeting was over he thoroughly reamed the C. O. for having such unrest going on in his command. He stated that he thought Petersen was a fine man, after interviewing him. 7-23-45

He promised restoration of all chevrons and that while he could not promise to keep Petersen over the head of his C. O. he would see to it he was returned to Puerto Rico with his 1st. Sergeant stripes.

Also Camp Plauche Affair Be Ignored

West End News St. Croix V. I.

A letter from Sigurd Petersen to the [illegible] Municipal Council ask [illegible] being made [illegible] his recent demotion [illegible] of first sergeant be [illegible] at the meeting of the [illegible] yesterday.

[illegible] who wrote from Camp [illegible] is stationed with the [illegible] company, declared that there [illegible] in Louisiana and in the [illegible] 400 Virgin Islands soldiers [illegible] anything about it. They [illegible] the articles of war or [illegible]

7-13-45

[illegible] the belief that a visit [illegible] officials to Camp [illegible] a waste of time. Both [illegible] companies would shortly [illegible] to another camp, in any [illegible] that the matter be [illegible] Virgin Islanders in [illegible] would not suffer, as a [illegible] pursued.

...S.T. Daily News, June 30

56c-1945

Conscription- Nat'l Service Act

National Service ... Menace To Democracy

Pittsburgh Courier Pa. 1-20-45

President Roosevelt, the heads of many Federal departments, certain educators and many powerful daily newspapers are urging the passage by the present Congress of a national service act conscripting all labor and the drafting of 4-Fs for work in labor battalions under military regulations but without the veteran benefits accorded to citizens in the military and naval service.

The Pittsburgh Courier strongly opposes these measures, not only because they will all be administered on a jim-crow basis, like the present military and auxiliary war services, but, more important, because they are a definite and dangerous menace to the traditional American way of life which has made this the greatest country on earth for the ordinary human being.

A national service act, conscripting labor to work where and when the Federal bureaucracy wants it to work, is simply involuntary servitude or slavery, a system which this Nation fought a bloody four-year war to destroy.

In other words, the President and his supporters are advocating for all Americans in 1945, a status suffered by the majority of colored Americans prior to January 1, 1863.

Of course it is contended that this conscription of labor would only last until the war is ended, but no one knows when the war will end actually, and it does not end officially until the Government so states, which could be years and years hence.

Under the circumstances it is no wonder that both Capital and Labor strongly oppose a national service act. 1-20-45

Both realize that it would make a Federal bureaucracy the arbiter of all business and labor activities, and make totalitarianism supreme in the United States exactly as it is in Russia, Germany and Japan, thus defeating our war aim of destroying totalitarianism.

What profiteth a nation to wage a costly and devastating war against totalitarianism only to itself adopt the principal feature of totalitarianism?

Under the American system of free enterprise, this Nation has out-produced all of the other nations of the world combined.

Without American production both Great Britain and Russia would have been defeated long ago, and this production was made possible by free men in a free labor market and with business conducted on the time-tried profit-and-loss basis.

Since this American system has proved superior to all others in existence, why change it, unless mere centralized control is desired for its own sake?

Mr. Roosevelt tells us that labor conscriptions would "assure that we have the right numbers of workers in the right places at the right times" which persupposes an omniscience on the part of Washington bureaucracy which has been belied time and again by errors of judgment which have cost us heavily in lives and equipment.

If production has recently lagged, it has not been due to our free labor system, but to national complacence caused by unwarrantedly optimistic predictions of early victory by the bureaucrats themselves, concealment of military losses and difficulties, and exaggeration of the plight of our enemies.

If the people had been told the exact truth all along, instead of being fed sugar-coated stories by our propaganda bureaus, there would have been no lag in production. 1-20-45

Rightly or wrongly, the American people accepted compulsory military service on the assumption that it was absolutely necessary for the preparation for and prosecution of modern war against the totalitarian menace, but they never dreamed that they would be asked to submit to totalitarianism, and this is most definitely NOT what our boys are fighting for, nor what they expect to come back to.

The thought of American citizens being ordered from their homes by Federal bureaucrats and shipped hither and yon against their will is repugnant to every native of this land who possesses a spark of manhood.

For much the same reasons The Pittsburgh Courier is likewise opposed to the ruthless and indiscriminate drafting of the physically unfit into labor battalions under military command and denied veteran benefits.

This is discrimination of the worst sort—penalization of Americans because of physical unfitness for which they are not responsible.

A disproportionate percentage of these 4-Fs are Negroes who are physically unfit for strenuous military service because of poverty, malnutrition and lack of proper medical attention; and it would be a relatively simple matter to transfer to jim-crow 4-F battalions other men from active military service who became physically unfit, and thus deprive them of veterans' benefits.

The solution of the 4-F manpower problem is not to draft these men simply as laborers (regardless of their capacity to do other work), but to conscript them for limited, behind-the-front military service, which is often no more arduous than the work they are now doing in civil life, and give them the same benefits as other veterans. 1-20-45

Any other method is unfair, unjust and undemocratic.

We think it is significant that the Administration waited until it was safely in the saddle for four more years before it sprung these totalitarian proposals on the American public, knowing it would have been defeated otherwise.

Nevertheless, Congress still rules, and we believe the American people should insist that their Representatives and Senators reject the proposal of the President for compuslory national service of any kind, if they want to remain free Americans.

56c-1945 Fort Dix, New Jersey

GIs Try Suicide at Dix Over Harsh Treatment

The People's Voice - N.Y. N.Y.

By JOHN HEWITT 7-28-45

POISON

Tales of outrageous treatment of the 1,400 Negro GIs at Fort Dix. N. J., that have been seeping thru the heavy. double-barrelled veil of Army censorship and whitewash for some time. came to a burning climax as PV learned exclusively of two men who found the situation intolerable and recently attempted to commit suicide in protest, while others petitioned Negro organizations for help. Sgt. Ralph Luckett, attached to the 83rd Signal Heavy Construction Battalion, who was in charge of quarters at a hospital dispensary June 29, took an overdose of sleeping tablets and put GI soap under his armpits. The soap was used because the belief that it would slow down heart action and render him more susceptible to the sleeping tablets. Discovered in a semi-conscious state about 10 pm by other men working in the dispensary, Sgt. Luckett was rushed to Tilton General Hospital where he remained in the same state until the following day. Upon regaining full consciousness, Sgt. Luckett is quoted as having said that he "would rather die than be a member of the 83rd." He didn't like the outfit because the officers "weren't interested in training the men," he said.

This is the first of a series of exposes on conditions at Fort Dix, New Jersey. More next week.

7-28-45

Luckett attempted suicide again on July 1, while at the hospital, by taking another overdose of sleeping tablets, and had to be revived. He is now reported confined to the psychopathic ward at Tilton General Hospital.

Pvt. Charles Coleman, assigned to Company A of the same battalion was given "company punishment" Sunday, July 1, because of a small infraction of the rules. His extra duty consisted of mopping mess hall, then digging a large trench beneath it.

DRANK POISON

Pvt. Coleman dug the trench Sunday and part of Monday. Finally as this was "the worst of a series of injustices," according to reports, Coleman decided he would rather end it all in preference to taking any more punishment.

He drank a bottle of gentian-violet, a poisonous antiseptic dye that is applied to the feet for prevention of athlete's foot. Coleman, like Luckett, said he would rather "end it all" and blamed the attitude of white officers toward Negro soldiers for most of the trouble at the camp.

Coleman was also taken to the hospital's psychopathatic ward where it is believed he attempted suicide again. The admitting officer at the hospital, a physician, had said there was an element of provoked hysteria in Coleman's condition, and that he should be carefully watched because he might try to commit suicide again.

While there have been no reports of drastic actions like suicides in the other battalions, many men of various units have complained of mistreatment and injustices against the Negro heavy construction battalions as a whole.

HELD 56 DAYS

Typical is the case of Pvt. Clarence Jackson of the 84th battalion. When stationed with a headquarters detachment under the command of Lt. Edmond Cain, he received a furlough in March and started for San Francisco. On the way he stopped in Philadelphia and got a partial pay of $32 at the finance office in the Customs Building.

Arriving in California several days later, he requested another partial pay of $40 at the finance office of Ft. Mason. In his claim he signed as his last pay day, February 28, 1945. Misintepreting the blank, he said he had not received a previous partial pay thinking that that meant at Ft. Mason.

Returning from furlough April 13 he signed his name on the payroll book against the two partials he had drawn. Immediately following, he was sent for by the battalion adjutant, Lt. Judson V. Kleoper, and was jailed. He was not told why.

7-28-45

During the time he stayed in the stockade, 56 days, he was visited by the investigating officer, Lt. William Green, who informed him that he was charged with "making false claims," a violation of the 94th Article of War. Court-martialed on June 14 and sentenced to six months in the stockade—under the charge of "false oath" instead of the original "false claim"—Jackson served about two weeks and was then transferred to the 80th battalion under guard.

It is a violation of Army regulations to confine a soldier for more than seven days before trial.

Of the 1,400 Negro soldiers assigned to signal heavy construction battalions, about 300 have been courtmartialed during the six months bteween January 1 and June 1, 1945.

Fort Huachuca

56-1945

HUACHUCA GETS REPRIEVE – WILL HOUSE VETS

Chicago Defender

5-26-45

Army To Avoid Former 'Errors' At All-Negro Medical Center

Chi. Def.

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Station I hospital at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, was given an unexpected reprieve from an Army death sentence by the timely pronouncement of victory in Europe.

The all-Negro-manned hospital, previously scheduled to go by the board will be used in the deployment of Negro veterans both for discharge and reassignment purposes, it is exclusively learned by the Defender. 5-26-45

Under plans currently developing in the War Department, the hospital will be reorganized on a basis approved by the Army Surgeon General. Full consideration will be given to race, seniority, and priority of the men presently assigned. Assurance has been given that errors built into the former organization and program of the hospital will be assiduously avoided in the new set-up it is said.

Army OK's Plan

The decision to use the hospital for deployment purposes is reported to meet the favor of the 9th Service Command.

While there is at present a decided lull in activities at the installation due to the removal of the bulk of Negro troops, medical officers who have elected to remain at this post are satisfied that a program is being worked out which should get under way shortly.

Some two months ago these medical officers were given a choice of resigning or requesting assignment for other duty. This opportunity was proffered after a rumor of a proposed wholesale dismissal of the Negro medical officers commencing with Col. Midian O. Bousfield, head officer was aired by the Defender. It did not come in time to prevent the removal of many of the officers to other points including some 25 who were shifted to Fort Benning, Georgia for infantry training.

Bousfield Shifts

An interesting sidelight in the Bousfield ouster move has recently come to the fore. Reports indicate that the Chicago Colonel, in an effort to catapult himself into a higher position, threatened time and time again to quit the Army and return to civilian practice. The Army finally took him up on his offer to resign and promised to help him get his dismissal expedited immediately. Whereupon, Bousefield began a backtrack, claiming he had decided there was too much in the Army for him to leave at this stage of the game.

He is now being considered by the Surgeon General's office for a national position in the Army Medical Corps, presumably to coordinate the work of young Negro medics throughout the country, although it is said he would prefer a post position in the 6th Service Command in or near Chicago.

All officers who have stated a preference to leave or remain in the Huachuca spot have had that preference respected— that is except Lt. Col. Roscoe Giles, and Major Maurice Shaw, both of Chicago. According to information Giles' request for discharge was held up by Bousefield, ostensibly on the grounds that an appropriate replacement could not be immediately obtained. Giles is an outstanding surgeon. In some circles it is charged that a neat game of Chicago "politicking" is really behind the delay.

Surgeons Ask Discharge

Giles, sure of favorable action on his discharge request had scheduled some civilian operations in Chicago where he enjoyed a lucrative practice before his entry into the Army. Bousefield was formerly health director of the Rosenwald Fund. Shaw, who had let it be known that he wished to remain at Huachuca is reported discharged for reasons not yet obtained, although he, like Giles, was also assigned to surgery. The Surgeon General's office could shed no light on the subject when contacted.

Station I hospital is one of two post hospitals at Fort Huachuca. It has been in existence now for almost three years. All orders for both Station Hospitals I and II have been issued by Col. E. B. Maynard, who is post surgeon and as such has had complete charge of both hospitals. In spite of the fact that Station I hospital has been staffed with top-flight Negro physicians with remarkable civilian accomplishments to their credit, Col. Bousefield's province has been decidedly limited.

56c-1945

Fox Hill- Port of Embarkation

Col. Huntington Commends Exploits Of Negro Soldiers Stationed At Fox Hill

N. Y. Age

Speaking before a joint meeting of the Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, and other service organizations of Staten Island, N. Y., on Thursday, Colonel F. W. Huntington, Commanding Officer of the Fox Hills Terminal, New York Port of Embarkation, lauded highly the work accomplished by Negro Port Companies which are and have been stationed there.

"Units trained at Fox Hills," he told the influential audience, "have served commendably, under fire, in every combat zone where U. S. Forces fight, and those which have not yet gone overseas have contributed greatly to the speedier ending of the war by helping to rush supplies to front-line troops.

7-28-45

"With the change in the war," Col. Huntington said, "no one can tell what the future holds for Fox Hills. But this I am sure of, whatever the colored sildners are called upon to do, they will continue to perform their work in fine manner as they have in the past and will do an outstanding job."

In speaking of the debarkation work which the Port Companies are doing at present at the New York Port of Embarkation, through which most of the wounded soldiers returning from overseas pass, the Colonel said:

"The Negro soldiers who have handled these wounded men have done their work in a gentle and compassionate manner. They seem to feel nothing is too good for these men who have given parts of their bodies to make this country a decent place in which to live." 5,658 patients were debarked at the Port in one day last month, he pointed out.

N. Y. N. Y.

Colonel Huntington, Brooklyn born soldier, who rose to his present position from that of a private in the ranks, holds the Croix De Guerre, the Silver Star, and other decorations for bravery in the former World War. He was Commanding Officer of the historic Jackson Barracks, in New Orleans, before taking up his post in New York, November, 1944.

What Is Negro?

[illegible]

8-11-45 [illegible] p.m.

[illegible]

Conscription Again

Military conscription is once more the most important subject of the day.

A number of high military and naval officials have been testifying to the necessity of a post-war draft Army and Navy. Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Last week General Eisenhower insisted on the necessity of conscription of American youth if this country is to maintain its leading position in world affairs and to adequately prepare for future national defense.

President Truman has already placed himself on record as favoring some form of military training for the young men of this country.

Whether there should or should not be conscription is a moot question, especially in view of the fact that the atomic bomb has entirely changed the concept of warfare.

But colored Americans are principally concerned with whether this proposed post-war conscript Army is to be really democratic or jim crow.

We are all aware that American Army and Navy tradition has been jim crow from the beginning of the Republic. 11-24-45

The result of this policy has been extremely sad for Americans of color, and they do not want this policy continued.

World War I and World War II were headaches for colored Americans, with high officials of the two services insisting on maintaining the jim-crow setups.

Now that peace has come, American Negroes must insist that the old system be thrown overboard.

Whatever Army and Navy the United States has from now on will have to be voted by the Congress of the United States and supported by the taxpayers of this country.

It is now time that we insist that jim crowism must go in the Armed Services for which we are taxed.

Ominously no important official of the Government has said anything about doing away with jim crowism in the Armed Services, which leads us to believe that the intention is to continue the old jim-crow policy.

It had been demonstrated beyond doubt that there is no necessity for the continuance of this jim-crow policy and colored Americans are emphatically not disposed to support it.

To continue to do so would be a confession of our willingness to accept second-class citizenship.

We are willing to spend our money to defend the Nation and prepare it for adequate defense in a future war, but we are not willing to do so on a jim-crow basis.

Until such time as the President and his subordinates agree that the Armed Services shall be run on a democratic basis, we are opposed to compulsory military conscription.

NEGRO GROUP EXCEPTS

New York Times

Report on Military Training Held 'Entirely Unwarranted'

12-12-45

Declaring a report that "compulsory military training is approved by "most Negro leaders" to be "entirely unwarranted," a representative group of Negro citizens issued a statement yesterday through the Post-War World Council, 112 East Nineteenth Street, saying that as far as it knew "there has been no poll of Negro opinion to determine its position" on the question of military training. N. Y. N. Y.

"On the contrary," the council said, "a large number of colored people are definitely opposed to such legislation," not only to prevent the extension of "present military services on the traditional Jim Crow basis" but also because compulsory military conscription is a departure from past American policy. 12-12-45

Signers of the statement were the Rev. Shelton H. Bishop, St. James Church; Frank Crosswith, Negro Labor Committee; former Federal Judge William H. Hastie, dean of Howard Law School; Mordecail Johnson, president of Howard University; A. Philip Randolph, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; the Rev. Shelby Rooks, St. James Presbyterian Church; George S. Schuyler, writer, and Walter White, secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

56c-1945

General

Gibson Admits Not All 85-Point Men Released

Baltimore Afro-American 8-4-45

That not all soldiers with 85 points, even if they have served in combat are being discharged, was admitted to the AFRO this week by Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Gibson's admission was in reply to a query by the AFRO following receipt of a complaint from a 42-year-old soldier serving at the Sierra Ordnance Depot, Heidlong, California. 8-4-45

Work Long Hours

The soldier, who said he had seen seven month in combat and was sick, revealed that he and his buddies, supposedly assigned to limited service, are "subject to seven days work and night work when necessary."

Asserting that no recreation facilities have been provided for them, he writes, "The Italian prisoners have more privileges than we do."

According to Mr. Gibson, the temporary ordnance ammunition companies, composed of limited service men, were organized at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., after it was found impossible to employ civilian labor.

Men "Screened"

The men, according to the War Department aide, were carefully "screened" as to physical qualification before being shipped to the desert ammunition depot.

Those found unfit after reaching California, Mr. Truman asserts, were returned to their previous station.

"While it is possible that some of these crews have worked approximately long hours during the period of emergency," explains Mr. Gibson, "it was not contemplated that such hours be continued once the backlog of freight cars to be unloaded has been cleared up.

Not Desirable Assignment

"There is no doubt," he continues, "that assignment to such work is not desired by any soldier, but it is necessary to the war effort that the ammunition load be handled as expeditiously as possible."

On the matter of Italian prisoners, Mr. Gibson discloses that "in order that the danger of friction" between them and colored troops be eliminated, the War Department has moved the prisoners to Oregon.

They have been replaced, he says, by two more colored ordnance companies from another depot.

8-4-45

To Provide Recreation

"Every effort is being made to provide adequate recreational facilities at Sierra Ordnance Depot," the civilian aide discloses, "but due to the time element involved, it was not possible to have such facilities provided before the troops' arrival."

Admitting that men with 85 or more points have been assigned to the gruelling task at Sierra, Mr. Gibson declares that "it is impossible to discharge them at this time as no replacements are available.

True Throughout Service

"This condition holds true throughout the Army Service Forces and is by no means peculiar to Sierra Ordnance Depot," he discloses.

Richmond Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

8-16-45

—Staff Photo.

Virginia's First Postwar Selectees Await Induction at Richmond Station
Off to Serve a Nation at Peace, These Men Want to "See the World"

56c-1945

General

President Roosevelt Releases Navy Boy To Dying Mother

Northwest Enterprise
Seattle Wash.
1-31-45

William E. Hayes, of Seattle, 24-year-old employe in the quartermaster section of the Army Service Forces, possesses a letter from President Roosevelt he treasures so much that it is under lock and key.

Hayes' mother received the letter from the President before she died three months ago. It told her that her son, William, would be released from service as a gunner's mate, third class, in the Navy, to come back to her.

"My three other brothers were killed in action in the European theatre and I guess my mother was afraid she would lose us all," Hayes, a Negro, explained. "So she wrote to the President, and he answered her, granting her request. I got home a while before she died.

1-31-45

The other sons were John, 32, a master sergeant; James, 24, a sergeant, and Eugene, 19, a privat. Their mother, Mrs. Alma Hayes, resided in Toledo, Ohio.

Hayes, now residing in Seattle, and his wife, Lillian, have two children, Earline, 18 months, and George, 3 years. Hayes served more than two years in the South Pacific zone.

FBI nabs youth for draft evasion

Los Angeles Tribune
4-30-45
Calif.

Stonie M. Montgomery, Jr., 20, of 2155 E. 105th st., was arrested today by agents of the FBI on a charge of furnishing false information to the Army Induction Station last May 16.

Montgomery admitted to the G-men that when he reported for his physical examination he scribbled his signature with his left hand in filling out induction form papers in an effort to deceive officials in charge. He admitted he lied about his education, claiming only a fourth grade education, when he had three years in high school. He admitted he lied when he said that he was a user of narcotics; when he is not, the FBI said.

Montgomery said that his purpose in furnishing this false information to the Induction Station was to create the impression that he was illiterate and thus would have less chance of being accepted into the army. He was successful because he was rejected for failure to meet minimum intelligence requirements.

Montgomery said he is now willing to join the army and positive he can pass the literacy test. The government may give him that chance.

56c-1945

Illiteracy

3Rs In Army

Pittsburgh Courier

25,000th Former Illiterate Given Diploma at Benning

Pg 1, 7 P2

3-17-45

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The twenty-fifth thousanth colored soldier previously classified as illiterate was graduated from the Special Training Unit of the Reception Center, Wednesday, following completion of a twelve weeks course designed to elevate him to the fifth grade level of education.

Private Clarence Morris, an 18-year-old soldier who lived in Littleton, N. C., prior to his entering the Army last October, was the 25,000th graduate. He received his diploma from Brig. Gen. William H. Hobson, post commander, at a parade held for the occasion.

56c-1945

Rejections

Mississippi Low In Draft Rejects

Commercial Appeal

Record Is South's Best, Kentucky Excepted

Memphis, Tenn

To The Commercial Appeal:

The rejection rates under Selective Service in the various states are shown in a survey recently released. The rates for whites and negroes are shown separately.

In the United States as a whole the rate for whites is 36 per cent and for negroes 56.9 per cent.

3-18-45

In Mississippi the rejection rate for whites was 32.9 per cent and for negroes 54.2 per cent.

Of all the states in the South and Southwest, Mississippi had the lowest rate for whites, which ranged as high as 46.9 per cent in Georgia and 49.2 per cent in North Carolina.

Of all the states in the South and Southwest, Mississippi had the lowest rate for negroes (except Kentucky, 49.7 per cent), which ranged as high as 71.5 per cent for North Carolina, and 70.9 per cent for Arkansas. 3-18-45

These rates represent the physical and mental qualifications of the male citizens of the states and it must be surprising to people who do not live in Mississippi to see that the state has such a splendid record. Mississippi has been described by some misguided individuals as the most backward state. 3-18-45

To produce, raise, nourish, and educate our younger generation to the point where we lead the other Southern and Southwestern States requires something. What do we have that other states don't have?

HARRY B. SARGENT.

56d-1945

THE 'WORK-BUT-NOT-FIGHT' POLICY

Chicago Defender, Ill.

Why do Negro soldiers and sailors mutiny? 2-10-45

What is it in the Army and Navy that turns the amiable, friendly, freedom-loving Negro into a belligerent, desperate, bitter fellow who in wild anger is willing to risk a long prison term in order to protest his unjust status.

First it was the Navy which broke all court martial records with a widely-publicized trial of 50 Negro sailors for so-called "mutiny."

Now it is the Army which has suddenly announced the trial and conviction of some 73 Negro soldiers for "mutiny" in Hawaii.

"Mutiny" is a convenient word. It covers a multitude of sins.

But essentially it is concerned with refusal to obey orders, no matter what these orders may be. 2-10-45

For the great majority of Negro soldiers and sailors, these orders have been involved with common labor. The dirtiest jobs are done by the darkest soldiers in the Army and Navy.

Whether it has been glamorized with such terms as "engineers" or "port battalion" or "construction battalion," the job is still common labor.

The number of Negro troops and seamen in combat posts is negligible among the million colored men in the service. 2-10-45

A "work-but-not-fight" policy is stringently observed by both services as far as the Negro is concerned.

Why is this policy enforced? Not because the Negro has shown himself less than a good fighting man. Whenever and wherever given an opportunity the Negro soldier and sailor have proved they have all the gallant courage displayed by all our American fighting men, regardless of color.

But because America is a democracy in name only, because the Negro is less than a full American, because the brass hats who run the Army and Navy are more concerned at times with keeping the Negro in a servile, subservient place than in winning the war, Negro soldiers and sailors are armed with shovels, pots and pans rather than guns.

From slavery to slave labor has been the fate of the Negro who becomes a soldier or sailor. 2-10-45

As a slave, the Negro revolted—fought, bled and died to break the chains that bound him.

As slave labor in the Army and Navy, he is doing no less.

The iron-bound disciple of military law cannot break the Negro's back on the wrack of imprisonment any more than the threat of the lash under slavery.

"Mutiny"—refusal to bear the heavy, unjust load placed on the Negro's back has been the result.

It happened at Port Chicago, where Negro sailors—and Negro sailors only—were forced to sweat long, tiresome hours at the dangerous, unskilled job of loading ammunition.

It happened in Hawaii, where Negro soldiers—and Negro soldiers only—got the heaviest, hardest work of moving tons of earth and clearing airfields.

It will happen again as long as the flame of freedom burns in the hearts of men, whether their skins be black or white, yellow or red. The Negro will give his life for his country—but he will not be a slave. The Negro will fight gallantly in combat—but he will not be a coolie.

President Roosevelt has admitted that the Army has made "mistakes" in its racial policy. 2-10-45

Forcing the bulk of Negro service men into labor battalions was one of them—one of the worst.

Mutinies have been the result.

The President and his War Department should recognize that the Negro, since the earliest days of the American Revolution, never mutinied when called to defend his country. No Negro ever flinched when sent into battle with a gun in hand to uphold the American ideal.

Negro soldiers and sailors in combat never mutiny.

It is time the President put an end to "mutinies" by abandoning the Army and Navy "work-but-not-fight" policy.

Discrimination As I Have Seen It in Italy

Washington Tribune

2-3-45

(Editor's Note—A soldier recently sent the following censored article to The Tribune. "Recently," he said, "one of the papers at home published an article with the headlines '92nd Meets Jim Crow in Italy.' Being an interested observer of the condition in question, I decided to write this article.")

"I was a member of the advance party that preceded the bulk of the 92nd Division overseas. When we arrived in Italy the 370th Infantry Regiment (92nd) which had already seen considerable action, had been instrumental in the liberation of many small towns.

"The advance party for the division was a small group and in each town we entered our 'Buffalo' insignia was a 'welcome' slip. The looks of admiration which we received from practically every civilian on the streets were limitless.

No Color Angle Taint

"In many of the towns in the rear areas we were invited to dine and in every way possible, made to feel that we were more than welcome. The trend of each conversation was always as one individual to another. In restaurants and places of amusement it was always the same. To many of us, this was a first taste of life free from the horrible taint of the color angle.

"Now that we have been here for quite a few months, the conditions are practically the same as we found them. I am convinced that the bulk of Italy knew no discrimination based on color.

"My first question was, 'Why isn't home be like this?' When one thinks of the issues involved in the segregation and discrimination set-up in America, he finds it hard indeed to suppress arising anger.

"The people of Italy are far more appreciative for what we have done for them over a period which does not cover a year, than America is for contributions of as equal a nature which cover centuries. These contributions have involved everything from the fruits of life-long endeavor to the spilling of blood.

J.C. Shipped from USA

2-3-45

"Discrimination as I have seen it in Italy was shipped here from America. There is constant evidence that little by little it is being introduced to the Italian populace. However, it will take a great number of years for it to reach the point it has back home. Those interested in seeing that jim crowism is set up in this theater to a marked degree will have to import more of the South over here.

"The incidents surrounding the attempts at bringing America to Italy are interesting and strangely enough, sometimes even humorous. 2-3-45

"I have been to social gatherings of a sort, which were frequented by soldiers (Southern element) tell Italian women present not to socialize with the colored soldiers. Their season was that they (the girls) were superior to the colored soldiers.

Superior? Meaning What?

2-3-45

"In one case, the young woman involved found this new and unusual doctrine hard to comprehend and replied with a curt, 'Io non capisco Superior' meaning 'I do not understand what you mean by "Superior."' Such attempts on the part of supposedly fellow soldiers aroused my indignation and also that of others present.

"On another occasion I was at a small dance where a similar group was assembled. One of the colored soldiers present walked over to one of the women and after a polite 'excuse me' to a white soldier with whom the

More Army Jim Crow

N.Y. Amsterdam News

Sir: I am eighteen years old and I was inducted into the Army on December of last year. I was shipped to Battery — of the Separate Field Artillery Battalion. N.Y., N.Y.

A few weeks ago we were moved from our old area to a new one. In our old area we had our own movie, post exchange and service club. In our new area we were given a movie which had been closed prior to our arrival. One evening about 200 Negro soldiers patronized the movie and about twenty or thirty whites. Before the film began, a white corporal informed us that the Negroes would have to sit on the opposite side of the theatre from the whites. He also told us that these were not his orders, but orders he was informed were to go into effect. 4-7-45

I ask you, man to man, can't something be done to stop this? We are all in the Army fighting for the same thing—which is democracy throughout the world. At least that's what I was taught in high school. 4-7-45

There has been a lot of talk about stopping segregation in the Armed Services, but as far as these boys are concerned, it's getting worse when the boys of this battalion can't even sit in a movie without being told where to sit, especially when the movie was opened for them!

I am not disclosing my name, because they would only make things harder. I am only a private who thinks that this should be brought to your attention.

A Friend.

Dixie Colonel Leaves Sickbed To Fight Jim Crow At Air Base

Pittsburgh Courier

There Are Exceptions

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—There are Southerners and there are Southerners, one might conclude after hearing how at least one, a colonel from Texas, has proceeded to carry out War Department policy in the administration of his command.

The story reaching here is that Colonel Harvey F. Dwyer, commanding officer of the

Jim Crow Bars Race Troops From Officer School Abroad

Atlanta World 4-4-45

Ga.

General Davis Asked To Probe Unjust Setup

4-4-45

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE — (ANP) — Eight Negro soldiers, all members of the 923rd Engineer Aviation regiment, were reported to have been denied admission to the army's new officer candidates school in this area.

The eight soldiers, best in the 923rd, were sent to the new officer candidate school in response to a radio message under the date of Jan. 31 and Circular 13, dated Feb. 25. First Sgt. Harry White was in charge of the group.

He reported to the officer in charge of the candidates, a Mr. Gunthrop, WOJG, who appeared totally ignorant as to why "these colored fellows are here." Sergeant White reported to his superior, Capt. Walter G. Pfeil, Jr., that Mr. Gunthrop told him point-blank, "they were not accepting colored at the school."

4-4-45

Capt. Pfeil expressed his regret to the men and promised to "try and get an answer from 1X Engineer command as to why they sent the radio asking us to send men down. "The 923rd is 12 officers short

4-4-45

The situation was brought to the attention of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis by one of the officers.

"We would appreciate very much if the general would take this up as a personal matter," he said, "because as aviation engineers we stand among the first, but because of 'color' we are denied the rights and privileges of American soldiers."

JIM CROW HITS BRAZILIAN TROOPS

Pittsburgh Courier 2-2-45

New York. (ANP)—Those Brazilian troops now fighting in Italy, all anti-Fascist volunteers, had a first-hand experience of racial discrimination on the boat going over, according to a story appearing in last week's New Leader.

"Some 5,000 of them on one of the largest coast guard transports," the paper said, "were segregated from 'white' American officers and men. Separate quarters and mess were set up for them, from the commanding officer on down. A Negro coast guardsman on board (Negroes were also segregated) asked a chaplain why. The chaplain said he didn't think it was actually color discrimination, rather that the Brazilians were our cultural inferiors."

2-2-45

Gen. Douglas MacArthur was reported to have issued an order to correct treatment of Filipinos fighting with American forces. The order stated that our allies were to be treated as equals, not according to jim crow customs prevalent in the USA, the New Leader reported.

Finds Port Unit, Jim Crow in Iran

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA War Correspondent

BANDAR SHAHPUR, GULF DISTRICT, Iran—By Courier, Delayed At the Gulf port of Camp Gifford, where the Trans-Iberian Railroad ends and climatic conditions are some of the most rugged in all of Iran, is another colored port battalion, the 482nd, unloading Lend-Lease supplies for Russia.

In the heat of summer the temperature hits around 170 degrees, and working conditions are made much tougher by the low humidity. In winter this area takes on the appearance of a desolate, upholstered mudhole. During their early days here over twenty months ago the men had only tents for living quarters; now they have comfortable barracks.

Finds Racial Segregation

Colored and white troops are quartered in separate areas. Each group has its own post exchange, recreation rooms and service club. Each has the privilege of using the other's facilities when necessary, but in the one theatre on the post, colored troops are forced to sit on one side and white troops on the other.

I also found the two colored warrant officers living in a partitioned-off section of one of the enlisted men's barracks. At the same time the post had mixed athletic teams representing it in all of the tournaments and also a mixed swing band. In the main, colored and white enlisted personnel appeared to get along without friction.

I talked with some of them, who were fraternizing and socializing in each other's area and the majority of them reported no objection to interracial mingling such as they had been enjoying. The nearby village has been declared "off limits" to military personnel, so the GIs must have all of their recreation here on the post.

Others in the outfit include:

S/Sgts Phillip C. Greene, N. Y. C., Hugh C. Fergusion, Ark, and Floyld S. Baker, Philadelphia, Lonnie T. Browser, Philadelphia; Roy E. Dollarhide, Texarkana, Tex., Norman Mayo, Lawenceville, Va., Sgt. Fred F. Jenkins, N. Y. C.; Raymon T. Dutton, Philadelphia; Patric C. Mayfield, Kaufman, Tex.; Sgt. George L. Trotter, Philadelphia, S/Sgt. Jake Massey, Charlotte, N. C.; Scott Lee, Chicago, S/Sgt. William Williams, Cleveland, Ohio; Chief Warrant Officer Sanford F. Jones, Atlantic City, N. J., Warrant Officer Jr. Gr. Newton S. Dowing of Green Lane, Pa., battlion supply officer; and Cpt. J. H. C. Bowden, of Atlanta, formerly attached to the 92nd Division, chaplain.

Struck Out

Time — N.Y. 1-29-45

At Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, a Negro seaman found out that color was a bar to advancement, no matter what the books said.

The station's daily bulletin had announced a call for "strikers"* in the aerological branch. The requisite: a high-school education. A dozen bluejackets applied for admittance to the aerological school. The Negro seaman's interview with the personnel officer went like this:

Personnel Officer: "Have you had physics?" (Recommended but not required.) The bluejacket had. 1-29-45

P.O.: "Have you ever had any calculus?" (Not required.) He had.

P.O.: "How much schooling have you had?" He had a college degree.

P.O.: "Have you had home economics?" The applicant had to admit that he had not. Said the P.O.: "Well, I'm sorry, but that's required here. Rejected." End of interview.

White Soldier Pleads For Fair Play For His Negro Soldier Buddies

New Orleans, La. Louisiana Weekly 3-3-45

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 28.—Criticism of white newspapers, which fail to tell the story of the part Negro soldiers are playing in the war, was voiced Wednesday by Pfc. Raymond J. Ross, a white soldier stationed here.

3-3-45

Writing under the heading, "Colored Soldiers Fight Too," Pfc. Ross, whose letter was published in the Lighthouse and Informer, asserted: "Where one read just what the press of my white world printed, it would seem that all the fighting is being done by the white men, while a little bit of investigating would show that the colored boys are doing their bit to set the sun of Japan and knock Hitler's world rule plan into oblivion. Let my white readers gain sense and read both sides of the story.

"As this is written, the colored soldier and sailor are standing on alert on some far outpost, guarding against any foe who would dare to harm his sacred America. The colored soldiers I have spoken to hold high hopes that they will return to a civilian life in which they can detect the rights they left home to defend. 'I want to walk the streets of Georgia, or the south and know that I may do so in the spirit of a free American,' one of them told me in the shadows of a cigar store in a restricted area in Columbia the other day. 3-3-45

"I hope this soldier gets his wish for his eyes have seen many big battles; he has seen his comrades fall mortally wounded to preserve liberty on the shores of the United States.

"After this bloody conflict is over the valor rolls will be bound before justice to possess the names of those brave Negro men who died because theirs and the white man's liberty was in danger.

"I burn when I see signs reading 'white only.' Since when do we whites defy the laws of our Creator? I thank God I may count my colored friends in the hundreds. It must be remembered that there is bad and good in all races and only the coward and those ignorant of facts will refuse to admit it."

56d-1945

Discrimination

Negro Officers Thwarted

92nd Division General Staff Shot Through With Prejudice

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

11-24-45

By COLLINS GEORGE, Formerly Attached to the Ninety-second Division

One of the major results of General Almond's refusal to recognize the existence of race problems in the Ninety-second Division was the growth of the most vicious type of Negrophobia in the general staff of the division and the accession to power in that staff of men with violent anti-Negro prejudices. The deputy commander of the division while I was with it was Brig. Gen. John E. Wood. Prior to coming to the Ninety-second, Wood, then a colonel, had been involved in racial difficulties attendant upon transporting Negro troops to Liberia. Short in stature, high of voice, he became one of the most thoroughly disliked men in the division, incurring even the dislike of General Almond himself.

"TREAT NEGROES LIKE DOGS"

Typical of his thinking is a lecture he delivered to what he thought was a group of white officers of the division, but which included one Negro officer, Major George Bowser of Xenia, Ohio. Advising these "white" officers as to how to get along with the Negro soldier, General Wood said approximately: "Now, I know how to handle the Negro soldier. Just treat him as if he were a big, happy dog."

Following the division's triumphant stay in Genoa, it was returned to its former area near Via Reggio, to find that a group of white Army nurses was also stationed there. On General Wood's orders, signs were posted about the nurses' area stating "This area off limits to Ninety-second Division troops." It is to General Almond's crdit that he ordered these signs removed and the area made off limits to all troops, but . . .

WOOD COMMANDS DIVISION

With General Almond's transfer from the division following victory, General Wood became and is now commanding general of the Ninety-second Division. 11-24-45

The "political" leader of the division while I was stationed with it was the chief of staff, Col. William E. McCaffrey of Connecticut, a West Point graduate with a pleasing, frank manner, but the wiles of a Machiavelli in fostering the racial policy of the division. Behind his pleasing manner lay opposition to the use of Negro officers in the posts for which they were qualified and the ability to look a questioner in the eye and assert that what was obvious truth was not so.

DENIES FACTS 11-24-45

I asked Colonel McCaffrey whether it was Army policy or Ninety-second Division policy that Negro officers were not to be placed in positions where they commanded whites.

"It is neither," replied the colonel, although both Army and division facts made the correct answer obvious.

I asked Colonel McCaffrey about Capt. Leroy Clay's arrest. "Oh, he isn't under arrest that I know of," he replied, although I had seen Captain Clay under arrest that day and he had told me that it was by Colonel McCaffrey's orders.

WINS SILVER STAR

As "political" leader of the ruling clique of officers below General Almond, Colonel McCaffrey was in position to recommend awards and positions for those white officers who best played ball with division policy. His own receipt of the Silver Star for bravery during the Cinquale attack is a typical such award. I do not know whether the colonel was actually at that ill-famed spot during the attack or not. As chief of staff he had little business there. But his citation is supposed to read that swimming a hundred yards in the icy waters of the Cinquale canal, when others refused to do so, the colonel rescued injured men.

I saw the continuous work of the medical corpsmen at the Cinquale. I also saw the Cinquale, and if Colonel McCaffrey swam a hundred yards in it he deserves a medal. At its widest I doubt whether the Cinquale is more than twenty-five yards in width and all the troops I saw cross it, waded through without getting wet above the waist.

MAJOR MOCK

The G-1, the personnel officer of the division, was Major Mock. It was Major Mock who was largely responsible for the operation of the segregated officers' club in the heart of the Ninety-second Division headquarters area in Via Reggio. It was he who, in the hearing of a Negro GI, confirmed the order that no Negroes were to be allowed in the building for any purpose. It was Major Mock who carried his anti-Negro prejudices to Genoa with him, and, despite the fact that the Negro Red Cross girls had entered the city ahead of the general staff of the division and selected a fine building for the GI Red Cross Club, Major Mock, entering a few days later, requisitioned the same building, already posted for the Red Cross, in order to establish there the same sort of segregated officers' club he had sponsored in Via Reggio.

The other general staff officers were either non-descript men who fulfilled their functions with the aid of the most brilliant Negro enlisted men of the division but followed along with the division anti-Negro policy as the best means of retaining themselves in office, or they were downright incompetents who kept their job in the same manner.

NEGRO STAFF OFFICERS

At the same time, there were about four Negro officers attached to the general staff of the finest calibre as soldiers, officers and intellects. Among them was Capt. Leroy Clay, first attached to G-1 where his uncompromising attitude against anti-Negro policies in personnel eased his transfer to the G-3, operations section. It was while serving in this section that he was court-martialed on charges that would not have stood test even in a Dixie court of law.

In G-2, intelligence, was Capt. Dan Taylor, Memphis, Tenn., a brilliant mind and a flawless soldier, who, while obeying orders, never bit his tongue as to the machinations of the general staff. He was continually thwarted frustrated and thrust into jobs not worthy of his talent by that staff and finally was transferred altogether. 11-24-45

NO NEGRO PROMOTIONS

In G-4 was Captain Johnson of Chicago, a supply officer who performed his functions capably, was brought into the position following MTOUSA inquiry as to the division use of Negroes on its general staff, and never allowed to get any further.

In the adjutant general's office was 1/Lieut. Bert Cumby, Washington, D. C., who finally was forced to ask for relief from his post because he could not fulfill his duties properly and at the same time handle the prejudiced affairs of the division.

POINTED OUT BY COMMAND

These men were constantly pointed out by the division command as evidence of the fact that "we have Negroes on our general staff." Not one was ever used according to his ability nor permitted the normal advancement which the least white officer could expect, especially if he demonstrated that his racial views were satisfactory to the division "political" command.

Captain Clay would have made an excellent G-3, operations officer, of the division. He was slated for it by virtue of experience and seniority, but when the division G-3 was wounded, charges were brought against Clay that resulted in his court-martial, dishonarable discharge and a sentence of fifty years at hard labor.

Instead of Clay, Lieut. Col. Edward Rowny, the most notorious race-hater of the division, was appointed to the position of division G-3, but Colonel Rowny's story is saved for the next and final article in this series.

56d-1945

CROATAN BLUNDER BLAMED ON ARMY

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-22-45

12-22-45

WASHINGTON — The Secretary of the Navy radioed a warning last week to all vessels at sea. He told Navy personnel that no discrimination was to be practiced against Negro members of the Armed Forces returning home aboard Navy ships.

NAVY SECRETARY'S RADIO MESSAGE

"Attention of the Navy Department has been called to a recent incident in which a question arose concerning accommodations aboard a Naval vessel for Negro Army personnel returning to this country for demobilization. In order to avoid any future misunderstanding on this subject the Navy's policy regarding various racial minorities is restated and summarized for information and guidance.

"In the administration of Naval personnel no difference shall be made because of race or color. This applies also to authorized personnel of all the Armed Services of this country aboard Navy ships or at Navy stations and activities.

"In their attitude and day to day conduct of affairs Naval officers and enlisted men shall adhere rigidly and impartially to Naval regulations in which no distinction is made between individuals wearing the Naval uniform or the uniform of any of the Armed Services of the United States, because of race or color. 12-22-45

This climaxed an incident occurring several days ago at the port of LeHavre, France, where 123 homeward bound Negro troops were denied passage on the aircraft carrier Croatan.

NOT THE FIRST TIME

After the Croatan sailed without the Negro troops, Stars and Stripes, Army newspaper, made it known that this was not the first time colored GIs had been left behind. The servicemen's paper revealed:

"On a previous occasion, Negroes were barred from a cruiser, it was reported, and at other times they were embarked over the objections of naval officers."

Arriving at New York Friday night, the USS Croatan commander blamed Army jim-crow practices for failure of the ship to bring the Negro soldiers home. 12-22-45

OFFICER FIXES BLAME

"I told Army authorities I would prefer not to have those people aboard because I had no separate facilities for them," Capt. Charles D. Griffin, commanding officer of the Croatan, said at Pier 13, S. I., after first denying all knowledge of the reported incident. "But I didn't issue any order," he quickly added.

"I knew from conversations with Army officers that they were accustomed to separation in the Army, and I had no such facilities," he went on. "Responsibility for their failure to get the men on the ship in LaHavre rests with port of embarkation authorities there. I didn't say I wouldn't take them. I only made a suggestion."

NO JIM CROW, NEGROES SAY

Seven Negroes already aboard the Croatan before the controversy arose were interviewed when the ship reached American shores Friday night. They agreed with Army and Navy officers on the Croatan that there had not been any discrimination on the ship.

Lieut. Richard B. Davis of Urbana, Ill., wearer of three Battle Stars, declared: "If I run into as much democracy in the States as on this ship, everything will be all right."

The six enlisted Negroes who agreed with the lieutenant were Pfc. Elihu Rhiney, Sparta, Ill.; Pvt. Fred J. Tilford, Chicago, Ill.; Pfc. Leroy Reynolds, Lyons, Ga.; Pvt. Vovius Miller, Kewanee, Ill.; Pfc. Aaron Williams, Houston, Tex., and Corp. Steve Williams, Detroit, Mich. 12-22-45

DENY CHARGES

Captain Griffin and transportation officer, Lieut. Cmdr. James T. Lillis, denied that an effort had been made to dislodge these seven Negro soldiers. Capt. Thomas Coates, Army transportation officer aboard the ship, supported the Navy officers in this statement.

Lieutenant Davis later stated that he slept in the same room with seven white officers and ate at the same mess.

Despite the explanation, Army and Navy officers showed little agreement explaining charges that the 123 Negro troops were left behind. Army Captain Coates, in the presence of Navy officers, said Captain Griffin told him that he'd "prefer not to have them (the 123 Negroes) aboard."

"MISUNDERSTANDING"

Captain Griffin tried to explain that it was a "misunderstanding" which might have resulted from a "personal conversation" with an Army embarkation officer, and added: "I have no authority to refuse admittance of any one the Army wants on board. I can only tell the Army how many persons the ship can accommodate."

On board the Croatan along with the seven Negro soldiers were 1,236 soldiers, nurses and Wacs.

First report from the Port of LeHavre said Army officers had insisted that the Navy take the 123 Negroes on board and that the Croatan commander refused. The report also stated that the Navy wanted the seven Negroes already on board to leave, but kept them after Army officers declared Navy officers would have to take the responsibility of putting them off the ship. 12-22-45

"PASSING THE BUCK"

Both Captains Griffin and Coates spoke with Southern accents as they talked nervously with members of the press. They appeared to be playing a buck-passing game as the press conference opened. At first they even denied any knowledge of the 123 Negro soldiers left behind to board a much slower ship.

The Secretary of the Navy's warning to naval personnel said: "In the adminisration of naval personnel no differentiation shall be made because of race or color. This applies also to authorized personnel of all the Armed Services of this country aboard Navy ships or at Navy stations and activities . . . no distinction is to be made between individuals wearing the naval uniform or the uniform of any of the Armed Services of the United States because of race or color."

Captain Blames Navy JC on Army

The Afro American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK.—Capt. Charles D. Griffin of Virginia Beach, Va., commanding officer of the aircraft carrier USS Croatan, on which 123 colored GI's were barred from sailing from Le Havre, France, blamed Army jim-crow practices for his action on arrival here Dec. 15. 12-22-45

"I told Army authorities I would prefer not to have those people aboard because I had no separate facilities for them," he said at a press conference aboard the Croatan at Pier 13, Staten Island.

No Order Issued

Capt. Griffin first categorically denied all knowledge of the reported incident, emphasizing that, although he told Army officials of his preference, he didn't "issue any order."

"I knew from conversations with Army officers that they were accustomed to separation in the Army, and I had no such facilities," the captain explained.

"Responsibility for their failure to get the men on the ship in Le Havre rests with the Port of Embarkation authorities there. I didn't say I wouldn't take them. I only made a suggestion." 12-22-45

Officers' Denials

Lt. Comdr. James T. Lillis transportation officer aboard the USS Croatan, also denied that an effort had been made to dislodge six colored soldiers who had actually arrived on the ship.

Capt. Thomas Coates, Army transportation officer on the ship denied that a colored lieutenant and six colored enlisted men aboard had been discriminated against during the trip, but recalled that both Navy officers raised the question of separating the 123 colored soldiers left behind.

Backs Officers

Lt. Richard B. Davis of Urbana, Ill., colored, confirmed both Coates and Griffin's statements that the colored soldiers were not segregated during the trip.

The six high-point colored casuals—one officer and five enlisted men—whom Army officers refused to remove, were among the 1,236 troops aboard the Croatan.

The 123 colored soldiers barred from the Croatan were put aboard the Thomas Johnson Victory, a slower ship. An investigation of the Navy discrimination at Le Havre is under way. 12-22-45

Navy to Probe Jim Crow Charge

P.M.

The Navy Dept. has promised to "investigate and take appropriate action" in the case of 123 Negro veterans who were barred from a Navy ship at Le Havre because it had no "accommodations for segregation." 12-7-45

The incident was reported by the Paris Bureau of the New York *Herald Tribune*, which said the Negroes were turned away by officers of an aircraft carrier and required to wait several days for passage to the U. S. A. abroad a Victory ship. New York, N.Y.

At Washington, the Navy emphasized that its policy is one of "no segregation." It said other Navy ships, including carriers, have brought home Negro and white officers and enlisted men quartered together. 12-7-45

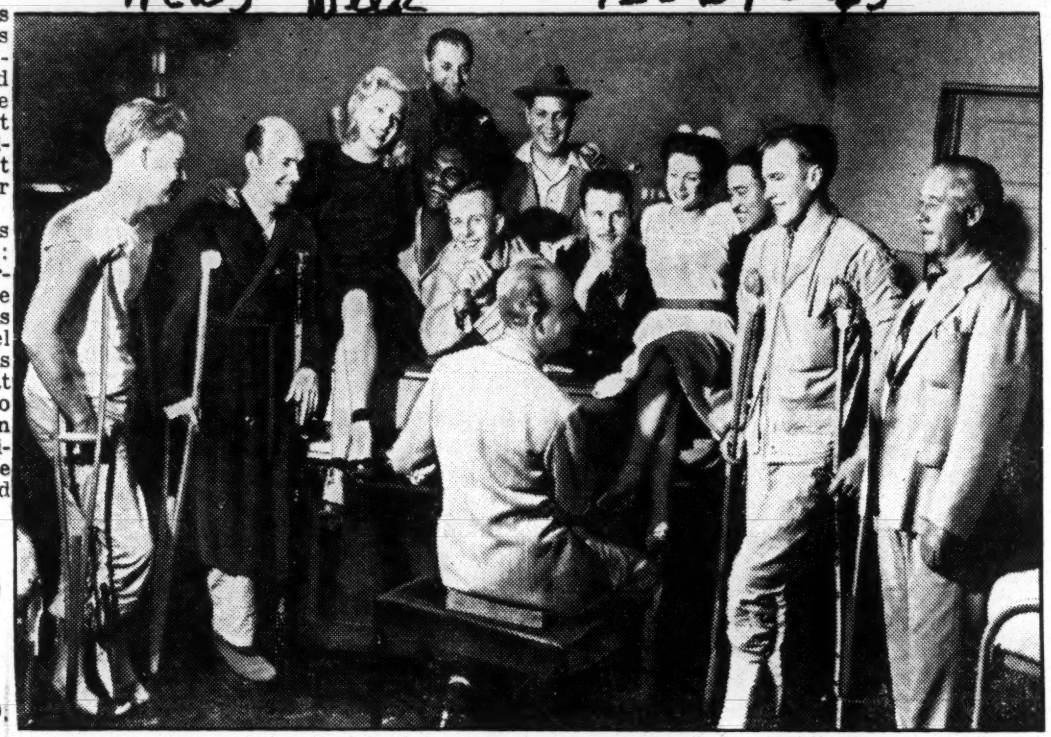
Meanwhile, a group of Toledo mothers, members of the Bring Back Daddy Club, planned to visit Washington to stage what they called a "sit-down strike" before the Senate Military Affairs Committee in a drive to get their soldier husbands home by Christmas.

Why an Army Officer Suppressed This Picture

Dear Editor:

The enclosed photograph is a prime example of a shot which made an Army public relations officer jump. The incident took place about a year ago, at a station in California. Chili Williams

News Week 12-24-45



Chili Sauce: *In a wedding of leg art and social significance, the New York newspaper PM last week ran this 1944 picture of blond Chili Williams, a model, entertaining at an Army hospital in California. The anonymous corporal who sent it in reported he had salvaged a lone print after a public-relations officer tore up the negative and two other prints because "Chili has her arm around a Negro."*

Why an Army Officer Suppressed This Picture

Dear Editor: P.M. N.Y., N.Y. 12-18-45

The enclosed photograph is a prime example of a shot which made an Army public relations officer jump. The incident took place about a year ago, at a station in California. Chili Williams visited the post hospital and an innocent photographer returned with this exposure:

The jumpy officer howled, tore up the negative and two prints. Wrong: *Chili has her arm around a Negro.* I salvaged one print.

CPL. L. R.
Phoenix, Ariz.

Directive Power Taken from Body

Baltimore, Md.

Probe of Bias in U.S. Bureaus Authorized

PROTESTS LODGED

Anti-Americans Renew Senate Drive for Permanent Committee

12-29-45

WASHINGTON.

Viewed as a last minute effort to remove the death rattle from the throat of the fundless FEPC President Truman Thursday issued an executive order converting the agency into little more than a fact-finding body.

The order empowers the committee to continue its operations beyond expiration, but removes the only "teeth" it had—the power to issue directives. 12-29-45

The agency under Mr. Truman's new order, retains authority only to "make findings and recommendations" and "report to the President."

Activities of the committee will be confined now only to "take appropriate steps to obtain eliminate" of discrimination against minority groups in employment by Federal agencies and plants producing war supplies.

Federal Agencies Warned

In addition to issuing the order clipping the power of the committee, Mr. Truman requested the heads of all Government agencies to examine their personnel practices and assure him that they are "in accord with national law and policy."

Issuance of the new executive order brought sharp protests from both proponents and opponents of the FEPC.

Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, and Dean William H. Hastie of the Howard University Law School, sharply criticized Mr. Truman's move.

The new order also resulted in a threat by Southern Democrats of an "open break" with the President. Cong. John Gibson (Dem., Ga.) terming it a "political blunder," said:

"It was just like waving a red flag in our faces. He should have left well enough alone."

Move to Pass Bill

On the other hand, issuance of the new FEPC order has stimulated a new move in the Senate to speed up passage of permanent FEPC legislation.

Though Sen. Bilbo (Dem. Miss.) immediately reiterated his threat to filibuster any such move, notice was served Friday by Sen. Dennis Chavez (Dem., N.M.) that he will seek to bring the measure of which he is one of the authors, up for Senate consideration.

The participation of Republican Senators in the proceedings Friday was regarded as the beginning of the action they recently promised to force a vote on the bill soon after Congress returns on Jan. 14.

Sen. Chavez's announcement brought charges that Democrats were scuttling President Truman's legislative program, and counter-charges that Republicans were trying to turn the Government "into the hands of a bunch of mongrels."

Amendments Offered

Amendments have been offered to the bill by Sens. Joseph H. Ball of Oregon, Wayne L. Morse of Minnesota and H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey, Republicans, to exempt from its provisions businesses employing less than 25 persons and to broaden the powers of Federal courts to review orders of the commission to cease discrimination.

Although the legislation is on President Truman's "must" list, Sen. Morse said, Democrats in the Senate have shown "little evidence of following through on the measure." He added that Republicans were now ready to debate and vote on the bill.

Since V-J Day discrimination against minority group workers in layoffs and cutbacks due to reconversion of industry is reported to have been increasing.

Because of a greatly reduced appropriation for the current fiscal year, the FEPC is almost nonexistent. Under the provisions of the National War Agencies Appropriation Act, the agency will end June 30, unless Congress passes legislation creating a permanent FEPC.

Only $63,000 Left

Of the 250,000 appropriated in the War Agencies Act, the FEPC has less than $63,000 for its operations to the end of the fiscal year.

Only three of the nation's FEPC offices are operating. They are in Chicago, St. Louis and Detroit. Seven of the agency's field offices were closed down Dec. 15 because of the lack of funds.

"It has come to my attention," the President's new directive said, "that a considerable number of loyal and qualified employees have been refused transfer and re-employment by employing agencies solely because of race and creed. This is a violation of Civil Service rules issued by the President and of existing law."

A midwest hearing, possibly in Chicago, will be conducted by the agency in February to determine the extent of discrimination in reconversion hiring.

Full Text of Order

The text of the new Executive Order continuing the work of FEPC follows:

"By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes, it is hereby ordered as follows:

"The duties and responsibilities imposed upon the Committee on Fair Employment Practice by Executive Order 8802, dated June 25, 1941, as amended by Executive Order 8823 of July 18, 1941, and by Executive Order 9346 of May 27, 1943, shall be continued thereunder for the period and subject to the conditions stated in the National War Agencies Appropriation Act, 1946, (Public Law 156, 79th Congress, 1st Session, approved July 17, 1945).

As a part of its duties the Committee shall investigate, make findings and recommendations, and report to the President, with respect to discrimination in industries engaged in work contributing to the production of military supplies or to the effective transition to a peacetime economy."

The President's letter to department heads said:

"Cutbacks in government employment have resulted in a considerable displacement of wartime workers in Washington and the field. The Civil Service Commission, in the interest of retaining capable and efficient employees wherever possible, has established a set of principles governing reduction in force and transfer of employees to peacetime activity. It has come to my attention that a considerable number of loyal and qualified employees have been refused transfer and re-employment by employing agencies solely because of race and creed. This condition is a violation of civil service rules which have been issued by the President and in violation of existing law.

"I am writing to request that you make careful analysis of your personnel policies, procedures and practices in order that you can assure me that they are in accord with national law and policy and in order that all qualified workers in existing temporary war jobs will be considered fairly for appointments without distinction because of race, creed, color or national origin.

"In addition, your full co-operation with FEPC in all matters affecting the employment of minorities in government is requested."

56d-1945

Discrimination-

Whites Superior to Natives

People's Voice N.Y., N.Y. 2-17-45

General Advises in Pamphlet

By FLORENCE MURRAY

2-17-45

How to win brown friends and influence natives is set forth in a pamphlet for consumption of American troops in New Guinea under the command of the Hero of the Pacific, General Douglas MacArthur. We wonder, however, what the natives would think of what the general thinks of them. "The native is NEARLY, IF NOT QUITE, as good a man as you are," states the pamphlet on its first page. And this theme of superiority of the American white is carried throughout the booklet, which attempts to impress the GI's mind, that regardless of the native's inferiority, his friendship must be won if he is to be kept on the side of the allies. When PV obtained a copy of the pamphlet, entitled "You and the Native," and dated February 12, 1943 (ironically Abe Lincoln's birthday), we sent the Secretary of War the following wire: "The People's Voice received a copy of "You and the Native," prepared by Allied Geographical Section, Southwest Area, dated February 12 and published by command of General MacArthur, telling white troops to "always maintain your position or pose of superiority" in dealing with the New Guinea natives. Does this represent official policy of the War Department?"

A letter came in answer to the wire from Adjutant General J. A. Ulio, saying in part: "Since theatre commanders are in positions of greatest familiarity with local conditions, the War Department leaves with them the determination of policies which are most advisable in dealing with native populations. It is presumed that in this case the commander attempted to announce a policy which would lead to the most efficient handling of a local situation."

"MAINTAIN SUPERIOR POSE"

2-17-45

"The native has always looked up to the white man. He admires him because of the marvelous things that white men at large can do—make electric torches, fly in aeroplanes, etc. He is also rather afraid of the white men, with all the power of their civilization behind them. Therefore he is rather afraid of you."

"Always therefore maintain your position or pose of superiority even if you sometimes have doubts about it. It is flattering to the vanity and in the circumstances must pay us well. As for the native he will not resent it, because he has brought it about himself and he is used to it. Do not, however, ride the high horse over him. Act rather as if you were his superior, but only slightly his superior."

As if to excuse beforehand any physical measures that the American white soldier may exert upon the native, *stoop* (italics ours) to play, he becomes "insolent," the directions state: 2-17-45

"Don't curse and swear at him either. He detests that, and it is a fair go, for if he dares to answer you back you will call it insolence and proceed to stronger measures. Remember that it is in-[illegible] to swear at a man in the first place."

The white soldier is advised that with the native, *as an adult with a child* (italics ours), for "he (the native) likes that as much as you do." "But while you play the fool," it advises, "don't forget that you have to maintain *that pose of superiority*. Don't go too far."

NO LOVE-MATCH WITH NATIVES 2-17-45

The General admits that if the woman is "not consenting" intimate relationship is rape—whether the victim be white or brown. And he warns that under the laws of New Guinea it is a hanging matter.

"But if the men are not consenting, then it is a very serious interference" the pamphlet warns, and "if the men do not seek revenge, they will clear out and take their women with them and you will lose their cooperation."

2-17-45

"But in any case," AN AFFAIR WITH A NATIVE WOMAN IS NOT A LOVE-MATCH; IT IS A DEAL. You are expected to pay."

Furthermore, we quote: "The personal risks are granuloma, gonorrhoea and (where the Japanese have got there first) syphilis."

In other words, only if the Japanese, a darker race, has got there first, is there a chance of disease. American whites, we are led to believe, are all pure and clean.

Treatment of Negro Soldiers Reflects On Natives in South Pacific Theatre

Reports Voice N.Y., N.Y. 2-17-45

In a special article for the New York Post last Thursday, Walter White, NAACP executive secretary now touring theatres of war in the South Pacific, exposed a number of cases of discrimination against Negro soldiers at our bases in that area. One extreme case led to mutiny charges being preferred against 74 men, one of them being sentenced to 17 years in prison and 68, 15 years each. Five charged with being ringleaders and two arrested later now being tried. White said that prejudiced Southern officers, who refer to Negro soldiers as "niggers," and who are guilty of actual cruelty to the men, are not to be thought of as "typical." "There are many officers," he said, "a number of them of Southern birth, who are scrupulously just in their handling of Negro troops." He went on to point out that one of the worst effects of this mishandling of Negro troops, is the effect it is having on the native population. "The prejudiced ones," White commented, "are not only seriously hurting the war effort by causing Negro troops to wonder what they are fighting for, but they are causing bewilderment among loyal Americans of Hawaiian, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Puerto Rican and Portuguese stock at the mistreatment of men because of their color.

STAR CHARGES SNUB BY CAMP COMMANDER

Chicago Defender 1-6-45

By ALFRED E. SMITH
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Lena Horne learned this week that Nazi war prisoners in Dixie must be entertained before Negro soldiers.

Clashing head-on with Army's super-Jim Crow policy, the sepia screen star halted her USO-sponsored tour of Southern camps in protest against anti-Negro bias.

Miss Horne charged that the commanding officer of Camp Robinson, in Little Rock, Ark., felt it suitable for her to entertain prisoners but flatly refused to allow her the same facilities to entertain Negro soldiers on the post.

Snubbed and Jim Crowed from Mississippi to Little Rock, Ark., after walking out in protest against the camp race bias, Miss Horne charged that the commander of the officers of the camp, Major Camp Robinson had been unusually "rude and definitely unfriendly." Graham, whom she said had attempted to make her stay pleasant Arriving in Camp Robinson early in face of official frowns, last week, Miss Horne said that she proceeded with her arrangement to entertain the camp despite an "unfriendly and uncooperative atmosphere." She stated that the commander "unfriendly and unaide assigned to her, Capt. Rasley, forgivable." was equally "unfriendly and un-

Performs For Prisoners

Miss Horne performed first before an assembly of white officers and then later before the German prisoners. She said that she learned belatedly that there were 50 colored soldiers on the post and she asked if she could entertain them.

She was told that they could be seen assembled only at their mess. Then, in company with Horace Henderson, pianist, the screen star visited the colored personnel at their early morning breakfast in their mess hall.

It was here that German prisoners, who are allowed the freedom of the post theaters where colored personnel are barred, crowded in to the annoyance of the colored soldiers.

Miss Horne said she was unable to continue and asked that they be excluded. When this was refused, she left.

Previous to coming to Little Rock her plane was grounded in Jackson, Miss.

Unable to get Pullman accommodations, Miss Horne was forced to ride by Jim Crow coach to Little Rock.

The army sent a plane to pick her up there after the row at Camp Robinson.

Speaking of the Camp Robinson incident, Miss Horne praised one of the officers of the camp, Major Graham, whom she said had attempted to make her stay pleasant in face of official frowns.

Although the post commander later called her and apologized, Miss Horne said she still considered the official conduct of the post "unfriendly and uncooperative."

She said that at all other camps the commanders were courteous and cooperative and even suspended rules to allow for inter-racial audiences at all entertainments. Only at the Robinson, the last stop, was there an "unfriendly and uncooperative atmosphere."

Miss Horne said here this week that the Camp Robinson was just an incident and said she planned to resume her entertainment tours to service posts under joint sponsorship of USO and the Hollywood Victory Committee.

Nazi Prisoners Admitted To Show But Colored Troops Shunned

Protests Humiliation

Segregate Nurses At Army POW Camp

Pittsburgh Courier

1-20-45

Pgh., Pa.

NEW YORK—Humiliation of Negro Army nurses in the presence of German prisoners, as a result of discriminatory orders issued by an officer in the Prisoner of War Camp Hospital in Florence, Ariz., was brought to the attention of the War Department by the NAACP in a letter to Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy.

The letter read: "We have received information from Florence, Ariz., that American Army nurses have been ordered by a Major Simpson to eat in a separate dining room. 1-20-45

PRISONERS OF WAR WITNESS HUMILIATION

"These nurses, we understand, are in a hospital at the Prisoner of War Camp at Florence. They feel especially humiliated and degraded because, even though in the uniform of the United States Army, they were set apart under the very noses of German war prisoners who serve as cooks and waiters in the hospital officers' mess.

"The nurses felt their humiliation so keenly that on the first day the order was supposed to take effect they seated themselves in their old stations in the dining room whereupon Major Simpson called the chief nurse and publicly told her that the separate arrangement had been instituted because it was the way he wanted it and the nurses must obey because they were in the Army and had sworn to obey orders of their superior officers.

ARMY NOT ANXIOUS TO INCREASE NURSES

"The German prisoners, of course, looked on this scene with great glee, and the Negro nurses went to their jim crow dining room boiling mad.

"We understand from announcements from Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General United States Army, that the Army is not anxious to increase the number of Negro nurses, but if incidents like the foregoing illustrate Army policy, I am sure you can understand that Negro nurses in their turn are not anxious to serve in the Army."

10,000 Strong!

Natives Boycott Buses and Trams

Pgh. Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

By GEORGE PADMORE

Courier War Correspondent

LONDON—Aroused by the Johannesburg race riots and the burning of the Bantu World, newspaper, 10,000 natives began the new year by staging a sit-down strike. The Africans refused to patronize municipal buses and trams as a protest against the killing of a native by a European tram driver five weeks ago.

Seventeen native lorrie owners then organized an emergency transport service, enabling Africans to travel to their jobs. As an effort to block this makeshift service, the transport board called owners of the lorries in and demanded that they give reason why they were carrying passengers when the petrol issued them was for other purposes. 1-20-45

CATER TO AFRICANS

The board then withdrew the petrol allowance, but the natives organized an emergency transport committee, giving drivers power to operate fleet horse-drawn vehicles. They cater only to Africans.

Finding that natives were not getting to their war jobs because of the strike, officials appealed to the government to reduce the fares. They were told that the government "wouldn't be cajoled by illegal action of natives, but promised to investigate their grievances."

Army Admits Point System Unfair to Negro

Philadelphia Tribune

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)— The Army had admitted its point-discharge system is unfair to Negroes, according to a question-and-answer story appearing in Newspaper PM last week. Pa.

PM states complaints of unfairness and discrimination have been piling up ever since the Army started its demobilization under the point system. One of its reporters took a series of questions to the War Department and asked that the uncertainty be cleared up. One of the questions was: 7-28-

"Isn't it unfair to Negro soldiers that they are unable to earn discharge credits with combat stars—five points each — because for the most part they are on non-combat duty?"

The answer was: "Of course, it is unfair. The vast majority of Negro troops are in service groups and work battalions which are below the level at which non-combat soldiers can earn battle stars. 7-28-45 The fact that Negroes are in these groups is traceable to the Army policy, only partly broken down in this war, of retaining Negro personnel in non-combat echelons. Incidentally, this complaint is echoed by white soldiers in similar service battalions.

Bar Negro Gls In Army Institute

Northwest Herald

4-24-45

Seattle, Wash.

WASHINGTON—That the "whites only" policy of the war department is still being practiced is further evidenced in an official notice posted recently in the European Theatre of Operations calling for enlisted men who wish to fill vacancies in the United States Armed Forces institute.

Dated Feb. 25 and signed by Lt.

Star Quits Dixie Camp

Pittsburgh Courier — Pgh. Pa.

'Officer Slammed Door In My Face,' Lena Says

1-20-45

WASHINGTON—The War Department expects an early report of the Army investigation of the difficulties which Lena Horne, star of stage, screen and radio, ran into at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark., while on an entertainment tour of Southern camps, an authoritative source said last Saturday.

Miss Horne made her charges of rude treatment to the Hollywood Victory Committee and the USO which were responsible for her tour. She said her reception at Camp Robinson was cool and the special service officer there was rude to her and slammed a door in her face. 1-20-45

According to her version of the incident, no arrangements had been made for her appearance. While entertaining white troops on the post, she said, she noticed admissions were being charged and no colored soldiers were in the audience.

Upon inquiry, she said, she was told admissions were charged to keep civilians out of the post theatres and that there were only 50 colored soldiers on the post and they would be reached later during her tour of the post.

She said she discovered at a USO Center in Little Rock that the colored soldiers did not know she was appearing at the camp. The next day she insisted that a piano be sent to the mess hall of the colored troops and she put on a full show for them at breakfast. White civilians drifted in during her performance but left after breakfast was served, she said. Upon seeing German prisoners of war in the audience, she refused to continue the tour of the post.

After she left the post, she said, a Service Club hostess called her to say the commanding officer wanted her to return to the post to discuss the matter, but she replied no discussion was necessary, at every other post or camp she had seen the commanding officer first, and she was returning to Hollywood.

In Wacs' Case

Col. Crandall Loses Post

Pgh., Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

4-28-45

WASHINGTON—Col. Walter M. Crandall, commanding officer of Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass., who was accused of making prejudicial remarks to colored Wacs assigned to that installation, will be relieved of his command, a War Department source has revealed.

At the request of the First Service Command, it was learned, Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, surgeon general, has been asked to designate another officer as commanding officer of Lovell General Hospital. 4-28-45

Colonel Crandall has been granted a month's leave of absence, and it is not expected that he will return to Lovell.

WACS TESTIFY

During the trial of four Wacs at Fort Devens in March for disobeying an order of a superior officer, the Wacs testified in their defense that Colonel Crandall said he did not want "black Wacs" in the motor pool nor as medical technicians. They quoted him as saying:

"They are here to mop walls, scrub floors, and do all the dirty work."

Pvt. Mary E. Green, Conroe, Tex., said the statements were made about twenty-four hours before she and fifty-three other Wacs went on a sit-down strike because they were allegedly being discriminated against in type of work and opportunity for training.

Her statements were corroborated by Pvt. Alice Young, Washington, D. C., a former Government employee. 4-28-45

FOUR SENTENCED

All of the Wacs involved were working as orderlies in the hospital. The four who refused to obey a direct order of Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles, commanding general of the First Service Command, were convicted of violating the Sixty-fourth Article of War and were ordered dishonorably discharged from the Army and sentenced to serve one year at hard labor.

Three of the cases were voided on the ground that the court-martial lacked jurisdiction and the fourth was disapproved in the interest of uniformity as the result of a decision by the Judge Advocate General that General Miles was disqualified to appoint the court-martial because he had brought the charges. All of them have been restored to duty.

Army Refusing To Enlist Any More Race Pilots

The Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

12-29-45

NORFOLK — Roger Lomax Matthews, son of Mrs. Blanche Matthews, 755 Avenue A, Norfolk, has been informed by the War Department that his application for admission to the Army Air Corps has been turned down in accodrance with a directive prohibiting the enlistment of "Negro personnel" for aircrew or pilot training.

The 17-year-old student is a senior at Booker T. Washington High School and will be eligible for induction into the armed services next month.

He first applied for Air Corps on Nov. 2, 1945, to the Third Service Command in Baltimore, Md. 2-24-45

A native of New York, young Matthews has resided in Norfolk most of his life.

TEXT OF NOTICE

The notice that his application was rejected was forwarded this week from Langley Field, Va., by 1st Lt. Robert E. Noziglia, assistant adjutant, "for the commanding officer."

The communication read:

"(1) Application for pilot training is returned without action.

"(2) WD circular 221 dated 23 July, 1945, specifically excludes Negro applicants for aircrew training. Instructions received from headquarters, AAF, Washington, directs that the Negro pilot training will terminate when the present student load in the basic and advanced phases of pilot training graduate."

56d-1945

From the M. E.

Army vs. Democracy

Since Pearl Harbor, the War Dept.'s first line of defense for Jim Crow discrimination in the armed services has been the argument that wartime is not the time for social experimentation. P.M.

Well, the war is over now.

If you want to do something about it, you might write Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War, and tell him that the time has come for the Army to end its own social experiment of trying to impose the brutish social viewpoints of a backward South on men from all over the country. 10-21-45

You might remind him that the army of a democracy can only destroy the democracy it is supposed to defend if it continues to repudiate the fundamental democratic principle of equality of citizenship.

You can address him at the Pentagon Bldg., Washington. N.Y.

—JOHN P. LEWIS.

Army Jimcrow Condemns GIs To Role of Forgotten Men

Washington Tribune Washington, D.C.

10-16-45

By JOE SHEPARD

The fate confront thousands of Negro servicemen relegated to "non-combat" service as a result of Army jimcrow policies was spotlighted this week following a protest signed by 920 of the "forgotten men" of the 1310th Engineers.

The story of the 1310th was made public by New York's Rep. Adam Clayton Powell after he had sent a wire to Secretary of War Patterson describing the plight of the unit.

Representative Powell's wire was based upon the content of the protest which disclosed that the 27-month-old unit had spent 21 of these months overseas.

During that time they ducked buzz-bombs and also attacks while constructing vital installations in England, hit the beaches under fire at Normandy, and kept the front line infantry supplied during their drive across France. 10-16-45

In their spare time they built hospitals for the wounded and guarded German prisoners. At all times they did the tasks assigned them conscientiously and skillfully.

Three months after V-E Day they found themselves aboard ship, heading by direct route for the Pacific in one of the longest troop movements in history.

News of the Japanese surrender found them still on the high seas and halfway on their journey around the world. Thirty-seven days from the time that they left the ETO they landed in Manila, after having covered nearly 16,000 miles.

An Excerpt

What follows is an excerpt from what the 920 "forgotten men" of the 1310th—80 less than a battalion—wrote:

"We have been on these islands since then and we have been idle here as we have been for the past three months.

"We hesitate to introduce into this plea—a plea of human beings for human justice—the subject of color, but it is a vital issue of our story. Because we were Negro troops we were indiscriminately created engineers. Because we were Negro troops we have had to fight with our emotions, with our mentalities and even with our fists the age-old battle of the prejudice of men of one color against men of another.

"Humiliating Experiences"

"We have had to undergo the most humiliating experiences, not only from those without, but also from those within our organization. The white soldier fought Hitler and Hirohito. We fought Hitler, Hirohito and all their stooges who infest our ranks—officers and enlisted men.

"We are weary of this battle against forces which often seem stronger than we will ever be. We are still facing these conditions here in the Philippines. We are resolved that we will not submit to degredation and humiliation and we know, because of that resolve, that the hazard of death still faces us although the flag of surrender has been raised. 10-16-45

"Our morale is non-existent, our spirit is whipped and our hearts are full with the longing for home, the kind words and the gentle touch of those we love.

"We believe in obeying orders and we do not believe in making idle threats, but we know that we are on the road to some great tragedy if something is not done—and soon—to improve our condition.

"We are appealing to you, the hope of thirteen million black Americans, the proponent of justice for one hundred and thirty million—the champion of the hundreds of millions of colored peoples throughout the world—to bring our case before those who will listen, consider and render justice. 10-16-45

"Many Over Age"

"There are a large number of men among us who are over the age limit proscribed for discharge. There are many among us who qualify under the high-point system. There are a large number of us with disabilities and illness and those of us who have pressing personal and emergency problems of finance and domestic life which make it imperative that we see once again—and soon—the shores of our native land.

"We appreciate what the armed forces are doing to demobilize men, but in frankness and honesty, we do not believe enough is being done for us and thousands like us with long and loyal service and the qualifications for being freed to return to civilian life.

"May share in the realization of the fruits of the peace."

Tell Southern Vet Delegation Gen. Bradley Opposes Jimcrow

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Col. R. T. McDonnell, assistant to Veterans' Administration chief Gen. Omar N. Bradley, told an inter-racial group of veterans today that "the general is against discrimination."

Policy is being formulated now on some of the chief complaints discussed by the vets, McDonnell told them—as related later by the veterans, all of whom represented the Southern Negro Youth Congress. They were interviewed by reporters at the National Negro Women's Congress headquarters. 10-20-45

This is the first inter-racial group to protest to Gen. Bradley, but many Negro groups have been to see him about the inadequate and Jimcrow servicing of veterans in hospitals. The southerners told how inadequate the provisions for Negro veterans are. One all-Negro hospital in Tuskegee is available and four Negro wards in other hospitals which are staffed with Negro nurses but Negro doctors

In Atlanta, for instance, there are only two beds for Negro vets, called emergency beds., If they are filled a vet no matter how ill must travel to Tuskegee, a matter of six hours by car. 10-20-45

The delegation included Lucia Pitts, Negro WAC, Frank Hale, Negro Navy pharmacist, Alvin McNeil, of Jackson, Miss., Negro Army private, and Malcolm Dobbs, second lieutenant and holder of a DSC and Purple Heart with oak leaf clusters, and Lt. Carey Eldridge, of the Navy, of Chapel Hill, N. C., both white.

After the interview the four southern men joined the picket line in front of Sen. Theodore Bilbo's home initiated by the Purple-Heart veteran, Edward Bykowski, who resented Bilbo's racist incitations.

The inter-racial group planned to visit congressmen and let them know that 75 per cent of the Negro inductees were from the south, with from 700,000 to 800,000 veterans scheduled to return there.

From the Readers

The PM New York

Nonfraternization In the U. S. A.

New York 10-22-45

Dear Editor:

I received a telephone call in my office one Friday afternoon. It was from a friend of mine, a WAC, who had just come back from overseas duty to be separated from the service. Since the weather was not too good, we decided to meet at a place in Wrightstown for our little chat.

Wrightstown is just outside the gate at Fort Dix. During the course of the conversation another patron at the bar called me over to tell me that I was about to be "ganged." I thanked her for the information, looked around, and to be sure, I saw hostile faces not only inside the building, but outside the building. For the next few minutes, both my guest and myself were annoyed with insulting remarks made from time to time by some of the patrons of this bar. But what "topped the cake" was the entrance of three members of the Military Police.

The Sergeant in charge ordered us both to return to our barracks which we refused to do, pending the reason for such an order. We were then informed that we had violated the fraternization order. Since we refused to leave, he threatened to bring the MP officer to eject us. We promised him that we would wait.

Later the MP officer appeared in the doorway. After listening for a few seconds to what was going on, he offered to escort us home—an offer which we accepted in order to avoid any violence, because by this time a formidable group had gathered and trouble appeared to be brewing.

When I asked him just what the fraternization order stated, he said: "It states that blacks and whites won't mix."

I informed him that the fraternization order had even been abolished in Germany, but that made no impression on his mind. As far as he was concerned it was in effect in America.

You see, I, Sgt. James Moss was black, and my guest, the WAC, was white.

SGT. JAMES MOSS

Fort Dix, N. J.

Navy Uses Negroes but Not on an Equal Basis

P.M.

Urban League Official Reports on Discrimination

N.Y., N.Y.

By Charles A. Michie
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—The U. S. Navy is kindly allowing Negro Americans indoors these days—but they still have to use the servant's entrance.

11-2-45

That's the sum total of a report made to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal by Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, who just has returned from a tour of Navy bases in the Pacific to view first-hand conditions of Negro sailors.

Granger made it clear at a press conference yesterday that Navy policy has been revised radically in the right direction in the past few years, but that there still remains a lot to be done before Negroes are accepted on an equal basis with whites.

He gave great credit to ship commanders who display little or no discrimination aboard ship, but shore bases, he said, are something else again. Most serious handicap to Negroes in the Navy is lack of Negro officers, he added. He met only a dozen or so in a month in the Pacific theater.

Morale Problem

There are 45,000 Negro servicemen shore-based at Navy installations in the Pacific, Granger said in his report to Forrestal.

"On the whole," he declared, "the morale of Negro seamen is about the same as among whites. They both want to come home; they're both bored and homesick. But conditions are intensified among Negroes. They are inclined to exaggerate conditions of discrimination."

11-2-45

Granger said he found plenty of instances of discrimination during his trip, most of it due to the personal feelings of some "not so intelligent" commanding officers.

The highest morale among Negroes in the Navy is on vessels of the fleet and at air fields, Granger reported. Careful pains are taken on both to avoid discrimination and "there is a minimum of difficult."

He took occasion to blast the policy aboard the Boreas, a refrigerator ship he visited at Pearl Harbor, where the mixed crew showed considerable "strain" and where a definite effort was made to maintain segregation.

The reason for low morale among Negroes in Seabee groups was that headquarters detachments were all white and the stevedore crews were all Negro.

The Final Answer

"Somewhere between the best and the worst are the Marines," he said. "There they have strict segregation." He said that of five Negroes sent to Officer Candidate School of the Marine Corps, not one received a commission. Resentment among Negroes in the Marines against this obvious discriminatory ruling is running high, he said. Negroes are not even allowed to re-enlist in the Marines in the Pacific, he added.

Granger also said there was intense competition among all shore-based Navy personnel in the Pacific for the attention of native women.

"And now they're worried about what's happening at home," he declared. "They are irritated by strikes and the slowness of Congress in doing anything toward reconversion. They're also worried by increasing civilian indifference toward what will happen to them when they come home. The final answer to the whole problem of a democratic Navy is the abolition of all types of segregation," he said.

Charge Benning Ignores Orders

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

11-28-45

WASHINGTON—In violation of War Department Order No. 97, the commanding officer at Fort Benning, Ga., has allowed rigid jim crow practices against Negro soldiers, it was charged here last week by the NAACP in a letter to Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson.

The NAACP letter charged that Negro soldiers 'have been bodily thrown out of the camp cafteria" and that in the soda shop they may only purchase ice cream cones to take out. Other charges are:

Negro soldiers are discouraged from using the main post theater which is a modern, air conditioned building seating 1,500 persons: a small 409 seat auditorium on a segregated basis is the only place they can use for viewing motion pictures; theater Number 3 which seats nearly 1,100 persons is entitled closed to them.

SMALL BUILDING

The only service club available to the 3,000 Negro troops is a small building inconveniently located in the woods. After a two-year delay cafeteria facilities were finally obtained last year. The facilities were in operation for one month when the PX which obtained control of service club sales on food and drinks closed it. As the PX does not serve Negro soldiers. soft drinks have been available to these men only through machines.

Negro soldiers are not allowed to ride in the camp's all-white bus system and Negro officers have been forcibly ejected from them The bus system set up for Negroes usese a different route from the reuglar bus line, and, while white buses run every twenty minutes, Negro buses are not able to keep even an hourly schedule. They may not use the main bus station.

In post headquarters there are separate sanitary facilities for Negroes and whites 11-28-45

The NAACP requested an immediate investigation and a correction of the conditions. A protest was sent simultaneously to President Truman.

"ACTING ON ORDERS"

The questioner then asked why the "jim-crowed" sleeping arrangements couldn't have been sprinkled throughout the companies of all three student battalions rather than have all colored confined to one company on the campus. He was told that there was the "little matter" of "administration," especially that as related to a venereal disease rate check specifically requested to be kept on colored troops. 12-22-45

The captain excused all other questions by saying he was acting on orders from higher authorities.

al Students Segregated

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

LONDON—The U. S. Army even segregates Negro students attending the Army's Shrivenham American University, in England. The 119 colored GIs attending the university are concentrated into one company of the first of three battalions.

A company commander, Captain Yandell, when questioned by one of the colored students, said Negroes were given separate sleeping facilities "in order to minimize racial friction." This is being done, although most of the 4,035 white students hail from Northern States in America. 12-22-45

British Club 'Off Limits' To Tan Yanks

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

PARIS—High Army officials here have received a complaint from 181 members of the 500th Port Battalion. The complaint charges that the NAAPI Club in Antwerp, a British establishment commonly known as the 21 Club, has been placed "off limits" to Negro troops, although Tan Yanks have been admitted on other occasions.

The battalion is stationed about ten miles outside Antwerp.

Upon arriving at the club, Nov. 30, several of the troops said an American military policeman met them at the door and informed them that it was "the wishes" of the British members that Negro troops be barred from this club, and that it had been placed off limits to all Negro troops."

The MP backed up his statement with a signed order, the protesting soldier declared.

The soldiers said they had been attending the club for the past two years. 12-23-45

The Tan Yanks were even more indignant because the club was declared off limit to Negroes only.

Military Jim Crow Rapped

The Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — A scathing denunciation of America's jim crow policy during World War II was made here last week by Monroe Sweetland, an American Red Cross field supervisor who served 23 months in the Pacific war theater.

12-16-45

The segregation of Negroes in separate army and navy units was a "tragic blunder in the policy of a democratic nation," he said, and emphasized that no such discrimination was practiced against Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Chinese, Koreans, American Indians or citizens of Japanese extraction.

He has never seen or heard of a single incident engendered thru "pan-racial" policies, he remarked in citing numerous examples of non-segregation in Red Cross activities. Red Cross hospitals libraries, canteens, recreational facilities and athletic tournaments were conducted on non-discriminatory basis by white and Negro supervisors, he said. 12-16-45

Jim Crow Won In Pacific War

P.M.

12-12-45

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Monroe Sweetland, who served 23 months in the Pacific war theater as American Red Cross field supervisor, yesterday condemned both the Army and Navy for their undemocratic policy with respect to Negro troops.

He termed the segregation of Negro personnel in separate Army and Navy units as a "tragic blunder in the policy of a democratic Nation," and emphasized that no such discrimination was practiced against Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Chinese, Koreans, American Indians, or citizens of Japanese extraction.

New York, N.Y.

Sweetland cited numerous examples of non-segregation in Red Cross activities and emphasized that he never had seen or heard of a single incident engendered through this "pan-racial" policy. Hospital libraries, canteens, recreational facilities, and athletic tournaments were all conducted on non-discriminatory basis by both white and Negro supervisors.

The Army-Navy segregation policy was particularly tragic, Sweetland said, in the light of the experience of the Nisei interpreters who lived and fought with every Army and Marine combat unit in his theater. He stated that in his opinion every soldier returning from that theater would fight any mistreatment of this group in the U. S. A., and he added that this would also have been true in the case of Negroes if the Army and Navy had employed intregated units in that theater to a similar extent.

Sweetland added a footnote to his statement when he noted that in the 90 days he had worked in a hospital in Okinawa, he never had known a wounded soldier to inquire as to the source of blood plasma being used for transfusions.

5bd-
-1945

[redacted] Discrimination

Jim Crow Prevents "Rochester" From Army Tour With Jack Benny

Atlanta (Ga) Daily World

Letter From Orson Welles Reveals Point

HOLLYWOOD — (ANP) — Jim crow is the real reason why "Rochester" did not make a tour of the various fronts with Jack Benny.

That information was disclosed in a recent letter to Jack Benny by Orson Welles in which Welles pointed out how Benny informed a general that he and "Rochester," Eddie Anderson, were friends.

Said the Welles letter:

"A friend of ours who's toured with you tells me that a general asked you that question ('why doesn't Jack take Rochester?') in North Africa and that you answered something like this:

HE'S A NEGRO

"Well, I'll tell you sir, Rochester would like to come and I know the boys would like to see him but you would like to see him but you see, general, he's a Negro."

"The general said he couldn't see why Rochester should be embarrassed. 'Suppose he were here, for instance,' said the general. 'We could put him up very comfortably in the Negro barracks. He'd get every consideration.'

"Then, our friend says, you told the general very politely, why that wouldn't do at all. 'Rochester is a part played by Eddie Anderson,' you said. 'Rochester is my servant but Eddie Anderson is a member of my troupe. We've worked together and lived together for years. When Eddie's with me, I don't go any place he isn't allowed to go. That means that if you didn't invite him here to the officers' mess for dinner, I couldn't come either. I'd have to stick with Eddie because we're friends, and that's the way it is.'

GENERAL SURPRISED

"You mean,' said the general, 'that Rochester would expect to eat and sleep in the same places that you do?'

8-3-45

'I mean that I'd expect him to,' you told the general, and that ended the conversation.

"Jack, I'm writing you to ask the general's question and the GI's question all over again: 'Jack, where's Rochester?'

NEGRO PEOPLE WRONGED

"Without meaning to at all, you and Eddie have been doing the Negro people a grave wrong. These gags about gin-drinking and crap-shooting are usually good gags, and Eddie makes them sound hilarious, but through the years they've helped perpetuate a dangerous myth. You and I and Eddie know very well tha orgeN tswher ief very well that Negroes aren't chronically irresponsible stooges born to shine shoes and steal neckties. But Rochester is one of your most valuable comic properties and it's Eddie's livelihood.

"I'm not asking either of you to give up Rochester, I'm suggesting that you put him to work in a good cause. You can undo all the harm you've done innocently at home by very deliberately taking him overseas.

8-3-45

"Sure it's easy for me to sit here by my typewriter and ask you and Eddie to endure all the strain. It's easy, but you and Eddie are the kind of men it's easy to ask a lot because you give a lot without taking any bows. Here's a chance to give more."

Welles extended his love "to Mary," then signed off.

White Soldiers Denounce Jim Crow

The Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 9-15-45

Two letters, recently published in "Yank" magazine, are so filled with brotherhood and democracy, the Black Dispatch feels they should be elevated to our editorial column. We want our readers to note these letters, written by white soldiers who have fought for the past several months beside Negro troopers, and who feel jim crow ought to die at home just as it died on the battlefield under the barrage of death.

Truly there are profits in war when the heart of a Mississippian can be touched and tempered as indicated by this message from a Southern youth taught from childhood to hate black people.

The letters follow:

* * * * * *

Dear Yank:

I received a copy of your magazine and read that the AMG is letting the Germans go back to school. After that I read in the Mail Call about the jim crow treatment of colored American soldiers.

Now I am from Mississippi. Until I came into the Army I hated Negroes. It wasn't anything they did to me; I just didn't like them. Since I have been in the ETO I have fought from D-Day to V-E Day with Negro soldiers. I was wounded twice in one foxhole and a Negro saved my life by using his first aid kit on me. Then he carried me to where a doctor could work on me. This was under heavy fire. Later he died. He was from New York and he knew I was from the South where he had no freedom.

Many Negro soldiers have died on the front for American soldiers who thought jim crow was right. So if Germans can have freedom after they have caused so much suffering and destruction, why not let the Negro race have what they fought for? I feel that they should, and a lot of Southern GIs feel the same way.

Germany. T-SGT. WILLIE JONES.

* * * * * *

Dear Yank:

The other night we had a jam session with some colored boys from a Quartermaster trucking outfit quartered near us. This morning we were read an order which prohibits us to associate with the colored troops "except on business."

A colored tank outfit fought side by side with this regiment clear to Steyer, Austria, and we were never ordered not to fight alongside the American troops of the colored race, so why should we be forbidden to associate with other American soldiers because of color?

Germany. PVT. DAVID ICHESON.

Navy Racism

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

THE Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army and Navy, President Truman, and Secretary of the Navy Forrestal should not have to be told their duty in the case of the Negro quartermaster company and the aircraft carrier Croatan. This company of 123 high-point veterans, according to a Herald Tribune story Wednesday, was refused passage at Le Havre because, as the carrier's commander explained, over the protest of Army officers, the Navy's general policy was "not to mix the races."

It should not be necessary to tell Mr. Truman and Mr. Forrestal that their duties are to investigate that incident, fix the blame and punish the guilty.

We take the liberty of reminding these officials of their duty because, knowing that they have been so busy of late shouting for democratic practices in other countries, they might overlook this episode in their own.

Speaking of reminders, may we remind the President and the Secretary of the Navy to remind the officers commanding the Croatan of these pertinent facts: that it has been the Navy's official and announced policy since 1943 to "mix" Negro and White personnel; that examples of this "mixing" are shown on the Hawaiian Island of Ohhu, where there is the Kaneohe naval air base; on Treasure Island in San Francisco Harbor, and on certain ships, specifically the refrigerator ship Arctic, at Pearl Harbor. At all these places Negro and white personnel, men and women, have mixed in all relationships, work and social.

The people expect the Navy to enforce its non-discrimination policy and to punish those who violate it.

ST. LOUIS CITIZENS ACT FOR LOCAL FEPC SETUP

The Worker N.Y., N.Y. 12-9-45

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Negro and white residents of this city in an emergency meeting last Sunday formed an inter-racial committee "for minority rights" to campaign for passage of the Caston Fair Employment Practice Ordinance.

The measure, known officially as Aldermanic Bill No. 242 and introduced into the St. Louis Board of Aldermen by Jasper C. Caston, Rep., Sixth Ward, provides a $500 fine for discrimination because of race or creed or color in hiring or firing or job grading.

Approximately 125 Negro and white representatives of labor fraternal, civic, professional and religious organizations, meeting in the Central YMCA, formed the committee. John Rossen, presiding, emphasized the importance of the measure as guarding the job rights of all persons during the city's reconversion program. 12-9-45

Oliver Thornton, well-known official of the Elks, heads the continuation committee of 28 members. He announced that the group meet within a few days at the Caston FEPO headquarters, 1041 N. Grand Blvd.

LILY WHITE FLAG DEAD AHEAD!

Chicago Defender

Jim Crow Drops Anchor At Maritime 'USO

Chicago, Ill.

By THYRA EDWARDS
(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK—Jim Crow has established beachheads in merchant marine recreation centers throughout the country from San Francisco to Baltimore.

The growing lily-white policy of the United Seamen's service was blasted this week by Oliver Boutte, Jim Drury and Clyde Gannaway, port agents at San Pedro, Calif., San Francisco, Calif. and Mobile, Ala., respectively.

The USS was launched in 1942 by the maritime unions, ship operators and War Shipping administration to provide recreation and residence facilities for merchant seamen. The organization operates much as the USO serves the armed forces.

9-8-45

Policy Sabotaged

The USS constitution guaranteed equal accommodations to all seamen regardless of politics, race or religion in all of its 130 facilities, including 21 residential clubs, 10 recreational lounges and seven rest centers in U. S. ports.

Local representatives were recruited as board members and local advisory committees set up to implement the program in each port. Through the manipulation of these local groups the national policy of equality has been deliberately sabotaged—so far, with passive acceptance from the national office, of which Douglas Faulkner is executive director.

In the Los Angeles USS local, anti-Negro, anti-Semetic, anti-Mexican and anti-labor Municipal Judge Leroy Dawson was recommended for board membership by Executive Director Van Buscurk. Judge Dawson is reputed to spend his spare time working over suspects in the city jail, wringing "confessions" from them by the well-known rubber hose method.

Movie Star's Wife Anti-Negro

In this same area, Mrs. Pat O'Brien, wife of the movie actor, and chairman of the USS recreation committee, ejected all Negro hostesses building up a hostess unit inhospitable to Negro seamen. San Francisco presents a similar situation.

9-8-45

In New Orleans seamen share identical facilities in the National Maritime Union hall and aboard ship, but return to port to be housed Jim Crow De Luxe in two separate buildings side by side, one for Negroes, one for whites. In Mobile, Ala. separate residences are under way in seperated locations.

In Baltimore, a busy port with many Negro seamen shipping, USS facilities are exclusively for white. Philadelpha, locally a Jim Crow town, and New York are cited as examples of complete racial integration in all the facilities.

Say Negroes Ask Segregation

At the National Headquarters of the USS at 39 Broadway, New York City a staff member admitted that once a separate facility is set up the tendency is to use it as an example and an excuse for extending the practice in other localities.

In some areas, they say, the Negro advisory committee requests separate facilities. According to the National Office, the USS will not set up separate, Jim Crow facilities where the Negro advisory committee resists.

"The State of Louisiana and the City of Norfolk are the only localities in the U. S. with laws against housing Negroes and whites jointly," this executive said. "The local committees have not chosen to take up the fight to repeal these laws."

Seamen Don't Object

9-8-45

Objections to joint facilities in all cases have arisen from the local people who do not use the facilities. In no case have the seamen for whom the service is operated raised objections to sharing them with any seamen.

Joe Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, is national vice president of USS. At the union's convention in New York City recently seamen demanded that Curran take these complaints before the national board of USS and get a housecleaning.

Members of the National Negro Advisory Committee of USS include Dr. Channing Tobias, Judge Hubert T. Delany, Judge William Hastie, Roy Wilkins, Max Yergan, Lester Granger and Ferdinand Smith.

Army Jimcrow Kept 'Rochester' From Touring With Jack Benny

By ANN SEYMOUR

Jimcrow prevented Eddie (Rochester) Anderson from joining Jack Benny on his recent eight-week entertainment tour of the European fronts.

The details of this shocking act of discrimination against the popular Negro actor are disclosed in a letter sent to Jack Benny by Orson Welles.

Said the Welles letter in part:

"A friend of ours who toured with you tells me that a general asked why you did not take Rochester with you to North Africa and you answered something like this:

"'Well, I'll tell you, sir. Rochester would like to come and I know the boys would like to see him but you see, General, he's a Negro.'

EDDIE ANDERSON

"The General said he couldn't see why Rochester should be embarrassed, 'Suppose he was here, for instance,' said the General, 'We could put him up very comfortably in the Negro barracks. He'd get every consideration.'

"Then, our friend says, you told the General very politely, why that wouldn't do at all. 'Rochester is a part played by Eddie Anderson,' you said, 'Rochester is my servant but Eddie Anderson is a member of my troupe. We've worked together and lived together for years. When Eddie's with me, I don't go any place he isn't allowed to go. That means that if you didn't invite him here to the officers' mess for dinner, I couldn't come either. I'd have to stick with Eddie because we're friends, and that's the way it is.'

"'You mean,' said the General, 'that Rochester would expect to eat and sleep in the same places that you do?'

"'I mean that I'd expect him to,' you told the General, and that ended the conversation.

"Jack, I'm writing you to ask the General's question and the GI's question all over again: 'Jack, where's Rochester?'

"Without meaning to at all, you and Eddie have been doing the Negro people a grave wrong. The gags about gin drinking and crap-shooting are usually good gags, and Eddie makes them sound hilarious, but through the years they've helped perpetuate a dangerous myth. You and I and Eddie know very well that Negroes aren't chronically irresponsible stooges born to shine shoes and steal neckties. But Rochester is one of your most valuable comic properties and it's Eddie's livelihood.

JACK BENNY

"I'm not asking either of you to give up Rochester. I'm suggesting that you put him to work in a good cause. You can undo all the harm you've done innocently at home by very deliberately taking him overseas."

Congressional Medal Of Honor Given No Negro

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
12-15-45

NEW YORK — Declaring that President Truman has awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor "litreally in batches" to white heroes of the war, The Crisis magazine remarks editorially that it seems "strange to Negro Americans" that not one out of nearly a million of their men in the service have won the nation's highest honor. The editorial in the December issue entitled "Not One Out of a Million," follows:

12-15-45

"Brave white heroes in our armed services have been awarded the nation's highest decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor, literally in batches by President Truman. The Crisis would not take one ounce of credit from these men whose citations suggest that the honor they have won, high as it is, is not adequate thanks for their sacrifices and heroism. Yet it does seem strange to Negro Americans that out of the nearly one million of their men in the armed services not one should have performed in such a manner as to be cited for the Congressional Medal of Honor."

56d-1945

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
PM
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912

JUL 1 - 1945

LETTERS

From the Editor

On the Anti-Semitism Story

Had an interesting conversation this afternoon with a friend of the paper's about our story of last Sunday on anti-Semitism in the Army and Navy. The story was the one in which we charged that until two months ago soldiers and sailors were taught officially by the U. S. Armed Forces Institute that the genuine American is essentially Nordic, preferably Protestant—and that the Jew is an offensive fellow unwelcome in this country.

Our story said that the anti-Semitism was taught in a USAFI correspondence course in College English. As part of this course, students were given an anti-Semitic chapter from a book written by Andre Siegfried and asked to sum up his ideas.

We gave the story a big play and headlined it *Army, Navy Taught Aryanism until 2 Months Ago.* We explained down in the story that the course containing the lesson in anti-Semitism was listed in the USAFI catalog issued in March, 1944. We quoted the USAFI's spokesman as saying that the outfit began moving in October, 1944, toward eliminating this material, but made the point that we knew of one soldier who received it as late as April, 1945.

Later in the week we learned that a soldier in Maryland, enrolled in the course had received the anti-Semitic material as late as the week of June 17. So we printed that, and apologized for having accepted at face value the USAFI's statement that the material had been withdrawn.

Our friend called up to talk about the story after he had spoken to an Army officer in the Army Division of Information and Education in Washington under which USAFI operates.

He said his talk with the officer had raised these principal points:

Hats Off!

Hats off to Sen. Harley M. Kilgore and to his committee investigating Germany's war potential (see editorial on page 2, chart on page 3 and story on page 4). His investigation already has unearthed an amazing story of German industrialists' plans to prepare for World War III, and to finance German underground activities against the Allies.

That our publication amounted to an advertisement that the Army sanctioned anti-Semitism as a matter of Army policy, whereas this course was not Army policy, but a blunder.

That our story, while technically correct, conjured up in the reader's mind a picture of every soldier being taught anti-Semitism, although only 2609 actually had received the course. (We reported this fact as soon as we learned it, on Friday.)

That the emphasis and play we gave the incident might be dangerous, because anti-Semites could use our story to show that even the Army approved.

To take them up in order:

PM didn't say that anti-Semitism was a matter of Army policy. We did say that the Army taught anti-Semitism to the soldiers. The Army policy on anti-Semitism undoubtedly is good. As a matter of fact, in one of our stories on the anti-Semitic lesson we quoted an Army orientation sheet, which we accept as Army policy, which contained a clear and ringing denunciation of racism as a device of fascism. However, there are frequently serious gaps between Army policy and Army practice. This was one of them.

The most striking example of

Discrimination

such a gap is in the treatment of Negro soldiers. All Army statements of policy on the subject that I have seen are severe and correct in insisting on full equality for Negro as well as white soldiers. In practical application, however, the Army in many cases imposes a Jimcrowism on colored soldiers that is more onerous than that in civil life.

The point that only 2609 soldiers actually received the course is an attempt to measure anti-Semitism on a quantitative basis—the Army was only being slightly anti-Semitic. Actually, at the time we ran our first story, we didn't know how many had received the course. When we went to the Army Public Relations Office to inquire about the matter, we were told that the course had been withdrawn for "academic reasons" and later the PRO called back to say that the Division of Information and Education of the Army had said that "a few" of the courses had gotten out, but that all of these had been recalled.

We knew that last statement was false, for we had been in correspondence with soldiers who had received the course and it had not been recalled from them. Subsequently we learned of at least one incident in which the course was received by a soldier during the same week in which we were told that all of this course had been recalled. The fact was that the course was advertised in the USAFI's catalog and was available to all soldiers—all this, months and months after Army officials in Washington knew it was bad and had ordered this material taken out.

PM is willing to believe that this course was not Army policy, but a blunder. However, Army spokesmen to whom we went for information—the PRO in Washington speaking for the Division of Information and Education and Lt. Col. Carl W. Hansen at Madison, Wis., officer directly in charge—didn't raise the point that the course was a blunder. Instead, they attempted to defend and "cover up."

It probably is true that anti-Semites can take the story and point to the Army to bolster their fascist position. The basic responsibility, however, is the fact and not the publication of the fact. In any event, anti-Semitism doesn't thrive on publicity, but on secrecy.

Terrifying evidence of this comes from Lt. Col. Hansen himself, who informed PM that USAFI received only one lone complaint against the course before we took it up, and that from a civilian. So far as the 2609 soldiers who studied the lesson are concerned, it indicates that the propaganda was effective, or that they accepted it as Army policy which they were not to protest.

PM makes no pretense at infallibility—we don't claim that our thinking is always right, or that we can always get a complete picture, particularly in the face of an official "cover-up" policy. All we say is that we try our damndest, and if we think there is danger that we might be wrong, we prefer to err on the side of going to bat over an issue such as this one, rather than letting it go by default.

We would be pleased to print a statement from the Army that this incident was a tragic mistake and doesn't constitute Army policy. That undoubtedly is the fact, but until Army practice up and down the line is made to conform to Army policy, we will not be lulled into silence. Actually, our experience with the Army "cover-up" and the continued use of this course long after the date on which Army officials would have had us believe that it had been recalled, is pretty good evidence that if we hadn't yelled it might still be going out.

If the Army really wants to clean up this situation, it will bring disciplinary action against those responsible, whether by design or incompetency or failure to do a thorough job. PM joins with the National CIO War Relief Committee and the Committee of Catholics for Human Rights in asking that action be taken against those responsible, at least to remove them from any connection with education of the Armed Forces.

That is the way Army policy against racism really can be made.

—JOHN P. LEWIS

Army Segregation Must Go, Says Mrs. Bethune

Chicago Ill.

Chicago Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—"Segregation in the United States Army serves to demoralize the spirit and soul of the Negro American soldier, setting up a cancerous bitterness which we can little longer afford to evade."

7-19-45

These were the words of admonition which Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune gave to the advisory committee of the women's interest section of the War Department at the close of an official tour of the Fort Dix, New Jersey Army Separation Center.

The occasion was a farewell service for some 400 GIs recently returned from the European Theater, who were about to be released from the army.

The entire contingent was white. However, Mrs. Bethune said she was informed that from 8 to 10 per cent of the men processed through that center were Negroes.

Mrs. Bethune told the women's interest group that they have the responsibility for influencing the community for the acceptance of these returning veterans—that a spirit of good will must be built up which will offset the effects of the numerous hardships which they have been forced to face while in the Army.

"I know what our Negro boys go through," she said, "but we've got to recognize these uniforms and the men who wear them as American soldiers no matter what the color of their skin.

"Negro soldiers coming back from this war will not take what soldiers took following World War I," she warned. "They have more courage and a deeper appreciation for what the Constitution of the United States means to them.

"The final acceptance of the United Nations Charter at San Francisco has tended to spur Negro Americans on to achievement of his own sphere."

7-7-45

She then soberly declared: "We women, Negro and white, must be advocates for this freedom in our community life and in our personal contacts."

The women's interest section is comprised of heads of national women's organizations with a membership greater than 500,000. Miss Margaret Bannister represents the War Department on that committee.

Miss Bannister is responsible for relaying to the War Department the recommendations of the group following each officially designated tour of inspection.

Mrs. Bethune said that this group of women shared her views regarding discrimination levied against Negroes by confining them to segregated units and advocated the elimination of this army policy.

New York Amsterdam News 4-7-45

JIM CROW BARS NEGRO SEEKING OFFICER POST

Eight Soldiers On West Front Denied Admission To Candidates' School

WITH THE ALLIED ARMY IN FRANCE — Eight Negro soldiers, all members of the 923rd Engineer Aviation regiment, were reported to have been denied admission to the army's new officer candidates school in this area.

The eight soldiers, first in the 923rd, were sent to the new officer candidate school in response to a radio message under the date of June 21 and Circular 15, dated Feb. 25. First Sgt. Harry White was in charge of the group.

Didn't Know Heroes

He reported to the officer in charge of the candidates, a Mr. Gunthrop, AUS, who appeared totally ignorant as to why "these colored fellows are here". Sgt. White reported to his superior Capt. Walter O. Pfeil, Jr., that Mr. Gunthrop told him point blank, "they were not accepting colored men at the school."

Capt. Pfeil expressed his regret to the men and promised to "try and get an answer from IX Engineer Command as to why they sent radio message asking us to send men down! The 923rd is 12 officers short.

The situation was brought to the attention of Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis by one of the officers.

"We would appreciate very much if the general would take this up as a personal matter," he said, "because as aviation engineers we stand among the first, but because of 'color' we are denied the rights and privileges of American soldiers."

GI Mother Rallies 2,500 Against Senator Eastland

Afro-American-Baltimore, Md. 7-31-45

PHILADELPHIA

Mrs. Marie A. Williams of 4076 Filbert St., inspired nearly 2,500 persons in three cities to send protest letters to Gen. George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff, against Senator Eastland's fascist attack upon the integrity of colored soldiers in Europe.

This quiet, active churchwoman, mother and grandmother was stirred to action when the Mississippian, allied with Senator Bilbo in a fight to "bury" the FEPC, charged colored GI's with being an "abysmal failure," and colored officers as being "incompetent."

One-Woman Crusade

Mrs. Williams first wrote Eastland a strong letter, presenting all the facts on the contributions of colored soldiers, and registering her protest to his unwarranted attacks "below the belt."

Next, interpreting Eastland's attack as one also against all American soldiers, Mrs. Williams addressed a letter to General Marshall, urging officially to repudiate the Mississippian's charges. Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson did so last Thursday.

She had 1000 of these mimeographed, called several ministers, spoke in the churches and obtained the signatures. She telephoned her daughter, Miss Hattie Williams, YWCA executive secretary in Patterson, N.J., who secured 1200 additional letters of protest.

G.I. Families Rally

The idea spread to Princeton, N.J., where hundreds signed a single letter to General Marshall. The majority of those signing the protest petitions were parents with sons and daughters in the armed forces and GI wives.

Mrs. Williams has a son in the South Pacific, Lt. Judson B. Williams Jr., four daughters—two of whom are local teachers—and is a grandmother of three. She is an active member of Monumental Baptist Church.

She said: "I keep up with the news and follow important commentators. What I don't agree with, I try to take in my stride—but I couldn't take Senator Eastland's unfair, untruthful and hateful attack."

SENATORIAL INDISCRETION

Montgomery Advertiser 8-1-45

Most of the fine people of the South, and by far the greater majority of Southerners belong to this group, will doubtless join in assuring a Brooklyn woman, Miss Josephine Piccolo of 93 Garfield Place, that some Senators who presumably speak for the South are not true representatives of Southern culture and courtesy. Miss Piccolo recently petitioned a Southern Senator to support a bill which is generally in ill-favor in the South, and which the Senator had picked for a particularly disgusting display of his bad manners and noisome opposition. In reply to the petition the Gentleman from the Deep South addressed an offensively discourteous letter to the petitioner, the salutation of the reply being typical Bilbo-ese, added insult to discourtesy in that it was to 'My Dear Dago.'

In all fairness to the Senator, Miss Piccolo's ignorance is inexcusable. She should have known better than to expose herself to cauculated insult. Had she been following the career of this Southerner as closely as most of us down here in Dixie she would have known that intelligent people simply ignore this particular Senator as much as possible. Of course she has a perfect right to petition members of Congress on any point she may choose since the right of the people to petition Congress for redress is guaranteed in the organic law of the land. But the Constitution fails to provide that any petitioner shall not be subjected to villification, insult, and abuse at the pleasure or discretion of the petitioned.

No one would deny that a Southern senator has a right to insult a lady if her name happens to reflect a Latin euphoniousness, especially if she is not a member of his constituency. Nor does the fact that the lady has two brothers in the military service of our country at the moment and one other who has already paid his life on the altar of democracy soften the Senatorial contempt for foreign sounding names — it would have been the same had one of those brothers been "Eisenhower."

Not many of us in the South would restrict the rights of our Congressmen to express themselves as they please, either in or outside the halls of the Congress. And if they choose to abuse and to insult each other no particular harm is done. But we do insist that no Senator may so grossly misinterpret his congressional immunity as that he will deliberately insult a lady. Montgomery, Ala.

Barnet Sets Navy Lt. Straight on Race Bias

People's Voice N.Y. N.Y. 8-4-45

SEATTLE (ANP)—"Show us where the niggers eat, and we will eat with the niggers," That statement was made by Charlie Barnet, popular band leader, to a Navy lieutenant at Whidboy Island Naval Base, after his band had finished entertaining officers and refreshments were announced for all but Peanuts Holland, only Negro member of the outfit.

The officer is supposed to have asked Barnet: "What are we going to do with the nigger?" The hot-tempered band leader asked, with much indignation, what was meant by that remark, whereupon the lieutenant answered: "Why that nigger can't eat in the officers' mess." 8-4-45

Barnet, who has in times prior to this, gotten into fist fights in the south about his Negro members, in no uncertain terms, told the lieutenant he and his band would eat with the Negro members of the base and did just that, leaving the much surprised officer explaining limply that he was only carrying out orders from higher ups.

J-C Stops Volunteers

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

WASHINGTON—Negroes who attempted to volunteer in response to Army recruiting appeals in Atlanta, Ga., found themselves unable to cross the dividing line in the Federal office in which the recruiting station had been set up.

In Atlanta, as in other Southern cities, the United States Employment Service operates separate offices for white and Negroes. The recruiting office for the Army in Atlanta was placed on the white side of the USES office. As a result, Negro youths could not volunteer. 12-15-45

The Pittsburgh Courier has called the attention of the War Department to this practice.

Army Objects To Navy Racism

Call Kansas City, Mo.

PARIS. —(ANP)— Army officers here protested loudly last week to the navy's race code in the shipment of Negro troops to America. 12-14-45

While yielding in the transfer of a Negro quartermaster truck company from the U.S.S. Croatan to the Thomas Johnson Victory on racial grounds, the army refused to compromise on the right of one Negro officer and five enlisted men to sail on the Croatan for the states.

The six high point Negro soldiers sailed over the objection of navy officers, who said that the navy's general policy was not to mix the races. Army officials replied that the men would not be removed, unless they were removed by navy personnel.

The clash between members of the two branches of the service on the race question is said to have resulted in bad feeling. The 123 men in the Negro truck company were snatched off the Croatan, a baby flattop, because there are no segregation facilities on the flight deck of the ship. Only the large, roomy hangar could accommodate the 1,226 men.

OBERLIN, O.
NEWS-TRIBUNE

JUL 26 1945

An O. P. A. Incident

Reminds Us to Comment That There Is a Serious Lack of Responsible Leadership Among Oberlin Negroes

Several people called our attention to an article in the Cleveland *Call and Post* for July 7 under the bold, four-column head "Widespread Ban on Negroes Cripples Ohio's OPA Boards." The article singles out Oberlin for special condemnation as a community "once recognized as one of the most liberal spots in the country" which now "bans" Negroes from its price and ration panels and ration office staff.

However, the article points out that Oberlin has plenty of company, that 90 other boards in 19 northeastern Ohio counties "absolutely refuse" to employ Negroes, even on volunteer panels. Cleveland is the only exception, though Canton and Massillon will accept Negro volunteer workers, the article states; and it declares that this situation is in direct opposition to the official policy of OPA as announced by Chester Bowles. "According to OPA regulations, there should be a member of a minority group on every panel . . . (but) despite this fact the northeastern area is completely 'lily-white,'" reports the *Call and Post*.

It declares that, "In Oberlin, the chairman, Bob Fauver, has made the public statement that he and his staff will resign rather than serve with Negro panel members . . . (that) this biased opinion is quite in contrast to the liberal views expressed in the town . . . (but) no effort has been made to remedy the condition in the town."

———o———

Doubting that Mr. Fauver was correctly quoted in the *Call and Post*, we have waited until his return from a vacation in Canada before commenting on the article, in order to get his side of the story.

In the meantime, replying to our inquiry as to when, where and to whom Mr. Fauver made the statement attributed to him, the *Call and Post* informed us that, "He (Fauver) made the statement twice, once during a personal interview in your city and once over the telephone," both times to Herman Burrell, a Negro information specialist employed by the district OPA in Cleveland.

———o———

Fauver Denies Statement; Calls It Ridiculous; States Willingness to Appoint Negroes

Mr. Fauver absolutely denies having made the statement attributed to him by the *Call and Post*, or *any* statement which would indicate an unwillingness to serve with Negroes on ration panels or an unwillingness to appoint Negroes to serve.

He says that he did talk to Mr. Burrell twice, first on the telephone and later in person. He states that on the first occasion Mr. Burrell, a total stranger to him, called him long distance, inquired whether there were Negro members on Oberlin's ration panels, and upon being told that there were none, then brusquely and arbitrarily ordered Mr. Fauver to appoint some Negroes. Mr. Fauver says that he was irritated at the officious manner of the stranger who called him and that in reply he called attention to the fact that his (Fauver's) job as local OPA Chairman was strictly a volunteer duty, that he was paid by no one and did not have to take orders from anyone, particularly from total strangers about whose authority he knew nothing, and that if district OPA officials were not satisfied with the way things were going in Oberlin, he would gladly quit, and so would the other panel members.

"It would be ridiculous," declares Mr. Fauver, "for me, or for any of us in Oberlin, to say that we would not serve with Negro members on a ration panel, because there are dozens of civic committees and boards here that have Negro members, on which I, and other ration panel members, have been serving for years. I have worked with Negroes in civic activities in the past and I expect to continue to do so in the future, and I have absolutely no objection to doing so.

"Nor do I have any prejudice against appointing a qualified Negro. The Negro population certainly is large enough to deserve representation on the ration panels," Mr. Fauver told the *News-Tribune*.

He also declared that in his second talk with Mr. Burrell, in person, he told the latter that the first appointment soon would be made, to give Negroes such representation. He stated Monday that had not his vacation intervened, the appointment would have been made by now.

"The truth is," Mr. Fauver said, "I was astounded to learn that anyone wants a ration panel job. My trouble from the start has been to find qualified, responsible people who would accept the appointments. These voluntary jobs pay nothing and are a terrible headache. They take time and worry and trouble and all one gets is kicks and criticism. Yet, this morning (Monday), a Negro told me that a petition is being circulated asking, or demanding, that I appoint a Negro. Why do they go about it in such a roundabout way? Why hasn't someone interested just come to me and said so? Not a single local person has ever come to me to suggest that a Negro be appointed; and, frankly, no Negro had ever occurred to me as a potential appointee. It never occurred to me to think of the appointment in terms of Negroes and whites, I've been interested only in finding people who have shown in the past that they could accept responsibility and carry it.

"If there are Negroes here willing to take the time and accept all the trouble and do a good job, I certainly would have been happy at any time to appoint them."

———o———

No one familiar with the *News-Tribune's* editorial policy in the past will doubt where we stand in this matter. We agree thoroughly with Mr. Fauver's statement that, "The Negro population certainly is large enough in Oberlin to deserve representation on the ration panels," and we urge that a Negro, or Negroes, be appointed as soon as possible.

Our only criticism would be of Mr. Fauver's failure to recognize sooner that Negroes deserve representation. However, we are in no position to voice this criticism, because neither had we been conscious of the lack of Negroes on ration panels until it was called to our attention several months ago; and even then we said nothing publicly, because we have recognized that administering the rationing system is a thankless task and that anyone like Mr. Fauver who has been willing to shoulder it deserved pretty much to "run his own show"—providing he did it efficiently and fairly.

Perhaps we have been blind and deaf, but we have yet to see or hear of any serious irregularity or case of favoritism or discrimination chargeable to the Oberlin panels. We believe they have "bent over backwards" to do a conscientious, honest job; and we have not had the slightest desire to throw any unnecessary brick bats their way.

If anyone can cite to us an authentic, serious case of unfairness by the ration board, presumably because of racial prejudice, we certainly will be interested to hear of it.

We do not imagine that the rationing could have been done any more fairly, even had there been Negroes on the panels right from the start—but possibly we just don't know what has been going on. Let's hear it! But certainly let's have the Negro representation; it is obviously the right thing to do, and we believe Oberlin public opinion would be overwhelmingly in favor of it.

———o———

Raising a Question of Bureaucratic Ethics

We sympathize with Mr. Fauver's tendency to "blow up" when a stranger begins to give him orders over the phone; and we see in that part of his account of his dealings with Mr. Burrell the source from which grew the story published in the *Call and Post*. As stated above, we could not believe from the start that he would be so foolish as to take the position attributed to him by the Cleveland paper.

We question the propriety of Mr. Burrell's action in releasing the story concerning Oberlin to the *Call and Post*, even if it were true. Here is a question of ethics in a bureaucracy. When one bureaucrat has a complaint or criticism of another in his own organization, is it ethical for him to arrange an attack in the press, or should he take up the matter with their mutual superior officers? Doubtless in Washington by now the proper procedure in such cases is well established; but out here, on the fringes of bureaucracy, rule by boards and panels and appointees is still too new for us to be sure. The basic democratic principle which requires that a public official administering local governmental affairs should be elected by and be directly responsible to the people over whom he has authority, is notably lacking in this business of government by appointees. We tolerate it of course, during a war emergency, as a makeshift that seems necessary; but we do not like it.

———o———

Responsible Negro Leadership Is Lacking Here

This whole discussion brings to mind an important impression that we have gathered as we have attempted to study the problems of Oberlin's Negro citizenry.

We are impressed with the serious lack of adequate Negro leadership here. We are increasingly surprised at how few Negroes there are, considering the relatively large proportion living here, who are generally recognized, even

by the Negro population, as persons capable of accepting community responsibility. We are convinced that this lack of recognized leadership, and the lack of economic opportunities in Oberlin, are the two prime problems for Oberlin's Negroes—and that ultimately they can be solved only by the Negroes themselves. Moreover, they are closely related problems.

Oberlin Negroes, if one were to judge entirely on a population basis, should be expected to have representation not only on the ration panels, but on the Village Council and Board of Education, and in other similarly important local councils.

But no one merits election or appointment to any of these places of responsibility *merely* because he is a Negro—no more than because he is blonde or brunette or red headed. Community leadership is won, and is deserved, only on more important grounds—for demonstrated ability and energy, and honesty and insight and imagination and capacity for hard, steady work, and willingness to make personal sacrifices of time and convenience, and willingness to accept complaints and criticism and to get along with people. These are only a few of the qualities which may deservedly attract public recognition and confidence to an individual and place him in positions of influence. The fact that such an individual might be a Negro, should be no more than an incidental consideration. And yet it is an important fact that there are in Oberlin all too few Negroes recognized for such qualities, and the position of the Negro group is seriously weakened because of this fact.

This situation is revealed when it occurs to no one to appoint Negro representatives to the ration panels, or when an attempt is made to find a representative Negro to thus serve, or to run for the Council or the Board of Education. Undoubtedly many have the talent, but in too few has it become publicly recognized.

We realize that racial prejudices still play an important part in creating this situation, and that lack of equal job opportunities (and therefore of money for better educational advantages) is also an important cause; but these are too easily used as excuses—it is all too easy to complain cynically about a "once liberal" Oberlin. It is a much more important fact, and any honest observer will recognize the truth of it, that Oberlin still is liberal enough so that there exists here today a real opportunity for a Negro to obtain to important positions of community leadership, if he demonstrates that he has the other necessary qualifications—necessary in *any* race.

But, we suggest that such leadership will not develop here except from the initiative of the Negroes themselves. No spoon feeding, have-it-on-a-silver-platter favors from other groups will help them much in the long run.

—o—

Negroes Split by Petty, Personal and Factional Jealousies

We suggest that unnecessarily petty personal and factional jealousies within the Negro group itself are the chief stumbling block in the way of their progress to greater influence in Oberlin—and only *they* can cure that condition.

Until the Negroes themselves develop a degree of unified pride and confidence in certain of their own leaders, and these prove that they deserve that pride and confidence, and moreover that they have a broad viewpoint concerning the welfare of the whole community—until then, such leaders can hardly expect recognition from other groups. The first step *must* be greater unity in the Negro group, and a new group pride—not of the chip-on-shoulder sort, not a pugnacious, insulting, strutting or complaining pride; but a well-earned pride in responsible citizenship, and able, responsible spokesmen.

Oberlin Negroes certainly are capable of developing that type of unified, vigorous group morale, and developing able leaders—the talent is here, but is there the will? The situation presents a challenge which no one else can answer for them.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292
JUL 30 1945

New Bilbo Blast Revives Old Ku Klux Techniques

By VICTOR RIESEL

Some of the most virulent anti-Semitic propaganda techniques of the old Ku Klux Klan organizers are being revived by Sen. Bilbo of Mississippi, it was learned today as protests against his attacks on minorities spread in religious, liberal and labor circles.

In a letter to Benjamin Fischler, a New York accountant, Bilbo asserted that the Jews "denied and crucified Christ," and that Jewish "business relationships" are not based on "square dealing."

Bilbo's note was sent to Fischler in reply to the New Yorker's protest against the Mississippian's efforts to block a Senate vote on the FEPC.

"It is true that your (Jewish) race gave to us Protestant Gentiles, the Bible and the story of Jesus Christ, who died on the Cross for sinners like you and me," Bilbo wrote, "but the sad commentary about your race is that you denied and crucified Christ, our Saviour.

"It ill behooves you as a member of that race to speak of your race being the origin of the greatest moral system of truths, justice and morality as enunciated by Christ, since you orthodox Jews have repudiated this same Christ and throughout the world rumor has it that you do not practice this Jewish code of square dealing, especially in all your business relationships . . ."

"Move to Palestine"

Bilbo then suggested that Fischler move to Palestine.

The Mississippian's note, written as usual on official Senate stationery containing the names of such Senators as Millard Tydings (D-Md.), Pat McCarran (D-Nev.), Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) and others who with Bilbo are members of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, attacked the Jews' "mental processes."

"Your mental processes and style of diction are certainly most characteristic of that type of Jew that is lined up with the Negroes and other alien elements in the great metropolis . . ." Bilbo wrote.

Bilbo's attacks on Catholics, Jews and Negroes, for their advocacy of the FEPC, have ignored the energetic support of anti-discrimination legislation by Protestant churches and churchmen throughout the U. S. Among these are the Federal Council of Churches, representing 25 denominations with a membership of more than 26,000,000, and the United Council of Church Women, which speaks for 10,000,000 members.

Prayed for FEPC

Resolutions in favor of the FEPC have been passed by the General Conference of the Methodist Church, General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, the Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and the American Unitarian Assn. On June 26, at the height of Bilbo's assault on the anti-discrimination bill, Protestant Churches observed "a day of prayer for the FEPC."

Meanwhile the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, led by Jo Davidson, sculptor, telegraphed to Sens. Wagner and Barkley that "Bilbo's most recent attack on minority groups climaxed a disgraceful Senatorial career of name-calling and hate-spreading. Because they are aimed at creating disunity and dissension his words and actions cannot be dismissed as irresponsible. We have seen this same method . . . used . . . to pave the way for fascism. We call on you . . . to take the necessary measures to censure the Senator from Mississippi and to force him to discontinue his scurrilous attacks on the American people."

56d-1945

FORMER LOCAL YOUTH GRANTED DEATH STAY

White Plains, N.Y.

Execution For Alleged Mutiny Is Delayed, Judge Advocate Informs Rep. Gamble

Home News

Execution of the death sentence imposed overseas on Pvt. Daniel Jones of Yonkers, formerly of North Central Avenue, Elmsford, has been stayed pending receipt of "clemency materials," a letter from Judge Advocate General Myro C. Cramer to Representative Ralph Gamble states.

The letter answers Representative Gamble's inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the alleged mutiny with which Jones and ten other Negro soldiers have been charged. Seven, including Jones, have been sentenced to death, and four to life imprisonment.

"Every safeguard provided by the laws of the United States is assured to the accused before final action is taken," the letter asserts. It says that there is every reason to trust the judgment of the military court, "which experience discloses to be just and fair."

8-14-45

Friends of the Jones family, which lived for a time at 44 North Central Avenue, Elmsford, and members of organizations interested in the case appealed to Representative Gamble after hearing about the letter the 20-year-old soldier wrote from Mannheim, Germany, telling that the group had been given an unfair trial and all were the victims of a "Negro-hating captain."

Born in New Rochelle December 5, 1924, the soldier was drafted from Elmsford by Board 744 in June, 1943. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Jones of Yonkers. A sister, Mrs. Dorothy Powell, 108 Orchard Street, Yonkers, received the letter informing her of the sentence. Enclosed was a statement by Pvt. Harrison W. Smith, address not given, one of the others involved, backing Jones' claim to innocence.

Discrimination

Jim-Crow---America's Most Expensive Export

A Negro veteran writes on the problems of discrimination in our armed forces as he found them on the war fronts and when he returned home.

"The English resented attempts to graft our racial customs on their social life . . ." In the photo one of our Negro soldiers, Cpl. John A. Ameriker, and a British soldier, Lance Cpl. J. E. Hudson, entertain London children at a Red Cross party at the Liberty Club in London.

Eisenhower Orders No Jimcrow

When our transport landed in Bristol, England, all troops were mustered in their quarters for an orientation talk from Eisenhower's headquarters. The voice over the loudspeaker, in addition to giving us a picture of England made a special plea for inter-racial unity. The speaker in the name of General Eisenhower, stated emphatically that there would be no discrimination against Negroes in that theatre. The Negro soldiers aboard were in high spirits listening to that talk. At last, we thought, there was some one in authority who dared say the right thing. We were also informed that an order to that effect had been sent to all commanders.

But, as an officer said to me once, you can't expect the Army to solve all the problems which have their origins at home. And, of course the problems were not solved. Indeed, there was an intensification of the problems in some cases.

English Resent Jimcrow Rules

The very organization of the Army with its separate Negro units made those towns where Negroes were stationed "colored towns." In such towns white soldiers were not allowed. In other towns colored troops were off-limits. So we had the anomally of breaking England up into colored sections and white sections. Stratford-on-Avon, for example, was a "white town" and colored troops could only go there on conducted tours. Once a group of men from my battalion went on pass to visit the home of Shakespeare, a half day's travelling time from our post. Arriving at the shrine hungry after the long truck ride the group was refused service in the Red Cross Canteen because of "orders from so-an-so."

The English resented this attempt to graft our racial customs on to their social life and kept up a running debate on it in the press. They took sides violently.

In the larger cities which could not be placed "off limits" to either whites or Negroes there were those who were for the dark Yanks and those who were for the white Yanks. Jimcrow made our soldiers ineffective peoples' ambassadors and exposed to view the seamy, divisive side of our democracy.

In Army hospitals and hospital communities Jimcrow did not prevail and one got a chance to see how a non-Jimcrow army would work. Fine! Negroes and white ate, slept, played and took light training together. Many inter racial friendships sprang up among the men. But even these were thwarted and the spontaneous goodwill sometimes turned it into friction.

As an example of this: I left the hospital for a reinforcement depot with a mixed detachment of enlisted men. The noncomissioned officer in charge was a Negro sergeant. When we arrived at the depot the sergeant turned in our records and we waited to be assigned to quarters. Soon a depot sergeant began calling a roster and lining men up for billets. He called the names of all the white soldiers in the group and turned to the Negroes and yelled:

"All of you colored boys over this way in column of twos!"

There went the friendships. In their place was bitterness and resentment. Many white soldiers who had before had no ideas of white superiority were made to think along such lines.

This depot was the Tenth Depot, already cited in the press as the post where brutal treatment was meted out to imprisoned American GIs.

The press didn't mention the fact that white troops on this post slept in brick barracks and Negroes slept in an adjunct known as "Tent City." There was a dance Channel did the jobs they were broke out without the loss of work there.

Although the Negro soldiers fought well they were able to see how Jim Crow wasted the lives of their white comrades and hampered the conduct of the war. During those days around Christmas, 1944, the Germans had broken through our lines and the whereabouts of the enemy was not

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"The 969th Field, an all-Negro (except officers) unit . . . fought as infantry and artillery . . . and received the Presidential Citation . . ." In the photo a unit of the 969th Field Artillery cleans its gun between firing missions. —U. S. Army Signal Corps Photos.

always known. Foot soldiers were at a premium. Many divisions had to attack with companies of less than 50 percent normal strength.

We knew that back around Paris in the reinforcement pools were many Negro soldiers who could not become foot soldiers because mixed units were not allowed and there were not enough men to make up another division. To us who had witnessed our troops go in at a disadvantage Jimcrow seemed a terribly expensive luxury. Some had to pay for it with their lives. And they were mainly white lives.

Again there were the cynical remarks: "If they want to do all the dying, it's O.K. by me." And from those who were in the rear: "Why in the hell did they bring us over here, anyway?"

How It Affected Negro Soldiers

Having experienced the racial laws enforced in parts of America and having been segregated in every country of Europe the Negro GI chuckled when he read in Germany the American Military Government's Proclamation. One of the first proclamations abrogated all of the Nazi laws relating to the purity of the German blood and those laws which referred specifically to a person because of race, creed or national origin. If such a proclamation is good enough for the Germans whom we have defeated, they would say, then it is good enough for the United States.

But even in Germany where we had abolished racism for the Germans the Army went ahead with its program of establishing Jimcrow rest camps. And these camps applied to the Negroes who had volunteered to fight with mixed divisions toward the end of the war.

The hatred of Nazism which our experience in Germany engendered was somewhat softened by the fostering of Jimcrow patterns. To the German civilian the Negro was a curiosity with cigarets and chocolates. So they exhibited no particular animosity toward colored troops, with the resulting gain in prestige of the Germans with the Negroes.

Fort Dix— Jimcrow Again

On the boat coming home most of the Negroes aboard talked of their German friends as a form of protest against the discriminations they had experienced. As we reached New York harbor we got the anti-Negro harangue of Bilbo along with the musical welcome which the city furnished.

The pay-off came when we reached the separation center at Dix. Again all of the white troops were serviced, fed and given quarters leaving all of the Negroes in the group to the last.

And again a sergeant yelled, "All colored boys on this side (indicating on which side to form). You will all go to —— company."

One soldier remarked: "Well here we go right back to second class citizenship again." Another said, "America had better wake up."

America stands on the threshold of greatness. This greatness must not be based on economic or military might. We must be able to exercise moral leadership in the world we are to build after peace. We cannot attain such greatness by hanging onto the outworn ideas spawned from slave pens. In this epoch of atomic power it is time to "wake up."

Demote White Officer Who Backed FEPC

Chicago Defender 9-15-45 Ill.

SHREVEPORT, La. — (ANP)— Capt. Thomas F. Hoult, a white army officer at the Camp Livingston station hospital, is reported to have been reduced in rank for championing the cause of the Negro and the FEPC bill.

Captain Hoult is said to have lost his captaincy following an article he wrote to the Shreveport Times People's forum against an anti-FEPC editorial appearing in that paper on August 2. Reports reveal that he is now a lieutenant.

In his article to the Times, he championed the cause of the American Negro as well as gave an intelligent and scientific analysis of darker peoples in other parts of the world. He charged that his station hospital practiced racial discrimination and segregation against Negro army officers.

"The colored officers in this hospital have no swimming pool, for example," he wrote, "but white officers have an elaborate club and pool." 9-15-45

Capt. Thomas F. Hoult, a former social scientist, pleaded for fair play and justice for darker people all over the world.

Jim Crowism in North

Dear Editor: P/M N.Y., N.Y.

When we were assembled at the Separation Depot in Hawaii to await transportation to our respective discharge centers, I noticed the absence of any color segregation of troops. Negro fellows ate with us, bunked with us, washed with us. Nor was this policy changed aboard the boat bearing us across the ocean, or at Camp Anza, Cal., a reception point for men coming in from the Pacific. The procedure was the same during the trip to Fort Dix. For almost three weeks, colored and white soldiers had lived together without a single troubled incident. However, upon arrival at Fort Dix, we learned that Jim Crow had returned from his brief holiday. 11-26-45

Fort Dix, for the uninformed few, is in New Jersey, and a glance at a map will indicate that New Jersey is definitely above Mason and Dixon's line. There exists an all too prevalent tendency for those of us living in the North to decry the unjust treatment meted out to Negroes in the Southland while we smugly and complacently believe that we are showering them with benevolence and equality up here.

Let us put a halt to this patting ourselves on the back, and let us cease this unqualified hypocrisy. Basically, the Negro is as void of economic and social equality in the North as he is down in the South.

New York BERNARD GOODSEIT

Why We Fought

The New Republic

A Negro quartermaster truck company that had been scheduled to sail for the United States on the *U. S. S. Croatan* . . . was unexpectedly transferred to another transport today following objections by Navy officers. The Navy's position, as explained by Army officers who protested but bowed to the decision of the rival service, was that there were no segregation facilities on the flight deck of the baby flattop. – *William J. Humphreys in the New York* Herald Tribune. 12-10-45

Warning Text Radioed To Ships At Sea

The Atlanta Daily World Atlanta Ga. 12-16-45

Wave Of Protests Follow Bar Of 123 On "Croatan"

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) —The Secretary of the Navy issued a warning to all navy personnel that no discrimination was to be practiced against colored members of the armed forces returning home aboard navy ships. The warning was radioed to all navy vessels at sea. The text of the radio follows:

"1. Attention of the Navy Department has been called to a recent incident in which a question arose concerning accommodations aboard a naval vessel for Negro Army personnel returning to this country for demobilization. In order to avoid future misunderstanding on this subject, the Navy policy regarding various racial minorities is restated and summarized for guidance.

NO DIFFERENTIATION

"2. In the administration of naval personnel no differentiation shall be made because of race or color. This applies also to authorized personnel of all the armed services of this country aboard Navy ships or at Navy stations and activities. 12-16-45

"3 In their attitude and day-to-day conduct of affairs, naval officers and enlisted men shall adhere rigidly and impartially to naval regulations in which no distinction is made between individuals wearing the naval uniform or the uniform of any of the armed services of the United States because of race or color."

WAVE OF PROTESTS

The warning came as a result of a wave of protests after Navy officals had barred 123 colored soldiers from returning home on the aircrat carrier Croatan, because they could not be segregated on the ship's deck.

The Navy has promised a complete investigation of the incident upon the ship's arrival.

56d-1945

Discrimination

Amsterdam News N.Y., N.Y. 9-22-45

MISS GERALDINE SMITH, pretty Chicago schoolteacher, who volunteered for overseas Red Cross duty, only to return in protest over discrimination and Jim Crowing of Negro soldiers in the China-Burma-India theatre. Her story is printed below.—Amsterdam Studios photo.

Resented Insult--"Bread & Water"

Red Cross Worker Describes Incidents Aboard "Cracker" Boat; Steward Jailed For Five Days

The "Cracker Boat" finally docked at New York Harbor the other day and those who survived the incredible mental oppression aboard the SS General Patrick, a troopship returning officers and Red Cross workers to the United States from the China-Burma-India theatre of war, report it was in reality a "floating Georgia," for the Negro personnel aboard.

All the pent-up hatreds the white southerner has for Negroes came out in the open during the 30-day trip from India, through the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal, the Mediterranean, and across the Atlantic, reported Red Cross Worker Geraldine Smith, beauteous Chicago schoolteacher and socialite, who volunteered for the Red Cross and who put in four months overseas. Miss Smith came directly to the office of the Amsterdam News upon arrival in New York and unfolded an almost unbelievable story—substantiated with facts.

Fed, Quartered With Whites

Miss Smith and Boyd Overton of Cincinnati, supervisor of the Red Cross Cosmos Club in Calcutta, India, were the only colored Red Cross workers aboard the SS General Patrick, and consequently were quartered and fed with commissioned white officers and white Red Cross workers. There were Negro troops aboard, but they were below deck, Miss Smith said. The ship stewards were all colored, and the court martialing of one of them (navy men call it Captain's Mast) because he objected to being called "boy" by a southern white colonel was a highlight of the experiences aboard the ship.

The white officer was a Col. Powell, Miss Smith reported, who had been a medical officer in charge of the China area. Victim of the Captain's Mast, she said, was Steward's Mate First Class Louis Elander, who got five days in solitary confinement on bread and water diet. The Captain's Mast was held at 11 a. m., Aug. 9, 1945. It came about through Colonel Powell's insulting continuously the mess hall attendants by calling them boy in a nasty tone of voice. He set the pace for the other southerners who wanted to follow suit in embarrassing the Negro stewards, Miss Smith declared. It got so, she said, that the stewards and messmen would not give immediate service such as bringing coffee, etc. Elander's refusal to serve Col. Powell also resulted in his telling the colonel why in the respectful military way required when addressing superior officers.

How Charges Were Brought

The charges against Elander were published as follows: "Louis Elander (n—meaning Negro and spelled with a small 'n'), STM 1/c, Steward's Division: Offense and punishment:

"Punishment: 'To solitary confinement for a period of five (5) days B. & W. (bread and water). Offense: 1. Insolence to passenger officer. When Colonel called boy get some coffee, this STM corrected the colonel in an insolent manner. 'Don't call me boy. Call me sailor. 2. Slow and disrespectful in carrying out orders.—Signed: F. C. Rice Executive Officer."

Captain Farley of the SS Patrick an Annapolis man, according to Miss Smith, who is said to be independently wealthy and whose two sons are navy captains, called all the stewards together for a talk. He told them, she said, that he wanted them to be "more respectful," because after all, if it were not for the passengers, there wouldn't be any need for steward's mates.

It came out at the hearing, that Colonel Powell's loud yells, "boy," resulted in none of the attendants showing up to serve him. Exasperated, the southerner finally had to get up and procure his own coffee. Elander, it was reported, weathered his confinement in the filthy, and suffocating brig pretty nicely, although the bread and water diet was torturous. All the while the ship was proceeding through some of the world's hottest climate.

Wanted to Help the Boys

Miss Smith, who teaches at the Forresville School on Chicago's South Side, was assistant director for four months at the Cosmos Club in Calcutta, because she "wanted to do something to help the colored boys overseas." She sent in her letter of resignation because of the discriminatory attitude of the India Branch Red Cross, implying that the army swimming pool policy in Calcutta made it impossible for her to do an effective job with the service.

The newly built palatial swimming pool in Calcutta was to be run on a strict Jim Crow basis. Miss Smith said, according to the policy laid down by Brig. General Robert Neyland's headquarters. Negro troops (who make up about 65% of army personnel in the India-Burma theatre) were to use the pool two days a week and every third Sunday. All other days were reserved for white troops. Though the specific order making the ruling did not state "Negro troops," every camp and Red Cross installation directed to use the pool on these two "exclusive days," were "100% colored," Miss Smith said.

Reasons advanced for the policy, it was reported, was because of "fear of a wave of friction between Negro and white GIs, especially since a number of American white women stationed in that area were to use the pool. Because of the intense Indian heat, the swimming pool was a necessity for troop morale. The army built the new 140x 240 foot tank for GIs, all of them. In the past, however, the Calcutta Swim Club and the Marine Club, both British, accepted only whites. The only provision for Negroes by the Red Cross was the so-called "Crystal Pool" which is comparable to the "ole swimmin' hole" in a muddy creek. White troops stationed in New Delhi and Calcutta are sent to cool mountain rest camps. Negro troops are sent solely to the filthy and disease-ridden rest camp for colored on the outskirts of Calcuta.—Dan Burley.

Negro GIs Slighted in Army Films

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 8-28-45

Miss Thelma Dale, acting executive secretary of the National Negro Congress, charged yesterday that the War Department was keeping the Negro soldier from the film as well as from the radio.

While the wires leading into the War Department were still burning with protests over its cancelling **The Glass**, written by Cpl. Arnold Perl for the "Assignment Home" series featured by the Columbia Broadcasting Co., the Daily Worker learned yesterday that **Honorable Discharge** and **Diary of a Sergeant**, film shorts shown at the 135 St. branch Public Library last Thursday night, almost totally ignored the Negro GI.

Members of the audience protested, the Daily Worker learned, that neither film gave more than a fleeting glimpse of a Negro soldier, although both were exhaustive in their discussions of what the ex-service man should do in making use of all aids offered by the War Department. 8-28-45

The white officers and the Negro enlisted man in charge of the films at the library showing were asked to explain why the Negro GI, returning, for instance, to the South, was not shown adjusting himself to his community after months or years in the Army. The audience wished especially to know why the only Negro in one of the films was blissfully asleep among alert white soldiers in a railway car.

The officers replied that no "disrespect" was intended.

"This neglecting the Negro soldier is particularly unfortunate, in view of the fact that the Negro ex-serviceman has special problems," Miss Dale said. "Despite the fact that the officers in charge of the show tried to smooth over ruffled feelings by saying that the Army treats Negro and white soldiers alike, we know that it simply is not true." 8-28-45

She said the people had a right to know whether the Negro GI in the South would get the same benefits under the GI Bill of Rights as the white ex-soldier. Though the films were supposed to explain those benefits, she said, she was as much in the dark before as after, as far as the Negro veteran's treatment in the South is concerned.

Muriel Rahn Tells Of Discrimination During Bond Tour

The New York Age
New York, New York
9-22-45

CHICAGO, Ill.—How the noted singer Muriel Rahn was jim crowed in Atlanta during a War bond tour is told by the former star of "Carmen Jones" in the September issue of NEGRO DIGEST.

Miss Rahn relates that she was refused coffee and a sandwich at the Atlanta airport during a stopover on a plane trip sponsored by the U. S. Treasury Department in connection with the Sixth U. S War Bond Drive.

Despite jim crow insults, Miss Rahn went on to New Orleans and was instrumental in selling over a million dollars worth of War Bonds

V-7 Students Ask NAACP Aid

The Afro American
Baltimore, Maryland

Complaint Charges Bias and Unfairness

9-29-45

NO COMMISSIONS

Five Kept in Dark About Future Duties

PHILADELPHIA

Five colored Navy V-7 students who were denied commissions when the program was abandoned at the University of Pennsylvania shortly after Japan's surrender have taken their case to the NAACP.

In a complaint filed last week with the association's Philadelphia branch they charged Navy officers at the university with discrimination and unfairness in carrying out orders dissolving the program and disposing of the trainees.

Trainees Still Idle

At the same time, it was learned that the trainees who were sent to the Philadelphia Navy Yard to await reassignment to general duties are "simply lolling around" in the receiving station.

Meanwhile, most of the whites who met similar fate have been assigned specific duties at the Navy Yard coinciding with their ratings. They are also getting subsistence pay so that they may live in the city, it was revealed.

The colored trainees openly fear that they may be assigned to labor battalions or given other duties that will not be in keeping with their ratings.

Refused Commissions

Among those denied commissions were:

Victor O. Morris, S1/c, of West Monroe, La.; Lee Brown, S2/c of West Port, Conn.; Edward Gibbs, SK1/c, of Cecil, Ala.; James A. Ruffin, S1/c, of Washington, and David Sloan, S1/c, of Baltimore.

One hundred and nineteen white trainees were transferred to Bainbridge (Md.) Naval Separation Center to be placed on inactive status and receive direct commissions in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

V-7 training was an academic refresher course in which one-year survey courses in college physics, mathematics, engineering drawing and English were taught in four months. At the end of this period the trainees were sent to Midshipman's School to complete their work for commissions.

Navy authorities at the university said that four of the colored trainees were not recommended for commissions because of "weak" academics, and the fifth could not meet physical education requirements because of his weight.

Jews also Denied Bars

In their complaint with the NAACP the trainees denied that they were failing academically and charged that some whites recommended for commissions had received failing grades in some subjects. Most of the whites who were denied recommendations of commissions were of Jewish faith, they added.

Both Storekeeper Gibbs and Seaman Ruffin had been in training successfully for more than eight weeks; Seaman Sloan, veteran of overseas service, for a similar period, and Seamen Morris and Brown for a shorter period, but had successfully passed an aptitude test.

White Army Officer Persecuted For Championing Negro Cause

The Savannah Tribune
Savannah, Georgia
9-27-45

Shreveport, La. (ANP)—Capt. Thomas F. Hoult, a white army officer at the Camp Livingston station hospital, is reported to have been reduced in rank for championing the cause of the Negro and the FEPC bill.

Capt. Hoult is said to have lost his captaincy following an article he wrote to the Shreveport Times People's forum against an anti-FEPC editorial appearing in that paper on Aug. 2. Reports reveal that he is now a lieutenant.

In his article to the Times, he championed the cause of the American Negro as well as gave an intelligent and scientific analysis of darker peoples in other parts of the world. He charged that his station hospital practiced racial discrimination and segregation against Negro army officers.

"The colored officers in this hospital have no swimming pool, for example, he wrote, "but white officers have an elaborate club and pool."

Capt. Thomas F. Hoult, a former social scientist, pleaded for fair play and justice for darker people all over the world. In behalf of American Negroes, he said:

"On the local level, the United States has the opportunity to demonstrate to the colored people of the world that it intends to be democratic in fact as well as in name. Our own country is the proving ground for what we will support and do in the world. If we cannot demonstrate an inherent spirit of good will here, we will continue to be mistrusted by the colored men in other nations, and continued war and misery will be the inevitable result."

Following the appearance of his article in the local Times, the captain is reported to have been reduced to a lieutenant on some flimsy technicality.

From the M. E.

PM New York, N. Y.
9-24-45

A New Idea In Segregation

The U. S. Army seems pretty well wedded to the idea of segregation.

OK, let's let them have it.

Only instead of Jim Crow segregation by which the War Dept. has been trying to establish a second-class citizenship for those of our people who are colored, why not change the pattern of segregation more in line with the real facts?

Instead of segregating Negroes in the Army, why not segregate those of our white Southern military caste who hold to the fascist racial belief that one race is superior to another? In that way, the Army will have its segregation, and still get out of its present uncomfortable position of maintaining an undemocratic army to defend a democracy.

The racists should be satisfied, for they would be segregated off in their own little compartment of the Army, well protected from and uncontaminated by democratic influences. There they could observe the rites and rituals of racism, with nary a Negro or a white who believes in the equality of men in a democracy to disturb them.

That would free the rest of the Army to operate as an Army should operate, on the basis of only one consideration: the ability and willingness of each individual soldier to do his job without regard to distinctions of race and creed.

Whether you like this particular idea for a solution or not, you may want to write to the Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson, and tell him what you think of the present Army idea of segregating soldiers in Jim Crow units on the basis of color.

—JOHN P. LEWIS

TO A SOUTHERN Negro Youth

10-27-45

Congress delegation who protested to the Veterans Administration against Jim-crow facilities, woefully inadequate at that, the reply was made that VA had to follow local customs. But a few days earlier, Mrs. Mable Staupers of the Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, of New York, wrote VA pointing out that it was hardly consistent. There are only four wards in which Negro nurses are employed, outside of the all-Negro hospital in Tuskegee. She pointed out that in California, New York State and elsewhere Negroes are admitted to practice medicine and nursing, but that in those states VA hospitals do not follow local customs in employing Negro nurses.

The Worker

MABLE STAUPERS

By EARL CONRAD

Chicago Defender (National Negro Newspaper Bureau)

NEW YORK—Harlem is host to 115 brown-skinned Indonesian merchant seamen this week.

Chicago, Ill.

The sailors are on strike here from a Dutch ship loaded with munitions intended for use by the Dutch government against the Indonesian people. Church and civic groups and the USO Center are taking care of them during the protest.

10-27-45

The Dutch subjects, in an action unparalleled since World War I when British workers refused to work on ships carrying munitions for the war of intervention against Soviet Russia, are out solidly. They are holding up five Dutch ships which were slated to sail for Holland or Indonesia with the materials to put down the independent movement of the brown people.

Among the seamen are Christians, Mohammedans and Hindu Indonesians, all solidly united not to aid their Dutch masters in smashing their Indonesian brothers and sisters.

Defender

Know of U. S. Jim-Crow

The National Maritime Union, which is wholeheartedly supporting the Indonesians, has helped to quarter the men. The Indonesians themselves — suspecting the overtones of color prejudice in America —desired quartering in New York's Negro community, according to one Negro merchant seaman. The Maritime Union said that numerous considerations made it desirable to station the men in Harlem. White seamen said that it was significant that the Indonesians were being quartered in Harlem, in so far as it pointed to growing unity of colored peoples in all lands; that the fact that Harlem is entertaining the men will mean something around the world.

Meantime, the Political Action Committee of the National Maritime Union announced that an American Committee for Indonesian Independence is being formed. It will have nationally prominent sponsors, and it will function as a means of supporting the strikers and also as a long-range body to mobilize American interest in the independence problem of Indonesia's 70,000,000 peoples.

The Indonesian seamen are not organized. They serve on board the Dutch ship with white Dutch seamean. A few individual white seamen joined the strike, it was reported, but the Indonesians went out solidly. Included among the strikers are eight men who spent four years in German concentration camps, a chief electrician and an engineer. The men told the Defender that they had been carrying munitions and other goods throughout the war in the fight against fascism, and that they now felt that this cause was being abandoned—hence their independent action.

10-27-45

The National Maritime Union has protested to the Dutch and British Governments and the American Government in defense of the right of the strikers to get off the ships and against their being returned to the Dutch Government at the end of thirty days when their right to stay here legally ends. The Union is asking for the right of the seamen to be returned to ports of their own choosing where they would not be subject to oppressive action by the Dutch Government.

The National Maritime Union is also arranging for the legal attachment to the crew of the ships to prevent their being able to sail.

Funds to help take care of the strikers, who left all their valuables on board the boats, has been coming in from Dutch soldiers, merchant seamen, American soldiers and others. They have received contributions at the American Committee for Indonesian Independence, 103 West 110th street.

10-27-45

56d-1945

Discrimination

SEPARATE NAVAL TRAINING ENDED

St. Louis Argus — Mo.

Equality In Training Of All In USN

GREAT LAKES, Ill., June 29—The policy of maintaining a special training program and camp at Great Lakes for Negro general service recruits will be discontinued July 1 in accordance with the provision of a directive issued by the Bureau of Naval Personnel. 7-6-45

Pursuant to this directive, induction centers will assign Negroes to recruit training on the same basis as white personnel. Illiterates, both Negro and white, will be ordered to the Naval Training and Distribution Center, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va. Previously all Negro general service recruits were sent to Great Lakes.

Change Is In Effect

The recruit training commands have been directed to assimilate Negro and white enlisted personnel alike. At the Naval Training Center, here, Negro and white recruits will be assigned to the same companies. The barracks, recreation halls and other facilities of the Center will be available to all personnel. Already, Camp Robert Smalls which heretofore was used exclusively for the training of Negro personnel, has both Negro and white recruits. Negroes are also in training in Camps Downes, Hull and McDonough which formerly had only white recruits.

The Bureau of Naval Personnel directive was issued in order to obtain the maximum utilization of Naval training and housing facilities and in execution of the Navy's established policy of nondiscrimination and equal handling of all personnel wearing the Navy uniform.

NAACP Leader Tells of Disillusionment of Negro Soldiers in Pacific Area

Des Moines, Iowa

Iowa Bystander

Cincinnati, Ohio — In an Army and Navy approved broadcast, July 7 over the Columbia Broadcasting System, Walter White. NAACP secretary told of the despair and disillusionment of American Negro soldiers in the Pacific as a result of the perpetuation of the same racial theories they are supposed to be fighting to eliminate in other parts of the world. 6-12-45

Examples were cited of friction between whites and Negroes, and of discriminatory treatment against individuals and whole company units by those determined on transplanting overseas the racial patterns practiced in the most backward sections of the United States.

Experiences responsible for dampening morale in general, were those similar to the case of white Marines who, without provocation heckled and fired upon Negro Navy base company camps on at least four occasions. Forced finally to defend themselves after one of their number had been killed, the Negroes were later charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage.

"For weeks," he related, "a few marines had been throwing bricks, empty beer bottles and, upon three occasions, hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by Negro navy men.

"When no attempt was made by the authorities to stop the attacks or punish the attackers, the colored men in despair deterimned to defend themselves when next attacked.

"The next assault took place a few days later on Christmas eve," White said.

Negroes Shot

"On Christmas day one Negro serviceman was shot and killed and another shot by white servicemen.

"These and other assaults infuriated the men who had been attacked to the point that twice they attempted to go into town to take vengeance.

"On one ocasion they were turned back; on the second they were arrested, charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage."

Wanted to Help U. S.

Another instance cited by Mr. White was that of a Negro youth who enlisted on his seventeenth birthday, "in order to serve my country and help my race."

During later inquiries, however, it was brought out that this same lad had been twice found guilty and convicted by a court-martial of five days solitary confinement on bread and water; first, for sitting in the only vacant seat immediately under the sign dividing Negroes from whites in a bus in Virginia; second, for entering a "white" Virginia restaurant to purchase food.

"The point I wish to make," declared Mr. White, after a review of these circumstances, "is not of such clashes which race prejudice has caused unfortunately in many theaters of war. I want to personalize the corrosive effect of ignorance, bigotry and proscription. As a result of this the spirit of many men particularly Negroes has been dampened and in some instances wholly crushed. 6-12-45

Has Effect on Natives

"The perilous effect of such manifestations of race prejudice," Mr. White pointed out further, "extends beyond American Negroes to the natives whose aid we need now in winning the war and whose friendship we will need after the war if we are to have peace."

On the brighter side White reviewed the performance of the 93rd Division commended by General Dunckel of the American Division; the role of Negro GI's in the construction of roads, airfields on Guam and Saipan, together with their handling of thousands of tons of supplies close on the heels of invasion troops.

Realization, according to Mr. White has come to many white men in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine corps that the problem of race is neither a sectional nor a national one in the United States, but an increasingly important world problem. 6-12-45

Can't Be Same Again

"Men cannot be quite the same

"It is tragic that it took a war costing millions of lives and billions of dollars to teach us this lesson. But some of us are awake to the fact that to date in this war 180,000 human beings have died for each of the 991 pages of Hitler's hymn of hate, "MEIN KAMPF; that 300 men, women and children have died for every word in that infamous volume."

again," he declared, "in their opinions of each other when they have seen their comrades die for an ideal commonly held. Race or religious prejudices is seldom present in a foxhole."

White on Radio

AFRO-American

Raps U.S. Bias

7-14-45 Balt. Md.

Says Hitler Theories Plague GI's in Pacific

EXAMPLES CITED

U.S. Prejudice May Void Frisco Charter

CINCINNATI, Ohio — In an Army and Navy approved broadcast July 7 over the Columbia Broadcasting System, NAACP Secretary Walter White told of the despair and disillusionment of colored American soldiers in the Pacific as a result of the perpetuation of the same racial theories they are supposed to be fighting to eliminate in other parts of the world.

Examples were cited of friction between white and colored troops and of discriminatory treatment against individuals and whole company units by those determined on transplanting overseas the racial patterns practiced in the most backward section of the United States. 7-14-45

Experiences responsible for dampening morale in general, were those similar to the case of white marines who, without provocation, heckled and fired upon colored Navy base company camps on at least four ocasions.

Forced finally to defend themselves after one of their number had been killed, the colored men were later charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage.

Case of 17-Year-Old Youth

Another instance cited by Mr. White was that of a colored youth who enlisted on his seventeenth birthday "in order to serve my country and help my race."

During later inquiries, however, it was brought out that this same lad had been twice found guilty and convicted by courts-martial to five days solitary confinement on bread and water:

First, for sitting in the only vacant seat immediately under the sign dividing colored from whites in a bus in Virginia; second, for entering a "white" Virginia restaurant to purchase food.

Says Bias Affects Natives

"The perilous effect of such manifestations of race prejudice," Mr. White pointed out further, "extends beyond colored Americans to the natives whose aid we need now in winning the war, and whose friendship we will need after the war, if we are to have peace." 7-14-45

Realization, according to Mr. White, has come to many white men in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps that the problem of race is neither a sectional nor a national one in the United States, but an increasingly important world problem.

No Prejudice in Foxholes

"Men cannot be quite the same again," he declared, " in their opinions of each other when they have seen their comrades die for an ideal commonly held. Race or religious prejudice is seldom present in a foxhole."

"It is tragic that it took a war costing millions of lives and billions of dollars to teach us this lesson. But some of us are awake to the fact that to date in this war 180,000 human beings have died for each of the 991 pages

of Hitler's hymn of hate, 'Mein Kampf'; that 300 men, women and children have died for every word in that infamous volume."

Hope for a better future based on a new attitude as exemplified in the case of returning colored veterans whose white comrades stood ready to "break up the joint" when they were refused food in a Washington department store, was seen by White.

In this situation, MP's summoned to the scene (themselves World War veterans) said: "If these men who have fought together overseas, seen their buddies die, themselves wounded, want to eat together, we don't have a damn thing to do with it."

White Turns Prophet

Mr. White concluded prophetically, "The ten years after the war is finally over will unquestionably be the most critical in all human history. We will have to demonstrate then whether we are in earnest in pledging at San Francisco that there shall be no discrimination on account of 'race, religion, language or sex.'

"If the example of the veterans in the Washington department store characterizes our post-war racial attitude at home and abroad, then there is hope of lasting peace.

"If, however, the majority of the people of the world, who are colored, see in the United States a recrudescence of organizations like the Ku-Kluz Klan, of riots, of lynchings and of racial proscription, then their faith in us will be reduced and their fear of us will grow to the point of explsion. 7-14-45

Vets Must Enjoy Freedom

"We cannot afford the dangerous fatalism of accepting the inevitability of post-war riots. We cannot afford to let 700,000 colored Americans now overseas return to find that the freedom for which they fought is not shared by them. Many of them have reason to fear just that.

"A few days ago a colored soldier in the China-Burma-India theater wrote me that the soldiers of a white regiment near his own greeted the news of German's surrender with joyous shouts of 'Two down—one to go.' But the colored soldiers' comment was 'Two down and two to go—Japan and race prejudice back home.'

"Will the overwhelming majority of Americans who are willing to give their lives and fortunes for preservation of democracy arouse themselves in time to defeat the bigots at home and abroad who are sowing the seeds of racial hate? In the answer to that question lies in large measure the fate of us all."

Negro GI's Jim Crowed In India; Red Cross Worker Quits In Protest

Chicago Def 7-7-45

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

NEW DELHI, India — Dixie tradition won a smashing victory when it was announced last week that the palatial swimming pool, newly-built in Calcutta, would be run on Jim-Crow basis.

According to the policy laid down by Brig. Gen. Robert Neyland's headquarters, Negro troops will use the pool two days a week and every third Sunday. All other days will be reserved for white troops.

Though the specific order making ruling does not state "Negro troops" every camp and Red Cross directed to use pool on these two "exclusive" days is 100 per cent colored.

Morale Fades

When announcement was made the morale of Negro troops at the Calcutta base, which had considerably improved recently as a result of modifications of discrimination policy strictly adhered to by Neyland's predecessor, Maj. Gen Francis Cheeves, struck a new low.

Intensely incensed, the colored GI's openly proclaimed determination to organize a mass demonstration in protest against this policy. Only the strongest pleas by more level-headed Negro soldiers and civilians stationed in this area prevented tragic consequences which would result from this action.

In view of the temper of the soldiers, Red Cross workers are refusing to conduct tours to the new pool. Rodney Higgins of St. Louis, Mo, director of the Negro Rest Camp Red Cross club, in a letter to Red Cross headquarters pointed out this policy violated American principles of democracy and warned that in view of the temper of the sun-tan GI's, his staff could not comply with request to conduct parties to the pool. Mild-mannered Boyd Overton, director of the Cosmos club and stationed overseas for 18 months was forced to take a similar stand. 7-14-45

Asked to Accept Jim-Crow

Both directors were called in by National Red Cross Headquarters and requested to use every means possible to force acceptance of the policy by their staffs. As Thomas W. Irving, acting national director, is reported to have stated in an interview with Overton: "The Red Cross is adjunct of the army and as such cannot afford to buck policies laid down by theater command."

At least one Red Cross worker has resigned in part for this policy She is Geraldine F. Smith, Chicago school teacher at Forrestville school, who took a leave of absence to become assistant director of the Cosmos club "because she wanted to do something to help colored boys overseas." The former school teacher stated in her letter of resignation that the discriminatory attitude of the India Branch Red Cross among other things implied in the army swimming pool policy made it impossible for her to do an effective job. She is at present awaiting acceptance of resignation and transportation home.

In answer to queries by this correspondent top-flight officers of the base command give as a reason for this policy, "Fear that there will be a wave of friction between Negro and white GI's especially since a number of American white women stationed in this area will use pool."

Southerners Influence Policy

It is believed however that the personal attitudes of a number of the staff officers, many of whom are southerners, have gone a long way in influencing their advice to Gen. Neyland causing them to evince far more concern about racial friction than facts warrant. There have been no serious outbreaks between white and colored soldiers in this theatre. In fact along the Ledo Road where discrimination has not been practiced there has been the friendliest feeling between the two groups.

Because of the intense India heat, decent swimming facilities are a great booster of troop morale. It was the realization of this need which prompted the army to build its new 140x240 foot tank for GI's though in the past white troops have not been entirely devoid of decent facilities. Through the generosity of two British swim clubs, the Calcutta Swim club, and Marine club, both of which refused permission for Negroes to enter, they have been allowed attendance under supervision of American Red Cross. The only provision the Red Cross made for Negro troops was at so-called Crystal Pool, which could be compared only to "old family swimming hole."

While white troops stationed in comparative luxury of New Delhi and Calcutta may go to cool in mountain rest camps to rebuild morale and physiques during this intense heat, colored troops who have admittedly had the toughest job, building the Ledo Road through malarial infested jungles of Burma and have done a magnificent job, are only allowed to come to a rest camp near filthy disease-ridden Calcutta and by this latest ruling are deprived of complete use of facilities provided there.

Says Mistreatment Embitters Negro Service Man

Daily Worker

CINCINNATI, July 15. — Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said in a broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System here that Negro soldiers whom he met in the Pacific told him of their disappointment and dissatisfaction over continued practice of "those racial theories they were supposedly fighting to destroy." The broadcast was approved by the Army and the Navy.

White cited the cases of a white Marine who, "without provocation, heckled and fired upon Negro Navy base camps on at least four occasions." Negroes who were forced to defend themselves were later charged with unlawful assemblage and rioting. 7-16-45

"The point I wish to make," White said, after reviewing other similar cases, "is not of such clashes which race prejudice has unfortunately caused in many theaters of war. I want to personalize the corrosive effect of ignorance, bigotry and proscription."

He charged that the spirits of many Negro soldiers had been adversely affected.

"The perilous effect of such manifestations of race prejudice," White declared, "extends beyond the American Negro to the natives whose aid we need now in winning the war." 7-16-45

There was a brighter side, however, he said, referring to performances of the 93d Division, commanded by Gen. Dunckel, the role of Negro GIs in constructing roads and airfields, and of Negro troops' handling thousands of tons of supplies close on the heels of invasion troops.

He said that many white men in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps now realized that "the problem of race is neither a sectional nor a national one in the United States, but, increasingly, an important world problem."

"Men cannot be quite the same again in their opinions of each other when they have seen their comrades die for an ideal commonly held," he said, adding that it was "tragic that it took a war costing millions of lives and billions of dollars to teach us this lesson." 7-16-45

He estimated that, to date, 180,000 men have died "for each of the 991 pages of Mein Kampf" and that 300 men, women and children have died for every word in that infamous volume."

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Views on VOP Topics

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Your Voice of the People column of July 14 contained several exceptionally interesting letters. I should like to add my opinions to those expressed in that issue.

First, I agree that the Jim Crow segregation laws are obsolete here as well as in my home State of Texas. 7-21-45

Second, as to the Negro soldier's record in this war, from what I saw in Europe, he has done what has been asked of him—and more. It is a shame that there are oft-times irresponsible men in responsible positions who will show such narrow-minded prejudice and poor judgment as did the Senator from Mississippi in his remarks about the Negro soldier.

Third, I think that to make FEPC a permanent part of our government would be a mistake. I thoroughly endorse its high motives, but I oppose its methods. Neither decency nor fairness can be legislated. The problems of the Negro and of fair employment without discrimination are problems with a long historical background, and the solutions must evolve through education and understanding. The answer does not lie in the dictates of a governmental bureau. To tell a man whom he can or cannot hire is a definite infringement upon his rights. 7-21-45

Lastly, to the sob sisters who cry for a negotiated peace with Japan—baloney!

CPL. ROBERT B. WILLIAMSON.
Camp Pickett.

Truman Asked To Rid Army Of Discrimination

5-5-45

Atlanta World

Georgia

Representatives Of 25 Groups Join In Appeal

BUTLER, N. J. — (SNS — Meeting over the weekend at Goodwill Camp, representatives of 25 national organizations, of all racial and religious affiliations formed the National Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Services and addressed a resolution to President Harry S. Truman urging that as Commander-in-Chief he issue a proclamation abolishing every vestige of segregation in the armed services.

Gathered together at the invitation of A. Phillip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL; Willard S. Townsend, president, United Transport Service Employees, CIO; Morris Milgram, national secretary, Workers Defense League, and Wilfred Kerr, chairman, Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, the delegates voted to form a permanent organization known as the National Committee to Abolish Segregation in the armed Services, to cooperate with all existing organizations presently engaged in the fight, and to enlist the support of organizations all over the country in the campaign.

DEMANDS EQUALITY

5-5-45

A feature of the conference was an address by Mayor N. D. Mace of the Borough of Butler, himself a veteran of World War I, who declared that "the only way to stop future wars is to treat mankind equally." He said that "no matter who you are, or where you came from, you have a right to equal opportunity on this earth."

Named as members of the planning committee to perfect plans for the organization were, in addition to Mr. Randolph and Mr. Kerr, Layle Lane, Merrit C. Brown, Morris Milgram, Louis B. Greenberg, Robert L. Carter, Ezra Parrott, Sol Stetin, William E. Hill, Ludlow Werner, Mrs. T. D. McNeal, Guichard Parris, Theodore Griffin and Clara Clayman.

5-5-45

DOCTRINES FALSE

The conference resolution, unanimously adopted, read as follows:

"At a time when the armed forces of the United States are engaged with the United Nations in the total defeat of governments predicated upon military despotism and wholly false doctrines of racial superiority, and

"At a time when there are vast numbers of the armed forces of the United States fighting and dying for a freedom which they have not been accorded in their native land, and

"Whereas it is totally inconsistent with the great sacrifices which all elements of our nation are making to establish, preserve and perpetuate freedom upon this earth that the Negro soldiers and soldiers of other minority groups should be subjected to segregation and other discriminatory practices, and

"At a time, too, when the United Nations are engaged in establishing the structure for a permanent organization to insure world peace and in the words of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, to 'promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedom,' and

"Since racial equality and the complete integration of all groups are essential for real peace and international cooperation,

"Therefore we call upon you Mr President, as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of the United States, and we call upon the Military Staff and the Congress of the United States to abolish every vestige of segregation and discrimination now practised. Only in this way can the United States maintain an unassailble positoin of world leadership in the fight for freedom."

No Mention Made Of Navy Barrier

Atlanta World.

1-11-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—While the Navy persists in its total exclusion of Negro nurses and the Army takes only a handful and uses all those sent overseas to minister to German prisoners, President Roosevelt made a plea to Congress, in his message on the State of the Union, for amendment of the Selective Service Act to provide for the induction of nurses into the armed forces.

"One of the most urgent immediate requirements of the armed forces," the President declared, "is more nurses." Last April the Army requirement for nurses was set at 50,000. Actual strength in nurses was then 40,000. Since that time the Army has tried to raise the additional 10,000. Active recruiting has been carried on, but the net gain in eight months has been only 2,000. There are now 42,000 nurses in the Army.

1-11-45

"Recent estimates," he continued, "have increased the total number needed to 60,000. That means that 18,000 more nurses must be obtained for the Army alone and the Navy now requires 2,000 additional nurses."

He went on to point out that the present shortage of Army nurses is reflected in undue strain on the existing force. More than a thousand nurses are now hospitalized, he stated, and part of this is due to overwork. "The shortage is also indicated by the fact that eleven Army hospital units have been sent overseas without their complement of nurses." At Army hospitals in the United States, he continued, there is only one nurse to 26 beds, instead of the recommended one to 15 beds.

1-11-45

"It is tragic that the gallant women who have volunteered for service as nurses should be so overworked. It is tragic that our wounded men should ever want for the best possible nursing care," the President emphasized.

He cited figures to show that the inability to get the needed nurses for the Army is not due to any shortage of nurses. 280,000 registered nurses are now practicing in this country he said. It has been estimated by the War Manpower Commission that 27,000 additional nurses could be made available to the armed forces without interfering too seriously with the needs of the civilian population for nurses for nurses.

1-11-45

At no point, however, did the President recommend that the Army and Navy discard their discriminatory policies toward Negro nurses.

White Officer Pleads for Justice to Colored GI's

afro-American 1-13-45

ATLANTA, Ga. (ANP)—Declaring that it has been his experience as an officer that colored men make first-rate soldiers, Lt. Jerome Chaiken, just returned from combat and now assigned to Fort Benning, in a letter to the Atlanta Journal asks, "Why don't we treat them as first-rate citizens?"

3-3-45

"Despite what cynics say," he continues, "I like to feel we are at death grips with the Nazis and Japs because they tried to deny man his fundamental right to be free. Yet there are those among us, soldiers and civilians, supposedly at odds with the enemy, who unconsciously or intentionally refuse to grant certain segments of this nation their inalienable right to be free.

"If we allow justice and reason to govern our thinking, the day will come when the spirit of Lincoln will not be just a dream but a reality. On that day the seeds of peace will transplant those of war. For then men will prove they can live together in harmony, regardless of race, color or creed."

Eastland of Mississippi

(Cleveland Call and Post, July 21)

WHEN U. S. Senator James Oliver Eastland of Mississippi tried on the floor of the Senate to besmirch the record of Negroes serving in the armed services of this nation, he stepped too far. The reaction of the press of the nation has been unanimously against him.

The Ohio State Journal of Columbus was representative of the nation when it said: "His (Eastland) attack on our Negro soldier in Europe was both uncalled for and unfair." Papers all over the nation have branded Eastland for the liar and charlatan that he is.

Until the political intelligence of the South is raised to a higher level than Eastland, America cannot do too much boasting about its democracy. Senator Eastland is elected from a state that is the second lowest in the number of votes cast in elections. Less than 20 per cent of the people in his state voted in 1944. He embodies all the backwardness and bigotry of the South. His state has a $2 poll tax. Eastland is one of the best reasons as to why the South is the nation's number one problem.

Star Quits Dixie Camp

'Officer Slammed Door In Her Face,' Lena Says

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.
1-20-45

WASHINGTON—The War Department expects an early report of the Army investigation of the difficulties which Lena Horne, star of stage, screen and radio, ran into at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark., while on an entertainment tour of Southern camps, an authoritative source said last Saturday.

Miss Horne made her charges of rude treatment to the Hollywood Victory Committee and the USO which were responsible for her tour. She said her reception at Camp Robinson was cool and the special service officer there was rude to her and slammed a door in her face.

According to her version of the incident, no arrangements had been made for her appearance. While entertaining white troops on the post, she said, she noticed admissions were being charged and no colored soldiers were in the audience.

1-20-45

NAZI IN AUDIENCE

Upon inquiry, she said, she was told admissions were charged to keep civilians out of the post theatres and that there were only 50 colored soldiers on the post and they would be reached later during her tour of the post.

She said she discovered at a USO Center in Little Rock that the colored soldiers did not know she was appearing at the camp. The next day she insisted that a piano be sent to the mess hall of the colored troops and she put on a full show for them at breakfast. White civilians drifted in during her performance but left after breakfast was served, she said. Upon seeing German prisoners of war in the audience, she refused to continue the tour of the post.

After she left the post, she said, a Service Club hostess called her to say the commanding officer wanted her to return to the post to discuss the matter, but she replied no discussion was necessary, at every other post or camp she had seen the commanding officer first, and she was returning to Hollywood.

the week

AFRO-AMERICAN

Jim-Crow Navy

Anti-Semitism

1-20-45 Balt. Md.

By CARL MURPHY

Ensign Giles Smith, one of twelve colored men commissioned by the Navy, is back in Great Lakes after less than a day's assignment to New Orleans.

Upon his arrival there, he was told that he couldn't stay because he might be killed. Dixie, it was said, is "not ready yet" for colored Naval officers. He was shipped out the same day he arrived. He now has detachment orders for the Southwest Pacific.

Ensign Smith's original transfer to New Orleans was punishment for asking his senior officer, one Captain Fields, for tickets to the Sonja Heine ice skating show in Chicago.

Taboos

The original twelve colored Navy ensigns were ordered not to visit the officers' club at Great Lakes, and not to associate with white officers, even when whites extended the invitation.

When studying for their commissions, they were segregated in one barracks, not the Mainside regular officers' schools.

White seamen are brought to colored camps to train colored boots (recruits), to become familiar with colored personnel, get commissions, and take colored drafts out to base companies.

Promotion Limited

For dozens of colored seamen with high college degrees, lawyers and businessmen of experience there has been no chance to file papers for officer procurement.

Ratings are pegged. Only a certain number may go to colored sailors. No matter how useful he may be, he remains a striker.

The Army has over 5,000 colored officers; the Navy fewer than 50. The Army has 247 colored nurses, the Navy none.

1-20-45

New Commander

Commander D. A. Armstrong (of the Hampton Institute Armstrongs) a good egg, is out. The new officer in charge of training colored recruits is Lt. Commander V. A. Krauffold. No progressive changes have taken place since September.

A barracks is being readied at Camp Robert Smalls in which to quarter colored WAVES.

A prediction I hope will not come true—That colored WAVES are to be used in chow halls as cooks, bakers and strikers.

Attempts to Incite Riot on SS Murphy Foiled by Crew

AFRO-AMERICAN
Baltimore, Md.

By D. R. RICHARDS

NEW YORK.—The story of the prevention of a race riot by the crew aboard the S.S. John H. Murphy in February was brought to the attention of the AFRO, this week.

5-5-45

It all began when a white Army lieutenant, backed up by a white Navy officer, went looking for trouble aboard the ship by calling colored officers names, using profane language, and challenging them to fight.

The incident occurred on the night of Feb. 21, 1945, and only the cool-headedness of the colored officers prevented a battle royal. The crew got together, appointed a committee to investigate, and presented a report of the case to the commanding officer of the armed guard.

5-5-45

Army Officer Arrested

As a result, the Army lieutenant was arrested pending a court-martial, and the Navy officer submitted an apology to the crew.

The text of the report made by the committee and signed by Ensign Maxie J. Broughton, USMS, is as follows:

"Around 22:15 on the night of Feb. 21, 1945, the chief steward and second assistant engineer entered my room and reported to me that the Army lieutenant was in the officers' saloon starting trouble by insulting the officers of this vessel.

5-5-45

'The steward called the Navy lieutenant also because some of the armed guard were involved. I went down to the saloon and looked for the Army lieutenant, but did not see him. I then went to the gangway and the Army lieutenant was going down the gangway with some enlisted men of the Army.

Challenged Men to Fight

"This lieutenant started pulling off his field jacket and calling the ship's officers names. When he got off the gangway, he began using profane language to the ship's officers about what they did to colored in Texas and inviting them on the docks to fight.

"It seemed as if this lieutenant was trying to start a race riot by the remarks he was making, with the backing up he got from the armed guard yelling: 'Call out the Navy.'

"When he heard that, it seemed to give him more power to curse and insult the officers of this vessel, but as officers and gentlemen of this vessel, we are referring this case to higher officals for action immediately."

Navy Officer Apologized

After the case was brought to light, the Navy officer who was the chief co-instigator with the Army lieutenant of the provocation humbly apologized for his actions to the crew.

He stated that he realized that his remarks of that evening were cowardly and that they could have well led to bloodshed and the breaking down of authority aboard the ship. He promised to rectify his mistake by his perfect behavior in the future.

Several days later, Col. Perry E. Euchner of the Inspector General's Department, came aboard and took sworn statements from officers involved in the incident and from members of the ship's committee.

Upon leaving he said that the Army officer had been arrested and would in the near future be court-martialed. Colonel Euchner also promised an apology from his section of the U.S. Army.

The committee on the ship which investigated and reported to the commanding officer included Harry Allison, boatswain; Raymond Grandy, carpenter; Joseph Thomas, deck engineer; and Hyman Hodes, seaman.

Beaver, Pa., April 3

The Nation

Dear Sirs: I recently had the misfortune to meet a high-ranking American officer who boasted that he had been "transferred" from three commands because of his openly expressed anti-Semitic views. This officer has not been dismissed from the service; he has merely been transferred. By its "attitude of non-intervention" the army has helped perpetuate existing prejudices. Prejudice is not instinctive; anti-Semitic and anti-Negro attitudes are developed in growing citizens by the deliberate anti-democratic propaganda of an adult minority. Incidents involving racial prejudice should be reported to the proper authorities whenever possible, and should be widely publicized. Attempts should be made to educate the guilty toward a more democratic way of life.

5-26-45

SERVICE MAN

April 27

Protests Humiliation

Segregate Nurses At Army POW Camp

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.
1-20-45

NEW YORK—Humiliation of Negro Army nurses in the presence of German prisoners, as a result of discriminatory orders issued by an officer in the Prisoner of War Camp Hospital in Florence, Ariz., was brought to the attention of the War Department by the NAACP in a letter to Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy.

The letter read: "We have received information from Florence, Ariz., that American Army nurses have been ordered by a Major Simpson to eat in a separate dining room.

PRISONERS OF WAR WITNESS HUMILIATION

"These nurses, we understand, are in a hospital at the Prisoner of War Camp at Florence. They feel especially humiliated and degraded because, even though in the uniform of the United States Army, they were set apart under the very noses of German war prisoners who serve as cooks and waiters in the hospital officers' mess.

"The nurses felt their humiliation so keenly that on the first day the order was supposed to take effect they seated themselves in their old stations in the dining room whereupon Major Simpson called the chief nurse and publicly told her that the separate arrangement had been instituted because it was the way he wanted it and the nurses must obey because they were in the Army and had sworn to obey orders of their superior officers.

1-20-45

ARMY NOT ANXIOUS TO INCREASE NURSES

"The German prisoners, of course, looked on this scene with great glee, and the Negro nurses went to their jim crow dining room boiling mad.

"We understand from announcements from Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General United States Army, that the Army is not anxious to increase the number of Negro nurses, but if incidents like the foregoing illustrate Army policy, I am sure you can understand that Negro nurses in their turn are not anxious to serve in the Army."

Arrest of 162 Officers Studied

AFRO-American

5-26-45

War Dept. Refuses to Make Report Public

DISPUTE HINTED

Balt., Md.

Fate of Col. Selway, Storm Center; in Doubt

WASHINGTON

The report of the investigation into the arrest of 162 flying officers at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind., in connection with the attempted use of an officers' club by colored commissioned personnel while stationed there, is under consideration in the War Department.

Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson disclosed this information at a press conference Thursday in reply to an impertinent question imputing bad faith to the War Department in not making public the report immediately.

5-26-45

Refusal Defended

The refusal to make public the report, Mr. Patterson said, "is not a deliberate attempt on the part of the War Department to suppress news and it is not a delay caused by bickering in the War Department."

He stated that "there is a report, made by the Inspector General's Department; it is here, it is very voluminous, and it is under consideration." He added that "the matter is being thoroughly considered."

Disagreement Suspected

Failure of the War Department to make public the report may most likely be attributed to disagreement in the War Department over recommendations contained in it.

5-26-45

The report is a classified document, meaning it is secret, restricted, or confidential, and its contents will not be made public until it has been declassified.

Just who is in disagreement with the report could not be learned. It may be Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air Forces, Assistant Secretary John J. McCloy, or Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

It was understood at the time the investigation was begun that the report would go to the McCloy committee for its concurrence or recommendation. This committee is concerned with policies affecting colored troops.

The primary issue involved in this investigation is very simple. It concerns the right of any officer at any post, station or camp to be admitted to any club established for the use of commissioned personnel.

5-26-45

An Army regulation states that no officer shall be denied admittance to any officers' club at any post, camp or station.

After the arrival of the 477th Medium Bombardment Group at Freeman Field, the stratagem was adopted of setting aside an officers' club for instructor personnel and an officers' club for student personnel. It happened that all the teacher personnel were white officers and all the student personnel were colored officers.

Only 3 Still Held

The first attempt of colored officers to use the teacher-officers' club occurred on April 5 and 6. A number of them was arrested. All were released except Lts. Marsden Thompson, Roger C. Perry and Shirley R. Clinton, against whom charges were preferred for the alleged jostling of an officer while attempting to enter the club.

A week later 101 colored officers were arrested for refusing to obey a direct order of their superior officer.

5-26-45

They were charged with refusing to certify that they had read a base order issued by Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., the commanding officer of the base and also of the bomber group. This order specifically set aside one club for teacher personnel and the other for student personnel.

Selway's Fate in Doubt

Also necessarily involved in the investigation is the question of the further usefulness of Colonel Selway as commanding officer of the bomber group. The officers under his command have had similar trouble at both Selfridge Field, Mich., and at Godman Field, Ky.

The antagonisms aroused among the colored officers by his efforts to impose race segregation is known to have had an adverse effect upon them.

When the War Department ordered an investigation of the trouble under the supervision of the Inspector General of the Army, all further action was frozen. However, the 101 officers arrested for refusing to certify that they had read the base order was released.

Army Mess Hall Jim Crow at Indiantown Gap Hospital Ended

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

INDIANTOWN GAP, — Pa. The War Department has put an end to segregation at mealtime of patients in the Army hospital here.

5-26-45

Although there has been no segregation in the sleeping quarters which the men occupy, hospital attendants, contrary to Army orders, had directed colored soldiers to certain tables and white soldiers to others.

Following an official investigation, patients are now permitted to sit wherever they please in the mess hall.

Colored Flyers Barred From Squadron's Party

AFRO-AMERICAN

5-26-45

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — Although they helped support the party and veterans' memorial dance — an all-squad party — Squadron C (colored) were not permitted to participate in the dance April 19, at which Benny Carter's band played, on orders of the commanding officer.

When after reading the notice on the bulletin board, signed by the commanding officer, members of Squadron C, only colored squad on the field, asked their CO about it, he said a group of outside girls had remarked that they would not attend if Squadron C attended.

Flagrant Discrimination

New York Age

Editor: The New York Age:

I am an officer returned back from a tour of duty overseas. There I had occasion to work with and hear about the heroic work of our Negro troops.

N.Y. Age

At Atlantic City, those who have completed their tour of duty are allowed rest and recreation. Negroes are given the same privileges as the white boys in the Air Force hotels. However, there are still flagrant cases of discrimination.

5-26-45

The other day, several men, including two Negroes, took an Army bus to a private gold club that was enjoying the benefits of Army patronage. The two Negroes had just returned from overseas and had several ribbons on. One of the boys had a Purple Heart. The boys were curtly told that Negroes were not allowed on the course and were not allowed to play. This on the day when the victory they had helped bring about was announced.

5-26-45

This club at which this happened was the Ocean City Country Club, at Somers Point, N. J. I understand other clubs in the vicinity have the same policy. If the Army cannot dictate the policy of the clubs because they are private, the least they can do is NOT make these places available to our soldiers by running buses to the grounds. What can a Negro soldier think of a democracy for which he had risked his life, but which slaps him in the face so cruelly?

OFFICER U. S. ARMY

Atlantic City, N. J.

Wounded Vets Urged to Play Golf, But No Negroes

Washington Tribune

Washington, D.C.

By Calvin News Service

5-26-45

According to the rehabilitation program of the Professional Golfers' Association, following a special meeting in the Washington offices of Colonel Augustus Thorndike, Medical Corps, U.A.A., where the swanky country clubs like Chevy Chase, Woodmont, Indian Springs, and Virginia Beach of Washington, D.C., plus some from Baltimore, were represented, a grand program is in the offing for golfing for wounded vets with no mention being made of the Negro golfers, who were sent back to the United States in pieces.

The reason for bringing up the Negro question is due to the fact that the pros attending Colonel Thorndike's meeting know full well that few, if any, ever play on the links of the exclusive clubs around Washington and Baltimore.

In Baltimore, most Negroes frequent the Carroll Park Course and in Washington they flock to the Langston Hughes Course (adjoining the project) and go to the Rock Creek Course which is partially or wholly municipal.

L *Efforts are Being Made* L

5-26-45

Leo Diegel is the national PGA rehabilitation director. He is doing wonders at making golf available for wounded vets at the Valley Forge Hospital near Philadelphia and Forest Glen and Walter Reed Hospitals in the D.C. area.

Information reveals that wounded Navy men use the Woodmont course while the ritzy Chevy Chase has abandoned its usual high-toned attitude. The facilities of Columbia, Indian Spring, and Kenwood are supposed to be available to all injured servicemen.

The pros made a generalized statement in remarking, "We can't do enough for those boys," but few Negroes have turned out and which can be a matter of serious or non-serious conjecture. The $64 question is "How much is considered enough for a Negro — especially by borderline residents of D.C. and Maryland?"

The Wacs and the Seabees

Highlighting the news of the past week was the action of the Army's Judge Advocate General's office in voiding the sentences of four Wacs at Camp Devens, Mass., and the action of the Navy Review Board in changing from "dishonorable" to "honorable" the discharges of fourteen members of the 80th Naval Construction Battalion.

The Wacs, who had each been sentenced to a year at hard labor, plus dishonorable discharge, because they refused to perform menial tasks at Lovell General Hospital on the ground that white Wacs were not so assigned, are now back on duty. This is as it should be and as predicted here two weeks ago. afro-American

The case against them is closed but not so is the case against Col. Walter M. Crandall, hospital commander, whom they charge with saying that he did not want "any black Wacs" as hospital technicians or in the motor pool at Devens.

In our book, Colonel Crandall's offense, if proved, is far more serious than that of the four young women. His words, if true, libel every colored woman in the United States and indicate definitely that he is not fit to be in command. 4-14-45

It does not seem reasonable that the Army should let him off without trial. In spite of its segregated pattern, the Army, by recent directives, has made it clear that discrimination, such as is charged, will not be countenanced. It can prove that it means business by having Colonel Crandall answer the charges leveled at him, just as the Wacs were required to answer. Baltimore, Md.

The case of the Seabees indicates that the Navy, which has been slow to adopt in practice the democratic ideal which it has preached, is now willing to admit that there are two sides to every question. The Navy has been noted for its mass trials and convictions.

The Port Chicago mutiny trial in which 50 men were sentenced to serve prison terms of from five to fifteen years, is still fresh in the public mind and efforts are still being made to have these sentences reviewed.

The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund is still accepting contributions toward the defense of these men for whom there is still a ray of hope. The trial record and briefs are now being reviewed by the Judge Advocate General of the Navy and his decision will be reviewed by Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal.

There is evidence that when the facts are brought to the attention of proper and responsible authorities there is reason to believe that the ends of justice will be served. Too often, it must be admitted, such authorities have not been reached.

Patriotism on the part of colored Americans has never been questioned and records do not reveal the conviction for treason of any colored American. This is a record of which we are justly proud.

We ask that the Government complement this record by building a record of fairness and square-dealing. None can deny we are entitled to it.

And while on this subject, let the Navy bear in mind that while it now has around 160,000 colored men serving, it has less than 35 colored commissioned officers, some of these warrant officers.

Since every "incident" reported by the Navy has been traceable to a conflict involving enlisted men and white officers, might not they be materially reduced by placement of more colored officers in responsible positions?

Atlanta Ignores Negro Citizens in Celebration Honoring Gen. Hodges

The Call 6-8-45

ATLANTA. — (ANP) — Although many Negroes from Georgia were members of Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First army in the European Theater of Operations including those who for the first time in modern history fought side by side with white Americans, Atlanta officials in arranging for the gigantic welcome party for the returning Georgia-born commander chose to ignore them.

No Negro faces were seen among the score or more officers and enlisted men flown to Atlanta for the celebration and no Negroes were included in the line of march.

The Booker T. Washington high school band was called at the last minute to stand and play at the tail end of the procession, but did not march. The Atlanta Naval Air base band, composed of Negro musicians with a white commander, played a brief concert in the heart of the city. 6-8-45

Chief Specialist Graham W. Jackson of the navy was called upon to perform on the piano and his accordion at the Hotel Biltmore at the formal reception tendered Gen. Hodges Thursday night. Kansas City, Mo.

The whole affair left a bitter taste in the mouths of many Negro Atlantans who knew their sons, too, had fought with Gen. Hodges to achieve the victory the city celebrated.

CLEVELAND, O.
NEWS
Cir. D. 122,094

MAY 29 1945

Assert Hospital Segregates Its Negro Nurses

Segregation of 10 Negro cadet nurses at U. S. Marine Hospital was protested today by the Cleveland branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

According to Dr. N. K. Christopher, branch president, the Negro cadets, who were assigned to the hospital May 1, live in a housing unit separated from other occupants of the building.

"We ask all citizens to take cognizance of this threat to improved inter-group relations," Dr. Christopher said. Adding that the NAACP had voiced its first protest to Dr. A. R. Sweeney, commanding officer at the hospital, shortly after the arrival of the student nurses, the only cadet nurses assigned to the hospital.

"After a week's consideration, Dr. Sweeney informed us that he was not willing to change any of the facilities provided for the Negro cadets," Dr. Christopher said.

He added that the group had sent protests to Congressman Frances P. Bolton, Senator Harold Burton and Surgeon General Thomas Parran of the U. S. Public Health Service.

A letter received yesterday from the latter's office indicated that "it has been a policy in all hospitals to group cadet nurses together."

'To Hell With Bilbo' Meeting Puts Fear in Miss. Senator

AFRO-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Asserting that his attitude toward colored people, Catholics and Jews was being misrepresented, Sen. Theodore G. (The Man) Bilbo (D., Miss.), declared Friday that he is not as narrow or bigoted as he had been made out to be. 7-14-45

Bilbo was provoked by a newspaper item which stated that a "To Hell with Bilbo" mass meeting was being held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in NYC to demand his impeachment for his vilification of racial and religious groups during the Senate filibuster against an FEPC appropriation.

Double Talk

He defied anyone to find in his two-day tirade "any denouncement of Jews as Jews, Catholics as Catholics, or colored people as colored people."

"Others may do it, but I do not denounce them as a class, or as races," he said. "God knows, I am not that narrow or bigoted."

Some of his best friends are Catholics and Jews, Bilbo said. Nearly all Catholics in Mississippi vote for him, he added. "Jesus Christ was a Jew," he said, adding that "Some of my associates are Jews."

Slaps at Randolph

Bilbo said he was talking about individuals, "for example, A. Philip Randolph, who threatened to bring 200,000 colored people into Washington and in that way persuaded the President to issue the original executive order which created the damnable FEPC."

While professing great admiration for Jews, Bilbo could not refrain from applying an epithet to them. He said there "is a certain class of 'kike' Jews in New York, organized with the CIO and the colored people in a drive to cram this piece of legislation (FEPC) down the throats of the American people." He added that that is the class to which he refers.

Dewey "Doomed"

Evidently beginning another tirade, Bilbo declared that Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York "is dead politically." He said "when the people of New York finds out what he has put over on them in the form of the FEPC law, he will not be able to muster a corporal's guard to vote for him for President."

Before Bilbo could get warmed up, the president pro tempore, Sen. Kenneth D. McKellar (D., Tenn.), admonished him that it was against Senate rules for Senators to speak during the morning hour when the Senate is transacting routine business.

Bitter Race Hatred in Navy Bared by Veteran Chaplain

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. 12-25-45

BOSTON—Bitter racial hatreds aboard the ship to which he was assigned were vigorously condemned by Lt. Comdr. Harvey Swanson, Naval chaplain of Lancaster, Pa.

Charging enlisted men with being guilty of "the most bitter forms of race hatred," he asserted, "the moral rottenness, deep-seated, dangerous and widespread, is still on the increase, and covered with a conspiracy of silence that I for one can no longer condone."

"All this talk about the beautiful comradery of the men is untrue. One colored man with a college education, by the policy of the Navy, could not advance to petty officer rank, because other sailors would not tolerate his being their superior."

56d-1945

Discrimination

Negro Soldiers Military Civilian Police In Early Tuesday Morning Incident

Atlanta World Ga. 3-9-45

JACKSON, Miss. — Negro soldiers and military and civilian police were involved in an incident here early Tuesday morning that rapidly became the subject of many conflicting rumors and reports throughout the city.

The incident took place at the Illinois Central Railroad Station between six and seven o'clock. According to reports, a group of Negro soldiers had arrived in Jackson aboard an earlier train and while awaiting the departure of the train on which they were to continue their journey to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, began fratenizing with white soldiers whom they met upon arrival in Jackson in the lobby between the White and Negro waiting rooms. 3-9-45

When military police sought to break up the fraternizing which was somewhat loud, probably due to a little drinking among some of the group they are said to have been threatened with a weapon said to have been in the possession of one of the soldiers.

While the soldiers and military police were engaged, word of the engagement reached the civilian police. In the meantime, however, the Negro soldiers had all returned to their car which had been set out on the station tracks to await being attached to the south bound train.

According to reports, upon arrival at the station the squad of uniformed and plain clothes police, who were heavily and unusually armed, went up the stairs to the car where most of the soldiers were still undressed and in bed and ordered them out of the car, lined them up along its walls and proceeded to search them. 3-9-45

While the military police stood by and looked on and some of the civilian police searched, several of the soldiers were beaten with black jacks and clubs by the civilian police, several being left bloody followed the beatings.

None of the soldiers were arrested, according to reports, but were ordered back to the car where they remained until the departure of the train. 3-9-45

A report that the soldiers had just returned to America, and were enroute to Shelby on the Army Furlough Plan, after more than 24 months in the South and Southwest Pacific was not confirmed.

Meantime, members of the Jackson Negro Chamber of Commerce in their meeting Tuesday night were endeavoring to have the matter brought before the Interracial Committee which is composed of Major W. Calvin Wells, Mr. Guy Lowe, Dr. Gillispie, President of Belhaven College and Mayor Leland Speed, of the White Chamber of Commerce, Prof. I. S. Danders, Jack Harvey Young, and Walter H. "Duke" Williams of the Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Hinton

Journal 3-17-45

The Navy Opens The Door To Its Holiest of Holies

THE NAVY last week, a bit reluctantly, let down the bars to its last stronghold of racial bias and opened the door to its holiest of holies by admitting to the nurse corps for the first time an American woman of African descent. She was Miss Phyllis Mae Daley, R.N., native New Yorker who on Thursday was commissioned an ensign, along with four young white women, at the office of Naval Officer Procurement in New York City. 3-17-45

3-17-45

MR. HINTON

The move "culminated" a lengthy fight against the discriminatory practice of the Navy in excluding Negro Americans from this branch of the naval service. The score now stands at one up, and 2,499 to go since, by its own statement, the Navy Nurse Corps is in urgent need of 2,500 additional nurses by June 30.

Slowly, but surely the walls of Jericho, intolerance and interracial misunderstanding are tumbling down—not by a fighting Joshua—but through the medium of an enlightened public opinion—and the grim necessities of total war.

In the absence of any evidence to the contrary I believe it may be safely taken for granted that this latest gesture on the part of the Navy is designed to counteract, at least partially, the bad taste left in the mouths of millions of Americans who read about that tragic hunger strike of a thousand Negro Seabees at the Port Hueneme Naval Base near Oxnard, Calif., last week, and the nationwide repercussions from the Port Chicago "mutiny" trial of 50 Negro Americans wearing the uniform of the United States Navy.

DEMAND FOR REVIEW OF CASE GROWS

It will be recalled that the NAACP has filed an exhaustive brief on behalf of the fifty convicted sailors in the latter case asserting that the verdict should be set aside as there could not be any reason for a mass trial "other than a deliberate attempt to discredit Negro seamen."

As the demand grows for a review of the cases of these fifty men who declined to go back to their tasks of loading ammunition after 322 of their buddies had been blown to bits in the worst disaster of its kind in naval history, additional facts surrounding the circumstances of their arrest as well as on the court martial which sentenced them to a total of 588 years at hard labor, are gradually coming to light. 3-17-45

For example, the American Civil Liberties Union—NEWS of San Francisco, Calif., alleges that 258 of the 338 men who were destined to star in the grim drama at Port Chicago, previously refused to load ammunition on Aug. 9, 1944. Under the circumstances it would seem that the seamen who were court-martialled and herded off to jail were victims of some kind of discrimination. This tends to show that the defendants were simply picked at random, instead of the entire 258 who allegedly refused to work.

Some of the men, according to the American Civil Liberties Union-NEWS, said that they were all lined up with naval officers asking indiscriminately, "Do you want to work?" Some of the seamen said "no," but were never court-martialled! In addition, it has been charged, the men who worked at the Navy supply depot were put to work as operator-handlers and laborers regardless of their past experiences, qualifications—or Navy ratings.

But the Navy picture is not all dark, nor is it quite hopeless; definite progress IS being made. To cite just one case in point. Last Thursday almost at the same hour Miss Daley was being commissioned an ensign in the Navy Nurse Corps in New York City. Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal in Washington was declaring his intention of pursuing vigorous steps toward the integration of Negro Americans into all branches of the Navy.

GRANGER INTERVIEWS NAVY HEAD 3-17-45

The assurance was given to Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, who said that Mr. Forrestal had shown an "encouragingly fresh attitude toward the whole question of racial inequality and discrimination in the armed forces," following a conference with the Navy head.

In addition to emphasizing the need for a thorough investigation of the real conditions under which Negro Americans live and serve in the Navy, Mr. Granger recommended wide assignment of Negro nurses to duty in Naval hospitals; programs for training and commissioning of officer personnel and their assignment to a broad spread of responsibility; correcting unsatisfactory employment conditions in many shipyards and other naval establishments, and wider publicity for Negro Americans engaged in combat in other naval services.

—ALBERT L. HINTON

Given Bronze Star Medal As Senator Rants

New York Amsterdam News

War-Wounded Capt. King Awarded; Platoon Company Gets Presidential Honors

7-14-45

BIRMINGHAM (ANP) — Home on furlough, war-wounded Capt. Beauregard King, nephew of the Rev. B. G. King, prominent local clergyman, was notified of the "Award of Bronze Star medal," by Gen. McAuliffe "for heroic achievement in action."

This citation, ironically, was received by the battle-marked hero of the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion on the day Sen. Eastland of Mississippi was libeling Negro soldiers in the Senate under immunity.

A comrade of Capt. King wrote him a letter in which was packed this striking comment:

Presidential Ribbons

"Gen. McAuliffe, who has gone back to the States, came out and gave the third platoon 'C' Company the Presidential Unit Citation ribbons, the Silver Star to Capt. Smith and Sturckey and Sorreo Nelson. Nelson's platoon, with a platoon of light tanks from the 761st attached, tangled with the Krauts after we broke through the Siegfried line and had quite a hand to hand battle and did a lot of good work.

"Sgt. Spencer banged one German over the head as the German was trying to shoot Nelson, and all in all, there was a lot of fighting, and good work on the part of our men." 7-14-45

The Citation

The citation to Capt. King reads, "On March 15, 1945, Capt. King planned and organized a small task force for an attack on France. Leading his men in the attack, Capt. King was severely wounded by enemy automatic weapon fire. After falling to the ground, he called to his second in command and urged him to continue the attack, which resulted in the capture of the village and the taking of a number of prisoners. Capt. King's outstanding leadership reflected the highest tradition of military service."

NAACP Asks Navy Probe of Bias in Seabee Outfit

Negroes Overseas 21 Months Say Promotions Are Withheld

3-7-45 P.M. N.Y.

By JOHN T. MOUTOUX

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Mar. 7.—The NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) has asked the Navy to conduct an immediate investigation of alleged racial discrimination against Negroes in the 34th Construction Battalion, 1000 of whose members went on a two-day hunger strike last weekend. It is an all-Negro Seabee battalion, except for white officers.

The battalion, after 21 months service at Tulagi and Guadalcanal, now is stationed at Port Huenme, Cal., awaiting reassignment overseas.

If the Navy cannot make an immediate investigation, the NAACP asked that the outfit's commanding officer, Cmdr. J. P. MacBean of Meriden, Miss., and his executive officer be detached from the battalion pending a full-fledged probe.

No Promotions

3-7-45

Roy Wilkins, with the NAACP's New York headquarters, said that Norman Houston of its Los Angeles office made a firsthand investigation of the situation at Port Huenme last week, prior to the start of the hunger strike. He found, Wilkins said, that the primary cause of the trouble was that the enlisted men (Negroes) were being passed over in the matter of promotions, which were being given to white men brought in from other outfits.

"More than 50 of the enlisted men are college graduates, and they feel that their experience in addition to their education makes them better qualified for the petty officer ranks than white men from the outside without such experience," Wilkins said. This feeling, he added, is shared by all of the Negroes in the battalion.

The enlisted men blame MacBean and his executive officer for the general dissatisfaction in the outfit.

Houston's findings, as reported to PM by Wilkins, are supported by a large file of letters received over the last nine months by NAACP offices here and in New York from members of the battalion.

The complaints became so numerous and convincing that last Dec. 11 Leslie S. Perry, of the NAACP's Washington office wrote to Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal summarizing the complaints and asking the Navy to investigate.

A month later Perry received a reply from Vice Admiral B. Moreell, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Decks, submitting a categoric denial from MacBean to all of the accusations, and a letter from Capt. W. Sihler, officer in charge of the Port Huenme Naval base, supporting MacBean.

Perry said he assumed that the trouble had been straightened out until he heard of the hunger strike.

"That hunger strike brought to a head the trouble that had been brewing for a long time, for which there appears to be no solution except to remove the officer in charge, Cmdr. MacBean, who apparently doesn't seem able to forget that he is from Mississippi," he declared.

Discrimination

In his letter to Forrestal, Perry summed up the complaints in the letters as follows:

"Uniformly, these men complain of gross mistreatment and discrimination on account of their race.

"First, they charge that even while serving abroad they were subjected to the most brazen and humiliating forms of segregation. Not only were they required to wait until white enlisted men were given food, but even the drinking water tanks were set up on the basis of color. It is reported that one Negro Seabee was kicked by Lieut. ——— for drinking from a tank set aside for white personnel.

"Second, it is alleged that Negro enlisted men were confined to the brig on the least pretext.

"Third, that although many of them (the Negroes) are ill, the naval physicians, because of indifference or racial prejudice, refuse to furnish them with proper medical care. On occasion, we understand, naval physicians have accosted men in the hospital with 'what's wrong with you, eight ball?'

"Fourth, these men are unanimous in their complaint that Negroes in the battalion are systematically denied promotion."

Perry added that most of the alleged discriminations "appear to reflect the wishes of Battalion Commander J. P. MacBean. We are informed that MacBean has stated openly that 'as long as I am commander, there will be segregation.'"

3-7-45

Cross-Section

MacBean denied each of the accusations, and charged that the complaints originated "from a small minority estimated to be less than 5 per cent of the enlisted men." He said the battalion had made "a fine record overseas and the officers share my views that these Negroes are fine boys and workers." He declared there existed "no outrage to correct and a continuation of the present administrative policy is recommended."

Capt. Sihler wrote Admiral Moreell that he had made a firsthand investigation of the charges by talking to "a cross-section of the men in the battalion," as the result of which he found:

3-7-45

¶ He was unable to confirm charges of segregation or discrimination. Some of the men, he said, thought that the food served white members of the battalions was better than that served the colored men; but he explained that by saying that the food for the white men was supplied from a different galley, and it was better prepared because it was handled in smaller quantities.

¶ He was unable to verify the charge that a Negro had been kicked by a lieutenant. He said it was suggested that the incident might have referred to a rebuke administered to a colored man who reversed the spigot on a Lister bag, using it as a drinking fountain contrary to instructions.

¶ He was "unable to obtain even a hint as to the origin of the report that men were 'confined to the brig on the least pretext.'"

Sick Call

3-7-45

¶ He found no "serious complaint" about the way the men were treated by the Navy medical officers, but he did "detect a feeling that proper attention was not being given to men who appeared at sick call with vague aches and pains."

Capt. Sihler said that conversations with MacBean convinced him that he has "an enlightened and fair attitude toward the colored race, that he respects their personal dignity, that he is genuinely interested in their welfare, and that he is in all respects an excellent leader. Cmdr. MacBean has a fine military and personal character."

WHITE MARINES ASK HIGHER RATINGS FOR NEGRO BUDDIES

Chicago Defender

By ENOC P. WATERS

(Defender War Correspondent)

TENTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, OKINAWA — Calling for the immediate advancement of Negro marines to higher non-commissioned ranks from which they are presently barred, a group of 16 white marine sergeants here have addressed a petition to Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington. 6-30-45

Though the Marine Corps, in line with its policy of advancing Negroes to higher non-com ratings as they qualify, will eventually advance the Negroes to the higher grades, the whites now holding the posts in most of the companies here feel promotions have been too long delayed.

"It is the opinion of us who work closest with the Negroes here that the greatest majority of colored non-commissioned officers (holding the rank of corporal and sergeant) are qualified for further promotion and are fully capable of replacing the white staff. There is little hope of advancement for the colored personnel in accordance with present TO's so long as we are here and it is our sincere opinion that the units involved could function more efficiently if this condition were remedied."

In conversation, the white non-coms declared that many of the Negro non-coms are college-trained men who held positions of leadership before coming into the servece.

In many companies, they admitted, Negroes are already acting unofficially in the positions denied them and that they have been able to get better results than the whites.

The Negroes, too, are anxious for the promotions and declare there is little incentive for working hard when promotions are frozen.

"We naturally agree with the white non-coms," a Negro marine who was a school teacher and athletic instructor studying for a master's degree, said.

6-30-45

"The trouble is probably that the people in Washington are unaware of our ability to catch on and of what the situation is out here. Many of us have been in the corps since June 1942 and with some of us now about to graduate from officers training school it seems only logical that there should be many of us ready for higher non-com ratings."

Prejudice Is Against Production

Northwest Herald

The war manpower situation is getting tough. So War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes is getting tough, too. Earlier this week he reported to the President and to Congress that he had frozen civilian production at approximately current levels. He proposed possible industrial draft for Army 4Fs able to work. He banned horse racing (that really is tough).

Seattle, Wash.

Such is Director Byrne's program. 1-16-45

It is a program for scraping the cask and ignoring the barrel.

The population of this country includes 22,000,000 Catholics, 13,000,000 Negroes, 5,000,000 Jews. A lot of these are now soldiers overseas. The remainder constitute a reservoir of manpower which—to varying degrees with each group—**is not being fully tapped for war production because of racial or religious prejudice.**

This is not a new fact. It is so old, so well established, that there is not the slightest vestige of excuse for Director Byrnes to have forgotten it. It is why the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) was organized originally. It is why everyone in this country today who wants the war won in the shortest possible time, in the quickest possible way, is asking that the FEPC be put on a permanent basis and its hand strengthened.

Almost everyone, that is, except Director Byrnes, who comes from South Carolina, and who failed to mention the FEPC in his report to the President and to Congress.

It is worthwhile, at this stage, to re-examine the barrel which Director Byrnes ignored.

WHAT'S TO COME IF PREJUDICE CONTINUES

The bulk of manpower now stultified by prejudice in this country is Negro. But it is not exclusively Negro. And it may be even less exclusively Negro when the war is over **if prejudice, and not need, is to continue to govern our use of manpower.**

A few months ago, the Rev. John A. Ryan, of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, testifying before a Senate committee, predicted that anti-Catholic prejudice would increase after the war unless the FEPC was given a stronger hand. 1-16-45

A few weeks ago Charles C. Bulkley, of the State War Council's Committee on Discrimination in Employment, said publicly:

"War industries call employment agencies and order: 'Send us the kind of workers we usually use.' The word kind usually means 'white. Protestant.'"

Pretty, isn't it?

I now call another witness, a very expert witness indeed—Director Byrnes himself. Here is what he said in his report to Congress and the President:

"We cannot be complacent yet. We must man our war plants to the fullest extent necessary to meet the requirements of our military leaders." 1-16-45

A noble sentiment. He does NOT say that war plants must be manned by white Protestants. He says: **"Man them!"**

All right, Director Byrnes:

In the huge cotton textile industry in the South, almost no Negroes are being used except in custodial jobs—**and a lot of GIs are sleeping beneath tin tents because there is not enough canvas being produced in this country.**

NEGROES BARRED IN MIDWEST WAR PLANTS

In the war plants of St. Louis and Cincinnati, practically no Negroes are employed in production jobs.

In the Reynolds company of Macon, Ga., makers of shells, and the Consolidated Vultee Corp. of Ft. Worth, Tex., makers of bombers, Negroes are used only as common laborers.

The Western Cartridge Co., of Alton, Ill., across from St. Louis, has not one Negro among its 10,000 employes.

The Houston Shipbuilding Corp., of Houston, Tex., imports white welders from other parts of the country, **while Negro graduates of a Houston welding school must go to the East or West Coast to find jobs.** 1-16-45

The WMC (War Manpower Commission) has charged the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., of Kearny, N. J., with "restrictive hiring practices" which disrupt war labor supply in the Newark area.

The railroads, which are crying for manpower continually, are railroading Negro firemen out of jobs—jobs which must be taken by whites who could be doing other jobs.

Mexicans are discriminated against in the copper mines of the Southwest, handicapping production and morale.

All this is not your fault, Director Byrnes. Nor is it always the fault of the industrial plants. Union such as some of the railroad brotherhoods, the boilermakers, the machinists, the electrical workers, and here and there a CIO union local—they are at fault, too.

But how can Director Byrnes ignore this picture when he talks of manning our war plants "to the fullest extent necessary to meet the requirements of our military leaders?"

Nor is this picture complete.

The U. S. Army needs 10,000 nurses desperately. There are 9000 Negro registered nurses in this country. **Only 300 are in the army.**

FEWER THAN TEN NEGRO DOCTORS IN NAVY

The Navy has fewer than ten Negro doctors in its whole medical division. The Army is discharging some Negro doctors. **But the Navy, which needs doctors, is not taking on any of the former Army men.**

It is bad enough that discrimination should be permitted to hinder the production of tanks, planes, munitions. What can be said of a situation in which a man must lose his lifeblood lest the hand that applies the tourniquet be black?

These are questions which all of us as Americans, carrying on our shoulders the awful responsibility of war—the responsibility, literally, for the life and death of millions of men—must weigh with clarity.

They are questions which must be weighed along with moral questions—the principles of democracy and freedom in which we profess to believe, the principle that along with equality of sacrifice must also go an equality of rights.

Even within its limited score, the FEPC has been weighing those questions and has been coming up with the right answer. Six months after the President created the Committee, the total number of Negro workers in war plants reporting to the WMC was barely more than 3 per cent of all workers employed in such plants.

Today the figure has risen to more than 8 per cent. 1-16-45

It is true that the figure should be far higher. It is also true that the 8 per cent does not convey the true picture of Negro participation in production. does not show the overwhelming proportion of Negroes who are confined to manual and custodial jobs and barred from actual productions or from semi-skilled and skilled trades.

Such factors make the creation of a strong and permanent FEPC necessary.

Such factors, presumably, led the President a few days ago to inform Malcolmn Ross, FEPC Chairman, that the White House was supporting creation of a permanent FEPC.

After that, it is up to Congress—which means that it is up to **you**—whom Congress represents.

—VICTOR H. BERNSTEIN.

NEW YORK ROUNDUP

Northwest Herald

Alarmed over the continued discrimination and jim crow practices against Negroes in the armed forces, leaders of various national organizations have issued a general call to other groups to join with them in a huge conference to formulate a program of action to bring about an end to these evils. 4-10-45

The conference is set for Sunday afternoon, April 29th, at Camp Goodwill, Butler, New Jersey.

In the Conference call which was issued over the signatures of A. Philip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Willard S. Townsend, President, United Transport Service Employees of America, and Morris Milgrim, National Secretary, Workers Defense League, cited the cases of seventy-four Negro soldiers, members of an engineering unit in the Pacific who were given 15 to 17 years each for "mutiny" because they refused to work in December 1944; of a thousand Negro Seabees who went on a hunger strike, March 1, 1945; and fifty Negro sailors, survivors of the Port Chicago disaster, who were given 8 to 12 years each for "mutiny" because they refused to work in September, 1944, as examples of growing unrest among our troops because of the intolerable conditions under which they are forced to go because of their race. It charged that the Administration policy of segregating Negro and white troops breeds racial discord and humiliation among Negroes who are asked to give their lives equally with the whites.

Each organization is asked to send two representatives to the meet. Wilfred Kerr, director of the Lynn Committee Against Segregation in the Armed Forces is serving as Conference Secretary.

The fight to bring about an enactment of a Fair Employment Practice Law in New Jersey is being opposed by "powerful, hidden and sinister forces," which are attempting to kill the legislation by prolonged hearings, liberal citizens group charged this week.

In a statement endorsed by more than ten groups, including the New Jersey League of Women Voters, N. J. Urban League, and N. J. Independent Citizens Committee, the Legislation is in danger of being "killed by kindness and talked to death." Harold Lett, Urban League executive secretary, charged that the sinister forces were recaltitrant employers and employee groups. This writer is reminded that it was these same groups that tried to kill the New York Bill and were stopped by mass public opinion. 4-10-45

It is the consensus of opinion that the Republican-backed Hill Bill has the best chances of passage in the Republican controlled legislature. Therefore, concerted efforts are being made to strengthen this measure which liberal groups say in its present form is not strong enough and does not provide strict means of enforcement.

—C. N. S.

ARMY OFFICERS FORCE NEGROES TO EAT MEALS WITH GERMAN PRISONERS IN ALABAMA CAMP

Black Dispatch

3-10-45

White Workers Have Meals in Reserved Section of Dining Room While Nazis Are Crowded Into Segregated Section

DRAWS GUN WHEN PROTEST IS MADE

By H. D. COKE

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.—(ANP)—A white waitress employed at the cafeteria of the Huntsville arsenal, was fired this week following a report that she was caught with a German prisoner of war. The girl, frequently seen by Negro employees talking to the prisoner, was not identified. German prisoners are used in the government owned and operated arsenal to clean the cafeteria, pick up paper, move lumber, etc. They are given excellent treatment and working conditions, with some of them used as guards for the group under supervision of white soldiers. 3-10-45

Negro employees of the arsenal, reported to be the largest in the world, have on occasions been forced to eat with the German prisoners. More than a dozen Negro employees reported that on one occasion a white officer ordered those who were having their dinner in the cafeteria's segregated corner to make room for the German prisoners. When they failed to understand that the "white" prisoners were to eat at their tables, and did not move to other tables, the white officer of the U. S. army pulled his pistol and ordered them to move under a threat to shoot. The German prisoners were then seated in the section reserved for Negro employees. All of this was done in the sight of white fellow workers who occupied seats on the "white side." The German prisoners have enjoyed their meals in the Negro side of the government operated cafeteria on several occasions to the disguest of the Negro employees. 3-10-45

Several thousand prisoners are employed at the large arsenal that occupies 40,000 acres. German prisoners move freely about the arsenal, anyone of them having the opportunity to do damage and endanger war production and the lives of the employees.

Jim Crow Colored Nurses in Camp for Nazi Prisoners

AFRO-American 1-20-45

NEW YORK—Humiliation of colored army nurses in the presence of German prisoners as a result of discriminatory orders issued by an officer in the Prisoner of War Camp hospital in Florence, Arizona was brought to the attention of the War Department by the NAACP in a letter to Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy.

The letter read in part:

"We have received information that American Army nurses have been ordered by a Major Simpson to eat in a separate dining room in a hospital at the PW camp at Florence. They feel especially humiliated and degraded because, even though in the uniform of the U.S. Army, they were set apart under the very noses of German war prisoners who serve as cooks and waiters in the hospital officers' mess.

1-20-45

"We understand from announcements from Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General, U.S. Army, that the Army is not anxious to increase the number of colored nurses, but if incidents like the foregoing illustrate Army policy, I am sure you can understand that colored nurses in their turn are not anxious to serve in the Army."

Army, short of doctors, turning down Negroes

Los Angeles Tribune Cal.

1-29-45

NEW YORK—The Army has all the Negro doctors it needs although there are numerous white doctors serving in the Army overseas who have never had a leave because the Army is short of medical replacements.

That contradictory situation exists, according to Albert Deutsch in the newspaper PM, because of Army jim crow which confines Negro doctors to all-Negro hospitals. "With the shipment of large numbers of Negro troops overseas, according to Deutsch, "the patient load in all-Negro hospitals in the U. S. A. has been reduced", and "the Army faces the dilemna of either reducing its Negro medical staff at a time when military doctors are badly needed or of integrating Negro doctors into its general medical program".

1-29-45

That it is taking the first of the alternatives is indicated, Deutsch charged, by its recent notification of 15 Negro doctors who have just finished their interneship at Harlem Hospital that they would be discharged, rather than commissioned.

Colo. Camp Bars Negro Vets From Play Facilities

Chicago Defender

COLORADO SPRINGS— (ANP) —A recent order from higher ups at Camp Carson has forbidden Negro veterans from taking part in reconditioning activities in Colorado Springs. 6-2-45

The lily-white policy regarding Negro veterans applies to roller skating, excursions, swimming and other activities which are included in the reconditioning program.

Negroes are now confined to the post at Camp Carson which in itself offers little in the way of entertainment since all post exchanges, dances and programs are operated by white personnel.

Negro troops have recently been barred from attending certain of the Colorado Springs downtown theaters and one drug store carries the sign: "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone!"

A German prisoner of war, working in a mess hall of the Second Battalion of the Reconditioning section, laughed at a Negro veteran and said, "Now you see what you black Americans are fighting for."

Vets at Colorado Springs Barred From Recreation

by Will V. Neely

Pittsburgh Courier

6-9-45

COLORADO SPRINGS-(ANP) The old story of gold is where you find it, can be vetoed and changed to prejudice is where you find it.

Colorado Springs, world famous resort town, is fast becoming the 'Mississippi of the Rockies.' Last week it was learned that its noble white citizens had let it be known that Negro veterans weren't wanted at the Broadmoor, Antlers and other local hotels, whether they were returned veterans or not.

It has been the custom to allow returning veterans to skating, golf, swimming and other activities at Colorado Springs as a part of the Camp Carson reconditioning program.

Negro veterans have been barred and no explanation has been forthcoming from Army officials at Camp Carson.

The Negro grievance committee headed by Sam Hunter is attempting to control the spreading race prejudice in the city.

Other members of the committee are L.C. Smith and A.B. Turner, who is in charge of the recreation center.

The grievance committee has been investigating the reason veteran Negro troops are forced to sit in the balconies of local theatres and also why drug stores "reserve the right to refuse service to anyone," according to signs placed conveniently in the front part of the stores.

Army Effort to Jim Crow GI Blocked by White Friends

AFro-American Md. 3-10-45

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—Although officers at Army camp wanted to segregate Pfc. Charles Nelson from the white soldiers with whom he had flown from Hawaii to California, his comrades refused to permit the separation and Nelson subsequently slept in the same room with them. Nelson, who is on a 30-day furlough to visit his sick mother here, told the AFRO in an exclusive interview that colored service men in the Pacific are getting fed up and disgruntled because they are denied furloughs. 3-10-45

Pfc. Nelson

Their indifference, he explained, is due to the fact, that although many have been there longer than the two years required before furloughs, they are unable to get them and are not being helped by their chaplain whose hands are tied.

Because they know what they will have to face when they return, he continued, "plenty of colored service men will settle in other countries after the war, especially in South America and Mexico."

Most of the Hawaiian population of Japanese ancestry, their minds poisoned by newspapers and motion pictures, look down on colored people although many have settled and operate businesses there, he declared.

Not too hopeful about the future, the soldier, who has served with a port battalion, says that he and the others expect to get jobs on qualifications alone and will not accept second-class citizenship any longer.

4 SHIPYARDS END JIM CROW

Chicago Defender 4-7-45

WASHINGTON — Four West Coast shipyards have agreed to halt jim crow hiring practices in compliance with directives issued by the Fair Employment Practices committee, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced this week.

The four companies, which employ more than 90,000 workers in the construction of ships for the government, are the Western Pipe and Steel Co., and the Consolidated Steel Corp., both of Los Angeles, and the Oregon Shipbuilding Corp., and Kaiser Co., of Portland, Ore.

The action of the four companies was a direct blow at the auxiliary jim crow unions fostered by the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, AFL.

Sets Up Jim Crow Auxiliaries

The union would not accept Negro workers as full members and the companies fired those who refused to join the auxiliary unions. After a series of public hearings in November, 1943, FEPC ordered the companies to cease firing workers who failed to become members of the jim crow union. The Boilermakers' union was told to grant full membership to Negroes without discrimination. 4-7-45

Five companies involved in the original directives asked for rehearings last December. FEPC at that time reaffirmed its original directives and requested early compliance. No compliance report has yet come from the California Shipbuilding Corp., of Los Angeles.

The companies were ordered to ignore the union clearance system as long as the discriminatory membership procedure was maintained by the union.

Jim Crow Hits Brazilian Troops

Kansas City Call Mo.

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — Those Brazilian troops now fighting in Italy, all anti-Fascist volunteers, had a frist-hand experience of racial discrimination on the boat going over, according to a story appearing in last week's New Leader. 2-2-45

"Some 5,000 of them on one of the largest coast guard transports," the paper said, "were segregated from 'white' American officers and men. Separate quarters and mess were set up for them, from the commanding officer on down. A Negro coast guardsman on board (Negroes were also segregated) asked a chaplain why. The chaplain said he didn't think it was actually color discrimination, rather that the Brazilians were our cultural inferiors." 2-2-45

Gen. Douglas McArthur was reported to have issued an order to correct treatment of Flipinos fighting with American forces. The order stated that our allies were to be treated as equals, not according to jim crow customs in the U. S. A., the New Leader reported.

Rome Paper Is Rebuked For Cartoon Of Negro

Birmingham News Ala.

ROME—(AP)—The Army newspaper Stars and Stripes editorially rebuked Monday a Rome weekly which published a cartoon showing an American Negro soldier wearing shiny combat boots surrounded by Italians barefoot or with battered sandals. 2-6-45

The Negro was represented as saying, "And to think that I, who am not used to them, am forced to wear them."

Stars and Stripes said the cartoon, published in Pettirosso, a subsidiary of the Socialist daily, Avanti, was "offensive and shocking to Americans." The editorial added:

"The thousands of Negro soldiers in Italy are citizens of the United States. Many of them are living in the cold and discomfort of the Italian front and some are being wounded and killed. 2-6-45

"The Negro soldier is fighting, like all other Americans, against fascism and nazism and for a peaceful, democratic world. He is fighting and dying to help liberate the rest of Italy.

"The American Negro is not a stranger to shoes, literacy or ideas of democracy. If Italians don't have shoes, it is certainly not because any Allied soldier has them."

Racial Bar in China Denied

AFRO-American 2-17-45 Md.

Sudden Return of Drivers Questioned

STAYED 2 DAYS

Scheduled Recreation Leaves Canceled

By FRANK E. BOLDEN

NNPA War Correspondent

KUMMING, China—(By Cable)—Rumors that colored soldiers are not desired for service in China were denied by both an American Army representative and a Chinese Government spokesman here in China this week.

The rumors, already rife, followed the return of the ten colored soldier drivers who entered China with the history-making Ledo Road convoy after only two days leave in China. 2-17-45

When the convoy first left Ledo, India, no colored personnel was represented. The matter was brought to the attention of ranking officials, as colored troops had played an important role in the construction of the road.

Ten Join Convoy

As a result, ten Tan Yanks joined the procession at Myitkyina to make the first trip. During the journey they were reportedly worried by rumors that they would be denied entrance into China.

However, all the American troops who crossed the border en route were well received and hospitably entertained by the Chinese without discrimination.

Promised Recreation Leave

The drivers had been promised by their superiors that they could have a few days' leave for recreation after completing the rugged 1044-mile drive. 2-17-45

Instead, without explanation, all the American drivers, colored and white, were ordered back to their respective bases in India by the first available transportation.

When the rumor spread that this action was caused by the presence of colored troops, the matter was called to the attention of Maj. Gilbert A. C. Wedmeyer, commander of U.S. Army Forces in China at Chungking.

No Biased Policy Planned

He denied that there was any policy exercised either by American authorities or the Chinese Government against colored troops being based in China, nor were there any existing commitments. Commenting further, he said:

"For military reasons we are trying to keep the number of service of supply troops in this theatre at a minimum and doubt whether additions will be made.

"We plan to train and use Chinese drivers for Burma Road convoy duty, as American troops are needed elsewhere. Further traffic, I understand, will include colored personnel, heavily represented."

Cites Own Record

"I know that the most experienced convoy drivers in India are colored. My record shows that I have used colored troops many times in previous command and know they are good soldiers.

"I recently assumed command here and am working with personnel found upon arrival. As for any drivers being ordered back to India, this is the first time I have heard of it. I have personally issued no order to that effect."

As to the Chinese Government's attitude on the subject, the only available statement at present appeared in the newspaper Chung Chen Pao of February 8.

Use in China Questioned

At a foreign press conference on that date, over which General Chen Cheng, Minister of War, presided, one correspondent asked whether the Chinese Government intends to reject colored GI's as Army truck drivers over the Stillwell Road, or in other capacities.

One government spokesman, P. H. Chang, replied, "We have not yet heard of this kind of rumor. The Chinese Government will make no racial or color discrimination."

It is hoped by both sides that rumors of this kind prove groundless in the best interest of international harmony.

Colored Soldiers Uused as Garbage Collectors in Va.

AFro-American 5-26-45

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—Colored soldiers, members of a service company, have for some time been furnished by the Army to help in the collection and disposition of garbage here.

Because of the increased garbage generated by the various installation of the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation, the city found it necessary to enlarge its incinerator, but was faced with a manpower shortage in operating it. 5-26-45

An arrangement was subsequently made between Army authorities and city officials whereby the Army would provide approximately the same number of men furnished by the city.

Under this plan, the Army has funished from 8 to 12 soldiers 6 days a week and 5 or 6 on Sunday. 5-26-45

For a short period, German prisoners of war were used, but because of the danger of sabotage, this practice was discontinued.

Colored soldiers assigned to this work are said to be men of limited physical capacity. They complain, however, that to date, no white soldiers have been similarly assigned.

VALLEJO, CALIF.
TIMES HERALD
Cir. D. 7,255 — S. 7,326
MAY 28 1945

Opinions of the People:

In regard to the article written in your paper of May 21st concerning Negroes Charge Demobilization Discrimination, I would like to ask the question as to why the Negro shouldn't ask President Truman to wipe out the inequalities for them. The Negro doesn't want to come home any sooner than anyone else. He just wants an equal break when coming home time comes. Why should the Negro do the most of the fighting? What will it mean to him when the war is over?

The same discrimination he has always had? Why shouldn't he yell about it? I think the Negro is doing his part. Visit Mare Island Hospital and you'll see a few empty trouser legs belonging to Negroes. You should be the Proud Mother of a Sailor Son. The end of the war will mean everything to your son. What will it mean to the Negro? When the account of this war is in print will a Negroe's name be in the history books? Considering everything, don't you think he's doing his part?

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
PM
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUN 3 - 1945

Rankin, Gibson Love Negro Veterans—Segregated

Want Jim-Crow Hospitals Provided for Wounded Veterans

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 2.—Reps. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) and John S. Gibson (D., Ga.), a brace of fine old Southern gentlemen, just love the Negroes. They keep saying so every chance they get during House Committee hearings on defects in veterans' hospitals.

Of course, Negroes must be segregated in Veterans Administration facilities . . . white nurses should not be allowed to attend Negro veterans . . . it would be a fine thing if every State had an all-Negro hospital . . . Negro employes have just about ruined the Library of Congress.

Rankin and Gibson beamed at each other and agreed on these things. But they love the Negroes.

"I think I know niggers," said Gibson pontifically. "I grew up with them, played with them and I know they're not happy if they must associate with white folks. They're not at ease."

Rankin smiled happily at his cadaverous colleague.

Want to Be Alone

Gibson was testifying about a veterans' hospital (all-Negro, from manager to mess attendant) at Tuskegee, Ala., when the subject came up.

"You oughta see those niggers there," declared Gibson. "They're as happy as can be. Strawberries at every plate during meals. They're living better than they ever did in their lives before."

Of course, these "niggers" are war veterans, hospitalized for injuries suffered fighting for the right of Rankin and Gibson to talk that way. But they should not contaminate the pure whites of the Old South by being in the same hospital for treatment.

The Committee's last two witnesses brushed a thin coat of calcimine over charges published in PM and Hearst's *Cosmopolitan* that veterans did not receive the best of care in VA hospitals. But the truth showed through. Rep. Bernard W. Kearney (R., N. Y.) and Errett P. Scrivner (R., Kan.) confirmed published findings the day before.

Gibson and Rep. A. S. J. Carnahan (D., Mo.) found "nothing to justify criticism" on their tours of veterans' facilities throughout the South. Gibson went so far as to suggest that Albert Maisel's charges in *Cosmopolitan* were made with "an ulterior motive" and suggested he be called back to face the Committee and explain himself.

Full of Praise

Gibson had nothing but praise for the administration of the Tuskegee VA hospital. "One of the best operated I ever saw, if not the best," he praised. He was loud in admiration of Col. E. H. Dibble, Jr., Negro Harvard graduate, who is manager of the hospital.

At Lake City, Fla., Gibson was horrified to find that white nurses were in attendance on some Negro soldiers.

"Knowing Negroes as I do, I think they'd be happier if they had

colored nurses and attendants," he declared. "I recommend to the Committee that this situation be corrected."

In answer to questions respecting the Atlanta, Ga., veterans hospital, Gibson couldn't remember that he had heard a single complaint of any consequence. This was in marked contrast to evidence given by Kearney and Scrivner earlier. They had complaints, some major and some minor, from every hospital they visited.

Gibson added that Col. Dibble agreed with him "in toto" on the business of segregation. Furthermore, he said, Dibble agreed that Negroes do not have to be mixed with whites to be able to "improve themselves." Throughout his testimony, Gibson referred to the Tuskegee Hospital as "the nigger hospital."

Just 'Agitators'

"Only the people who want to destroy segregation are the agitators who are trying to promote themselves through the niggers," he said.

Rankin said anybody was crazy who tried to knock down segregation. The Negroes in Government are inefficient and today "bitterness and hatred such as we never knew a few years ago exist," he said.

Meanwhile, before the House Appropriations Committee, Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Veterans Administrator, said the lack of nurses and doctors was "the big difficulty" in operating VA facilities. However, he said, we're over the peak now and "everything will work out all right."

Calls It Attack'

The Administrator told the Committee there was a "definite attack" on the VA in a recent *Cosmopolitan* article (by Maisel) and that "the basis was laid for it through PM." He added that the *Cosmopolitan* article was reprinted in *Reader's Digest* and that it hurt VA morale and destroyed confidence in its institutions. He said they got many letters from mothers "who accepted the statements at face value and were very distressed."

"Even if it were all true, it should not have been published in that manner," he concluded. "If there are deficiencies, they should be corrected, but that can be done without publicity so disturbing to those not in possession of the actual facts."

VALLEJO, CALIF.
TIMES HERALD
Cir. D. 7,255 — S. 7,326
MAY 28 1945

Opinions of the People:

After reading your paper of May 21, I want to call attention to an article written by A Proud Mother of a Sailor. Her statements were concerning the Negroes—about discrimination in the Army's point system for demobilization of American soldiers in Europe and they intend to call upon President Truman to wipe it out.

Now, my thoughts about this mother stating if she was of the Negro race just what she would do. Now my thoughts about that is this: You are not doing the right thing in your own race. If you were, you would speak and publish the good things our people do and not the bad things. Now about who are doing most of the fighting. The reason you give your boys the credit of doing the most of the fighting is because your people carried bad news over there about the Negro. It was your kind who wanted your people to win the war without our boys, but you soon found out everything you attempt to do there will be a Negro in it. So dear writer, let's keep our chins up and win the war without looking at our black face. It isn't the color that makes a person. It is the things in which one stands for. If your boys who have been punished so badly by the Japs and Germans, loosing limbs, they shouldn't worry about color, they should be better men. They should have better conduct to help make other boys and girls live better lives. Now think, mothers of America, the hand that rocked the cradle was the hand that ruled the world. That hand didn't only mean my hand and your hand, but the mother of Jesus whose hand was laid on that wonderful manger where Christ the babe was lying there. So the hand that rules the world now is the hand of God.

MRS. C. D. DONIDSON.

56d-1945

Discrimination

Pacific GIs Save Color Line For 'Negroes Only' In Philippines

Chicago Defender Ill.

3-3-45

LEYTE — White GIs here have dropped the color line against dark-skinned Allies — unless they happen to be American Negroes.

The excellent behavior of U. S. servicemen towards liberated Filipinos was reported this week by Walter White, Chicago Defender columnist and New York Post correspondent.

While many Filipinos openly feared that the return of Americans would bring a return of "white supremacy," the manner of American behavior here has thus far been exemplary.

This excellent conduct, of course, is not lavished on their Negro fellow fighters. 3-3-45

For Natives Only

A Mississippian playing with a group of dark-skinned children on Guam was asked, "I wonder if you'd be as nice to kids of that color back home?"

He answered indignantly, "These kids are not niggers!"

On one occasion it was reported that an office boasted of his pleasant relations with natives in a number of Pacific islands and paid high tribute to the capacity of the U. S. Army to transform quagmires overnight into beautiful roads and airstrips.

But when a Negro soldier passed the officer bitterly remarked that "those are soldiers we could well do without — they're useless." Much of the building he had praised was done by Negro engineers.

Only occasionally, however, are unfriendly remarks made at Filipino officers. Most of the white Americans go out of their way to be friendly. While the Japanese have spread news of Los Angeles "zoot suit" riots during which young Filipinos were beaten by mobs, the effect of such propaganda seems to have been negligible. 3-3-45

On the other hand the conviction that Negro soldiers are all right for manual labor but unsuited for combat duty appears to be deep seated in high officials here, it was reported.

The basis for such opinions, usually expressed with considerable feeling, is the report that one of the few Negro combat units in the Pacific did not do as well as it might in its first and only engagement with the enemy. It is almost invariably futile to point out that many divisions and regiments, now famous for bravery cracked up in their first battle.

The Negro Church Denounces Jim Crow

Miami Whip Florida 1-13-45

Calling attention to the Negro soldiers' heroic role in many war theatres, Dr. W. H. Jernagan of the Bureau, Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, voiced the sentiment of the Negro people all over the nation in a public statement last week.

The statement called attention to irritating prejudice and injustice continuing to subject Negro soldiers to narrow Jimcrow limitations and mistreatment in the army, the navy, and even in some of the government plants of war with which to defeat the enemy are being manufactured.

It is alarming to notice how systematically the Jimcrrow pattern of the deep South has been adopted. Hitler and Nazi belivers in the doctorine of master racism must take courage in the support they are getting from some of our army officials who encourage separation, not so much of races but of colors, skin colors in the army.

We know that our commander-in-chief in and outside of Continental United States has had cause for great embarrassment in our Post-war conscription campaign, based on the same unteneble premise of Jim Crowism which is increasing the length of the war and adding to unrest and confusion in many conquered nations.

Too often we hear muttering about the spread of Communisim in our nation and how it seeks to destroy our present form of government. It is not Communisim that is the termite chewing at the foundation of our government. It is that element within the government who deny to some of the citizens the rights and privileges they themselves hold as their heritage.

Some American soldiers who are helping to administer the crushing blow to Hitler, realize that when the battle cry becomes a murmur, or a memory, and the homeward trek begins to a reward of persecution—to their homeland, the home of Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass, Lovejoy, and all those who loved liberty better than life.

We, however, are determined that we shall have not fought in vain.

We are fighting to conquer Nazism in Europe and America. We have abiding faith in Franklin Delano Roosevelt. We believe that his position as head of this nation at this time is God's decree, and that while the victory may be slow in coming we are nevertheless on the highway to that victory.

While there is no actual physical struggle in the United States, as of now, there is a seething battle against racial strife and bitterness that must be won completely. And this must be done before we sit down at the peace table. — California Eagle

AFRO-American

5 Wacs Shun Unpleasant Task; Put in Guard House

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

1-6-45

CAMP BRECKENRIDGE, Ky. (ANP)—When five colored Wacs refused to repair bed springs in a damp and cold barracks here last week, white MP's led them away from the detachment center into the guardhouse at the camp hospital, charging them with insubordination.

Although the barracks had been declared unfit to work in since there was no heat, orders were given to place the women in the guard house where they must remain pending further notice.

The Wacs are Pfcs. Eleanor Brown and Edith Youth and Pvts. Ruth Sanders, DaVetta Butler and Geneva Pipkin.

A lieutenant immediately reported them to the commander when they refused to obey orders, and while two of these Wacs apparently had been guilty of other offenses this was the first for the other three, who feel that the order is being unfairly handed down to them as an example to other Wacs.

Unrest Created by J.C. at Pa. Camp

Afro-American

INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa. (ANP) —Determination to continue racial segragation practices and failure of white officers here to abide by the war department's directive to outlaw such conditions are held responsible for unrest and discontent among colored troops here.

Although there is no discrimination in the station hospital and though white and colored soldiers enter the mess hall in the same line, they are separated when seated. 1-13-45

On one occasion two enlisted men and two officers were posted in the hall to enforce the segregation seating order. The practice cannot be attributed to desire to obey State laws, for Pennsylvania has an equal rights law.

Coast Phone Co. Accused of Bias

AFro-American

1-6-45

LOS ANGELES (ANP) — Two Los Angeles women filed a complaint last week with the FEPC charging that they were denied employment as operators with the Southern California Telephone Company because of their race.

Mrs. Della T. Young and Mrs. Pauline McMillan, the complainants, applied for jobs in answer to advertisements appearing in local newspapers and said that they met the prescribed qualifications.

Company Needs Operators

In response to an inquiry made by reporters last week, the company admitted that it needs employees in the classifications sought by the two applicants.

The telephone company, which has long refused to hire colored people in other than menial capacities, recently opened an office on Central Avenue where telephone bills may be paid and at which colored girls are employed.

PRISONERS ADMITTED TO SHOW WHILE COLORED TROOPS SHUNNED; CALLED A DISGRACE

Kansas City, Mo. Plaindealer, Mo.

Washington. — It was revealed here last week that Lena Horne, popular movie star and actress quit her USO tour when she could not stand the Army jim crow setup where Nazi prisoners are permitted to see performances in preference of Negro troops.

Clashing head-on with the Army's super Jim Crow policy, the sepia screen star halted her USO-sponsored tour of Southern camps in protest against anti-Negro bias.

ment to entertain the camp despite an "unfriendly and uncooperative atmosphere." She stated that the aide assigned to her, Capt. Rasley, was equally "unfriendly and uncooperative."

Performs for Prisoners

Miss Horne performed first before an assembly of white officers and then later before the German prisoners. She said that she learned belatedly that there were 50 colored soldiers on the post and she could entertain them.

Miss Horne said she was unable to continue and asked that they be excluded. When this was refused, she left.

Previous to coming to Little Rock last week, Miss Horne said that she was told that they could not proceed with her arrangements.

Miss Horne charged that the commanding officer of Camp Robinson, in Little Rock, Ark., felt it suitable for her to entertain Nazi prisoners but flatly refused to allow her the same facilities to entertain Negro soldiers on the post.

Snubbed and Jim Crowed from Mississippi to Little Rock, Ark., after walking out in protest against the camp race bias, Miss Horne charged that the commander of Camp Robinson had been unusually "rude and definitely unfriendly."

Arriving in Camp Robinson early last week, Miss Horne said that

Rock her plane was grounded in Jackson, Miss.

Unable to get Pullman accommodations, Miss Horne was forced to ride by Jim Crow coach to Little Rock.

The army sent a plane to pick her up there after the row at Camp Robinson.

Speaking of the Camp Robinson incident, Miss Horne praised one of the officers of the camp, Major Graham, whom she said had attempted to make her stay pleasant in face of official frowns.

Although the post commander later called her and apologized, Miss Horne said she still considered the official conduct of the post commander "unfriendly and unforgivable."

She said that at all the other camps the commanders were courteous and cooperative and even suspended rules to allow for interracial audiences at all entertainments. Only at the Robinson, the last stop, was there an "unfriendly and uncooperative atmosphere."

Miss Horne said here this week that the Camp Robinson was just an incident and said she planned to resume her entertainment tours to service posts under joint sponsorship of USO and the Hollywood Victory Committee.

Negro Seamen Protest Racial Discrimination

N.Y., N.Y. Peoples Voice

PORT HUENEME, Cal. (ANP)—The secretary of the Navy may soon have a petition from Negro members of the 34th US Naval Construction unit, regardless of consequences to the signers, regarding jimco practices against them. That revelation was made last week to the Associated Negro Press by Negro members of the outfit who declared that four things must be done to alter the situation within the ranks of the unit:

- a new commanding officer should be assigned immediately. He should be a man without the race traditions of the South;
- the assignment of northern white officers and Negro officers to the outfit; 1-13-45
- the assignment of Negro chaplains rather than white chaplains to the unit.

Charges that the commanding officer violated his trust by his failure to select an all-Negro enlisted personnel were made. His staff is composed of all Southern white officers.

"The white enlisted personnel in our battalion is responsible for all the segregation and discrimination," the men said. 'They got all the promotions, which keeps the Negro enlisted men from being advanced in rating. Not a single Negro has been made a chief petty officer."

1-13-45

Although there are qualified Negroes in the outfit that have been intentionally overlooked for chief petty officer ratings, only a few have been promoted as high as first class petty officer. "We have Negroes with good records in all ratings as low as first class seaman that have not received a single rating since this battalion was organized more than two years ago," the Negro seaman pointed out.

1-13-45

The inequalities of racial discrimination in the navy were further spotlighted when they mentioned that "the white enlisted men have always had a separate chow hall and living quarters, with better facilities than those provided for Negroes." Not even white chaplains can be trusted to fight for racial equality and equal justice for Negroes, the men declared.

Military Jim Crow

P.M., N.Y., N.Y. 4-12-45

Dear Editor:

I tried to enlist in the U. S. Coast Guard recently. When I applied at the Recruiting Office they told me enlistments were closed, but just to make sure I phoned them and they told me the enlistments were still open. So I went back to see why the recruiting officer had told me enlistments were closed. I said I would like to enlist as an apprentice seaman. She said I was a Negro and they don't take Negroes as apprentice seamen. She said that was for white boys only.

In the first place, I was enlisting as an American citizen, not as a Negro. I was not representing any race, color or creed, and as an American citizen I feel that I am entitled to the same treatment and training the white boys receive.

New York LEE F. WOLF

4-12-45

This is more military Jim Crowism. It would have more place in Nazi Germany than in the U. S. A. We phoned the Coast Guard Recruiting Office:

Q.: "Can a Negro enlist in the Coast Guard now?" A. "No, there's nothing open for them right now."

Q.: "Well, how about any enlistments?" A. "There are enlistments open for young men as apprentice seamen 17 and over. But they have to be white."—ED.

* * *

. . . Evidently the trial at Fort Devens was fair. The four WACs were guilty of violating the Articles of War. But just who is going to place on trial the rotten, senseless, prejudice-ridden system . . .?

True or not, every Negro in or out of uniform believes that Negroes are assigned almost entirely to labor duties, that advancement is retarded on account of color and that in any controversy the Negro will get the worst end. . . .

Newark WILLIAM P. BURRELL

On Apr. 4 we reported that the WACs' sentences had been commuted and they had been returned to duty. This, together with the recent Navy reversal on the discharges of 14 Negro Seabees, indicates that the armed forces are beginning to wake up to the situation. There's still a long ways to go.—ED.

4-12-45

I have just received a registered letter from the Naval Board of Review which states that I am to receive a Certificate of Discharge Under Honorable Conditions. I am one of the 19 Seabees discharged under dishonorable conditions in October, 1943, after protesting against segregation and discrimination because of race.

. . . I expect to finish law school in September and I have been informed by a reliable authority that I will have no difficulty now in being accepted by the New York Bar's Character Committee. All of us tender our thanks to you, and wish you to know that we are much interested in your continued fight against racial intolerance of every kind.

New York J. G. M.

GIs Say Bias Must Go When They Come Home

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-17-45

By EARL THARPE

IN ITALY — I asked several members of the 92nd Division this question "How do you think your service in the armed forces will affect your reaction to racial discrimination in post-war America?

From the outset, most of the GIs interviewed displayed an air of indignance toward the possibility of returning home to meet racial discrimination.

T/Sgt. Cleo T. Gaines, former heavyweight pugilist of indianapolis, Ind., now with the 92nd Signal Company, said:

"I am willing to fight just as hard for racial equality after the war as I am now fighting to suppress the type advocated by the Nazis' Germany."

3-17-45

Square Deal

Sgt. Sumner Lovelace, former insurance salesman of Atlanta, Ga., now clerk with the Division Casualty Section, gave as his reply this doubtful quotation from Theodore Roosevelt:

"Any man who is good enough to offer his life in defense of his country is entitled to a square deal from that country. No man should ask for more; no man should receive less."

Sgt. Lovelace admitted that he did not know to what point he would be provoked. He felt sure, however, that he would deal with such a situation as rationally as has always been his habit under similar circumstances.

Will Do Something

Highly noticeable was the fact that nearly 100 per cent of those questioned expressed the intent of doing something definite and concrete about the unpleasant situation they left upon entering the service. Equally as noticeable was the fact that most of them discount acts bordering on violence as means of dealing with the situation.

Cpl. Guyton Swann, formerly of St. Louis, Mo., stated, "I will definitely be more aggressive in the fight against racial discrimination. This war is teaching me that upon the role of the individual depends the success of the whole."

Most of the returning vets will have seen living examples of countries where no color bar exists. It is a psychological conclusion that they will do their utmost toward helping home fall into this much-to-be-desired group.

The Hunger Strike

Pittsburgh 3-17-45

For the first time in American military and naval annals, an entire battalion of men, 1,000 strong, has undergone a two-day hunger strike for a principle.

They were protesting against the policy of color discrimination, which the Navy Department has continued throughout the war period with callous disregard for the feelings of either the men themselves or their folks back home.

These men were helpless against the treatment they received, and yet again they were not entirely helpless.

They did not dare disobey orders which, indeed, would have defeated their purpose; but they could make a protest which would be heard around the world, and they did.

Their unique method of calling to the world's attention their mistreatment succeeded.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has investigated their complaint and found it more than justified.

Remedial measures will undoubtedly follow, whereas letters and telegrams would have netted no more than a few courts-martial.

This incident should be a warning to those in authority that they are dealing with a New Negro who is willing to suffer for what he deems to be right.

56d-1945

Discrimination

Entertainment? Our Sailors Get None in Washington State

Afro-American 4-17-45

Barred from White USO's; Civilian Men Overrun Tiny Room Used as Colored USO; and Girls? What Are They?

By SEAMAN JAY SMITHSON

BANGOR, Wash.—At our naval base here, there has not been any type of entertainment for quite sometime. We are 10 miles from Bremerton, 40 miles from Seattle, and about 150 miles from Vancouver, Canada.

Recently we saw a dated movie called "Wildcat," which was shown three nights a week. The other nights featured "Margin for Error." I saw those pictures five or six years ago. To see pictures we pay 10 cents, when we are supposed to be admitted free of charge.

We have a large stage in our recreation hall, and the USO and other organizations have promised us shows. But if we have had a stage show, we have swum the Pacific Ocean.

Some Satisfied

Some of the boys are satisfied with this, and also with the entertainment in town. We pay 40 cents to ride to town on a navy vehicle. 4-14-45

There are many places—theatres, restaurants, stores—to spend big money. Prices are over what we make a week. It is understood that we are not wanted in these places, so we try to make ourselves contented with some joints.

One is supposed to be exclusive, but who would take his friend into a place where women aren't respected? Where the owner's wife curses worse than a man? Where a common street walker approaches you and before you can bat an eye, tells you that to talk to her costs 10 and 2 ($10 for the body and $2 for the room).

Another joint has the same business, only it's a lot worse. A respectable girl is afraid to walk the streets after dark. We often wonder what a respectable girl looks like.

If we pay the price, we can have entertainment here.

There are several USO's and other service organizations but we can't even go into them.

The colored USO is about eight feet wide and fifty feet long. There are newspapers, magazines, a radio, piano and a few sheets of music. They are so far dated that they are antiquated.

There are no girls to entertain us here—only civilian men looking for women or a dime to buy a drink.

We can stand outside any other USO and see food, dancing and lots of pleasure. But if we want a cup of coffee in "our" USO, try and get it.

Girls? What are girls? We would like to know.

That is Bremerton. Seattle is worse. Do you think some towns-people would invite us out to dinner? Out here the service man is worse than a cow.

Those of us who know what finer things life has to offer have to stay on the base and read 25-cent novels. There is not a decent book on the whole base.

In my hometown of Pittsburgh, Pa., service men are welcomed in my home. But that is Pittsburgh.

Air Heroes Barred From Hospital

Afro-American 6-2-45

NEW YORK—Extension of the Air Command's jim-crow policy to exclude colored airmen from the Plattsburg Convalescent Hospital was protested last week by the NAACP when it was discovered that the ruling was based on the alleged "unhappiness" of four colored patients.

In a memorandum of May 13 from Brig. Gen. Ray L. Owens, Deputy Chief of the Air Staff, to Truman K. Gibson, civilan aide to the Secretary of War, the general said: 6-2-45

Alibi for Bias

"During the early part of February, this year, four of the colored patients were interviewed, and it was found that the colored personnel assigned there were very unhappy . . . due largely to severe winter climate and . . . the fact that there is a neglible colored population in that vicinity . . . one family.

"As a result of the above findings, the hospital recommended to the Personnel Distribution Command on February 10 that no more colored patients be sent to that hospital. This recommendation was accepted and adopted as policy by the PDC and put into practice."

Reasoning Scored

This "fallacious reasoning" of the Air Corps was scored by Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel, in a letter to Secretary of War Stimpson, condemning the handling of colored personnel on the basis of race or color.

Mr. Marshall declared: "It is unbelievable that the Air Command . . . should suddenly assume that colored men are 'unhappy' because of the winter climate at Plattsburg. There is no doubt that many white patients from homes in Dixie might also be unhappy in Plattsburg."

RALEIGH, N. C., CAROLINIAN
JUNE 2, 1945

—V—

NAACP PROTESTS JIMCROW ORDER FOR NEGRO AIRMEN IN HOSPITALIZATION FACILITIES

Hospital recommended to the Personnel Distribution Command on 10 February 1945, that no more Negro patients be sent to that hospital. This Distribution Command and put into practice."

In his letter to Secretary of War Stimson, NAACP Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall hit the fallacious reasoning of the Air Corps in setting policy to be adhered to in the handling of all Negro personnel, on the basis of race or color. He declared, "The explanation for this policy is another example of the fallacious reasoning of the Air Corps. All Negroes in the Air Corps eligible for convalescent treatment are excluded because of the alleged opinions of four Negroes to the effect that they were 'unhappy' in the northern climate.

"It is unbelievable that the Air Command in charge of air bases with Negro personnel in northern sections of the United States as well as in areas of other countries with severely cold climates should suddenly assume that Negroes are 'unhappy' because of the winter climate at Plattsburg. There is no doubt that many of the white patients from homes in lower Florida, Louisiana, Texas and California might be 'unhappy' in the winter climate of Plattsburg. This is the same type of reasoning used in an unsuccessful effort to justify segregation.

"The policy of the Army Air Corps is excluding Negroes from convalescent hospitals used by white servicemen is without justification. The determination of the Army Air Corps to perpetuate and extend its policy of segregation will increase friction between the races and is destructive of our peace. We therefore urge you as Secretary of War to issue an order countermanding the action of the Air Staff in excluding Negroes from Plattsburg and other convalescent hospitals solely on the ground of race."

PORTLAND, ORE.
OREGONIAN
Cir. D. 163,767—S. 217,780

MAY 31 1945

Affront to the Uniform

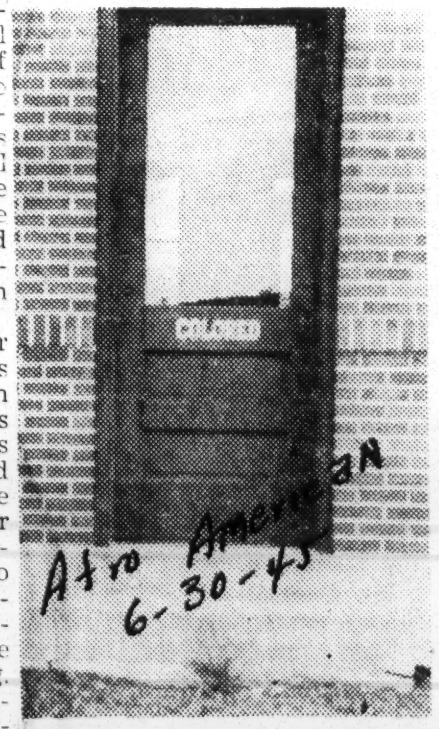
It is our feeling that any restaurant which turns away a Negro wearing the uniform of the United States—any Negro, of course, who conducts himself decently—deserves to be boycotted and destroyed.

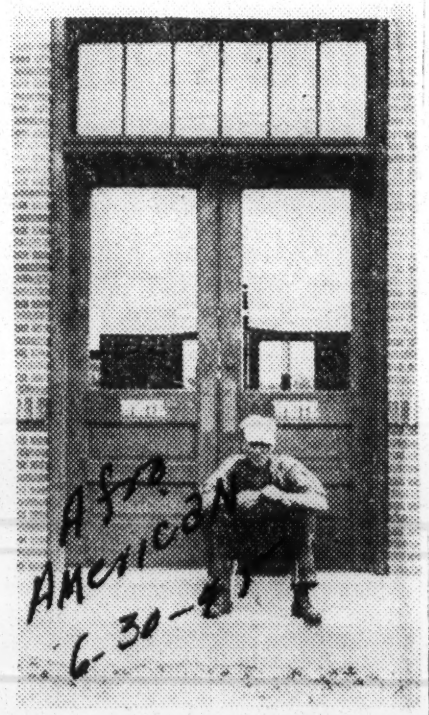
J. C. Plankinton, who should know, states in a letter on this page that exclusion of Negroes in service is not the policy of the restaurants of Portland but that at least one restaurant is so conducting its business—the latest complaint being in regard to a Negro girl in the uniform of the Wac.

Such a restaurant does not deserve to exist.

A man who is good enough to fight beside our sons in battle, or a woman who is good enough to nurse beside our daughters in the hospitals, is good enough to eat beside you and me in downtown Portland.

J.C. Railroad Station at Godman Field





Evidence that the War Department order ending segregation on army posts was not put into effect at Godman Field, Ky., can be seen in the above photos which show entrances to the railroad station plainly marked COLORED and WHITE. This station is on the post. Violations like this are expected to end under Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., who is now commanding officer of the post and the 477th Composite Group. He replaces Col. Robert C. Selway, Jr., white.

Dixie Born Commander's Idea

Negro Fliers Seen Victims Of General's Planned Segregation

Pittsburgh Courier
6-2-45

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Right or wrong, the woes which have beset Negro flight officers at Selfridge Fiedl, Walterboro Air Base, and more lately the bombardiers of Godman and Freeman Fields, are being traced to the doorstep of Maj. Gen. Frank O'Driscoll Hunter, commanding general of the First Army Air Force.

The Associated Negro Press has attempted to probe into some of the background of the general, a product of Savannah, Ga., but not of West Point Military Academy, to answer some of the curiosity about the man. After all, one who enjoys the huge responsibility attendant upon the commander of the First Army Air Force certainly needs explanation when he will stand before a group of men under his command, insult them and injure their morale.

BORN IN GEORGIA

Hunter was born in Savannah fifty years ago, studied in Connecticut and at Lausanne, Switzerland. He enlisted in the aviation section, signal reserve as a flying cadet on May 18, 1917, and was commissioned a first lieutenant in the section four months later. He was called to active duty Sept. 22, 1917 and was honorably discharged on Feb. 24, 1919. He was commissioned a first lieutenant in the regular Army Air Service in 1920, and has been strutting ever since.

Maj. Gen. Hunter came up through the ranks to the position he now holds. His permanent rank is that of lieutenant colonel, to which he was elevated Oct. 9, 1940.

The 332nd Fighter Group was organized Nov., 1943, at Selfridge Field, Mich., a part of the First Army Air Force. Col. William T. Colman, who shot his Negro chauffeur, was commanding officer of the base. He was reduced to the rank of captain and transferred from the post as a result. He is now out of the Army.

The next base commander was Col. William L. Boyd, who apparently was an easy-going sort of individual, but who, homehow, saw reason for establishing separate officers' clubs for Negroes and whites in the free Northern State of Michigan. Commanding the fighter group itself, and deputy commander of the base was Col. Robert L. Selway Jr.

The men of the group protested vehemently. An investigation by the inspector general's office was conducted last year, and General Hunter visited the field presumably to rectify the grievances. Standing before these men one day in April, 1944, he told them, among other things: 6-2-45

CONDEMNED "AGITATORS"

"This country is not ready or willing to accept a colored officer as the equal of a white one. You are not in the Army to advance your race. Your prime purpose should be in taking your training and fighting for your country and winning the war. In that way you can do a deal for both your race and your country. As for racial agitators, they shall be weeded out and dealt with."

Apparently it concerned neither the general nor his Selfridge Field subordinates that Michigan has a civil rights law. Seemingly they went about establishing a Southern jim-crow pattern at a Northern Army post, contrary to the local custom. It is the same thing which Southern whites object strenuously to in the South, but are quick to do themselves in the North and even abroad as events have shown. The seeds of discontent then were well sown.

The 332nd had been shipped overseas. Another squadron, the 553rd, was being organized at the field. Suddenly on the night of May 5, 1944, they entrained for an unknown destination. This turned out to be Walterboro, S. C., and they were no longer the 553rd Pursuit Squadron but rather replacements for the 332nd group. Their commander was Lieut. Col. Sam P. Triffy, also not without the taint of the Selfridge Field unpleasantness.

Organization of the 477th Bombardment Group on May 27, 1944, found Colonel Selway in charge. This group was assigned to Godman Field, Ky. Incidentally, in connection with the 477th, the outfit was to have been staffed by all Negro officers before commitment overseas. Whereas the unit is about ready, this objective has not yet been achieved. 6-2-45

UNIT MOVED SOUTH

At Waterboro almost immediately after their arrival, the fighter replacements were told they could not use a common officers' lounge, and that they were to be segregated in the post theatre. They had no alternative with the lounge matter since they had to eat. However, they refrained completely from attending the theatre. All of this, according to Col. William M. Prince, post commander, was in accordance with the laws of South Carolina.

Segregation remained effective until the War Department order abolishing jim-crow arrangements and facilities on Army posts was issued in June, 1944. This correspondent spent two and a half days at Waterboro inquiring and learned that soon after the transfer, General Hunter had appeared before the men and declared:

"I spend more time wrestling with the problems concerning this base than any other five (like) bases in my air force."

Before the final article in a series had appeared, Colonel Prince had been replaced. After their conclusion, Colonel Triffy was transferred.

At Godman Field much the same situation had developed.

Some time around April 1 the bombardiers were moved over into Indiana to Freeman Field, Colonel Selway still in command. On April 8, 101 men were placed under house arrest for attempting to use a common officers' club. Later when others read a statement promising to remain out of the "white" club, and were asked to sign it, sixty-two refused and were also arrested. Protests mounted and all but three of the 163 men were released.

The group was returned to Godman Field where they were compelled to use separate facilities. Godman Field adjoins Fort Knox where there are no Negro officers with which to contend. But whites from Godman are welcomed at the Fort Knox Club and Negro officers are not. The excuse is still valid that each must use the facilities of the field at which he is based.

PLANNED SEGREGATION

Two things have become evident in this long history. They are that Colonel Selway, even while deputy to his predecessors at Selfridge Field, had been the chief needler of the other men on the jim-crow question; and that General Hunter not only has been in accord with the segregation policy, but has repeatedly indicated that his own thinking runs so much in that direction that he might have been the direct inspiration for the jim-crow policies that have hampered morale of the 332nd and the 477th.

Note should be taken that in the Selfridge Field instance the answer to protests was the transfer of the units to Southern areas—South Carolina and Kentucky. In the Freeman Field instance the answer was a transfer, this time from the State of Indiana, which has a civil rights law and not a few mixed schools, back to Kentucky, which frowns seriously upon race mixing.

Oddly too, the area covered by the First Army Air Force, over which General Hunter presides, takes in twelve States. These include South Carolina, Michigan and Indiana, but do not include Kentucky. It does cover Godman Field in Kentucky, however.

In all the rowing, the inspector general's office has made two investigations, and the last of which, at Freeman, being undertaken by Maj. Gen. Virgil Peterson, the I.G. himself. In at least one of the reports filed, the conclusion was drawn that General Hunter is just opposed to social equality for Negroes in any way, and that he is determined to see that his views prevail.

Wounded Soldiers Barred by Excursion Boat to Va.

Afro-American
6-9-45

WASHINGTON—Virginia jim crow raised its ugly fangs against three wounded soldiers Friday when they were refused permission to accompany their white comrades aboard an excursion boat to Mount Vernon, Va.

The men, from the Fort Meade recuperation center, were among fifty patients being given an all-day outing by the Salvation Army unit of the USO.

They were refused admission aboard the Mount Vernon, owned by the Wilson Boat Line, which also operates the Robert E. Lee, on which colored Washingtonians spend thousands of dollars a season.

First Inkling Given at Pier

The first refusal was made when the company arrived at the pier and boat officials told Capt. Rayford Osborn, white, of the Salvation Army, that colored people were not allowed on the Mount Vernon.

Capt. Osborn then told Lt. Eugene Beam, white, the officer in charge of the group, of the attitude of the boat company and asked what should be done.

Captain Osborn and Lieutenant Beam then went into the office of the Wilson Line and asked that an exception be made in this case because of the military contingent involved. Two of the trio were on crutches. 6-9-45

Officers Offer to Drive

The officials flatly refused to give the white officers permission to take the three men aboard, whereupon Lieutenant Beam and Captain Osborn offered to take the colored men to Mount Vernon in their car rather than let them be disappointed.

The men refused to accept this alternative and told the officers that if they could not go on the boat they would remain in town and join the group at the ball game at 7:30 in the evening.

Boat Line Sole Culprit

In statements to the AFRO, both Army and USO officials stated that they wished the public to know that the discrimination was not on their part but on the part of the boat line.

The men were Pvts. Clarence Adams, 38, Detroit; Freddy C. Johnson, 23, Jacksonville, Fla., and James E. Lang, 19, also of Detroit. 6-9-45

In a statement to the AFRO, Pvt. Lang charged that it was his second experience, inasmuch as he had been taken off a bus at Fort Meade because of his color the night before.

Whites Only Wanted

Lieutenant Beam explained that this was done because the group sponsoring the Wednesday night affair had requested "white only." 6-9-45

When the second incident occurred, Pvt. Lang's emotion reached such a state, he admitted, that he cried when he could not get on the boat.

"I just could not stand any more humiliation," he explained.

56d-1945
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
PM
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUN 10 1945

Discrimination in the 92nd (See 56n 92nd)

How Jim Crow Disheartened Negro Division

Roi Ottley Looks Into Causes of 92d's Troubles

By Roi Ottley
Special Correspondent
(Copyright, 1945, by The Newspaper PM, Inc.)

PM Exclusive

ROME, June 9.—The war brought death to European fascism. But it failed to drive a nail into the coffin of an American brand of fascism—within the framework of the U. S. Army. I refer to the handling of the all-Negro 92d Division.

Ottley

The unsatisfactory showing of the 92d Division, the all-Negro outfit commanded by Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, has documented clearly this development. But few have stopped to analyze the reasons.

Everyone I talked with, both Negro and white, were convinced that the division was one of the poorest in the Italian theater. Even some of its members said so.

I found no convincing evidence that the outfit was any worse than others in the theater, nor has there been any official statement as to the failure of the division. But the negative stories persist.

These stories say that Negro "patrols melted away under enemy fire," Negro officers were inefficient, the division had a high rate of AWOLs, it had no spectacular victories, it had the highest venereal rate in the Italian theater.

Magnification

Admissions by Truman Gibson, Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War, concerning certain failures of the division have been magnified here. No one has bothered to quote the explanations he made for the poor showing.

It is almost an unwritten law among the Allied correspondents not to report any show of flinching. The High Command and war correspondents know white patrols have "melted away under enemy fire." They know that there are inefficient white officers. They also know that there are outfits without spectacular victories.

To be sure, much of the criticisms of the Negro division from white troops, is a form of sublimating. They are frustrated and homesick. The complex reasons for their being here escape them. Therefore, they seek a scapegoat. The Negro soldier seems to be the handiest whipping boy. So, with the flimsiest information, they gripe about the failures of Negroes.

Courage

No one here actually questions the courage of Negro soldiers. Their white officers are unstinting in praise of individual acts of heroism. The division's casualties have been high. Few ever were taken prisoner. *Stars and Stripes*, the GI newspaper, recently praised the men of the division. But all this has failed to offset the misinformation that is being circulated.

The 92d Division probably would not have been singled out for criticism if the War Dept. had not sent Truman Gibson to Italy. What the motive was seems vague at this distance, because no noticeable change has been made in the outfit. In any case, the expose has boomeranged. It has placed blazing focus on a disgraceful situation in the U. S. Army. Even the GIs are beginning to ask the reason.

I went up with the Ninety-second to gather some facts. The men had been fighting on the front for a long time, having been activated in October, 1943. They were moving swiftly toward La Spezia, the formidable naval base. They were taking a terrific shelling from the coastal batteries of the Nazis—but they were moving forward steadily.

What I learned saddened and discouraged me—but hardly more than the discouragement and frustration the men themselves were experiencing. For the press reports, particularly those appearing in *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines, in addition to their day-to-day problems, were hard on morale.

Comments

This is the sort of comments that punctuated their conversations:

"I know I'm not going to get a break when I get home!"

To which another would say, "Yeah, so I don't want to be a hero."

The general feeling was, "This is Mr. Charlie's fight"—meaning the war is a white man's affair.

A certain inevitability threaded through their comments: "When I return I'll have to fight this war all over again," was the way they put it.

"No matter what we do, nobody pays us any mind," was the final conclusion.

The fact is, even the most uninformed Negro GI I talked with questioned the usefulness of risking his life.

I asked one of the Negro chaplains what he said to the men to stimulate their morale. He shrugged helplessly.

When I talked with the Chief of Staff, Col. McCaffery, he offered no solution to this distressing morale. The Negro officers frankly admitted they were helpless, except to stir the men with "racial patriotism." They said the men would go to the death for each other, but not for any abstract slogan. They were clearly cynical about the announced objectives of the war.

As it turned out, what actually I discovered in the ranks of the 92d Division reached deep in the social patterns of U. S. life. Neither whites nor Negroes were ultimately responsible. They were all caught up, victims of an ugly condition. For what was wrong with the division could never be corrected in Italy.

So, with this discovery, I sought the facts. I know I have them and I will try to put into perspective a sad chapter in our military history—one that has embarrassed us with our troops, caused racial conflicts and misunderstanding among them, embarrassed us with our Allies, and produced a certain cynicism among the liberated peoples as to the ultimate meanings of America's participation in the war.

These were the first Negro troops to arrive in Cherbourg, France.
Signal Corps Photo

P.M. 6-15-45

FHA Says It Is a Business Proposition

6-15-45

By Wilbur H. Baldinger
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 15 —If you are a veteran of World War II and want to settle down here with your family in a new home of your own, with lots of sun and trees in the yard, the government, through a housing project called Paisley Forest, has just the thing for you.

Provided, of course, that you didn't fight the war as a member of the 332nd Fighter Group, say, or in the 92nd Division of the U. S. Fifth Army in Italy. It isn't that any military shame is attached to either outfit; both, in fact, have been cited for valor.

They just aren't taking any Negroes in Paisley Forest, which (to quote an advertisement in the Washington *Star*) is a "beautiful new subdivision created for U. S. veterans . . . a community of highly restricted detached brick homes," which is "approved and financed" by the FHA (Federal Housing Administration).

Highly Restricted

At the offices of Frederick W. Berens, Inc., real estate firm which ran the *Star* ad under a "V" symbol wrapped in "GI Bill of Rights" in pretty script, it was explained that "highly restricted" meant that a Negro veteran, even if he had a government loan for a down payment on $8750 required for one of the FHA-financed houses, wouldn't be accepted.

"And how about Jewish veterans?" the girl who answered the questions at the Berens office was asked.

6-15-45

"Well," she said with some hesitancy, "we just can't restrict them."

At FHA offices here it was explained that the housing agency is strictly a business proposition, and that the only criterion for putting up the taxpayers' money for home-building purposes is whether or not the investment looks good and sound—no social conscience, or anything like that—and the government-mortgage owner can do what he pleases in his choice of occupants.

So if you are a veteran, have some cash from the GI Bill of Rights borrowing facilities, want to work and live around here, and have the right color, you can get a dream house, financed by the taxpayers, out in Paisley Forest near Arlington, Va.

6-15-45

You go across Memorial Bridge, honoring all war dead, hit Wilson Blvd., run down Washington Blvd. to McKinley Rd. and there you are.

At Washington offices of the NAACP, (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), it was reported that there were no known projects, FHA-financed or otherwise, for the development of any new housing restricted to Negro heroes of the war.

Presumably these veterans can come home to Washington's "colored district," which visitors in the Capitol note with interest on their way down town from the Capitol and Union Station in taxis. The sights are as quaint as those in Harlem or on Pittsburgh's Hill.

There has been talk in recesses of corridors of the Capitol about requiring the FHA to write into its home contracts something that would bar discrimination on a basis of creed, color, or race, but nothing ever has come of such conversations.

The NAACP wrote the late President Roosevelt last October that regulations and policies of the FHA actually operated to spread and reinforce racial and minority prejudices, against which the war is being fought in part. There had been no reply from the White House, although a couple of years earlier Mr. Roosevelt had said he was confident that FHA policies were "applicable to all transactions and citizens alike, regardless to race, creed, or color."

Play Along

The official FHA *Underwriting Manual*, distributed as a guide to government housing officials, says differently. Rather than instructing FHA agents to keep their minds and hands off of such troublesome questions as "restricted" developments, keeping their attention fixed only on security of loans, it tells the agents to play along with racial prejudices.

6-15-45

The *Underwriting Manual* works up in its instructions to "adverse influences." These, it says, include "unharmonious racial groups" which may become a factor in FHA housing, and it tells FHA agents that one of their responsibilities is the "prevention of infiltration" by such elements in government-approved-and-financed projects.

The "stability" of housing communities financed by the FHA demands, the official manual says, on the continuance of occupancy by the "same social and racial classes" to which they are accustomed.

And in "unoccupied" real estate territory, the *Underwriting Manual* says, projected plans of developers would be buttressed and made more secure, financiallq if papers covering leasing or buying of homes included provisions for:

"Prohibition of the occupancy of properties except by the race for which they are intended."

Just to make this perfectly clear to its representatives in the field, the FHA in its *Outline of Protective Covenants* offered a model clause:

6-15-45

"No person of any race other than the . . . . . shall use or occupy any building or any lot, except that this covenant shall not prevent occupancy by domestic servants of a different race domiciled with an owner or tenant."

Meanwhile, do you want to get in on the FHA-fianced Paisley Forest Housing project down Arlington way? If you are a veteran, just step up with your dough under the GI Bill of Rights, and you'll be fixed up.

You had better make sure, though, that your skin is white before you get any ideas about taking advantage of such a fine proposition, backed thought it is by money paid by all U. S. citizens.

Army Rips Race Hate As Menace To World Peace

Chicago Defender

Chicago Defender 6-9-45

WASHINGTON—The War Department has launched a hard-hitting attack against American race prejudice.

6-9-45

Branding Negro haters and "Jew-baiters" as "enemies" of America, the army has issued an open blast denouncing race, color and religious prejudice as dangerous to the morale of its 10,000,000 men in uniform.

"Consideration for the Negro, the Jew, the Catholic, the foreign born, or for any other minority group; rests not merely on the grounds of humanity and justice; it rests on the solid base of self-interest," points the document listed as Orientation Fact Sheet No. 70 and issued on May 5, 1945.

The manual issued by the Information and Education Division of the Army Orientation branch headed by Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall flatly states that "discrimination on the basis of race or color" is "fatal to military efficiency." The manual declares, "Racial and religious prejudice alienates the confidence of the vast non-white populations as well as other peoples, thwarts their hopes of peace and freedom and ultimately creates the conditions from which future global wars can develop."

6-9-45

In the army's boldest analysis of the growth and destructive development of race prejudice, the scientifically - prepared document bluntly continues:

"We do not inherit our prejudices . . . We may have a stereotyped picture of Negroes as lazy, stupid, happy-go-lucky . . . These stereotypes are being constantly reinforced through newspapers, movies, conversations and jokes, books and radio. A single story comic strip, or movie may not make too deep an impression. However, when time after time the Negro is presented as a crap-shooting, shiftless character—then deep and lasting impressions are made which go to form attitudes and prejudices."

6-9-45

The army pointed out the use of the "Hate the Negroes," and "Hate the Jews" technique by Nazi Germany and warned that Propaganda Minister Paul Goebbels had claimed: "Nothing will be easier than to produce a bloody revolution in America. No other country has so many social and racial tensions. We shall be able to play on many strings there."

"Any American who 'plays on these strings' by spreading prejudice against minorities—Catholics, Jews, Negroes, foreign-born, and others—is, whether he knows it or not, playing the Axis game."

Defining the word "Minority" the Army stated that "everyone in America belongs to a minority.

"America, like the rest of the world, is made up of minorities—religious, racial and national. Let us remember that a minority group, like the Poles or the Negroes in America, may be a majority group elsewhere (say in Poland or Africa) and that a majority group today may become a minority group tomorrow—or vice versa," it stated.

6-9-45

Cites FEPC

In what is perhaps the first recommendation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee made by the armed forces, the pamphlet stated:

"Through the years there has been a sustained effort to abolish discriminations and prejudices which deny a person his fundamental rights as a citizen in a democracy. Discriminations and prejudices are not products of—but rather challenges to—the American way of life. And each of us has a personal responsibility to see to it that the American way of life prevails . . .

"A great advance was made in June 1941 when President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802 and declared 'It is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the national defense program by all citizens of the United States regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin.' The order requires that in all war contracts there is no discrimination 'because of race, creed, or national orgin,' and sets up the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) to enforce this provision.

Hails New Trend

"At the same time, many Americans are beginning to realize that racial and religious prejudices menace our war efforts and our hopes for world peace. More and more Americans are becoming convinced that every person, regardless of his race, religion, or national origin, should be judged on the basis of his own merit . . . Many are learning that democracy cannot work for some unless it works for all . . ."

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
TIMES
Cir. D. 115,252
AUG 2- 1945

Vets to Tackle Racial Problem, Says Navigator

* * * * * * * * *

FED UP ON JIM CROWISM IN ARMY

Jim Crowism in the army and the south, seen for the first time by thousands of northerners when they got into the army, has given them new determination to try to erase it and solve racial problems.

That was the report of Raymond L. Palm, 27, of Portland, Ore., speaking from a discharged veteran's point of view as one of 60 educators and social workers at the workshop of intercultural education in session today at the University of Minnesota continuation study center.

Palm, who served as a lieutenant navigator in the air corps, criticized the army for "assigning colored boys to jobs as waiters, latrine orderlies and cooks around enlisted men's and officers' quarters. The only place where they had a chance to show their equality was at drill, and they were tops at that—the best I've ever seen," he declared.

Without army sanction, southern Jim Crowism got the same results around Ellington field, Texas, where he was stationed, Palm said. He described how Negroes stood aside when lines formed at soft drink machines and waited until all the white troops were through. "The northern white soldiers didn't like it, but the situation was a little too strong for them."

"Soldiers who have seen this sort of thing and yet who know that the Negroes and members of other races can do just as good a job of soldiering as anyone when they are given the chance will take a new interest in erasing prejudice," he predicted.

He cited the university's intercultural workshop, meeting through August, as an example of the kind of steps that will help solve the problem in the postwar world. "More interest means more education and eventually more understanding," he said.

Vida Lewis, principal of Park Rapids, Minn., high school, said drastic measures were needed to cure Indians from White Earth reservation, forming a small percentage of her school enrollment, of "feeling inferior."

"If they were more willing to mix in, I think the other students would co-operate," she said. "I don't know of any who look down upon them."

3 Pacific-Bound Outfits Drop All Colored Troops

Chicago Ill.

8-11-45

Volunteers For Frontline Infantry Sent Back To Kitchen

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

PARIS.—It was back to pots and pans this week for the hundreds of Negro volunteer infantrymen who went into the front lines in Germany to help the final push on Berlin in the last weeks before VE-Day.

Like discarded worn shoes, the heroic colored doughboys, who joined white front line divisions in an unprecedented cracking of Army Jim Crow, have been dropped out of these white combat units and are now back on their menial kitchen and labor jobs.

Of the three divisions which welcomed Negro volunteers and have been redeployed to the Pacific, all were carefully purged of Negroes before proceeding back home to the States.

All Left Behind

These divisions—the 2nd, 8th and 104th—warmly greeted Negro combat aid last winter when there was a critical replacement shortage following the Ardennes thrust by the Nazis and the Battle of the Bulge. The Negro soldiers, many of whom gave up higher rank in order to get into the fighting, performed valiantly, earning many decorations and commendations from ranking commanding officers.

But when the divisions were processed out of the European Theater of Operations enroute to the U.S.A., all Negro volunteers were withdrawn to await reassignment to their former truck driver, kitchen, port battalion jobs in non-integrated units.

Atcually when they volunteered there was no complete integration since the Negro soldiers went to the front as separate platoons and rifle companies serving with white GI's in 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 69th, 78th, 99th and 104th infantry divisions in General Courtney Hodges' 1st Army. But when casualties thinned the ranks of the white divisions, all fought side by side together.

8-11-45

Lauded By White GIs

General Patch's 7th army got Negro volunteers not as platoons but these colored soldiers were organized and designated as so-called "provisional companies." They were assigned to the 12th and 14th armored divisions.

No volunteers reached General Patton's third Army but he had agreed to accept all.

What the white "regulars" thought of the Negro Volunteers' performance and the white GI's willingness to have the Negroes completely integrated was scientifically told in a carefully guarded army information and education survey which polled various "regulars."

Most revealing and encouraging were the results showing complete lack of bias and strongly advocating continuation of mixed units.

Cites Army Paper

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lunteered for the infantry. I my truck. Toot Sweet."

Charges Army Rule Blocks Discharge of Negro GIs

Daily Worker 8-21-45

Victory over Japan "brought once more to the front—and sharply—the unfair manner in which colored men in uniform are being treated as to discharges from the service," according to a Victory statement by the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People.

"Colored Americans rejoice with the rest of our nation and the world that the enemy has been beaten and that organized killing has ceased," the statement said, "but we cannot forget that while millions of servicemen and their families are looking forward to release from uniform, our men, for the most part, are being held in the services, either by unfair rules or by arbitrary administration of the rules."

The statement said the great bulk of Negro soldiers was blocked "from the very beginning" by the point system, "which put a premium on combat service." 8-21-45

"Everyone knows that our boys were kept from combat service through no fault of their own," said the NAACP. "The combat requirement in the point system ignores the long service of hundreds of thousands of service troops and condemns them to remain in uniform while white troops with one-fourth the length of service are discharged."

The statement asserted that many Negro soldiers in the infantry had been changed into service troops and were being held, before V-J day, in Europe, to be sent directly to the Pacific to do construction and maintenance work there.

"We have not been able to get absolute proof of discriminatory treatment of our men in the staging areas in Europe while awaiting transportation to America," continued the statement, "but a number of reports from returning Negro veterans all tally as to poor accommodations, least desirable locations, and abuse by military police."

The statement also called for quick passage of the bill for unemployment insurance of $25 a week for 26 weeks, as recommended by President Truman, pointing out that unless this amount were guaranteed by federal law, many unemployed colored workers would get little or nothing under their various state laws.

"A permanent FEPC must be set up by Congress without delay," the statement concluded. "The postwar period will not begin next Christmas. It is here now. There are great problems to be solved and Negro Americans want no special privileges, but they want no special handicaps, either. Let the regulations be fair to all, and be applied fairly to all without discrimination."

V-J Day Shows Up Unfair Discharges for Negroes

Philadelphia Tribune Penn- 8-25-45

NEW YORK— Victory over Japan brought once more to the front— and sharply— the unfair manner in which colored men in uniform are being treated as to discharges from the service, according to a Victory statement issued August 15 by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

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"Now that the war is over, our men, like all others, want to get back to their families and civilian activities. They should not be penalized because of their color, or made the victims of rules which do not mention color, but which operate unfairly against Negroes."

The statement also called for quick passage of the bill for unemployment insurance of $25 a week for 26 weeks, as recommended by President Truman, pointing out that unless this amount were guaranteed by federal law, many unemployed colored workers would get little or nothing under their various state laws.

"A permanent FEPC must be set up by Congress without delay," the statement concluded. "The post-war period will not begin next Christmas It is here now. There are great problems to be solved and Negro Americans want no special privileges, but they want no special handicaps, either. Let the regulations be fair to all, and be applied fairly to all without discrimination."

Say White Army Officer Demoted for Championing Cause of Negro and FEPC

The Call Kansas City Mo. 9-21-45

SHREVEPORT, La. — (ANP) —Capt. Thomas F. Hoult, a white army officer at the Camp Livingston station hospital is reported to have been reduced in rank for championing the cause of the Negro and the FEPC bill.

Capt. Hoult is said to have lost his captaincy following an article he wrote to the Shreveport Times People's forum against an anti-FEPC editorial appearing in that paper on Aug. 2. Reports reveal that he is now a lieutenant.

In his article to the Times, he championed the cause of the American Negro as well as gave an intelligent and scientific analysis of darker peoples in other parts of the world. He charged that his station hospital practiced racial discrimination and segregation against Negro army officers. 9-21-45

"The colored officers in this hospital have no swimming pool, for example," he wrote. "but white officers have an elaborate club and pool."

Capt. Thomas F. Hoult, a former social scientist, pleaded for fair play and justice for darker people all over the world. In behalf of American Negroes, he said:

"On the local level, the United States has the opportunity to demonstrate to the colored people of the world that it intends to me democratic in fact as well as in name. Our own country is the proving ground for what we will support and do in the world. If we cannot demonstrate an inherent spirit of good will here, we will continue to be misunderstood by the colored men in other nations, and continued war and misery will be the inevitable result."

Following the appearance of his article in the local Times, the captain is reportd to have been reduced to a lieutenant on some flimsy technicality.

56d-1945

Lynn Committee regarding Segregation

The Lynn Committee To Abolish Segregation In The Armed Forces

Northwest Herald
Seattle, Wash.

"The Naval decision to grant discharges 'under honorable conditions' to 14 Negro Seabees is the first attempt of the Navy to meet the mounting criticism against naval policy of racial discrimination," declared Wilfred H. Kerr, co-chairman of the Lynn Committee to Aabolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. For a whole year the Lynn Committee has carried on an unceasing fight to win honorable discharges for a group of Negro Seabees, who had been dismissed by the Navy on October 22, 1943, as "undesirable" because they had protested against segregation and discrimination by white officers while stationed at a base in the Caribbean. 4-17-45

This decision followed a hearing demanded by the Lynn Committee last December. The Committee succeeded in getting Arthur Garfield Hays and Gerald Weatherly to represent four of the Seabees.

Isaac McNatt, of the Seabees represented at the hearing, praised the Lynn Committee for its courageous conduct. "As a personal matter, the restoration of full G. I. rights means that I can now reestablish myself in civilian life without the unjust handicap of a dishonorable discharge," Mr. McNatt, who at present is completing his studies at St. John's Law School, declared.

"But the issue has always been bigger than what happened to me and the other Seabees who had been summarily kicked out of the Navy," he continued. "Practically all colored Americans and an increasing number of white Americans realize that the treatment of Negroes in the armed forces is a blot on democracy. 4-17-45

"This is the real meaning of our struggle to redress the wrong done us in the Navy. Far from being an isolated instance, our case has been typical of the lot of thousands of colored boys in uniform.

"The Lynn Commitee tdeserves every credi for taking up the case last spring, when it looked utterly hopeless. Cooperating with the Lynn Committee were the NAACP, the Civil Liberties and the CIO War Relief Committee. Now the case has been decided in our favor, but I think that the fight has just begun. It will not end until Jim-Crow conditions are abolished forever in our Army and Navy."

Mr. Kerr pointed out that the case of Mr. McNatt and the other eSabees, as well as the whole problem of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces was not simply a war-time issue. He said:

"There seems to be little doubt that a large permanent standing body of men in uniform will be maintained by our country after the war. In that standing Army and Navy and in its training camps, the problem of race relations will continue to be important. If the present discrimination and segregation policies are permitted to remain, the result will be a permanent center of racial discord which will spread the poison of racial distrust and hatred throughout our country. 4-17-45

"Just recently 1,000 Negro seamen went on strike on the west coast against intolerable conditions. Had not the Navy acted as it did in the eSabee case, we would have believed that those in charge of naval policy were determined to make all Negroes in that branch of the service the despised servants and laborers.

"Ous success in this case only confirms our opinion that militant struggle and publicity will bring results even in the teeth of military bureaucracy. 4-17-45

"We intend to carry on and to redouble our efofrts to abolish segregation in the Army and Navy, for we believe that segregation is the evil force from which all discrimination flows. We will continueue to fight as many such cases of discrimination as come to our attention."

56d-1945

MP Brutality

White MPs Beat Negro Sailor On Alabama Train

Chicago Defender 6-2-45

MOBILE, Ala. — Apparently encouraged by a harsh Army jim crow policy which has permitted almost everything in the book, two prejudiced-crazed and power-drunk white military policemen viciously assaulted a Negro sailor on a northbound Louisville and Nashville train early last Tuesday morning. 6-2-45

The attack took place in a smoking compartment of the second coach in the Pan-American, New Orleans-Cincinnati train, between Mobile and Flomaton. The victim's name was given at Woodrow Reed, who was en route to Florida from a California naval base, and was removed from the train at Flomaton by the MPs.

A demand for army and railroad investigations with proper disciplinary action in order against the MPs and the train conductor have been made by the NAACP.

According to witnesses interviewed each of the MPs hurled invectives and took turns at intervals in beating their helpless prisoner in the face and about the body in the smoking compartment of L. & N. coach No. 1867.

Passengers pleaded with the train conductor who was in the forward car, to go back to the next coach and stop the military policemen from beating the sailor, but he continued to punch tickets and manifested no interest in the plight of the defenseless victim of MP brutality.

56d-1945 Nat'l Committee to bolish Segregation in the Armed Forces

Form National Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Services

The Case

5-11-45

BUTLER, N. J. — Meeting over the weekend at Goodwill Camp, representatives of 25 national organizations, of all racial and religious affiliations, formed the National Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Services and addressed a resolution to President Harry S. Truman urging that as Commander-in-Chief he issue a proclamation abolishing every vestige of segregation in the armed services.

Gathered together at the invitation of A. Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL; Willard S. Townsend, president, United Transport Service Employees, Cio; Morris Milgram, national secretary, Workers Defense League, and Wilfred Kerr, chairman, Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, the delegates voted to form a permanent organization known as the National Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Services, to cooperate with all existing organizations presently engaged in the fight, and to enlist the support of organizations all over the country in the campaign.

A feature of the conference was an address by Mayor Thomas N. D. Mace of the Borough of Butler, himself a veteran of World War I, who declared that "the only way to stop future wars is to treat mankind equally." He said that "no matter who you are, what you are, or where you came from, you have a right to equal opportunity on this earth."

Named as members of the planning committee to perfect plans for the organization were, in addition to Mr. Randolph and Mr. Kerr, Layle Lane, Merrit C. Brown, Morris Milgram, Louis B. Greenberg, Robert L. Carter, Ezra Parrott, Sol Stettin, William E.E Hill, Ludlow Werner, Mrs. T. D. McNeal, Guichard Parris, Theodore Griffin and Clara Clayman.

The conference resolution, unanimously adopted, read as follows:

"At a time when the armed forces of the United States are engaged with the United Nations in the total defeat of governments predicated upon military depotism and wholly false doctrines of racial superiority, and

"At a time when there are vast numbers of the armed forces of the United States fighting and dying for a freedom which they have not been accorded in their native land, and

"Whereas it is totally inconsistent with the great sacrifices which all elements of our nation are making to establish, preserve and perpetuate freedom upon this earth that the Negro soldiers and soldiers of other minority groups should be subjected to segregation and other discriminatory practices, and

5-11-45

"At a time, too, when the United Nations are engaged in establishing the structure for a permanent organization to insure world peace and in the words of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, to 'promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,' and

"Since racial equality and the complete integration of all groups are essential for real peace and international cooperation,

"Therefore we call upon you, Mr. President, as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of the United States, and we call upon the Military Staff and the Congress of the United States to abolish every vestige of segregation and discrimination now practised. Only in this way can the United States maintain an unassailabe position of world leadership in the fight for freedom."

Army Admits Responsibility for Keeping Jim Crow in Blood Banks

Washington Tribune 4-28-45

By HARRY McALPIN

The War Department has admitted in writing its responsibility for separate labeling and segregation of the blood of Negroes from that of whites in the Red Cross blood plasma banks.

It says it deems it inadvisable to modify, change, or reverse the policy. It admits there is no scientic basis for the practice of plasma segregation.

These facts were contained in a recent letter from the Office of the Surgeon General, signed by Maj. F. N. Schwartz, who said the Surgeon General, Maj. Gen Norman T. Kirk, had directed him to write the letter.

Delegation Protests

4-28-45

He was answering a letter from Dr. M. P. Lawrence of Long Island, N.Y. The American Red Cross had previously informed Dr. Lawrence that the segregation of blood was not its ruling, but a Government ruling.

Based on this correspondence, a delegation called on the Office of the Surgeon General to protest the un-scientific and un-American policy of the Army. In the delegation were:

Doxey A. Wilkerson, representing the National Negro Congress; Robert Sherman, white CIO Industrial Union Council; Mrs. Beatrice Reed, NAACP; Miss Charlotte K. May, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, and the writer, representing the legislative committee of the National Bar Association

Rank(in) in Army Too

4-28-45

The committee was referred to Brig. Gen. F. W. Rankin, adviser to the Surgeon General.

General Rankin did not hesitate to admit that the segregation policy is the Army's. "The War Department has to take these responsibilities and it is perfectly willing to take them," he said. He admitted, however, that there is no scientific basis for the segregation.

He expressed the sentiment expressed in the letter written by Major Schwartz, in which he said:

4-28-45

"Unfortunately, there is a disinclination on the part of many whites, which you of course recognize, to have Negro blood injected into their veins. Whether that disinclination is the result of prejudice or ignorance, it nevertheless exists, and is a factor with which this office reckon in carrying out the plasma program for the Army."

General Rankin added:

Mythical Majority

"It is a decisive index of democracy that the majority rules. That is what democracy indicates. We believe in the rule of the majority." 4-28-45

But the general refused to answer how he had determined that the majority of the American people wanted the unscientific, un-American policy of the Army followed. Instead, he said:

"I don't think we need debate whether there are people who object to having the blood of Negroes injected into their veins."

An assistant to the general then added:

"Something put into the veins scares people. They are very superstitious. It is something which seems to be ingrained at the moment in enough people to keep up from changing the policy."

At the conclusion of the conference, the general said:

Not a Dead Subject

4-28-45

"This is never a dead subject. Don't think you are the only group which had talked to me about it. I have ample correspondence on the other side. There is quite a bit of objection to changing the policy. I think you are perfectly within your rights to come and lay your arguments on the table and ask consideration of them. I am glad you came. And I represent the Surgeon General, and he is glad to have you, too.

"But, I don't think you expect me to recommend to Secretary Stimson tomorrow that the policy be changed."

N.Y. Company Faces Suit for Rejecting Blood Donor

AFRO-AMERICAN

By D. R. RICHARDS

NEW YORK — Charging the manufacturing chemical firm of Sharpe & Dohme, with prejudice and discrimination, John Randall, an unemployed construction worker, has instituted a $25,000 lawsuit against the company for refusing to accept his blood because he is colored. 4-28-45

Randall, who lives at 200 W. 144th St., went to the company's downtown office in response to an advertisement for healthy blood donors which appeared in the N.Y. Daily News on April 4.

Turned Down by Nurse

4-28-45

A receptionist turned him over to the head nurse who promptly told him, "We don't take the blood of colored people."

WANTED
BLOOD PLASMA
For Civilian Needs
HEALTHY DONORS
Apply Monday & Tuesday, 1 to 7:30 P. M.
Tues., Wed., Fri. & Sat., 11 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
FEE PAID! DONOR CENTER
SHARPE & DOHME
15 WEST 36th St., N. Y. C.
Tel. WIsconsin 7-1951
No connection with Red Cross program

Following consultation with the law firm of Jackson & Pharr, 200 W. 135th Street, action for suit was begun against Sharpe & Dohme for "breach of contract."

In an exclusive AFRO interview, Harrison S. Jackson, attorney, revealed that a summons was served the company on April 16.

Borderline Case

"It is sort of a borderline case," he explained. "It actually is not a written contract that was violated but an advertisement in the newspaper to the general public asking for public blood for a fee. The essence of the contract is what consideration did Randall give?

"He went down there, gave up his time, and offered his services. That makes up the contract and he went down to accept what was offered, and they backed out."

No Prejudice in Ad

He said that since prejudice was not evident in the company's ad, proceedings cannot be brough under the Civil Rights Law. Also, since the Ives-Quinn law does not become effective until July 1, the company cannot be sued for unemployment discrimination under the act. The only thing to do was proceed under theory of "breach of contract."

Randall has donated his blood to the Red Cross several times.

Commenting further on the case Mr. Jackson said:

"Here is a private firm which discriminates at a time when we are at war and are trying to carry out the principles of democracy. This portrays what we can look forward to as the essence of another war in the future.

"Our battle is not to go through the back door of socialization with whites by expending our blood, but principally to do a patriotic and humanitarian duty toward all mankind."

Sharpe & Dohme, which is well known as a manufacturer and distributor of vitamins and other products, could not be reached for comment.

Army Takes Full Blame For Jim Crow Blood Bank

Chicago Defender

4-28-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON. (NNPA)—The War Department has admitted in writing its responsibility for the separate labeling and segregation of the blood of Negroes from that of whites in the Red Cross blood plasma banks.

It says it deems it inadvisable to modify, change or reverse the policy. It admits there is no scientific basis for the practice of plasma segregation.

These facts were contained in a letter of March 24 from the Office of the Surgeon General, Army Service Forces, signed by Major F. N. Schwartz, who said the surgeon general had directed him to write the letter. The surgeon general is Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk. He was answering a letter from Dr. Michael B. Lawrence of Long Island, N. Y. The American Red Cross had previously advised Dr. Lawrence that the segregation of blood was not its ruling, but a government ruling.

Protest Delegation

Based on this correspondence, a delegation called on the Office of the Surgeon General to protest the un-scientific and un-American policy of the Army. In the delegation were Doxey A. Wilkerson, representing the National Negro Congress; Robert Sherman (white), representing the CIO Industrial Union Council; Mrs. Beatrice Reed, representing the NAACP, and Miss Charlotte K. May, representing the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses. They were referred to Brig. Gen. F. W. Rankin, adviser to the surgeon general.

Gen. Rankin did not hesitate to admit that the segregation policy is the Army's. "The War Department has to take these responsibilities and it is perfectly willing to take them," he said. He admitted, however, that there is no scientific basis for the segregation.

He repeated the sentiment expressed in the letter written by Maj. Schwartz, in which he said: "Unfortunately, there is a disinclination on the part of many whites, which you, of course, recognize, to have Negro blood injected into their veins. Whether that disinclination is the result of prejudice or ignorance, it, nevertheless, exists, and is a factor with which this office must reckon in carrying out the plasma program for the Army."

"Majority Rules"

Gen. Rankin added to this: "It is a decisive index of democracy that the majority rules. That is what democracy indicates. We believe in the rule of the majority."

He said: "I don't think we need debate whether there are people who object" to having the blood of Negroes injected into their veins.

An assistant of the general then added: "Something put into the veins scares people. They are very superstitious. It is something which seems to be ingrained at the moment in enough people to keep us from changing the policy."

At the conclusion of the conference, the general said: "This is never a dead subject. Don't think you are the only group which has talked to me about this. I have ample correspondence on the other side. There is quite a bit of objection to changing the policy. I think you are perfectly in your rights to come and lay your arguments on the table and ask consideration of them. I am glad you came. And I represent the surgeon general, and he is glad to have you, too.

"But, I don't think you expect me to recommend to Secretary Stimson tomorrow that the policy be changed."

Red Cross' Policy On Blood Still Unchanged

Memphis World — Tenn. 2-9-45

Must Abide By Gov't Orders, Says Officials

NEW YORK (SNS) — Although it may be true, as reported by some war correspondents overseas that in actual practice Negro blood plasma is not separated from that of whites, the American Red Cross is still following its declared policy of segregation and separate labeling.

This policy was regretfully reiterated by Miss Ella Mae Vanderboget of the New York Chapter of the American Red Cross in a letter to the NAACP. 2-9-45

Miss Vanderboget, chairman of the social and employment agencies division in the annual Red Cross Drive scheduled for March, wrote the National Office of the NAACP asking that an office chairman be appointed and solicitations made for the Red Cross Fund.

In reply, Roy Wilkins, acting secretary, asked whether the Red Cross had changed its blood plasma policy. Miss Vanderboget wrote: "I am sorry the question of Blood Plasma has come up again. I hoped that the decision made in the War Department would be satisfactory to all of you concerned.

"I can only repeat to you that the Red Cross must abide by the instructions given by the Government. We have created no policy and have had no say in the making of it."

Anybody's Blood Will Do When a Life Is at Stake

AFRI-AMERICAN
Baltimore, Md. 1-6-45

By SEAMAN DOUGLASS BROWN

NEWPORT, R.I.—I was on duty in the operating room of this navy station hospital when a call came for me to report to the laboratory for a blood test. The result was that my blood type was compatible with that of a patient who needed a transfusion. Technicians were elated because after eight hours, they had finally been successful.

While I waited for the doctor to return, I talked with the Wave in charge of the laboratory. "Are you white or colored?" When I told her, she was startled, and said she didn't know that when she sent for me.

Church Against It

She was quick to add that it made no difference as far as the navy was concerned, but the WCTU and the churches were against colored giving blood to whites. If this were known, she would probably get a deck court martial, she told me.

Then she asked that I tell the doctor that I was Mexican, Spanish or Cuban if he asked. I replied that I would never deny my heritage and laughing, I offered to settle the issue by not giving the transfusion because I thought too much of myself to have my blood flowing through a white man's veins.

Not Marked

Humbly the Wave said that a life was at stake and that she had been trying for eight hours to get a donor. She explained that she was a native of Texas, and thought the idea of segregation of blood very foolish.

I gave one pint of blood for the transfusion, but refused to say I was anything but colored. They needed it then, so it wasn't marked "colored." I have often heard if one has a drop of colored blood in him, he is colored. I wonder now what the color is of the patient who got my blood.

Army Takes Responsibility For Separate Blood Policy

Atlanta World
Atlanta, Ga. 4-25-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (NNPA)—The War Department has admitted in writing its responsibility for the separate labeling and segregation of the blood of Negroes from that of whites in the Red Cross Blood Plasma banks. It says it deems it inadvisable to modify change or reverse the policy. It admits there is no scientific basis for the practice of plasma segregation.

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Based on this correspondence, a delegation called on the Office of to the Surgeon General. They were referred to Brig. Gen. F. W. Rankin, advisor to the Surgeon General

ADMITS POLICY

4-25-45

Gen. Rankin did not hesitate to admit that the segregation policy is the Army's. "The War Department has to take these responsibilities and it is perfectly willing

Cannot Change Practice, Says General Rankin

to take them," he said. He admitted, however, that there is no scientific basis for the segregation.

He repeated the sentiment expressed in the letter written by Maj. Schwartz, in which he said: unfortunately there is a disinclination on the part of many whites, which you of course recognize, to have Negro blood injected into their veins." 4-25-45

Gen. Rankin added to this: "It is a decisive index of democracy that the majority rules. That is what democracy indicates. We believe in the rule of the majority."

But the General refused to answer how he had determined that the majority of the American people wanted the unscientific, un-American policy of the Army followed.

SUBJECT NOT DEAD

4-25-45

At the conclusion of the conference, the General said: This is never a dead subject. Don't think you are the only group which had talked to me about this. I have ample correspondence on the other side. There is quite a bit of objection to changing the policy. I think you are perfectly in your rights to come and lay your arguments on the table and ask consideration of them I am glad you came. And I represent the Surgeon General, and he is glad to have you too.

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Army Stands Pat On Jimcro Blood

Peoples Voice N.Y., N.Y.

4-28-46

WASHINGTON—Brigadier General F. W. Rankin, adviser to the Surgeon General of the Army, virtually spurned Negro blood for building plasma banks for the armed forces, thereby chosing a policy of jimcro as against saving the lives of soldiers on the fighting fronts, it was learned this week from a delegation which conferred with him and other War Department officials. The blame for the segregation of white and Negro blood plasma was therefore directly placed on the shoulders of officials of the War Department, rather than on the American Red Cross directly.

The appointment with War Department officials was arranged by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell of New York.

The delegation consisted of Doxey Wilkerson, representing the National Negro Congress; Beatrice Reed, administrative secretary of the Washington NAACP; Robert Sherman, president of the Washington Industrial Union Council of the CIO; Charlotte May, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; and Harry McAlpin, National Bar Association's legal committee. 4-28-46

As spokesman for the group, Mr. Wilkerson pointed out to Brigadier General F. W. Rankin and Major F. N. Swartz of the Surgeon General's office, who received the group, that they had come as friends of the Administration and supporters of the war effort. He said that it was the opinion of Negroes and millions of white citizens that a new attitude toward Negroes had developed during the war and that whites would fall in line with a non-segregation policy of administering blood plasma, just as they had in

war plants, on the fighting fronts, and in other circumstances.

HAS "AMPLE BLOOD"

After reiterating to the delegation that the War Department maintained a segregated policy, Brigadier General Rankin made the surprising statement that the department was getting "ample blood." "We have never failed to come up with our quota of blood we have needed," he said.

The General, who said he spoke as the adviser to the Surgeon General, agreed that "there is no biological incompatibility in Negro and white blood," but declared that the practice must be continued because many whites "out of prejudice or ignorance" object to having Negro blood inserted into their veins, and that a change in the policy would "greatly militate against the successful conclusion of the program for collecting blood plasma for the armed forces."

He declared that in a democracy the majority rules. When questioned by members of the group as to how he knew that the majority of whites objected to having blood from Negroes injected into their veins, he declared that he would not debate that question.

When asked whether he meant that a dying soldier would stop a transfusion to ask from whom the blood was taken, the General replied that a dying soldier would not object, but that a great many people out of the Army would object.

DAVIS SCORES DEPARTMENT

Several days before the conference was held, Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, jr, wrote to Major Swartz, in reply to a letter the latter sent to Dr. Michael P. Lawrence of L. I., upholding the segregated policy, that he was "astounded to read that the Army Service Forces is responsible for the white supremacy policy of segregating blood plasma," instead of the American Red Cross, as has been generally believed. We called the practice "an appeasement to pro-fascist, racist pressures which stem from Hilter and Japanese fascists." 4-28-46

"What of the Army Service Forces boldly proclaiming such an anti-United Nations policy at the very moment when the United Nations—colored and white—'ll be our guests to help form a world security organization to prevent wars and to formally establish the equality of races and peoples in the human family?" he wrote.

"I have confidence in our military leadership and believe that this policy will be rectified." He urged that the policy be immediately abrogated and a public announcement made to the effect.

It is the consensus of the members of the delegation that General Rankin has no intention of recommending a change of policy to Surgeon General Kirk and that strong pressure from the public will be necessary to effect a change. They urge that all pressure be placed upon the War Department to have this humiliating and detrimental practice abolished.

Jim Crowism Is Rampant At Pennsylvania Camp

Atlanta World 1-12-45

INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa.—(ANP) — Determination to continue racial segregation practices and failure of white officers here to abide by the war department's directive to outlaw such conditions are the nuclei for unrest and discontent among colored troops here.

Although patients are quartered

Discontent And Unrest Is High Among Soldiers

at the station hospital with no regard for color and though whites and Negro soldiers enter the mess hall in the same line, when the boys are given their food they are seated in jim crow sections.

Recently confusion reached a high point when a technician 4th grade, a mess sergeant, an army nurse and another officer were posted in the mess hall for the purpose of enforcing the segregated seating order. Both white and colored personnel resented this action.

One cannot attribute such jim crow practices to the fact that they are in keeping with state laws for Pennsylvania, unlike Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, and others, has long boasted of an equal rights law.

Sailor Accuses Institute Of Discrimination

Atlanta World 2-8-45

Torpedoed Veteran Depicts Conditions At New York Site

NEW YORK — (Calvin's News Service) — Samuel Seaborn Lawson, a New Yorker, who received serious injuries when his ship, the "Mission Solano," was torpedoed, charged that the noted Seamen's Institute, which receives huge donations for the work it is carrying on ,definitely discriminates against Negroes. He found this to be true when he and other merchant seamen aboard the Mission Solano were injured, he said.

"Foreigners to our shores," expressed Lawson, "and even the waterfront bums, get more consideration and better facilities and accommodations than those of us who have given our all for democracy."

2-10-45

REFERRED TO INSTITUTE

Lawson, who holds both the Pacific and Atlanta War Zone Bar commendations confirming active service with the US Merchant Marines overseas, indicated he had been referred to the Seamen's Institute, 25 South Street, in New York, by the Gladstone Rest Center in New Jersey (where he had been a convalescent) for quiet quarters until he could be transferred to a marine hospital for treatment.

"The clerk in charge was most discourteous," Lawson relates, "the quarters were dirty and when I asked if I could check my things, I was told 'at your own risk.' The Negroes seemed to all be thrown together in the noisiest and dirtiest part of the place and they didn't seem to be too particular whether you went or stayed.'

PLATES AND BRACE

A former singer with Lucky Roberts' Orchestra, the seaman has two steel plates in his leg, which was badly crushed, and wears a brace. After his argument downtown, Lawson, thiryish and angry, came to Harlem. He found most of the downtown service centers stay open all night, but those uptown close early. "I won't call any names of the various agencies I went to and nobody was around but the elevator man," he continued, "but I do think the Negro social service centers ought to be more interested in all phases of a man's needs. Providing hostesses to entertain us is only a small part of the issue. The boys desire courtesy and consideration and immediate service when they need it. We shouldn't have to be celebrities to get kind treatment. After all, we merit what we get, and our service to the country on the high seas on the good ship Solano is a living tribute to our manhood."

Lawson concluded that the expose he had made of the Seamen's Institute was a valid one and if an investigation was conducted they would find he didn't lie.

NEGRO SOLDIERS GO ON HUNGER STRIKE

New York Times 3-4-45

LOS ANGELES, March 3 (AP)— Approximately 1,000 members of a Negro construction battalion who had served for twenty-one months in the South Pacific and are now stationed at Fort Hueneme, near Oxnard, Calif., are on a hunger strike.

Norman O. Houston, a local member of the board of directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said today that the demonstration was in protest against the alleged addition of white enlisted men to the battalion for eventual elevation to chief petty officers, and that the Negroes, because of their training and overseas experience, felt qualified for these ratings.

Commodore William M. Quigley, commander of the advance base depot at Port Hueneme, was quoted by Navy spokesmen here as saying:

"I knew them and admired them at Tulagi and Guadalcanal. However, they have no basis whatsoever for complaint, since there has been absolutely no color line and no discrimination against members of the battalion by its own officers or by the naval base.

"No action is contemplated re-

Army Jim Crow Policy Ironic As It Discharges Negro Doctors At A Time When Need Is Most Acute

N.Y. N.Y.

New York Age 1-6-45

More than a dozen Negro doctors, finishing up their internship at Harlem Hospital, preparatory for active Army service, received notices almost at the eleventh hour that instead of commissions in the Army they would receive discharge papers because the Army had all the Negro doctors it needs.

Most of the young doctors finished their medical schooling under the Army Student Training Program in Grade A medical schools and upon finishing their internships at Harlem Hospital were scheduled to be commissioned as medical officers in the U. S. Army on January 1st, along with a number of white interns with whom they were working side by side at the hospital.

The announcement to them by the War Department left the Negro doctors speechless. All of their plans revolved around their duty with the Army, and many of them were some three months short of internship requirements for many states. That had not worried them when they knew they were going into the Army because the last three months of internship would be completed in Army hospitals under the ASTP, and they would therefore be qualified for examinations in all states.

City authorities came to the rescue of many of the Negro doctors, and 6 of them were kept on at Harlem Hospital under an expended intern quota. The other doctors were fortunate in being placed, three of them getting appointments as resident physicians at Sea View Hospital, and the others in other hospitals.

But at a time when medical doctors are badly needed, the action of the War Department in giving discharges to these highly qualified Negro doctors is ironic, to say the least.

TROUBLE IN STATEN ISLAND

New York Age

A GREAT hue and cry has been raised in Stapleton and other Staten Island towns that in recent weeks there have been robberies, muggings and molesting of civilians by Negro soldiers stationed at the Fox Hills cantonment. Petitions have been circulated askng the removal of the Negro troops, and the daily press has played up the story to the fullest.

The New York Age has no excuse, nor would it attempt to make one, in behalf of lawlessness on the part of anyone, either Negro or white, servicemen or civilian. Lawlessness must not b tolerated, condoned or excused, no matter who the perpetrators might be. N.Y. N.Y.

The New York Age, however, rises to the defense of Negro soldiers in general who are being victimized as a result of lawlessness, or alleged lawlessness. on the part of a few individual soldiers. It is known that in any large body of men, women, or children, that there are bound to be some "rotten apples." But because there are one or two tainted ones, that does not mean that the whole group is tainted.

3-24-45

By the very nature of the draft, Selective Service officials have taken able-bodied men according to the needs of the armed forces. Good men, and bad men, are taken into the service of their country. Some of the very habits that were theirs in civilian life they have carried with them into the branch of the armed services to which they have been assigned. N.Y. Age

No doubt there are some Negro soldiers in Staten Island who are "rotten apples". No doubt some of the crimes complained about have been committed. But, granted that the picture is as dark as even some of the Staten Island residents paint it, that still does not excuse them for allowing their prejudices to come to the fore with the demand that the Army station the Negro soldiers elsewhere. The same crimes, probably a great many more, would be committed if the soldiers happened

to be white. Would the same demand be made if the soldiers were white? We doubt it.

Fact of the matter is that the Negro soldiers in the Fox Hills cantonment did not ask to be stationed at the cantonment; many of them do not relish the fact that they are assigned to work as stevedores despite their abilities to do other work; some of them are resentful of the fact that they are members of the Army which has a well defined pattern of discrimination; others are resentful against the restrictions imposed on them and the lack of proper facilities to enjoy themselves after they have put in a hard day's work. 3-24-45

For the Army to accede to the demands of the Stapleton residents and transfer the Negro soldiers out of the area, is giving way to bigotry and prejudice, even though it announces that the soldiers being transferred are innocent of any wrong-doing.

What the Army should realize, but doesn't, is that it must expect trouble from any group of men, regardless of their color, when they are stationed in territory which is unfriendly or resentful against them, and particularly in an area where facilities for recreation and enjoyment of good, wholesome fun, are sadly lacking. Recreation, alone, will not stop some soldiers from showing themselves to be the "rotten apples" that they are. But proper recreational facilities will help to minimize the possibilities of anti-social acts being committed. 3-24-45

If all humans were perfect, there would be no wars. But all humans are not perfect, and we do have wars. And all soldiers are not perfect and we do have some of them committing crimes. Those are the facts of life and we might as well face them as they are, and not as we dream they should be.

Forces Negroes To Dine With Nazi Prisoners

N.Y. Amsterdam News 3-10-45

Germans Get Excellent Treatment At Huntsville Ala., Arsenal, Report

By H. D. COKE

FRONT NO. 2 ....

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., (ANP)—A white waitress employed at the cafeteria of the Huntsville arsenal was fired this week following a report that she was caught with a German prisoner of war. The girl, frequently seen by Negro employes talking to the prisoner, was not identified. German prisoners are used in the government owned and operated arsenal to clean cafeteria, pick up paper, move lumber, etc. They are given excellent treatment and working condtions, with some of them used as guards for the group under supervision of white soldiers. 3-10-45

Negro employes of the arsenal, reported to be the largest in the world, have on occasion been forced to eat with the German prisoners. More than a dozen Negro employes reported that on one occasion a white officer ordered those who were having their dinner in the cafeteria's segregated corner to make room for the German prisoners. 3-10-45

When they failed to understand tnat the "white" prisoners were to eat at their tables, and did not move to other tables, the white officer of the U. S. Army pulled his pistol and ordered them to move under a threat to shoot. The German prisoners were then seated in the section reserved for Negro employes. All this was done in the sight of white fellow workers who occupied seats on the "white side." The German prisoners have enjoyed their meals on the Negro side of the government operated cafeteria on several occasions, to the disgust of the Negro employes.

Several thousand persons are employed at the large arsenal that occupies 40,000 acres. German prisoners move freely about the arsenal, anyone of them having the opportunity to do damage and endanger war production and the lives of the employes.

His Company Voted New York's Best

Afro American 7-21-45

Baltimore Md.

Col. James A. Stevens, commanding officer of Port Terminals, New York Port of Embarkation, awards the first Unit of the Month Plaque to Capt. William A. Williams, commanding officer of the 866th Port Company, for having been judged best in all-around performance of all port units. Left and right in the background are Major S. J. Guran, executive officer, and Col. F. W. Huntington, post commander, of Fox Hills Terminal, where the 866th is stationed. Later, Capt. Williams told the Post Commander that his company was ready for duty against the Japs, and requested an immediate overseas assignment. 7-21-45

Famous 92nd Back Now As Servants

Atlanta Ga. Daily World.

The famous 92nd Division is back in the country and is now stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., This Division fought in the Po Valley, saw action in the snow-bound Appenines, and waged battles on the hot and dusty plains of central Italy. Many of its members won citations and medals for bravery; many died gloriously for their country and its belief in the Four Freedoms. 10-16-45

Now upon return to the land of their birth, members of the 92nd are deep in the throes of racial hatred, segregation and all that is inherent therein at Fort Benning, according to a civilian who is in contact with the outfit. He states that some of these heroes are assigned to KP, to the cleaning of white officers' barracks and the mowing of lawns.

56d-1945

Domestic

GIs Report Jim Crow At The Front Responsible For 'Killing GI Joes'

New York Amsterdam News

6-16-45

By CAROLYN DIXON

With rare exceptions here and there, U. S. Army officers carried out America's traditional Jim Crow policy to a point of downright stupidity during the Italian phase of World War II . . . and on many occasions GI Joe went to his death only because GI Sam was seldom allowed to engage in combat.

That story and countless others was being told in Harlem this week as thousands of soldiers arrived daily from Europe, following the most devastating war in world history.

2,000 Back Since V-E Day

It was estimated that 2,000 Negro troops were among those who had arrived in the United States since V-E Day.

Many came back by plane, but most of them were transported across the Atlantic by ship. The journey back had obviously been tiresome, mainly because many of the GI Sams were in doubt as to whether their services would eventually be required in the Pacific.

It was also a journey into fear, a kind of anxiety over the future; speculation as to whether the war had really been fought for freedom.

6-16-45

If GI Joe is white, our boys are convinced, GI Sam is still most certainly black.

Latest Arrivals

Aboard the U. S. General W. P. Richardson, for instance, more than 250 Negroe soldiers returned last Thursday and, for some reason, was the last unit to go ashore. "That is no accident," one GI Sam said as he walked down the gangplank, "and don't think that we don't realize we've got to start fighting all over again for the right to become first class Americans."

These particular soldiers had served overseas in Italy for 28 long months, each was in possession of the required 85 points; but there was still fear and doubt and speculation.

6-16-45

First Harlemites to take a stretch on the pier at 44th Street and the North River was Pvt. George H. Moses, of 205 West 148th Street.

Harlemites Speak Out

Don't ask me if I'm glad to be back," he told the AMSTERDAM NEWS, "just find out when they're going to let me out."

Then there was Sgt. Charles Bennett, of 1322 Fifth Avenue, who said that Italy was a nice country to visit but no place to live. "The people over there are beat," Sgt. Bennett said. "They are licked in spirit, and I believe it's going to take them 100 years to get straight."

None of the men showed any signs of combat, but they remembered when the Germans bombed Naples. . . shortly after British and American troops had invaded Italian soil.

"If you don't think that was combat," Pvt. Howard Alexander, of 101 W. 140th Street, said, "start thinking all over again. Them Germans kept us ducking every night for a month."

Most calm of all the soldiers seemed to be Pvt. Louis E. Amory, of nearby Peekskill, who had spent three years in the Army. "I'd like to get out," he admitted, "but Uncle Sam's the boss and I'll just have to wait."

6-16-45

Other N. Y. Arrivals

Other New Yorkers arriving on the Navy Transport were Sgt. Samuel James, of 354 Seventh Ave., Mount Vernon; Pvt. Marvin Lane, of 17 May Street, New Rochelle; Sgt. Isaac Colclough, of 23 Dewitt Pl., same city; Pvt. James B. Martin, of 800 Home St., the Bronx, whose brother is serving in the Navy.

The 200 other members of this outfit were from such far away places as Chicago, Kansas and Texas.

Aboard the transport was Corp. Ernest Scales, of Chillicothe, Ohio. He had spent 26 months overseas and was wearing the Purple Heart for bravery in action during an air raid on Oct. 21, 1943.

He Has His Doubts

Corp. Elliott Murray, of St. Louis, was wearing the Purple Heart also. "There are about six colored boys aboard wearing this ribbon," Corp. Murray said, "but I doubt that it will be recognized when we return home on furlough."

Following a trip to Camp Shanks, they were reassigned and given leaves until August. Some of them hoped to be released permanently baceuse of their age, but their white officers had praised them so much for the service they had rendered in the Fifth Army's laundry units that it was believed many would be sent to the Pacific theatre.

6-16-45

He Heard Good Reports

Conspicuous among the civilians aboard the incoming transport was Congressman Lyle Boren, of Seminole, Okla., who spent six weeks visiting in Italy, France and Germany.

As ranking member of the House Aviation Committee, Representative Boren said that he had not visited Col. Benjamin O. Davis' flying "hell-raisers" in Italy.

"I heard plenty about them," Mr. Boren said, "and the reports I got were good. What they accomplished in demonstrating that Negro aviators could fight like anybody else will help in bringing about better racial understanding in the future."

Says Negroes Are Pushing Too Fast

Pittsburgh Courier Penn. 2-10-45

Senator Taft Refuses To Back FEPC With 'Teeth'

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—Sen. Robert A. Taft (Ohio), Republican leader in the Senate, has struck what may prove to be a death blow to the FEPC. He has completely reversed his pre-election attitude and apparent commitments on FEPC.

He bluntly told a delegation of white and Negro constituents from his State on Friday that he is not in favor of the bills now pending in Congress because of their compulsory features. He is introducing his own bill to provide for voluntary methods.

For the bills now pending in Congress, he told the delegation "You won't have the enthusiastic support of many Republicans and no Southerners."

COLORED PEOPLE MAKING MISTAKE

"I don't believe in a compulsory bill," he said. "I think the colored people are making a mistake."

At one point he said the present bills would deprive people in smaller offices of their right to hire who they choose. He stated he had some question that it might be limited to larger firms of 500 or 1,000 employees, who, he felt, had some public obligation. Later, however, he said he would not support that now because he had decided the voluntary method is better.

Lecturing the group in patronizing fashion, most of them being Negroes—the Senator declared: "I think you are pushing too fast. The colored people are much better off than they were 10 years ago."

He said he felt a voluntary bill is "better for the colored people." At another point of his lecture, he said he did not think Negroes could make all their progress over night. He sounded just like George of Georgia, Russell of Alabama, or Bilbo of Mississippi, with whom he has formed a coalition to control the Senate.

GOP PLATFORM NOT FOR COMPULSION

The Senator lost his poise when Judge William Hastie, invited by the delegation to accompany them, challenged his good faith on the FEPC issue. Taft tried desperately to place the blame on "the colored people."

Hastie told the Senator: "One other thing disturbs me. The Senator mentioned that last year the Education and Labor Committee voted out this bill without having any idea in mind of passing it. The Senator also mentioned the (Republican) platform did not mean a compulsory bill.

"Certainly the country got the idea a compulsory bill was intended in both instances. They are going to get the idea they have not been dealt with in good faith."

Taft reddened behind his ears, assumed his full Senatorial dignity, importance and forcefulness. He pounded on his desk and pointed his finger as he answered.

NEGROES SHOWED "BAD FAITH" 2-10-45

"I think if there is any bad faith," he stormed, "it is on the colored people who presented the platform and failed to tell the people what was in the bill they presented. No one mentioned a compulsory bill. I certainly did not intend the platform to mean a compulsory bill. If there has been bad faith, it is on the colored people."

In answer to previously asked question, however, Taft had told the delegation that he had voted in favor of reporting to the Senate a bill for an FEPC, which bill did contain compulsory powers. He said he did so with the understanding that it would not be acted on by the Senate.

That was before the convention in Chicago where the Republican platform was adopted. The only FEPC bill pending in Congress before the time of the convention contained compulsory powers—the same bills Taft is now opposing—and extensive public hearings had been held on them in the House Labor Committee. 2-10-45

When the "compulsory" FEPC bill was reported to the Senate on Sept. 20, 1944—just before the election in which Taft squeezed through by only 17,000 votes—Senator Chavez, its sponsor, stated that the bill was being favorably reported by unanimous vote without amendment. He said several members had indicated they might submit amendments to the bill before it was considered. He mentioned that it was also suggested that the bill be not taken up before the election.

HASTIE COMMENTS

Turning to Taft on the floor of the Senate, he said: "I ask if that meets with the approval of the Senator from Ohio."

Taft replied: "It does."

Before the election Taft's only objection to the pending FEPC bills was on a question of judicial review.

This attitude is set forth in the printed report of the Senate Education and Labor Committee.

Commenting on the delegation's conference, Judge Hastie said: "My impression is that it was worse than I could conceive it could be. And it was so bad the rest of the Republicans cannot go along with Taft's idea."

Taft Introduces FEPC Bill Without "Teeth"

WASHINGTON —(NNPA) — Sen. Robert A. Taft (R. of Ohio), in a move reminiscent of the methods he used to kill the Federal Aid to Education bill two years ago, has introduced a bill for a Permanent FEPC which is based on the committee being limited to voluntary methods of eliminating discrimination in employment. Fear has been expressed here that Taft's bill will split the forces favoring a permanent FEPC and cause defeat of the measure entirely.

Negro Group Approves Fair Employment Bill

Detroit Free Press 2-12-45

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has approved a bill for establishment of a Michigan Fair Employment Practice Commission sponsored by State Senator Ben Carpenter, of Harrison, Dr. James J. McClendon, president of the Detroit branch, has announced.

RACE BIAS HEARING ORDERED ON COAST

N.Y. Times

FEPC Acts on Charges That Bay Area Car and Bus Jobs Are Barred to Negroes

3-5-45

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices will hold a hearing in Oakland March 19 on complaints that the Key System, a transit company operating in the East Bay area and across the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, has refused to employ qualified Negroes for some jobs because of their race. 3-3-45

Named with the company in the complaints is Division 192, Amalgamated Association of Street Railway and Motor Coach Employes, AFL, which has a union shop contract limiting employment to union members.

Conferences on Spot Failed

The controversy has been in progress for a year and a half, with the Regional FEPC seeking an adjustment. Failure of these discussions led the regional committee to refer the case to the national FEPC. In forwarding the case it said that since May 27, 1943, the union has had "a policy and practice of denying membership to Negroes because of their race."

Complaints have been filed by twenty Negroes that the company refused to hire them for "platform jobs," as motormen, conductors, and bus drivers. In reply to the complaints the company cited its union contract and has stated also a belief that the use of Negroes as platform men would "cause difficulty and result in uneconomic operation for the company."

Negroes in Maintenance Jobs

3-3-45

The company employs Negroes for other than platform jobs and those in maintenance work belong to another division of the same general union. The transit lines in San Francisco have about 700 Negroes operating street cars and buses and, as a result of an FEPC hearing there in August, the transit companies in Los Angeles have begun to hire Negroes for platform jobs.

The national FEPC has named Mrs. Evelyn Cooper, an attorney of its staff, as examiner to conduct the Oakland hearing and has assigned A. Bruce Hunt, its western counsel, to be trial attorney.

Maryland FEPC Bill Introduced

AFRO-AMERICAN-Md.

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—A Maryland State FEPC bill was introduced in the House of Delegates of the State Legislature on Monday by Leon A. Rubenstein, (D), 4th District.

The bill designed to "prohibit discriminatory employment practices based upon race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry," calls for the establishment of a State commission against discrimination. 3-24-45

The bill was referred to the judiciary committee where a measure to repeal the Maryland jim-crow transportation law is now pending.

Two Camp Sibert Wac's Beaten by Ala. Policeman

Afro-American 1-13-45

Girls Refused to Give Up Seats to Whites on Bus; 2 Agreements Follow Investigation

By JOE SHEPHARD

WASHINGTON

Strong and immediate War Department action was requested by the AFRO this week following an eye-witness account of the brutal beating of two Camp Sibert Wacs by a Gadsden, Ala., policeman on the day before Christmas Eve.

According to the AFRO's informant, a white Gadsden resident, the two Wacs boarded a bus owned by the Crescent Motor Lines and sat down in the rear seat which was then vacant.

Refused to Move

A few minutes later, after the bus began filling up with whites, the driver ordered the girls to stand so that the white passengers might be seated.

The Wacs declined to do so, and the bus driver refused to move.

A white woman passenger, who was in a hurry to get to the bank, left the bus and called a civilian officer, who went to the rear of the bus and pulled one of the Wacs, Pvt. Roberta McKenzie, from her seat.

Pleas for MP Ignored

The other Wac, Pfc. Gladys Blackman, then pushed the policeman and told him to get an M.P. since he had no authority to put his hands on military personnel.

Ignoring their protests, the cop dragged the two girls from the bus to the accompaniment of yells of "kill 'em, kill 'em," from white passengers, the eyewitness said, and forced them into a police scout car which had arrived on the scene.

The beating of Pfc. Blackman continued in the scout car and at the jail, where the cop allegedly pounded her forehead against the wall until she was in a semi-conscious state.

Pvt. McKenzie was also severely beaten by the cop, the AFRO was informed, and the two Wacs were then placed in a cell where they remained until they were taken back to Camp Sibert by two MPs.

Pfc. Blackman, who was still semi-conscious when she arrived at the post, was treated at the post hospital for bruises and scratches of the head and face before being confined to her bed at the barracks approximately a week.

Transfer of Wacs Asked

The AFRO's informant was unable to furnish the name of the arresting officer or to state whether any action had been taken by the military authorities at Camp Sibert.

He stated, however, that the WAC commanding officer, Lt. Aurelia Harris, had requested that all of the colored Wacs be transferred from Camp Sibert.

War Department Investigates

A War Department investigation revealed that the policeman, W. P. Baker, had taken the Wacs off the bus, and that force had been used.

Upon intercession of the commanding officer of Camp Sibert, a representative of the Judge Advocate General's office conferred with the mayor of Gadsden and the manager of the bus company. These conferences resulted in two agreements:

1. That civilian policemen were not to interfere in matters involving military personnel, but would call military police;

2. That the bus company manager would issue a directive to all bus drivers to be courteous to all passengers and not, under any circumstances, to call civilian police or attempt themselves to handle "incidents" involving military personnel.

Charges Quashed

The two Wacs were originally charged with disorderly conduct and restraining, arrest. These charges were quashed when the Wacs were turned over to military authorities.

Change in Policy Agreed on

The AFRO was unable to learn whether any further disciplinary action was taken against either the deputy sheriffs, testified that the prisoner had been killed while resisting arrest.

A little more than a year ago, a group of civilian police officers and deputy sheriffs had arrested a colored soldier by the name of Raymond McMurray and were taking him back to Gadsden from Camp Sibert.

A few miles from the camp, the soldier was shot through the head and killed. His slayer, one of the

Killing Recalled

Two West Coast Shipyards Notify FEPC Of Their Compliance With Directives Against Discrimination

New York Age 3-3-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Two West Coast shipyards, employing over 30,000 workers in construction of ships for the Government, have notified the President on Fair Employment Practice of their compliance with FEPC Directives against discrimination in employment, Malcolm Ross, Chairman of FEPC, announced Wednesday March 28. 3-31-45

Mr. Ross said notifications were received from the Western Pipe and Steel Company and the Consolidated Steel Corp. (Shipbuilding Division), both of Los Angeles, after the Committee had issued a decision on rehearing, December 22, 1944, reaffirming its original directives and requesting early reports on steps taken toward compliance.

Five companies involved in the original directives were all granted a rehearing on petitions and decisions were issued on each. No compliance report has yet been received from the Oregon Shipbuilding Corp., the Kaiser Co. Inc., both of Portland, Oregon, and the California Shipbuilding Corp. of Los Angeles.

All five of the companies have been involved in lengthy negotiations with FEPC since public hearings on complaints were held by the committee in Portland and Los Angeles in November 1943. The principal complaints alleged that qualified Negro workers were discriminated against because of their race by the existence of a closed shop contract, and by refusal of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, A. F. L., to admit Negroes to full memberships. 3-31-45

The committee found that refusal of the union to grant Negroes membership other than in auxiliary lodges was discrimination in violation of Executive Order 9346. The union was directed to grant Negroes full membership rights without discrimination.

The companies were directed to cease discharging Negro workers who refused to accept inferior union status and to ignore the union clearance system as long as the discriminatory membership procedure was maintained by the union.

FEPC Probe Wins Jobs in St. Louis

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-24-45

ST. LOUIS (ANP)—The General Cable Corporation last week offered sixteetn coored applicants jobs by telegrams, agreed to consider upgrading five employes discriminated against previously, and advised the USES it would accept qualified workers regardless of race, creed, or national origin.

Swift action by the company followed a recent partial probe by the FEPC, at the Civil Courts building, when it was charged with discrimination against colored workers in employment.

The telegraphic message to the sixteen workers instructed them to call at the company's office and file an application with Miss Wise if they were still interested in employment there and could meet the necessary qualifications.

FEPC Reserves Right

It concluded: "This telegram is sent to you pursuant to an agreement reached with the FEPC." The company agreed to remove all causes for complaint as cited by the committee at a conference between its officials and Simon Stickgele, Washington FEPC counsel. 3-24-45

Lest the company fails to comply with the agreement, the FEPC reserves the right to intercede any time before April 9 when the hearing will be continued. A 100 per cent war plant, it employs more than 4,000 persons.

83% Of Southern White Veterans Favor FEPC

Philadelphia Tribune 4-14-45

While Americans here at home quibble over the value of establishing fair employment practice commissions, an equal number of white soldiers from the north and south voted 91 per cent in favor of such principles. The northern men were 100 per cent in favor and the southerners 83 per cent, according to the poll of opinion taken of returning white veterans by Pvt. Elmer L. Clark, Tulsa, Okla., and Cpl Norman S. Ellington, Fulton, Mo.

The general attitude after foreign service as to whether white men feel a deeper appreciation for their fellow Negro combatants was found to be 77 per cent yeas; 83 per cent north, 67 per cent south. The closer the contact the higher the percentage of understanding.

Hire Race Woman After FEPC Order

Atlanta World Ga.

1-25-45

ZANESVILLE — (ANP) — Regardless of race, creed or color, Line Material, a war plant here, will hire additional workers, officials agreed last week after the FEPC interceded. This promise, which primarily concerned the hiring of Negro women, must become a reality by February 28th or the committee will resume its probe. Emmanuel Block, hearing commissioner, revealed.

The Line Material company which is engaged is the production of shells and radar components, had steadfastly refused to consider the employment of Negro women. Action against this practice began in early '43 when the United Electrical Workers, CIO, at the suggestion of John Thornton, former Columbus labor organizer, gathered a group of women together and suggested that the apply for jobs at the plant. 1-25-45

Immediately a group of 35 women went to the plant, one half in the morning and the others in the afternoon. After a long delay these women were finally given forms to fill out. When a period of three months passed and the women had received no answer to their applications they wrote Paul V. McNutt, war manpower commissioner, who in turn gave their letter to the FEPC. 1-25-45

At an all day meet Friday between plant officials and representatives of FEPC, Ernest Snell, U. S. employment head, Zanesville, testified that all of the other war plants in that area employed Negro women, and declared that those Negro women worked alongside white employes in perfect harmony. The contention on the part of company officials that the FEPC had no jurisdiction in the the case, was overruled by Block.

Attention was called to the fact that while Line material gave employment to a Negro woman of fair complexion. The woman's employment, however, was terminated when it was learned that she was colored.

Chavez to Push FEPC Bill, Confident of Quick Passage

PM New York N.Y. 1-1-45

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) predicted that the new Congress would speedily approve legislation providing for a permanent Federal Employment Practices Committee to protect minorities against discrimination in employment.

Chavez

In view of the fact that the Republicans adopted a platform plank indorsing a permanent FEPC and the Democratic platform condemned discrimination generally, Chavez said he could foresee no reason "for encountering difficulties in the passage of the bill."

Several Southern Senators, however, are strongly opposed to such legislation. 1-1-45

Chavez said he would reintroduce on the first day of the new Congress a bill which was approved by the Senate Education and Labor Committee and reported to the Senate last Summer.

More hearings may be held on the bill by a Subcommittee of which he is Chairman if witnesses ask to be heard. Representatives of the CIO and a National organization sponsoring a permanent FEPC testified previously in favor of the Chavez bill, as did a number of church group representatives. The House Labor Committee has approved a similar bill. PM

"I think in justice to campaign promises of both parties plus merits of legislation of this type this bill should be passed immediately," Chavez told reporters. "One of the last statements made by the President prior to election was in favor of a permanent Committee for Fair Employment Practices. I can't see any difficulties to passage."

Historic N.Y. FEPC Bill Traveled Rough Road

The Worker N.Y. 3-11-45

By MAX GORDON

The Ives-Quinn bill, which sets up the first permanent commission to fight job discrimination in the nation's history, will be written into New York's statute books Monday afternoon, when the Governor is due to sign it. It was passed overwhelmingly by the State Senate last Monday night, following approval by the Assembly several days earlier. In both houses, foes of the bill, confined entirely to the Republican side of the respective aisles, made futile attempts to emasculate it by amendment.

JACK A PIONEER

Its enactment into law follows four years of effort to pass legislation designed to set up a FEPC with adequate power to enforce its findings. Back in 1942 and 1943, Assemblyman Hulan E. Jack, Harlem Democrat, proposed such a commission for the war period. His measures, backed by the Democrats, were stalled in the Republican-controlled legislative committees.

Then, in 1944, the Condon-Crews bill to set up a permanent FEPC, sponsored by the American Jewish Congress, was introduced. Popular pressure for its passage reached a high stage but the Republican legislative leaders, despite lip-service to the principle, displayed considerable reluctance toward moving it out of committee. 3-11-45

Suddenly, less than three weeks before the end of the 1944 session, Sen. Arthur Wicks, Ulster Republican who heads the powerful Senate Finance Committee, threw two measures into the hopper "by request." One provided for a comprehensive permanent FEPC with broad powers to combat discrimination in industry. The other would set up a civil rights bureau to combat all other forms of discrimination.

The request for these bills came from the State Anti-Discrimination Committee, originally set up by Gov. Lehman as a war agency and continued with changed personnel by Gov. Dewey. The commission made it clear that the bills had been drafted after months of study and discussion.

PUBLIC REACTS

The pressure developed for the Crews-Condon bill was immediately transferred and multiplied for the Wicks proposals. For days the capital was bombarded with letters, wires, petitions, resolutions and delegations. Yet nothing moved.

On the last day of the session, when Democrats were threatening to demand that the bills be brought out of committee and pressure became frantic, the Governor suddenly sent up a message saying there was not enough time for adequate consideration and proposing another commission to "study" the matter further. 3-11-45

The state was aroused by this patent bit of political treachery. Eight prominent members of the Governor's committee resigned.

It was later revealed that while the Governor was in the process of "knifing" his own commission's measures, his Lt. Governor, Joe R. Hanley, was clinching the support of the North Carolina GOP delegation for Dewey's presidential bid.

Recognizing that the Governor's move had cost their party wide support, GOP legislative leaders proceeded to mend their fences. Assemblyman Irving M. Ives, majority leader, took over the chairmanship of the new commission. Early in December, the Ives Commission released the draft of a permanent FEPC bill and called a series of public hearings throughout the state. The hearings again revealed the extraordinary popular backing for such a measure.

The bill was introduced Feb. 1 with bi-partisan backing. But its proponent made the serious error of assuming that because there had been little opposition to the principle expressed at the public hearings, there would be none in the Legislature. They permitted the initiative to fall into the hands of its opponents who, led by the State Chamber of Commerce and the New York Board of Trade, organized a furious campaign against it. The campaign received a ready response from reationary GOP circles within the Legislature. 3-11-45

Differences were evident among the GOP legislative leaders. While in the Assembly, Ives and Speaker Oswald D. Heck fought consistently for its passage, in the Senate the leadership hesitated. As a result opponents broke through there and forced another public hearing.

It boomeranged badly. Paralyzed up to then by complacency, the people were suddenly aroused to the danger of the measure's defeat and staged a demonstration for it that probably topped anything this highly vocal state has ever seen.

During his election campaign, Gov. Dewey had been compelled to emphasize support for an FEPC to overcome some of the effects nationally of his New York action. But up until a few days before the hearing, he maintained a discreet silence on the Ives-Quinn measure. 3-11-45

The Governor has until July 1 to appoint the five-man commission. Since the calibre of his appointments is expected to effect the workings of the law, he is being watched closely on this and is expected to be extremely careful.

It is not thought likely the commission will have to resort to its enforcement powers overmuch unless there is deliberately organized resistance to the workings of the law. The expectation is, rather, that armed with the threat of these powers, it will be able to compel compliance through "conciliation"—if it is the right kind of commission.

Prejudice Has Power to Hurt Its Possessor

Detroit Free Press Mich 4-1-45

BY EDWIN A. LAHEY

WASHINGTON—The legislation pending in Congress to create a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee is attacked with plausible assertion that you cannot legislate racial prejudice out of the minds of men. 4-1-45

This is quite true, but the criticism fails to make an important distinction between prejudice and discrimination.

Let's see what happens when prejudice is permitted to be translated into action, where it becomes discrimination.

The city of Washington, which is sometimes called the capital of the world, has perhaps the worst transportation facilities in the United States. The Capital Transit Co. says there's a war on, you know . . . manpower shortage and all that sort of thing.

But the company refuses to hire Negroes as bus and street car operators.

The company says that the employees now operating the equipment will go on strike if Negroes are hired.

At a recent hearing held by the FEPC, it was revealed that the Capital Transit Co. had 785 busses scheduled, but that 52 of them were idle, for want of operators. There were 732 street cars scheduled but 45 of them were idle, for the same reason. 4-1-45

Lahey

Within recent weeks the company has announced plans for still further reduction in service because of the "manpower shortage."

But during one four-month period last year, 105 Negroes applied to the Capital Transit Co. for jobs as operators and were refused employment because of their color.

* * *

THIS IS A classic example of a universal evil.

A few hundred men have unworthy prejudices. The public utility company for whom they work dignifies these prejudices by translating them into action.

Prejudice, which concerns only the men who are prejudiced, becomes discrimination, which has its impact on a whole city.

Millions of man hours are lost by the workers of Washington monthly, and a simple ride downtown becomes a harrowing experience for the public, because prejudice has been translated into discrimination.

IT IS INTERESTING to note, while Congress shies away from a decision on the FEPC legislation before it, that the Alaskan legislature has just enacted an anti-discrimination bill.

* * *

ACTION OF SOME kind is expected on the permanent FEPC bill soon after Congress reconvenes on April 10.

Mrs. Mary Norton, New Jersey Democrat, who is chairman of the House Labor Committee, is nursing plans to force the Rules Committee to send the bill to the floor for debate. 4-1-45

Every members of Congress eventually will have to stand and be counted on the question of discrimination. The issue has an irritating way of staying alive.

As to the Red Cross Drive

AFRO-AMERICAN 2-24-45

Since the Red Cross is campaigning for memberships, now is a good time to bring up the jim-crow blood bank question.

The Red Cross takes the position that it is not responsible for the separation of colored blood donors, the segregation of colored blood plasma and the marking of colored plasma containers with a "c."

This, the Red Cross says, is an Army and Navy order and the Red Cross, as middleman, is not to blame for it.

The facts are that the Army, Navy and Red Cross sat down to a table and agreed to jim crow colored blood. All three are tarred with the same stick. All three are equally at fault.

Moreover, the Red Cross at the beginning of the war was socially so highbrow that for a long time it turned down any colored blood donors.

The society crowd of bluebloods was in charge, some of it not so hot, as, for example, one Norman Davis, a banker to whom the Supreme Court paid its respects.

However, the Red Cross has changed; so has the Army, which has thrown out some "Cabbage Heads," and if the war lasts, will discard others.

There was one high Army officer who forgot the old days when the Irish were persecuted as widely as colored people. He's not Surgeon General any more.

Another change has taken place abroad. Faced with a shortage of nurses and the care of thousands of wounded men, the Army hospitals overseas are paying no attention to the "c" on the jim-crow Red Cross blood containers.

Wounded soldiers are getting plasma out of the first bottles that come to hand.

The Red Cross has made a mistake. Why doesn't it admit it? All blood is the same, and no jim crow is defensible.

2-24-45

If the guys at the head are big enough, they will take the curse off the organization before the war is over and treat everybody alike.

The soldiers, black and white, who come back from the hell of war will not be patient or gentle with organizations that prolonged it.

PLAN HEARINGS ON NEGRO BAN BY TRANSIT LINES

Chicago Tribune 3-5-45

Washington, D. C., March 4 (AP).—The President's committee on fair employment practice will hold hearings in Oakland, Cal., March 19 on complaints of discrimination against Negroes for transit jobs.

3-5-45

The FEPC said complaints filed with the agency charge that the Key [transit] system, operating in Oakland and other cities, has refused to hire Negro applicants as bus drivers or as street car workers. Other complaints allege the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America has "rejected Negro applicants.

For a Permanent F.E.P.C.

Courier-Journal Ky.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

You say that discrimination against a man's right to work based on race or color cannot be removed by legislative fiat; but the federal government removed by fiat chattel slavery based on race and it helped a lot, too.

2-24-45

If a permanent F.E.P.C. is not adopted now, then after this war is over almost any Nazi or fascist with a white face who has shot at our flag and who may not be even naturalized will be given a job in preference to a well qualified Negro overseas veteran. While difficulties of every nature would arise in connection with any attempt to enforce fair employment practices, just as such things arise in connection with attempts to enforce any justice, yet these difficulties would not compare with the mass of embarrassment, inconvenience and humiliation that would come to 13,000,000 Negro Americans seeking work, if they were denied fair employment practices because of the accident of color.

2-24-45

If after this war we would assume the world leadership to which we aspire, we first must rid ourselves of color prejudice; and I do not believe that certain powers would be willing to stand by and wait patiently for us to take our time in ridding ourselves of color prejudice in order to qualify for world leadership.

If any white person who objects to a permanent F.E.P.C. could be a Negro for a day, he would want a permanent F.E.P.C. for the rest of his natural life. If we cannot assure our minorities of fair employment practices after this war is over, we have lost the war already and likewise the peace.

F. W. CRAWFORD.

Louisville.

GREENWOOD, S. C.
INDEX-JOURNAL
Cir. D. 5,459
JUN 5 - 1945

"FAIR" IS WRONG WORD

The use of the word "Fair" in the title of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices committee) is quite strained when some of the main features of this act are considered.

The Negro population of the United States is about ten per cent of the total and it would seem natural that this proportion should have some place in the organization of such a committee.

But the proportion is quite different.

The facts in the case are clearly set forth in a letter to the News and Courier by Julian Mitchell, Esq., distinguished lawyer of Charleston.

Following is an extract from Mr. Mitchell's letter:

I wonder how many employers know of the composition of the committees who would pass on their cases if complaint was filed against them because they refused to promote or to hire or discharge an employe because of such employe's race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry?

The committee itself is composed of five whites and five negroes, but the division of field operations which will make the examination of their cases is composed of nine persons, of whom three are white, five are negroes and one is Japanese-American, and the case will then be reviewed by the review and analysis division in Washington, consisting of eight persons, of whom six are negroes and two are white. What a travesty is the use of the word "Fair" in the employment practice bill.

Of all the vote-getting schemes of the manipulators of the New Deal this one stands near the top as vicious and dangerous. It would cause great trouble and be of no benefit to the great mass of colored people.

The FEPC Test Case

Pittsburgh Courier-Re.

As these lines are written, the entire country is watching the fight in New York to enact the Ives-Quinn bill into a law preventing discrimination against workers because of race, color or creed.

Tremendously powerful economic forces, representing both Capital and Labor, are fighting the enactment of such a law, while almost equally powerful political and social forces are battling on the other side.

The bill is not the strongest bill that could have been written.

Indeed, it is weaker than the measure proposed last year, but even then it will find no easy sailing.

Many powerful employers do not want this law because it will sound the death knell of jim crow in industry and commerce, which is the foundation of all the other inequalities which make monopoly of the good things of life by a few thousand families possible in our society.

2-24-45

Many powerful labor organizations are against such a law for very much the same reason.

A consideration which the politicians cannot ignore is the large Jewish, Italian, Negro and Latin-American vote which will certainly be used against any legislator who casts his vote against the bill.

This is a test case, because once such a law is on the books of New York, one of the most liberal States in the Union, the stage will be set for similar battles in other States.

Already a bill similar to the Ives-Quinn measure has been introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature by a colored Representative, Homer S. Brown, and like measures will probably be introduced in other legislative bodies.

2-24-45

If the Ives-Quinn bill is defeated, it is unlikely that such an act will be passed elsewhere, either in Washington, D. C., or in any of the other States.

FEPC Report Shows Rise In Complaints During Nov.

Afro-American Balt. Md.

WASHINGTON

Refusal to hire minority group workers in war industries continued during November, 1944, as the most frequent complaint on the docket of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Malcolm Ross, chairman, said this week.

An analysis of the report for that month showed that 55 per cent of all complaints docketed during the 30-day period involved such allegations, more than four-fifths of them from colored complainants.

Cases charging discriminatory dismissal and refusal to upgrade showed a slight drop during the month.

2-10-45

Industrial Cases Rise

The over-all report shows a rise in the number of cases docketed over the previous month's total, 239 to 286. The 277 cases closed totaled two less than the October closings. Fifteen of the November docketing were reopened cases, making the total of new cases for the month 271.

Cases involving private industry increased during November from 66.5 to 76.4 per cent. Government complaints dropped from 28.5 to 19.6 and union cases decreased from 5 to 4.1 per cent.

Mr. Ross cited two cases of adjustments through the FEPC in New England and Pennsylvania, pointing out that "cases involving only one worker frequently result in a change of company policy and a subsequent opening of job opportunities to many badly needed war workers."

Letters To The Editor

Communications must carry writer's name and address, though pen names are permitted at the editor's discretion. Letters should be held to not more than 200 words. They are subject to condensation.

Washington Post D. C.

"Test Of The FEPC"

1-23-45

It seems to me that your editorial today respecting the plight in which the Capital Transit Co. finds itself with regard to particular employment of Negroes quite misses fundamental considerations.

True, Capital Transit is a public utility operating under public franchise. Its primary obligation is to provide continuous, adequate, efficient, safe and courteous service. However, it is a private enterprise and hence must be the judge as to how and in what way it may discharge its obligations to the public.

The Government has not seen proper to enact a public law defining the duties of transit employes to remain at work under all circumstances until released by public authority.

1-23-45

While the Government will not permit me to engage and use a chauffeur who does not hold a driver's permit, still it does not attempt to tell me whom I shall employ.

The real issue is: Shall private enterprise be allowed to determine within fair and just laws how and in what manner it shall discharge its obligations to the public, to the employes of the enterprise, and to the owners of the stock and securities which represent the capital used?

In these days of vanishing personal liberties the real issue must not be overlooked.

NATHAN BOONE WILLIAMS.
Washington, Jan. 18.

Your editorial on FEPC in The Post of January 18 was most heartening to all of us colored citizens of Washington. The fact that you do not have to be urged to state your position unequivocally on such questions is all the more commendable. Often the press waits to see what course of action is expedient. The Post never does. You state your position on current questions as you see them. In this respect you naturally become a leader of public opinion.

1-3-45

I am sure this morning's editorial will stiffen the backbone of some of our citizens who otherwise would waver in a decision.

Again we are most grateful to you in your efforts to bring democracy to Washington. Please continue your good work for all the citizens of Washington.

CLYDE C. McDUFFIE.
Washington, Jan. 18.

All fair-minded citizens in America cannot help being spiritually uplifted when reading the forthright editorial on the FEPC in your paper. It is hardly conceivable that the thousands of warworkers must be late to work, stand shivering at car and bus stops, and be on their feet swaying and jostling in the packed conveyances after a hard day's work, solely because of the prejudice and hatred of the few.

1-23-45

If in the Capital City of a Nation that deeply concerns itself about the ELAS and the Lublin Polish government, we set the example of submission to the prejudices of a few hoodlums who don't care whether we win the war or not, what sort of influence can we have in the councils with other nations? E. B. HENDERSON.
Falls Church, Va., Jan. 18.

Your editorial, "Test of the FEPC" might better be titled, "Dictatorship vs. Democracy."

If 2000 workers, for reasons valid to their own consciences, do not wish to associate with a handful of Negroes as coworkers, please tell me what is democratic in overriding the views and wishes of the 2000.

1-23-45

Theoretically this Nation is a democracy, but in the past few years, through the acquiescence of a President who will court political support from any source, even from the Communists, our democracy has become just another word in the dictionary.

The FEPC is a creature without foundation in law as was clearly demonstrated by the railroads of the Southeast. And those railroads, as well as their union employes, succintly told the autocratic, strife-fomenting FEPC its "directives" were without legal authority. It is to be hoped the Capital Transit Co. exercises the same good judgment. Mc L. SMITH.
Washington, Jan. 18.

After reading the reports on hearings conducted by the FEPC on the Transit Co. hiring policy my honest opinion is that the company is just using the "walkout threat" as a screen for their unwillingness to hire Negroes as platform workers.

1-23-45

Everyone in the city realizes that the most important thing is to have the buses and streetcars moving on time to get the thousands of essential workers to their jobs. Hiring of Negroes would help that situation. This is the most important point in the whole controversy and I frankly don't think there are enough transit workers who are so unpatriotic and so blinded by prejudice as to stand in the way of getting the people to work with as little delay and inconvenience as possible.

Thousands of people feel strongly that Negroes are fighting and dying in this war and they also have a right to jobs for which they are qualified.

MRS. R. A. GINSBERG.
Washington, Jan. 18.

FEPC Affirms Directives To Coast Shipbuilding Companies

Firms Ordered To Hire Qualified Negroes For Work

Atlanta World
Atlanta, Ga.
2-23-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, after rehearings held August 7, 1944, in Los Angeles, California, and October 18 and 19, 1944, in Portland, Oregon, on charges of violations of Executive Order 9346, has affirmed directives issued to five West Coast shipbuilding companies by the committee in December, 1943, Malcolm Ross, Chairman of FEPC, announced Thursday.

The companies involved are the Kaiser Company, Inc., and Oregon Shipbuilding Corp., in the Portland, Oregon, area and the California Shipbuilding, Western Pipe and Steel corporations, in the Los Angeles, California, area. Eoch of the firms has been requested to report, within 30 days, the steps taken toward compliance. 2-23-45

REHEARINGS GRANTED

The rehearings were granted by the committee on petitions from the companies. The first petitions were filed shortly after issuance of the directives. In granting the rehearing requests, the FEPC pointed out that the directives were not being set aside but their operation merely suspended until opportunity was given the companies to offer their additional arguments.

The original direcitves, based on findings from public examination of complaints against the five firms in November, 1943, called for halting of the practice of firing or refusing to hire qualified Negro workers who refused to accept discriminatory membership in the Boilermaker's Union (AFL.) The companies contended that provisions of a "Master Agreement" between them and the Boilermakers gave the union a closed shop, requiring union membership as a condition to employment, and the companies could not be held responsible for discriminatory policies of the union.

REJECT ARGUMENT

In rejecting this argument, the rehearing decision stated:

"A labor union's failure to perform its duty (under the Executive Order) does not excuse or mitigate nonperformance by an employer, even though the employer may be a party to a closed shop contract with the derelict union."

A second argument of the companies, that any atempt by them to avoid complying with physicians of the Master Agreement would render them guilty of violating the National Labor Relations Act was rejected by FEPC, which cited two recent decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court and another from the Supreme Court of California (Wallace Corporation v. National Labor Labor Relations Board; Steele v. Louisville and Nashville R. R. Co.; and James v. Marineship, respectively) as persuasive uspport" of the FEPC position that compliance by the companies with the directives does not constitute a violation of the National Labor Relations Act.

CENTRAL STATES Race Issues Stirred by Debate Over FEPC Bill

New York Times
5-20-45

By LOUTHER S. HORNE

CHICAGO, May 19—The question of racial discrimination attracted considerable public attention this week in Illinois.

Interest in this widely debated topic was heightened when the State Senate Judiciary Committee at Springfield sounded the death knell, at least so far as the present Legislature is concerned, of a bill to establish a Fair Employment Practices Commission modeled after the measure now on the New York statute books.

The act, which was designed to eliminate consideration of race, creed, color or national origin in employment, was shunted to a subcommittee by a vote of 10 to 8. Senators so voting freely admitted their purpose was to kill the bill.

Charles F. Hough, counsel for thirty-eight employer associations, urged further study of results of the New York FEPC law and said that such legislation would "make it possible to throw citizens in jail or pay fines without the time-honored protection by the courts." He warned that the bill would stir up racial and religious discrimination, rather than curb it.

Advocates of the FEPC plan told the committee that discrimination "against any one group threatens the basic security of all."

Arnold Aronson of the Chicago Council against Racial and Religious Discrimination, speaking for the bill, said: 5-20-45

"I know you can't legislate prejudice out of existence, but we want to outlaw the excesses of prejudice. This bill provides for hiring on qualifications without regard to race or color."

News Notes: The Wisconsin Senate concurred in an Assembly bill requiring operators of hayrack or sleigh ride parties in Milwaukee to be of "good moral character." The measure imposes a one-dollar annual license fee and specifies operators must carry liability insurance. . . . The Civil Awards Board chairman, James F. Mulcahy, disclosed here that suggestions by civilian employes of the War Department had saved the Government $91,228,266 since June, 1943.

FEPC Viewed With Alarm By Rep. Hays

P.M. N.Y., N.Y.
4-24-45

He Says He Fears Minorities Would Be Worse Off

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24.—It's a funny thing, but whenever a Congressman opposes passage of a bill to create a permanent FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Commission) he dilutes his arguments with loud anti-discrimination noises.

So it was with Rep. Brooks Hays (D., Ark.) when he debated Rep. Charles M. LaFollette (R., Ind.) on the merits of the Norton bill to set up a permanent FEPC with enforcement powers.

"Don't mistake me," Hays said. "My attitude is sympathetic toward the elimination of all discrimination. I am ready to support any law which will do away with discrimination." 4-24-45

His Objections

Nevertheless, Rep. Hays put his whole weight against the Norton bill, which was being supported on the House floor by LaFollette.

Hays charged that the measure was "fundamentally unsound, unworkable, and a threat to the freedom of the Negro and the while man alike." He said it violates all the principles of judicial process and confuses two functions of Government, regulatory and service functions.

It is unworkable, he declared, as shown by experience in communities where there are large numbers of Negroes or other minority groups. In the third place, said Hays, a permanent FEPC would drive a wedge between groups and make things worse than they are now.

In debate on the floor of the House, Lafollette declared that the bill would "extend the ethics upon which this country was founded into the economic world." He urged that the bill be passed as a measure of extension of the Constitution of the United States. 4-24-45

Norton Runaround

Hays said he had written 15 citizens of the South and asked them if they considered that the President's executive order creating wartime FEPC had contributed to racial progress. Without exception, he reported, they said they saw no evidence whatever of improvement due to the FEPC.

Hays did admit that there had been some utilization of manpower because of FEPC orders which otherwise might not have been devoted to the war effort. But he added, not because of any legal coercion. 4-24-45

Meanwhile, Rep. Mary T. Norton (D. N. J.), chairman of the Rules Labor Committee, is awaiting word from the Rules Committee on her application for a rule which would bring her FEPC bill to the floor.

Baltimore Cases Dominant in D.C. Area FEPC Files

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

[This is the second of a series of four articles on FEPC activities in the Washington Area.]

The majority of industrial complaints alleging discrimination against colored employees, came from Baltimore, according to Joseph H. B. Evans, director of the Fourth Regional Office of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Our major interest there, Mr. Evans reports, was in the matter of hiring of colored workers.

The statistical record as released by the War Manpower Commission indicated that as a result of FEPC activity colored workers were not only hired but trained for occupations in which they had formerly only a scant footing.

When it was decided to bring women into industry in large numbers, the problem of hiring of colored women was raised by management which contended that it would require the building of separate toilets and sanitary facilities. 12-15-45

Segregation Not Consistent

In the case of the Bendix Aviation Company, in their aircraft division, it was found that, while colored employees had separate toilet facilities, they used the same cafeteria and colored and whites worked together in production.

It was also noted that when the company laid off 100 workers at one time, no colored workers were included in this number.

Hired But Held Down

The Bethlehem Steel Company employed large numbers of colored employees in all of its yards, but FEPC was required to see that they had the same opportunities for promotion as the white workers. 12-15-45

In addition, the agency had to ascertain locker room space and adequate sanitary facilities were provided.

With the help and cooperation of the International Union of Maritime Ship Workers of America, FEPC succeeded in correcting most of the complaints.

Separated in Training

In one instance, Bethlehem Steel recruited colored painters from the New York area and brought them to Baltimore, but instead placed them with the unskilled labor gang for an orientation period.

The men left, returned to New York, reported the matter to the regional office of War Manpower Commission and immediately the regional director called a halt on any further recruiting by Bethlehem Steel.

FEPC representatives, at the request of the Yard. went to New York for a conference on the matter with Mrs. Rosenberg, regional director of the WMC.

As a result of the conference, FEPC was assured that any men brought from outside of the area would be given their orientation period in the shops in which their work was to be performed.

Equal Facilities the Issue

Other companies in Baltimore accepted colored employees, both men and women, and where it became necessary, made additional installations of the sanitary and toilet facilities. 12-15-45

These included such companies as Proctor and Gamble, American Can Company and Western Electric.

FEPC did not accept complaints alleging that separate toilets and sanitary facilities were necessary for effectual work in an establishment.

However, in the Western Electric Company case it was impossible for FEPC to assume jurisdiction involving separate facilities because the FEPC has always considered that it could not assume jurisdiction that would tend to disrupt the order of transportation," declared Mr. Evans.

Transit Bias Untouched

Efforts of FEPC to get colored street car and bus operators in Baltimore "brought forth the decision that nothing could be done consideration to the matter.

The Baltimore Telephone Company has hired colored employees as clerks, coin box collectors and managers of separate business offices but has refused to employ them as telephone operators.

Later a new president of the Transit Company was appointed, and he has expressed himself as personally not opposed to the use of colored platform operators and is now giving further

Stand Up and Fight or Sell Out and Run

Repeal of the poll tax exacted by South Carolina and six other Southern states as a qualification for voting is in itself of relatively trivial concern. It would not enable negroes to vote. Millions of Southern negroes now pay the poll tax.

The issue is whether or not the federal government shall take from the states the right to define and limit voting. Literacy and property tests differing in specifications are in the laws of various states.

Shall the federal government require suffrage laws to be identical, uniform, in all states? Shall the federal government crush and master the states?

Southern congressmen have before them the plain fact that the Northern congressmen, "Democrats" as well as Republicans, are their enemies. Those denying it to themselves and to their constituents are fools when they are not hypocrites. The poll tax repeal bill can be defeated in the senate only by a filibuster, and the rights of states dependent on filibuster to be saved are doomed.

The poll tax and the F. E. P. C. bills are part of the plan to convert the American republic into a Socialized State, and to the accompaniment of this object, the reduction of Southern states to impotent political units is held to be a necessary preliminary step.

In the minds of the Liberalites and Harlemites, racial amalgamation is the ultimate aim.

The array against the South is as fanatical as was the frenzy of the Abolitionists 100 years ago.

Against this attempt at subjugation, the South can protect itself by independent political action. It can withdraw from the so-called "Democratic" national party and choose presidential electors who in the Electoral College can extort compromise terms that will preserve the integrity of states. In this course it would have assistance, in time, from the smaller states of the North and West, as Maine, Vermont, Montana, Iowa, Idaho. Also it would have the sympathy and help of thousands of Americans of native American stock who live in great city states and are not office-holders and office-seekers.

By withdrawal from the national Democratic party, the Southerners would for the time lose offices, patronage, gifts, subsidies. Again it would be, in the words of the late Senator Tillman, "the poor boy at the frolic," though changed conditions would require the government to spend for the navy yards and airports of the South, all parts of the country being now vulnerable to attack. New York is open to attack by Europeans who would first attack Charleston.

Were the Southern states to assert independence of the national Democratic administration, it might retaliate by appointing negroes to judgeships, collectorships, other important offices. The New Deal, so far, has been double-dealing with the negroes. Attempting to build a negro-white party in the South, it would have cooperation from many white men now in office, the scalawag, or quisling, material being 20 times as abundant in the South now as it was in 1870.

These are the facts, these are the conditions that the white South is facing.

It has got to stand up and fight or sell out and run.

At this time, it is selling out. Its leaders entertain no thought of resisting the poll tax repeal and the F. E. P. C. bill in the only effective way. It would cost them jobs.

Charlotte News Courier
June 17, 1945

THE UPPER SOUTH

N.Y. Times

Federal Poll-Tax Repealer and FEPC Bill Opposed

6-17-45

By VIRGINIUS DABNEY

RICHMOND, June 16—Repeal of the poll tax by Federal action and establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee by similar action is opposed by most people in this region. Many who object to the poll tax feel that it would be far more effective to have the tax repealed by the seven States which retain it, and many who desire fair-employment opportunities for Negro people believe that the pending FEPC bill would create more problems for the Negroes than it would solve.

The most striking phenomenon on the poll-tax front was the action of all twelve members of the House from North Carolina in voting on Tuesday against Federal repeal, although there has been no poll tax in that State for a quarter of a century. Yet various spokesmen for the Federal bill have been saying that the sole motive and opposition to that measure was a desire on the part of Southern "bourbons" to keep 10,000,000 white and Negro Southerners from the ballot box. Actually much of the opposition to the bill comes from persons who favor repeal by the States, but who think it would have a bad effect for the National Government to force the elimination of the tax. They also doubt the bill's constitutionality.

6-17-45

Few voices have been raised in this region in favor of a permanent FEPC empowered to bring about the imposition of fines or jail sentences upon employers who do not hire, fire, promote, demote, upgrade and transfer their workers in accordance with its rulings.

Typical of the enlightened opposition to the FEPC is that of The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, which favors the present FEPC and hopes for its retention, but feels that the projected agency, with its power to enforce employer compliance, probably would do more harm than good in this region.

GOP Solons Aid Defeat of FEPC Bill, But Help Pass Anti-Poll Tax Measure

OK Bias Measure But Stall Until Time Is Ripe for Kill

P.M

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 13. — In apparent defiance of the Republican leadership of the House, which consistently has backed Fair Employment legislation, four GOP members of the House Rules Committee have maneuvered temporary defeat of the FEPC bill.

Following the adverse vote in the House Rules Committee, which yesterday defeated the measure on a tie vote, only two practical courses are open to continue to outlaw racial and religious discrimination in the hiring of workers.

GOP House Leader Joseph Martin can make good his party's promises and urge his followers to affix their signatures to the Norton petition, which, when 218 members have signed it, can force the permanent FEPC bill to the floor.

6-13-45

Appropriation Vital

¶ The Senate Appropriations Committee and the Senate itself can restore House-deleted funds for a temporary FEPC, which will go out of existence this month unless the Senate takes such action.

Technically, Rep. R. C. Slaughter (D., Mo.) was responsible yesterday for the tie vote which defeated the permanent FEPC measure in the Rules Committee.

Slaughter, who has been absent from Washington for some time, arrived yesterday in time to cast his vote with the Southern Democrats.

In casting his ballot with Reps. Howard Smith (D., Va.), Eugene Cox (D., Ga.), William Colmer (D., Miss.), Joe Bates (D., Ky.) and Bayard Clark (D., N. C.), Slaughter is said to have ignored a sharp warning from Democratic National Committee Chairman Robert Hannegan who is reported to have warned him that he was jeopardizing his political future in Missouri by defying the President's request for a permanent FEPC bill.

GOP Assist

6-13-45

Nevertheless, the success of the Southern Democrats in their campaign to block the measure was made possible by the Republicans

Rep. Joseph Martin

who professed to be in favor of the legislation.

For the fourth time in a week, the four Republican Committee members prevented the bill from coming to a vote in Committee when it could have been approved by a one-vote margin.

The Republicans agreed last week to vote yesterday morning regardless of whether Slaughter was present.

The Committee met according to schedule. Slaughters train was late. Observing Slaughter's absence, Rep. Leo Allen (R., Ill.), bolted the Committee room, so the pro-FEPC majority again was reduced by one vote and the Committee was deadlocked.

The meeting was postponed until afternoon. Slaughter was present and the 6 to 6 vote, with the Republicans finally voting in the affirmative, once again locked the bill in a Committee pigeonhole.

Chairman Adolph Sabath (D., Ill.) of the Rules group will take the floor in the House today, urging that members sign the discharge petition which automatically brings the bill to the floor.

Meanwhile, the immediate fight on FEPC shifts to the Senate, where the fate of the temporary anti-bias agency, established by President Roosevelt, is at stake.

The House deprived the wartime FEPC of funds on grounds that the Rules Committee and both houses of Congress first should decide whether a permanent agency should be established.

The refusal of the Rules Committee to allow the Congress to vote on the issue now makes it necessary for the Senate to restore money to the temporary FEPC if racial minorities are to get a fair break in securing jobs.

Grocery Wholesalers Call FEPC Bill 'Snake'

P.M

Attacking the Permanent Fair Employment Practices Bill as a "venomous snake" which "must be killed," the United States Wholesale Grocers' Assn.—whose goods are purchased by housewives of all colors and creeds—has dispatched two letters from its Washington office urging its members to write their Congressmen demanding that they fight the legislation.

A Wholesale Grocers' letter on May 18 said, "this ugly monster still rests secure within the confines of the powerful Rules Committee of the House. We have fought it from this office unremittingly . . ."

A second letter on June 7 read in part:

6-15-45

"We are doubtful if even President Truman is strong enough to saddle such a destructive law . . . upon the people of the United States. Our office here in Washington again is throwing this matter into your lap and in doing so has done our full duty. It is up to you to go further and we believe you will act accordingly."

Rankin Leads Attack on Disfranchise Legislation From Floor

6-13-45

P.M
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The Anti-Poll Tax Bill is once again on its way to the Senate, after an overwhelming majority of the House of Representatives voted to repeal the discriminatory tax which disenfranchises millions of voters in seven Southern states.

For the second year in succession, a serviceman listening to the anti-Negro tirade staged by Southern Democrats made his feelings known from the spectators' gallery. As during the poll tax debate last year, the soldier was gavelled into silence by the presiding officer.

With the almost solid backing of Republicans, several of whom fought a valiant battle against the poll tax proponents, the Bill passed by a vote of 251 to 105.

Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) stepped into the familiar role of leader of the poll tax bloc.

Hits Frankfurter

Rankin, who had contended he "would not worry about the bill" if the U. S. had a decent Supreme Court, centered his fire on Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter.

Rising in Frankfurter's defense, Rep. Francis Case (R., S. D.) retorted "Justice Frankfurter, has become one of the outstanding jurists on the Court." Case was applauded loudly by both Democrats and Republicans.

Rep. Luther Patrick (D., Ala.) was the only member from a poll tax state who spoke in support of the bill.

6-13-45

"A new South is rising," he warned the House, "which favors progressive measures."

Declaring that children of white parents in the south "have two strikes on them" in learning citizenship, Patrick added that fewer than half of their parents are entitled to vote.

Wolf Cry

In reply to Rankin who assailed the bill as a Communist inspired measure, Case warned the poll taxers they would "holler wolf, wolf on the Communist issue, until some day the real thing will be here and you won't know it."

Taking up the constitutionality of the bill—an argument on which the Southern Democrats lean heavily—Chairman Hatton Summers, of the House Judiciary Committee, asserted the anti-poll tax bill "violates the direct language of the Constitution."

"The poll tax itself violates the spirit of the Constitution," retorted Rep. Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.).

The measure now goes to the Senate Judiciary Committee and eventually to the Senate, where there is grave danger that the bill will die under the weight of a Southern filibuster, as it has several times in recent years.

FEPC Here to Be Padlocked Saturday

By MAX GORDON Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

In two days the New York regional FEPC office, despite its remarkable record in the fight against Jimcrow in industry, will be padlocked. The office, covering New England, New York and northern New Jersey, will shut down Saturday for lack of funds. Along with it will go the offices in Philadelphia, Washington, Atlanta, San Francisco, San Antonio and Kansas City.

Only the offices in Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis will remain, and they are expected to continue only until the beginning of March.

CRACKED INDUSTRY BAN

With an extremely small staff, consisting of a director, three or four field examiners and four stenographers, the regional FEPC here has cracked hundreds of the nation's biggest firms and many more smaller ones throughout the area it covers. In the last year alone, it broke through the jimcrow barriers of 800 plants and businesses. 12-13-45

Some of these include Republic Aircraft, Grumman Aircraft, Bell Aircraft, Curtiss-Wright, General Motors, Western Electric, General Electric, the Bell Telephone system in New York, New Jersey, Boston and Buffalo, American Locomotive, transit companies in Buffalo and Syracuse; Eastman-Kodak, Railway Express, Anaconda Wire and Cable, Phelps-Dodge, Pratt and Whitney, Remington Arms, Electric Boat and numerous others.

Most of the plants never hired Negroes before. They were employing from 500 to a thousand when the war ended. Many, formerly discriminated against Jews and Italians. That was eliminated, and all minority groups won a measure of upgarding rights.

On top of that, the many federal agencies located in New York City scrapped their discriminatory hiring policies because of FEPC intervention or, in many cases, only because FEPC was around. Several of these agencies have their offices in the Empire State Building, which also houses FEPC.

SHACKLED ON RECONVERSIO

Established by President Roosevelt as a wartime agency, the FEPC has been barred from handling peacetime production and has therefore been unable to touch reconversion problems. Unless a permanent FEPC is soon established, the gains made during the war will thus be lost.

An unofficial survey of 107 plants in New York State, undertaken on behalf of the FEPC office, shows that while 10.7 percent of all workers were laid off immediately after V-J Day, the percentage of "non-whites" laid off was 32.7 percentage.

In the Albany area, which includes Schenectady's giant General Electric and American Locomotive Works, 3.2 percent of the workers were displaced in 17 plants while 30.2 percent of "non-whites" lost their jobs. This is an area where FEPC made a lot of headway in winning employment for Negro workers.

12-13-45

BIAS AGAINST FEPC

Workers laid off from federal agencies are placed in a pool from which replacements for other agencies are drawn. **FEPC workers report that already there is definite discrimination being practiced against the Negro and Jewish workers in this pool. The agency will not be around to fight this.**

The New York state FEPC will not be able to do anything about it because it has no jurisdiction over federal agencies. Nor will the state FEPC be able to go into the Brooklyn Navy Yard and other big federal industrial plants where thousands of Negroes have been hired and upgraded as a result of the work of federal FEPC.

Furthermore, the make-up of the State FEPC as a result of Gov. Dewey's policy on appointments raises serious doubts as to whether it will do the kind of job the federal agency has done with far less funds.

In any case, New York is one of the very few states that even has an FEPC. The only way the agency can be properly replaced is through a permanent federal FEPC. The congressional bill to establish this was approved by the House Labor Committee but has been blocked by the arch - reactionary tory - GOP coalition that dominates the House Rules Committee.

It was this coalition that succeeded in cutting the funds of the temporary FEPC from the $448,000 of last year to $250,000 this fiscal year, ending next July 1. This forced the agency to shut down five of its original fifteen offices in July.

A Glance at Layoffs in 107 N. Y. Plants—Negroes First

Unofficial survey of layoffs in 107 plants in New York State immediately following V-J Day:

		Percent non-white		Recent Layoffs	
	Factories	Aug.	Sept.	White	Non-white
State Total	107	6	4.5	10.7	32.7
N.Y.C. area	20	16.1	12.2	21.3	40.1
Upstate	87	2.1	2.0	6.6	11.5

Blow Poised At Race Hate In Bay State

PM 12-31-45

Gov. Tobin Will Seek an FEPC Law Like New York's

Special Correspondence

BOSTON, Dec. 31.—Gov. Maurice J. Tobin says he will recommend to the new Massachusetts Legislature, in his message on Wednesday, passage of a State Fair Employment Practices Statute patterned on New York's Ives-Quinn Law.

His announcement followed receipt of a unanimous report, recommending that he back such a measure, from a committee he had appointed to study the consequences of the virtual liquidation of the Federal FEPC.

The committee reported that the New York law and a similar one in New Jersey have had "a very salutary effect upon employers and employes alike." It urged passage of a measure providing strong jail penalties or fines for violations.

The proposed law would improve on a measure killed by the Republican - controlled State Senate last year, in that it would provide fines of $500 or one year's imprisonment, or both, for each offense. The old measure lacked teeth.

The four-man committee, headed by Frederick W. Mansfield, ex-Boston mayor, vigorously brushed aside opposition arguments by a spokesman for the Associated Industries of Massachusetts. It said he based his arguments "not upon actual experience but upon dark and pessimistic forebodings of the evil which he confidently asserted would descend upon and overwhelm industry" if an FEPC law were passed.

Seeking "justification for these alarming prophecies," the committee heard testimony by Henry C. Turner administrator of the New York law, by Harold A. Lett, who helps administer the New Jersey law, and others.

"They found no evil effects whatever, but reported on the contrary that the legislation was having a very salutary effect upon employers and employes alike."

Protest 'Lip Service' on FEPC; Truman Reply Evades Issue

12-8-45

Daily Worker

The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties charged today that the Truman administration is giving only "lip service" to its avowed aim of eliminating discrimination in employment.

NFCL made this charge in a letter to President Truman, protesting his refusal to permit FEPC to issue a directive barring discrimination against Negroes on the Capital Transit Lines in Washington.

It backed up Charles Houston, Negro attorney who resigned as a member of FEPC in protest against the President's attitude.

NFCL chairman James Marshall wrote in his letter to the President that **"your action in the Capital Transit case reflects a persistent course of conduct on the part of the administration to give lip service to the importance of eliminating discrimination in employment since V-J Day, while doing nothing to make the policy effective."**

The President, in a letter to Houston, claimed that since the government had seized the Capital Transit Co. during the recent strike, it was obligated by Congress to continue in effect existing conditions of employing—including discrimination.

"The property was not seized for the purpose of enforcing the aims of the FEPC, laudable as these aims are, but to guarantee transportation for the citizens of Washington and vicinity," said the President.

New York, N.Y.

"As anxious as I am for Congress to pass legislation for a permanent FEPC, I cannot contravene an act of Congress in order to carry out the present committee's aims."

Houston Turns in FEPC Resignation

Afro-American 12-8-45

Charges Truman With Nullifying Own Orders

LETTER UNANSWERED

Baltimore, Md.

Administration Aides Reply to Accusations

WASHINGTON

Irked because of White House suppression last week of a directive ordering the Capital Transit Co. to employ colored operators, Charles H. Houston, Monday, announced his resignation from the FEPC.

Mr. Houston's resignation was in the form of a letter addressed to President Truman and dated Dec. 3. 12-8-45

Declaring that his resignation was "effective immediately," Mr. Houston charged that the President had failed to answer a request forwarded to the White House on Nov. 26 for an opportunity for the committee to confer with him.

Committee Not Notified

"Without notice to the Committee or a chance for the Committee to present its views, on Nov. 24 you ordered the Committee not to issue the decision," Houston wrote.

"Nov. 25, on behalf of the Committee, I wrote you asking that you give the Committee opportunity to confer with you. The return registry receipt shows the letter was delivered to the White House Nov. 26. To date we have not received even an acknowledgment of the letter.

"Since the effect of your intervention in the Capital Transit case is not to eliminate discrimination, but to condone it, to that extent you not only repudiate the Committee, but more important, you nullify the Executive Orders (8802 and 9346) themselves," the letter continued.

Government Legally Bound

"Although personally I was confident that the Committee had jurisdiction to issue the decision, and further that even without the decision the Government was legally bound to operate the nondiscriminatory employment policy in its own direct operation of Capital Transit, I asked the legal staff of the Committee for a memorandum on the question. 12-8-45

"The memorandum of the legal staff states that the federal manager of Capital Transit is not only empowered to, but must enforce the national policy of nondiscrimination in employment so long as the system is under his operation and control.

"Your action means that you do not hesitate to seize Capital Transit when employees strike in violation of a private collective

Phoenix Negro-White Rally Asks Local FEPC

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

Special to the Daily Worker

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 11.—More than 500 Negro and white residents of Phoenix in the Tanner Chapel African Methodist Church last Sunday heard Pettis Perry, prominent Los Angeles Communist, outline strategy for achieving full and fair employment.

The meeting was called to support the fight for a local fair employment practice law.

"The problem of fair employment belongs as much to the white worker as to the Negro worker," Perry said. "A reserve of unemployed, poverty-stricken and low-paid Negro workers constitute a potential threat to the living standards of all workers in general and to organized labor in particular."

Declaring that the fight for jobs without discrimination was a part of the fight for jobs for all, Perry said that American monopoly capital was driving ahead with its imperialist plans, "as exemplified in China," and for reaction at home.

He declared that the fight for a fair employment practice law in Phoenix would strengthen the struggle for a permanent FEPC.

Local and state FEPC laws will be necessary to supplement a national law when it is passed," he said.

Morris Graham, head of the Arizona Communist Party and chairman of the meeting, pledged the Party's full strength in the campaign for a Phoenix FEPC.

The Rev. T. J. Townsend, in whose church the meeting was held, welcomed the gathering. He, the Rev. L. B. Nelson of the Ministerial Alliance, J. L. Davis of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Wade Hammond of the Urban League pledged support the local FEPC fight.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN DENIES ABANDONING FEPC'S AIMS

New York Times

Accepts Resignation Of Attorney Charles H. Houston

But Says Seizure Of Capital Transit Company Had To Keep Prevailing Employment Policy

N.Y., N.Y. 12-15-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a letter Friday accepting the resignation of Attorney Charles H. Houston, one of two Negro members of FEPC, President Harry S. Truman rejected the charge made by Mr. Houston that he had blocked the agency's operations and abandoned its principles.

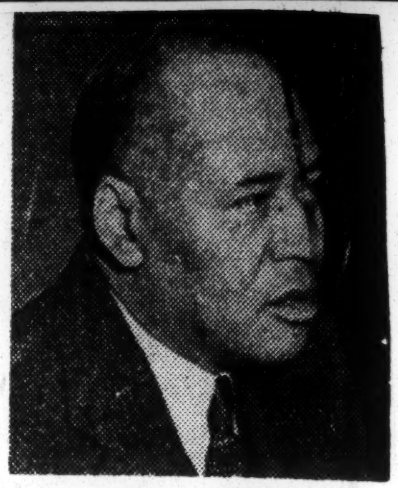
Attorney Houston, who resigned on Monday, December 3, from FEPC in protest against a Presidential order to the agency to hold up a directive to the Capital Transit Company to cease its discriminatory policies in employment of Negroes, charged that the President's intervention not only repudiates the committee, but nullified the Executive Orders themselves. 12-15-45

In accepting Mr. Houston's resignation, the President wrote that, under the conditions imposed by Congress on Federal seizure, existing conditions of employment were to prevail in the seized property. The Capital Transit Company was seized by the Government on Thanksgiving Eve as a result of two work stoppages. The President pointed out that the action was taken to provide transportation rather than carry out FEPC policies, "laudable as these aims are."

The President added: "In view of this apparent contradiction between the law and the order which the Fair Employment Practice Committee proposed to issue, it was thought best to suggest that the order be temporarily postponed."

In his letter of resignation, Mr. Houston pointed out that "neither the Capital Transit management nor the union leadership has ever claimed that the exclusion of Negroes as platform workers and traffic checkers was a term or condition of employment. The union has no color bar. Management and the union leadership have merely claimed that they could not control the rank and file of the white platform workers."

"Your action in the Capital Transit case," Attorney Houston's letter to the President also said,



CHARLES H. HOUSTON

"means that you do
to seize Capital Tran
ployees strike in violatio
private collective bargaining
ment, but will not move, or
mit the committee to move
effectuate the national non-discriminatory employment policy declared in President Executive Orders."

His letter of resignation concluded:

"The issue of the Capital Transit case far transcends the question whether a few Negro workers shall be placed on the platform of streeet cars and buses and as traffic checkers on the Capital Transit system. It raises the fundamental question of the basic government attitude toward minorities. The failure of the Government to enforce democratic practices and to protect minorities in its own capital makes its expressed concern for national minorities abroad somewhat specious, and its interference in the domestic affairs of other countries very premature."

Liberties Group!

Charge GOP Blocks FEPC Legislation

Pittsburgh Courier – Pa.

NEW YORK—Charges that the Administration is giving only "lip service" to the elimination of discrimination in employment and that Republican Congressmen are actively preventing passage of leigslation for a permanent FEPC despite election campaign pledges were made recently by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

In a letter to President Truman following the resignation of Charles Houston, Washington attorney from the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, NFCL states: "The issue raised by Mr. Houston in his resignation far transcends the Capital Transit case and raises the fundamental question of basic Government attitudes toward minorities. 12-15-45

ASK FOR NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER

"We cannot see how we and other groups devoted to elimination of discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin, and to the preservation of our democracy can fail to agree with Mr. Houston's conclusion that your action in the Capital Transit case reflects a persistent course of conduct on the part of the Administration to give lip service to the importance of eliminating discrimination in employment since V-J Day, while doing nothing to make the policy effective."

Urging the President to issue a special Executive Order extending the powers of FEPC as he did those of OPA and WPB, the NFCL also asked that he use his influence and powers to see that "the disgraceful blocking of the FEPC bill (HR 2232) in the House be ended."

The Low-Down on the FEPC

The Afro-American Baltimore, MD.

By ALVIN E. WHITE

(In Last Week's Account—In June, five years ago, nine men met with the President to seek a solution to the problem of unemployment pools among colored which remained static in spite of prosperity of the U.S. Out of the conference grew the President's Executive Order 8802 which outlawed discrimination along racial and religious lines in employment.) 12-8-45

Copies of the President's Executive Order 8802 were distributed widley. Colored newspapers hailed the Executive Order as a "second emancipation proclamation." "President Lincoln freed the slaves," they said, "but President Roosevelt freed the workers."

When the President wrote this instrument and set up the group to carry out its functions, certain well known fallacies were followed.

The unwritten rule that a colored person cannot fill a government post where he can make final decisions or formulate policies was adhered to closely. In top Washington jobs, colored people are "assistants," "advisers," "associates," "race relations advisers" and such, but nothing higher.

They may advise but they cannot direct. This insiduous belief has grown into a custom which even the liberal Roosevelt dared not violate.

Roosevelt named a white man to head the committee. There is no quarrel with this. But such a person should be in his own right, a strong, national figure, having the respect and full confidence of the President; with direct Presidential contact and not subservient to the "Palace Guard."

He should be forthright, uncompromising and outspoken!

White persons who espouse the cause of colored are generally regarded as eccentrics and immediately become pariahs and outcasts. They are subjected to unnecessary criticism, opposition and insults. Usually, they wind up completely ostracized, unless they surrender their convictions.

Since its inception, four men have headed the committee. Mark Ethridge, the first chairman, who probably came closest to the ideal; Malcolm MacLean, an educator with liberal ideas; Father Haas, a Cathloic priest, with interest in labor; and the present head, Malcolm Ross, direct from labor's ranks.

Assailed and Applauded

Ethridge served from July 20, 1941 to February 1, 1942. He pleaded business pressure in resigning the chairmanship. But it is believed that a speech he made in Birmingham, Ala., precipitated his resignation.

In this speech, the chairman spoke on the South's segregation. He was bitterly assailed from all sides and applauded on others.

Many defended it on the grounds that Ethridge knew the South and was preparing it to accept the unwanted activities of the committee.

Dr. MacLean, formerly of the University of Minnesota, was brought in from Hampton Institute, where he was president. He stayed with the Committee until May 10, 1943.

Ethridge and David Sarnoff of the Radio Corporation of America, upon Presidential invitation and insistence, remained with the committee as members, but when MacLean resigned, they too got out.

Dr. MacLean was given a Naval commission. Ugly rumors followed the resignation but the capital was full of them at the time. 12-1-45

Dr. MacLean quit over the postponement of the railroad hearings. Elaborate plans had been made for these hearings and a crack staff had been assembled.

Hearings Postponed

But a mysterious, unexplained order came from "higher ups" and the hearings were postponed.

That was the first big set-back for the Committee which had been feeling its way along very slowly and at the same time, accomplishing some of the objectives which it had set.

Father Hass accepted the chairmanship on May 20, 1943, but he too resigned on October 3, 1943. He was earnest, competent and willing and labor respected him.

But his superiors were not too anxious to have him serve so they promoted him to a bishopric, thereby removing him from a "hot spot."

Mr. Roosevelt gave Father Haas two assistants. George M. Johnson, a colored lawyer and Malcolm Ross. Mr. Johnson was promoted since he had been with the committee for some time prior to his promotion.

On October 13, 1943, Mr. Ross was named chairman; although capable and efficient George Johnson, who had seniority and had again and again demostrated his ability, was by-passed.

Honest, Earnestness

Johnson made no complaint, but continued his valuable service as long as he possibly could. Mr. Ross, while not a national figure, has brought honesty of purpose, it is believed, and earnestness to the difficult chairmanship.

The Committee's personnel was overwhelmingly white. The size of the committee was also increased from the original number.

Its members were Philip Murray, president of the CIO; William Green, president of the AF of L; David Sarnoff of the Radio Corporation of America; Milton Webster, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; and Earl Dickerson, a Chicago lawyer.

The latter two were colored. Neither Mr. Murray nor Mr. Green ever served personally on the committee; they were represented by proxies. 12-8-45

When the Committee showed signs of collapse and criticism was running high, a new committee was constituted in July, 1943, dropping Earl Dickerson. It was composed of three labor representatives and three industry representatives.

For labor, there were Boris Shishin of the AF of L, John Brophy of the CIO, Milton Webster of the AF of L; for industry there were Sara Southall of the International Harvester Company;

Cramer Selected

Samuel Zemurray, president of the United Fruit Company and P. B. Young, publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide. Mr. Young later resigned, pleading ill health.

Lawrence Cramer was selected by Mr. Roosevelt as executive secretary for the committee. While serving as Governor of the Virgin Islands, Mr. Cramer had incurred powerful opposition and made political enemies.

Cramer frequently was opposed by Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior.

While Mr. Cramer was capable, he was hampered in doing a good job and his regime at times was rather uncertain.

When he finally gave up the job, he too went to the Navy as an officer. His uncompromising stand won him additional enemies and objectors in official circles. His loss was really felt.

All chairmen made fatal mistake. This was in not demanding direct contact with the White House in all matters at all times.

Most of the contact was through a third person, some things never reaching the President at all. The President's committee was not the President's committee after all.

Moved to White House

It has been said that Jonathan Daniels, a White House secretary, was designated to handle all colored peoples' affairs.

The son of Josephus Daniels of North Carolina, former Secretary of the Navy, young Daniels's first job of importance in Washington was with the Office of Civilian Defense.

He was not very happy there and as soon as possible, Mr. Roosevelt moved him to the White House.

No one knows by what particular virtue Daniels became an authority on colored peoples' affairs. It was common talk among colored people that Daniels chief confidante and adviser in the ranks of "colored officialdom" was Theodore Posten.

Posten formerly worked with Dr. Weaver and later went to the Office of War Information. Through this office, he met Daniels.

Posten never publicly denied the rumors, nor could he with good grace admit them. He was had long enjoyed the confidence having sufficient trouble with the of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt and Dr. Channing T. Tobias, FBI which hounded him constantly and accused him of being a Communist. 12-8-45

Shortly before Mr. Roosevelt's death, it was rumored a prominent colored person would be named to his staff in the White House.

President's Confidence

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, who in charge of colored work for the National Council of YWCA, were among those named.

Such an appointment would have strengthened the FEPC since it would have given colored a direct channel to the President.

Truman Intervenes Against FEPC

SUPPRESSES DIRECTIVE; NEED GROWS FOR CONGRESS FIGHT

By CLAUDIA JONES Daily Worker

A leading Negro weekly editorially commented this week: "We shudder to think of what can happen without the protecting arm of the FEPC." New York, N.Y.

Well, insofar as the wind is blowing from the White House, the Negro people and labor had better take note. This deep concern, aptly expressed by the influential Afro-American, permeating the minds of Negro Americans, was dramatized in the recent protest resignation of Attorney Charles E. Houston from the FEPC. Houston's resignation and sharp criticism of the administration was due to President Truman's suppression of an FEPC directive which ordered Capital Transit Co. to employ Negro operators.

BASIC GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

But Truman's act has far wider implications for the future of fair employment practices insofar as federal policy is concerned.

Under fire is the basic and fundamental question of the administration's attitude towards minorities and the Negro people. It is this that is at the heart of the Houston resignation letter which charged that Truman's intervention **"raises the fundamental question of the basic government attitude towards minorities. The failure of the government to enforce democratic practices and to protect minorities in its own capital makes its expressed concern for national minorities abroad somewhat specious and its interference in the domestic affairs of other countries very premature."** 12-8-45

It is obvious that what we have here is intervention on the part of President Truman to condone discrimination.

It is intervention in the same callous Truman manner as it is administration imperialist intervention against the heroic peoples of China and Indonesia.

Truman's suppression of the FEPC directive is a categoric repudiation of the FEPC principle. It is of the same cloth as the abandonment of federal control of USES and its transference to state's control without a fight on Truman's part.

Obviously this is not at all an academic question, for practically coincident with this act is the announcement that some seven of 10 regional FEPC offices, including the New York office and all those covering the South, are scheduled to close in less than two weeks—by Dec. 15!

A FAIT ACCOMPLI

It is indeed a far cry from Truman's statement on this issue of last June. Then, when the FEPC was stymied in the House Rules Committee on approapriations, Truman stated:

"To abandon at this time the fundamental principle upon which the Fair Employment Practices Committee was established is unthinkable. Even if the war were over or nearly over, the question of fair employment practices during the reconversion period and thereafter would be of paramount importance. The principle and policy of fair practice should be established permanently as part of our national law."

Well, the war is over, but apparently what was "unthinkable" then is becoming a fait accompli, with the able assistance of the spokesman who "warned" Americans against such thinking. Even then, it is to be remembered that Truman's "warning" was minus action.

Millions of Americans, Negro and white, agree that it is "unthinkable," all right, to abandon the federal principle of fair employment practices. They know that, despite pious declarations, the FEPC can be today likened to the ghost of a pigeon that has been starved to death. Already strangled by lack of appropriations, the contemplated move to close down regional offices in all but three areas—Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis—will reduce the number of regional offices from a one-time 13 to three and regional FEPC office personnel from 117 to about 27.

Moreover, on the first major test of President Truman's declared stand on the FEPC, we find it is the President himself who is **abandoning** the principles of fair employment practices, and in an agency controlled by the administration—the Capital Transit Co.! What a green-light signal to Big Business and reactionary Jimcrow employers!

Unless something is done quickly by an aroused labor-Negro people's movement, this important wartime gain, establishing fair employment practices as a federal policy—based on a decade of progress in which labor and the Negro people cemented their ties—will simply be wiped out by presidential decree! It represents nothing less than a body blow to the already waning confidence of the Negro people in the Truman administration.

It is of the utmost importance that the fight for a permanent FEPC becomes an important part of labor's over-all fight against the reactionary weather-signals coming from the White House. When a federal policy which challenges the right of transport workers to strike, accompanied by government seizure, is followed by action to prevent Negro workers being employed on the basis of national non-discriminatory employment (declared in presidential executive orders) it is, to say the least, a pattern rife with danger for every Negro and for every worker.

True, it has its own "logic" insofar as the reactionary pattern of administration policy abroad and at home is shaping up. **But what must be understood is that the suppression of the FEPC directives is aimed not only at the Negro people but at all labor as well. It is part and parcel of Big Business strategy to decimate the wartime gains of Negro workers, to create Negro-white strife and to destroy and break the labor movement.**

It is similarly important for the Negro people and their organizations to speak out in strong terms on the issue of FEPC, as well as on all anti-labor attacks of Big Business and the Truman administration.

This is no narrow stake—it fundamentally affects the very heart of the struggle of the Negro people for complete equality and additional democratic gains—for the realization of such hopes lie only in close alliance with the growing democratic and powerful movement of organized labor.

LABOR MUST RAISE VOICE

Labor's voice should be heard immediately in protest of this suppression of the FEPC directive by Truman, now. 12-8-45

It is around the key and crucial issue of the permanent FEPC that the very fate of this principle of fair employment practices will be decided. This likewise makes it necessary for labor and the Negro people to demand in overwhelming tones tnat the languishing measure favorably voted for by the Labor Committee of the House be voted out. The petition to discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill—to get it before the House—still lacks some 60 signatures to make up the 218 needed. A large number of these are Republicans who reside in the New York area. Especially should support be given to the strategy of the steering committee led by Marcantonio and Rep. Norton which aims to get the discharge petition before the House and to utilize the calendar Wednesday.

Above all, now is the time for strong concern to be turned into action, to defeat these and sundry efforts to destroy the Roosevelt principle of fair employment practices and to assure its permanence in the federal government.

In Detroit the general membership of that city's Council of the National Negro Congress voted every possible assistance to the UAW strike.

LeBron Simmons, president of the Detroit Council, in a message to the GM division of UAW said the auto strikers' demand for a 30 percent wage increase "goes far and beyond that of increasing the take-home pay of the workers out on strike. This will set wage policy throughout the nation."

In New York the American Youth for Democracy likewise pledged fullest support to the General Motors strikers. At a meeting attended by 35 delegates from Detroit, AFL Local 107, International Pulp Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers also informed both AFL President William Green and UAW President R. J. Thomas of their complete support for the GM strike asserting "the welfare of every union working man depends upon victory for the workers over the selfish corporation." 12-8-45

The New York City Central Committee of the International Workers Order sent a letter to R. J. Thomas informing him of their support for the General Motors Strike.

Political Scene

Redbaiting and FEPC

Daily Worker

by Adam Lapin

THE fight on a permanent FEPC bill may come to a climax this month. Friends of FEPC in the House believe they have found a way of circumventing the reactionary Rules Committee, which has kept the legislation bottled up for many months. They believe they can get the issue up on the floor for a vote.

But the outcome of the new drive to get action on FEPC may depend on the success of a divisive, redbaiting attack centered on Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York which has been launched by groups associated with the National Council for a permanent FEPC.

A couple of weeks ago the main story in the **Birmingham World**, a Negro weekly, was headlined: "Townsend Charges Marcantonio with Insincerity in FEPC Fight." Other Negro newspapers carried the story too, although not with similar screaming headlines.

The stories were based on a telegram sent out by Willard S. Townsend, president of the CIO-United Transport Service Employes and a member of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC.

Townsend condemned the use of a parliamentary device to bring up the FEPC bill on what is known as Calendar Wednesday as an example of "divisive tactics commonly practised by those whose endorsement is the kiss of death." It seems that all this is a dark, devious plot by Rep. Marcantonio and "the Daily Worker, Fellow Travellers and the Communist Party."

The trouble is that this redbaiting nonsense is being widely circulated in the Negro and labor press, and is being purveyed by word of mouth on Capitol Hill by lobbyists for the National Council for a Permanent FEPC. It may seriously weaken the fight for FEPC unless it is stopped now.

Here is what all the noise is about. Daily Worker

FEPC supporters, who are concerned with the issue and not with putting out redbaiting publicity, are backing several simultaneous moves to get action. They are urging President Truman to issue a new executive order giving FEPC authority to function during the reconversion period. This would prevent FEPC from literally withering away from lack of funds while the Congressional fight continues. N.Y.N.Y.

They are putting pressure on the House to get the necessary 218 signatures to bring the FEPC bill to the floor. But the rub here is that scores of Republicans refuse to sign the petition until close to the 1946 elections so that they can make the maximum political capital.

Finally, to break up this political squeeze play they are backing the Calendar Wednesday strategy. On the basis of complex House procedure, committee bills can be called up on Wednesday. But normally this committee calendar is dispensed with. The move devised by Rep. Marcantonio is to have Rep. Mary Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee which has reported out the FEPC bill, call it up on the next calendar Wednesday.

Strategy Backed By Rep. Norton

An FEPC steering committee in the House, including Rep. Norton, backed this strategy, and one attempt was made several weeks ago to get the FEPC bill up on a Wednesday. It failed because polltax Congressmen forced an adjournment by a 74 to 31 vote. Congressmen friendly to FEPC just weren't on the floor.

Starting with Wednesday, Nov. 14, further attempts will be made each week to get the FEPC bill up. These attempts can succeed if Congressmen pledged to support FEPC are on the floor and carry out their pledge.

The advantage of this strategy is simply that it is speedy, even though it sounds complicated, and gets around the parliamentary obstacles placed in the path of FEPC.

So what are the Social Democrats and professional redbaiters associated with the National Council for a Permanent FEPC so excited about?

Well, for one thing they have always shown little interest in practical moves to get action on FEPC. For example, several months ago when the real issue was pressuring funds out of a reluctant Congress, these people in the National Council were concentrating on the then more remote issue of a permanent FEPC.

Now that there is a good chance of getting House action, their real strategy is to concentrate on the Senate. A Senate filibuster on FEPC would undoubtedly make headlines. But nobody really interested in FEPC would try to bring the bill up in the Senate before preparing the ground by getting it passed in the House first.

The groups around the National Council are also interested in a $200,000 fund drive, and in a monopoly on the FEPC issue. That is one reason they are so bitter about Rep. Marcantonio who has, whether they like it or not, emerged as one of the outstanding champions of FEPC. Finally, they want to discredit all progressive groups and individuals who won't follow their redbaiting line. 11-5-45

After Willard Townsend issued his redbaiting blast, Dr. Max Yergan, head of the National Negro Congress, sent him a letter which stated:

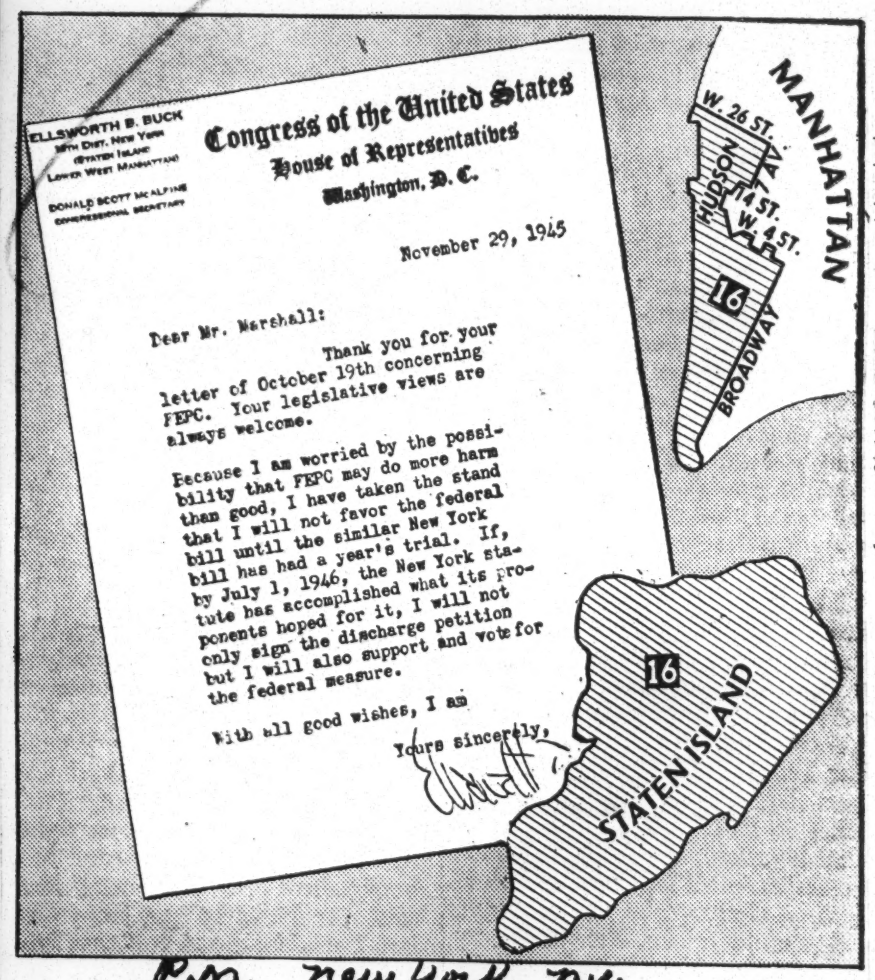
"I believe there is no justification whatever for statements which disrupt, divide, and thereby play into the hands of the Rankins, Bilbos and their Northern accomplices. . . . My appeal to you is that we go forward in unity to the victory we all desire."

The only barrier tot hat unity is the attitude of those who place redbaiting before a permanent FEPC.

56d-1945

Voters in the 16th District:

This Is Your Congressman



P.M. New York, N.Y.

The bill for a permanent Federal FEPC languishes in the House Rules Committee while U. S. Representatives like Ellsworth Buck, who represents Richmond and part of lower Manhattan, play a hide-and-seek game with a discharge petition which needs only 60 more signatures to get the bill out on the floor. George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, who received the Buck letter, said in his reply that Buck's refusal to sign the petition "lends strong credence to the charge that the majority of Republican Congressmen are withholding their signatures . . . until a few months before election so that they may claim the Negro vote while nevertheless preventing passage of the bill, since it will leave too little time for the bill to pass both Houses of Congress before the end of the session." 12-9-45

FEPC

Morse, Ball Lead GOP In New Move for FEPC

Out to Steal New Deal's Thunder by Forcing Senate Action

P.M.

By John Weiss
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. — A lackadaisical Democratic policy on the bill to create a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission (FEPC) is presenting the GOP a golden opportunity to steal some Administration thunder.

A group of Republican Senators, led by Sens. Wayne Morse of Oregon and Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota, is committed to force the FEPC Bill to the floor when Congress reconvenes after the first of the year. Sen. Morse revealed today that he intends to make a speech in behalf of FEPC before adjournment, blasting the administration for failing to press any action on the Permanent FEPC Bill. Morse will call upon the Republicans to make good their party promise of 1944 in Chicago. 12-18-45

With Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin Jr. (R., Mass.) indicating that House Republicans will finally come into line in a move to get this same bill out of its Rules Committee pigeon hole, supporters of a permanent FEPC are definitely encouraged about early passage of the bill. New York, N.Y.

Shift in Strategy

Cloakroom strategy has now shifted from an attempt to push the permanent FEPC bill through the House first, and a concerted drive will be made to obtain prior passage in the Senate.

Possibility of Senate passage depends primarily upon ability of supporters of the bill to obtain a cloture vote, required to break a filibuster by the Southern Democrats. If the White House is prepared to crack the whip on this issue, the bipartisan coalition of Administration followers, plus the newly revealed GOP backers, may be able to mass the required two-thirds vote. 12-18-45

Truman Backs Survey

Meanwhile, the FEPC announced after a White House Conference yesterday that President Truman is supporting a fact-finding survey, which it will undertake, "to examine what is happening to minority group workers during reconversion." The findings will be made public during a four-day hearing to be held in Chicago during February.

Informed sources here believe that this survey, initially suggested by Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, may delay action on the FEPC bill. Several Congressmen have indicated that they may urge postponement of any action on the bill, pending publication of the result of the survey. The Committee, however, feels that with the limited funds now available (about $63,000), its activity should be "concentrated in the fields where its resources can be applied with the best hope of lasting results."

The Committee further points out that "this limited program is not a substitute for effective full-scale enforcement of the National policy against discrimination." However, the scope of the current bill limits jurisdiction of the FEPC to Government agencies and employers "which contribute to the war effort."

HOUSTON'S RESIGNATION

New York Age

ACTION taken last week by Attorney Charles H. Houston, porminent Washington lawyer, in announcing his resignation from the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, points up the fight ahead for all who are interested in the continuation in peace time of the war-time prohibitions against discrimination in employment by reason of race, color, or national origin.

The resignation followed suppression by the White House of a directive the FEPC had unanimously decided to issue to the Capital Transit Company, ordering it to cease discrimination in employment practices by refusing to hire Negroes as trolley car and bus operators. N.Y., N.Y.

Ever since FEPC was created, the issue of Capital Transit Company's jim crow employment policy has been the one thorn in its flesh. Right there in its own backyard was the Capital Transit Company refusing to employ Negroes as car and bus operators, and yet FEPC, for reasons best known to its staff, was powerless or refused to take action. And yet it could cite transit companies in Philadelphia and San Francisco—to cite just a few—and get compliance with the orders it issued.

In the matter of Capital Transit Company, however, it was a different situation. Capital Transit Company, as a private enterprise owned and controlled allegely by white Southerners, powerful in political circles, posed a difficult problem. On the one hand, FEPC depended for its existence on funds made available by the Federal government. Many of the same people who would have something to say about how much money FEPC would receive were closely allied with, or friendly to, the controlling interests in Capital Transit Company. On the other hand, FEPC decided to "crack" several other hard nuts before turning its attention to the situation in its own district.

Whatever the reason for the long delay, the final decision of FEPC to issue its directive against the Capital Transit Company was predicated on the basis that the company was operating now under government control, following Federal seizure recently because of work stoppages in a series of labor-management disputes. It would be reasonable to suppose, then, that a Federal manager of the company would be amenable to employment suggestions of Negroes, and certainly to a directive issued by FEPC. It looked like the propositious time for such a directive to be issued. 12-15-45

On November 23, FEPC members voted to issue the directive ordering the Capital Transit Company to "cease and desist from practices and policies which have resulted in the denial of employment to Negroes, because of race, as conductors, motermen, bus operators and traffic checkers."

In his letter of resignation to President Truman on Monday, December 3, Mr. Houston wrote in part: 12-15-45

"Without notice to the committee or a chance for the committee to present its views, on Nobember 24 you ordered the Committee not to issue the decision. November 25 on behalf of the committee, I wrote you asking that you give the committee opportunity to confer with you. The return registry receipt shows the letter delivered to the White House November 26th. Today, we have not received even an acknowledgment of the letter.

"The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was created by Executive Orders Nos. 8802 and 9346 as an independent agency responsible directly to the President, and charged with effectuating on his behalf the national policy of full utilization of the nation's manpower in war industries, government contract operations and government service, without discrimination 'in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color or national origin.' Since the effect of your intervention in the Capital Transit case is not to eliminate but to condone it, to that extent you not only repudiate the committee, but more important, you nullify the Executive Orders themselves.

". . . Your action in the Capital Transit case means that you do not hesitate to seize Capital Transit when employees strike in violation of a private collective bargaining agreement, but will not move, or permit the committee to move to effectuate the national non-discriminatory employment policy declared in Presidential Executive Orders.

"The issue of the Capital Transit case far transcends the question whether a few Negro workers shall be placed on the platforms of street cars and buses and as traffic checks on the Capital Transit system. It raises the fundamental question of the basic government attitude toward minorities. The failure of the Government to enforce practices and to protect minorities in its own capital makes its expressed concern for national minorities abroad somewhat specious, and its interference in the domestic affairs of other countries very premature."

Mr. Houston's resignation was not rashly nor hastily done. He had just the week before written President Truman requesting that a confernce be held on behalf of the whole committee regarding the President's instructions not to cite the Capital Transit Company. This letter went unanswered, and left Mr. Houston in the position of either remaining with FEPC thereby being ignored in the future or resigning from the committee thereby bring to the public's attention the President's "double talk" as regards FEPC. 12-15-45

Shortly after Mr. Truman became President, by an act of God, he not only affirmed his belief in the principles of FEPC but also asked Congress to vote funds for its continuance. President Truman immediately was hailed by the Negro Press, organizations and liberals for his championing of the cause of Fair Employment Practices.

In the light of the reasons for Mr. Houston's resignation, it now begins to appear that all the praise and encomiums heaped on President Truman were premature. Certainly, the President's actions in the Capital Transit case are not beyond criticism. Nor his actions in refusing to acknowledge receipt of the committee's letter requesting a conference beyond reproach.

More power to Attorney Houston for bringing out into the public's view, the "lip" service the President has been giving FEPC. Actions speak louder than words. In this case, the President's actions spea' 'nder than his words.

56d-1945

THOMAS L. STOKES

The Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Republicans About To Grab FEPC Issue

WASHINGTON.—The Republican party in congress seems finally about to take hold of an issue that is highly important in this critical postwar era, and one in keeping with the party's best traditions of the past.

This is the effort to eliminate discrimination in jobs on account of race, creed or color. Such discrimination is reported on the increase, which is not at all in keeping with our ideals of democracy that we would spread elsewhere in the world. 12-21-45

Republicans are beginning to bring pressure for enactment of bills pending in both branches of congress to create a permanent fair employment practices commission to eradicate such discrimination. It would be modeled along lines of the Fair Employment Practices Committee set up by executive order of President Roosevelt, except that the permanent federal commission would have statutory authority not possessed by the temporary wartime agency.

THE WARTIME FEPC is now seriously handicapped in its operations. It is almost nonexistent. This is due to a fund shortage that has forced it to close all but three branches—it only has $63,000 on which to operate until next July 1—and to narrowing of its jurisdiction because of the end of the war. It was restricted to plants with war contracts.

This is why a permanent federal commission is so needed.

A group of six Republican senators, mostly newer, younger and of progressive inclination, are organizing a campaign to get the bill before the senate for a vote after the Christmas recess. It is high on the calendar. As a preliminary they are putting the case before the public this final week of congress in a series of senate speeches.

The six senators are Aiken, Vermont; Ball, Minnesota; Knowland, California; Morse, Oregon; Smith, New Jersey, and Tobey, New Hampshire. 12-21-45

REPUBLICANS in the house also seem to be bestirring themselves for a permanent FEPC as indorsed by the party's 1944 platform. Rep. Martin, Massachusetts, house Republican leader, publicly has offered his co-operation to force the bill before the house by a petition to discharge the rules committee which has had the bill since last February.

A petition now lies on the speaker's desk. It has nearly 160 signatures, of which only about a third are Republican. It will require 218 signatures to bring the bill to the floor for a vote. A Republican drive to fill up the petition is expected after the first of the year.

Democratic dereliction gives Republicans the opportunity to press this issue and get credit for the legislation. It is one of many similar legislative opportunities awaiting the GOP, if it would only take the initiative.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN has urged passage of the FEPC bill. But his efforts have been blocked by the southern wing of his party. Southern Democrats on the House Rules Committee have bottled up the bill there arbitrarily for 10 months. Democrats from other parts of the country have sought its enactment in vain.

The titular leader of the Republican party, Gov. Dewey of New York, secured enactment of a fair employment practices law in his state, similar to that proposed nationally. Never has the case for it been put more concisely than by the governor in discussing the New York measure. 12-21-45

HE SAID:

"There are those who believe the antidiscrimination bill is designed to fix by law the taste, the habits, the associations or the special lives of people. Others believe it is a law to tell you whom you may have in your homes as domestic help or guests, whom they may not hire, or that it is designed to discriminate in favor of one group against another. Of course, it is none of these things.

"The bill establishes by law the simple principle that in business and industrial employment there shall be no discrimination on grounds of race, creed, color or national origin. It translates into law what is inherent in our Constitution, and is the very essence of our free society."

The proposed federal law would do the same, no more, no less.

Republicans deserve public support in their campaign.

FEPC

NEGRO QUITS FEPC, ASSAILS TRUMAN

The New York Times
New York, N.Y.

C. H. Houston Protests That President Barred Issuance of Capital Transit Decision

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3—Charles H. Houston, one of the two Negro members of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, resigned today in a protest against "the refusal of the President to allow the committee to issue its decision" directing the Capital Transit Company, Washington's transport system, to cease discriminatory policies in the employment of Negroes. 12-4-45

A White House spokesman acknowledged receipt of the letter of resignation, but declined to comment on the protest.

Explaining his action, Mr. Houston, a member of a law firm here, said:

"The President's attitude in the Capital Transit case reflects a persistent course of conduct on the part of the Administration to give lip service to the matter of eliminating discrimination in employment on account of race, creed, color or national origin since V-J Day, while doing nothing substantial to make the policy effective."

For three years the FEPC has been examining the Negro employment policies of the Capital Transit Company, now operating under Federal seizure following two stoppages.

On Nov. 23 the committee unanimously decided to issue a directive to the company, according to Mr. Houston, but on Nov. 24, he added, the agency was ordered by the President to withhold issuance of its decision.

A letter written on Nov. 25 by Mr. Houston for the committee, asked for a conference with the President. Because it was not answered, Mr. Houston said he decided to submit his resignation today.

Mr. Houston stated in his letter that Guy A. Richardson, Federal manager of the Government operated transit system, had opposed issuance of the FEPC decision not "on jurisdictional grounds but purely on political considerations." He also wrote to the President:

"Your action in the Capital Transit case means that you do not hesitate to seize Capital Transit when employes strike in violation of a private collective bargaining agreement, but will not move, or permit the committee to move, to effectuate the national non-discriminatory employment policy declared in Presidential Executive Orders."

Doors Close On FEPC Here

Daily Worker

By DOROTHY LOEB and EUGENE GORDON

At 5:05 p.m. yesterday, Edward Lawson turned the key in a lock on a door on the 63rd floor of the Empire State Building.

The act marked the end of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee in New York, only federal agency charged with fighting discrimination in employment. new York, N.Y.

Far below on the street, a picket line paraded before the building.

More than 150 marched with placards, protesting President Truman's failure to fight for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee and pledging that they would continue the fight themselves.

Congress had refused funds for the committee, and so the FEPC, which had broken down Jimcrow in scores of industries, won up-grading and equality in pay for tens of thousands of Negroes, for Jews, Italians and other minorities, was closing.

ONLY 3 LEFT

12-15-45

New York's was one of seven regional offices around the country to close. Only St. Louis, Detroit and Chicago remain open.

Lawson, regional director for New York and New England, locked up without ceremony. A handful, all that was left of a once flourishing staff, stood by. The many who had been aided by the bureau's services were represented only by the picket line.

Before the bureau closed, Lawson supervised the packing of FEPC records for shipment to Washington.

He jerked a thumb toward the packing cases.

"There's many a victory over Jimcrow recorded there," he said. "Who knows if they'll stay victories now?" 12-15-45

Committee victories began to bounce even before the key was turned in the lock, Robert Jones, FEPC senior examiner, said.

He won an up-grading case for a Negro in the Brooklyn Navy Yard only a few months back. He heard just a few days ago that that decision has already been reversed in view of the shutdown.

R.F.C. TAKES OVER

The Reconstruction Finance Corp. is taking over vacated FEPC offices. A few RFC clerks were already at work there yesterday while Lawson's staff was doing final packing.

Jones looked at the RFC wistfully.

"The RFC spends more money in a week than we did in a month," he reflected.

On the picket line were representatives of the CIO United Auto Workers, the Communist Party, the International Fur & Leather Workers, the Negro Labor Victory Committee, the People's Committee and the National Negro Congress.

Lawson blamed public inertia for their failure to make the agency permanent up to now. He predicted that when people feel the full effects of growing layoffs, there would be heightened pressure behind the campaign. 12-15-45

Jones said the closing of FEPC will cause people of other countries to doubt America's sincerity when she proclaims a wish for democracy all over the world.

While the offices were shutting down, the Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions, headed by sculptor Jo Davidson, sent a wire to President Truman urging issuance of a new executive order for continuation of FEPC and extension of its powers and authority.

Among the signers were Fredrick March, Herman Shumlin, Lillian Hellman, Howard Fast, Melvyn Douglas, John Mason Brown, William Rose Benet, Bosley Crother, Russell Crouse, Edna Ferber, Dorothy Maynor, Samuel Barlow, Margo, John McManus and Carl Van Doren.

FEPC Stymied

Washington Post (D.C.)

The President's firm insistence that employment practices within Federal agencies be maintained on a thoroughly fair and non-discriminatory basis is a proper and heartening one. So is his order instructing the FEPC to investigate employment practices in wholly reconverted industries as well as in continuing war industries. But, although this somewhat broadens the scope of the agency's authority, it does not give it the essential means with which to carry its important responsibilities into execution. The FEPC has left, for all its operations throughout the balance of the fiscal year, exactly $63,606. Only its facade remains. It has neither the personnel nor the power to make more than a gesture in the direction of eliminating discrimination from the country's economic life. 12-24-45

The members of the FEPC are well enough aware of this impotence themselves. After outlining the limited program they feel capable of undertaking, they candidly disclaimed in a statement issued last Monday that this could be considered "a substitute for effective, full-scale enforcement of the national policy against discrimination. After nearly five years of experience, the committee concludes that the cure for the long-standing evils of inequality in industrial opportunity lies solely within the hands of Congress." This is the long and the short of it. There is nothing much that the President can do about it—except to press vigorously for congressional action on the long-pending bill to establish a statutory Fair Employment Practice Commission. Only Congress can create an effective enforcement agency.

In Congress, the proposal to do this has been bottled up in committee by a combination of politics and pusillanimity. Southern Democrats have kept the measure from going to the floor for a vote; Republicans, although piously applauding the FEPC principle, have conspicuously refrained from signing the discharge petition necessary to dislodge it. Just a short time ago, a Republican caucus came forth with the following splendid statement: "We believe that equality of opportunity should be available to all, regardless of race, creed, or beginning. Every individual should be afforded an opportunity to prosper according to his talents, his ability and his diligence subject only to a like right for his neighbor." 12-24-45

Republican Congressman Charles M. LaFollette commented on this declaration with characteristic forthrightness. Observing that he usually differed from his party's leadership "not in words, but in interpretation of their meaning and in the choice of means to implement the words used," he said: "I believe that the pending legislation for a permanent FEPC in its present form is not only a proper but a necessary means for implementing the policy laid down above. The necessary signatures to the discharge petition to give the House a chance to pass on this legislation now can be obtained only from Republican members, since a saturation point has practically been reached in Northern Democratic members. I think the Republican Party should furnish these signatures from its members so as to bring the legislation to the floor; and that, furthermore, it should furnish, from its membership, the majority of the votes necessary for the passage of that legislation."

The logic of this is simply unanswerable. The Republicans have the means to put into effect what they have long espoused. They cannot escape responsibility if they fail to do so. The need for genuine enforcement of fair employment practices is urgent now during the reconversion period. The situation presents the Republican members of the House with an opportunity and an obligation. 12-24-45

Hats Off!

12-9-45

PM takes its hat off today to Rep. Charles M. LaFollette (R., O.) for laying it right on the line to the more rock-ribbed members of his Republican Party. LaFollette, gagged in the impossible effort to swallow the nation's talk-one-way-and-vote-another "platform," spoke up and said it was high time the Republicans became "the radical party in America and not the conservative." Particularly, he wants to see his party rescue the legislation for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, which is buried in a House committee. If enough Republican votes can be won, this victory for democracy can be achieved. LaFollette has sounded a clarion call in the struggle. P.M. N.Y.N.Y.

FEPC in Washington Area Adjusts 446 of 600 Cases

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 12-8-45

(This is the first of a series of four articles on FEPC Activities in the Washington Area.)

Although 600 complaints have been handled by Region IV of the FEPC, covering Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia, according to Joseph H. B. Evans, regional director.

Mr. Evans said that his office, which closes on Dec. 15, had adjusted and closed 446 complaints leaving 122 still to be adjusted, 6 alienage cases, 16 involving railroads and 10 which have been referred to the Central Office for further handling.

CTC Case a Highlight

A FEPC hearing on the discriminatory hiring practices of the Capital Transit Company attracted more public attention than any other case in the District.

The records show that for two years FEPC conducted negotiations with the transit company in an effort to obtain the employment of colored workers as bus and street car operators.

The efforts of the FEPC culminated in a two-day hearing, which revealed that colored workers had applied for the jobs but that none had ever been hired. However, a directive ordering the company to discontinue its biased policy was halted by Presidential order as copies were about to be placed in the mails. 12-8-45

Paper Tube Company Obeys

A second case handled by FEPC in the District involved the Stone Paper Tube Company, 900 Franklin St., N.E. The committee charged that the company carried a discriminatory advertisement calling for white workers.

FEPC reports that because of its protests the company withdrew the discriminatory advertisements and subsequently hired and promoted colored workers.

A third case involved the Washington Terminal Railroad Company, which was accused of denying to colored workers in the yards equal opportunity for promotion with white employees.

48% Colored

FEPC reports that the Terminal company has four main divisions including the Railroad Yards, Roundhouse and Machine Shops, the Union Station employees and the accounting and clerical staff. Altogether 48% of its employees are colored.

Both men and women work in the yards where they service passenger equipment. Some of the men earn salaries in the upper brackets and are regarded as the company's most important 'employees. 12-8-45

In the Roundhouse and Machine Shops, colored workers are employed as helpers, and while there are no colored mechanics, FEPC reports the master mechanic stated definitely that "if a colored machinist applied for work and met the requirements, he would not hesitate to employ him."

No Clerical Employees

In the Union Station, colored workers are employed as Red Caps, baggage handlers and in the custodian service, but there are no colored workers employed in clerical or white-collar jobs either there or in the business and accounting offices.

FEPC reports that the Terminal Co. is an example of an organization which employs colored workers in the proportion of almost one-half its total force but questions whether qualified colored workers would be given an opportunity for work of a clerical or white collar nature.

No Colored Operators

FEPC reports that the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company has hired colored employees as clerks, coin-box collectors and managers of separate business offices maintained in Washington.

However, it says that the crux of the problem has been its refusal to hire colored telephone operators. 12-8-45

Although telephone companies in New Jersey and New York have hired colored telephone operators the Washington office has refused to lift the ban, FEPC reports.

ROGERS SAYS:

No National FEPC Until Jim-Crow Financial Interest In Washington Is Broken

The Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

By J. A. ROGERS

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, in a telegram to the Midwest Action Committee, has again endorsed the FEPC. "I have said it before," he says, "and I say it again, that there is no room in America for racial discrimination." There are those who doubt the President's sincerity and say he's only playing politics. What I see here, however, is that he has come out openly for the FEPC and that it takes some courage to do so since most of his party, not to mention many Republicans, are against it.

Mr. Rogers

Because of the present setup in Washington, the President's stand is going to count for little, though. The moneyed powers that profit from jim crow are very strongly entrenched in Congress and have been since the Ku Klux Klan succeeded in putting them there about 1876.

Let me take you back a little in history. In the early part of the last century began a clash between the industrial North and the agricultural South for profits and for political power. The South with its slave labor, and its slaves counted for congressional representation, had a very advantageous position, which the North tried to break. Those Northern concerns with investments in slavery were, however, Southern in sentiment and fought the abolitionists tooth and nail.

* * *

NEW YORK CITY, which has changed so much in our day, was pro-slavery. As late as 1860, it was the center of the trade in bootlegging Negroes from Africa for sale in the South. It had no less than eighty-five ships engaged in this trade. In 1860, Lincoln lost New York City by 29,192 votes and his defeat there was attributed to the powerful slave-bootlegging interests.

For the past fifteen years or so, certain Northern manufacturers have been moving to the South to be nearer raw materials and the ill-paid labor common to most agricultural regions. Goods manufactured there are then sold in the North with its higher price of labor and higher wages at great profit. The result is that it is to the interests of such to make alliance with the jim-crow interests of the South to keep labor there so divided that their high profits will continue. The antics of certain Southern legislators therefore please mightly these profiteers.

* * *

WHEREVER YOU find that segregation pays you will find a fight to maintain it. In New York City where enormous profits are made from herding Negroes into one area, the chambers of commerce fought hard to prevent the FEPC, and used such clever arguments that they were able to get support from many whites who had long posed as friends of Negroes and of democracy.

I am convinced from what I see of the workings of the FEPC in New York that at last we have the answer to this centuries-old problem. In the past year I see Negroes appearing as employes in unexpected places. In big department stores that had only Negro elevatormen, I see dark Negro girls working as cashiers beside white girls. One big store has even a Negro assistant executive in the personnel department, Lemuel L. Foster. 12-28-40

IN ONE GREAT public institution where in twenty-four years I had never seen a Negro face, I now see them everywhere. And, instead of the race riots that even "friends" of the Negro predicted, colored and white seem to be getting on well together and becoming friends.

And what has caused this basic change? A wise law. Employers are afraid of the law and of adverse publicity. Moreover, a national FEPC will only be good sportsmanship. Every Southern State has a law favoring race discrimination and several Northern ones, too. Since that is so, give the other side a chance, too.

* * *

BEFORE WE get a national FEPC some way will have to be found to break the jim-crow financial interests which center in Washington. And the only way I see is an aroused sense of justice, not to mention self-interest, in the thinking people of this Nation.

America must watch her step. In my own time I have seen this race question emerge from local status to a national one and increasingly to international importance. The world is getting smaller. Just as problems in Germany, Japan, Argentina affect us, so our problems affect other people, too.

* * *

ONE THING is certain: Unless there is an FEPC or some other wise step there is trouble ahead. De Tocqueville, writing in 1835, said, "If ever America undergoes great revolutions, they will be brought up by the presence of the black race on the soil of the United States; that is to say, they will owe their origin not to the equality but the inequality of conditions." Twenty-six years later his words came true in a bloody economic revolution, whose good effects were later largely undone by the Ku Klux Klan. His prophecy still holds true, therefore, it seems to me that those who expect to be alive another twenty years would do well, in their own interests, to stop listening to the siren voices of those who promote racial, that is to say, national discord in any way.

P. S.—For mention of Jo Anderson in last week's column see page 11 instead of page 1, "Century of the Reaper."

Truman Hit on FEPC Stand

P.M.

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5. - Extreme dissatisfaction among Negroes with the Truman Administration's handling of racial discrimination problems is evident in the resignation of Charles H. Houston, prominent Negro attorney, from the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Houston resigned with a blast at the White House for blocking the issuance of a directive against the Capital Transit Co., Washington's transportation system, for discrimination in the hiring of Negroes. 12-5-45

In the same statement Houston hit hard at the Administration's whole record on discrimination. He said: N.Y., N.Y.

"My resignation from FEPC is a protest action not merely against our treatment in the Capital Transit case, but against the Administration's persistent course of conduct to give lip service to matters of eliminating racial discrimination in employment since V-J Day, while doing nothing to make this policy substantial."

In the transit case Houston charged the President not only had blocked action, but had ignored the Committee's request for a conference. 12-5-45

"Without notice to the Committee or a chance for the Committee to present its views," he protested in his letter to Truman, "you ordered the Committee not to issue the decision.

"Nov. 25 on behalf of the Committee I wrote you asking that you give the Committee opportunity to confer with you. To date we have not received even an acklowledgment of the letter."

56d-1945

FEPC

F.E.P.C. On Volunteer Basis Hinted Even If Congress Withholds Funds

Courier Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Demonstration Plans Reported

6-26-45

Washington, June 25 (AP)—The fight over continuing the Fair Employment Practices Committee reached new intensity today with the agency's head saying it may continue operating on a volunteer basis even if Congress gives it no money.

Chairman Malcolm Ross said the F.E.P.C. may go ahead regardless and another member, a Negro, reported plans for a demonstration "more dramatic than a march on Washington."

This member, Milton P. Webster, international president of the A.F.L. Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters, told a news conference he couldn't disclose the nature of the demonstration now but "we are not going to take it lying down."

Liquidation Fund O.K.'d.

He referred to slow action on legislation for a permanent F.E.P.C. The House Appropriation Committee today approved a resolution earmarking a $125,000 fund for liquidation of the agency in the three months after July 1.

There weree still two faint chances that F.E.P.C. might get operating funds:

1. A Senate Appropriations Committee amendment to the war agencies bill to give F.E.P.C. $446,200 for the 1946 fiscal year.

2. The House Appropriations Committee resolution to give F.E.P.C. $125,000 to liquidate itself, which F.E.P.C. supporters undoubtedly will try to convert into a regular operating fund if it ever gets to the floor.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt discusses the F.E.P.C. on Page 8.

6-26-45

Martin Sidesteps 'Fight.'

The Senate amendment, which may come up tomorrow, requires a two-thirds approving vote since the rider would provide funds for an agency lacking statutory authority. F.E.P.C. exists now only through an executive order of the late President Roosevelt establishing it to prevent employment discriminations during the war period because of race, color or creed. It has been financed from executive funds but under a Congressional resolution it cannot have any more White House money after June 30 unless Congress in the meantime has given it an appropriation.

The House Appropriation Committee resolution would have to be O.K.'d by the House Rules Committee, which in the past has refused to approve legislation to make F.E.P.C. permanent.

In this connection, the House minority leader, Representative Martin (R., Mass.), told an F.E.P.C. group that while he personally favored such a measure, he was "not in a position" to direct the House minority members in a "fight for it" unless the Republican conference authorizes that action.

Jap Interest Is Cited.

6-26-45

The House Rules Committee declined even to consider F.E.P.C. legislation today because of an informal agreement not to take action on F.E.P.C. bills until all members have been notified.

Contending their agency had helped spur war production and bring about defeat of Germany by integrating minority groups in the war effort, F.E.P.C. members told newsmen the agency's functions should be carried on to speed victory against Japan and to insure full employment opportunities in peacetime.

Boris Shishkin, F.E.P.C. member and A.F.L. economist, said the Army has discovered widespread use by the Japanese of racial prejudices in this country in an attempt to persuade Asiatic peoples that "this is a white man's war."

MARQUETTE, MICH.
MINING JOURNAL
Cir. D. 9,281
JUN 15 1945

When the President said he would follow in the line his predecessor had taken he became committed to support of a fair employment practice bill. He has done the best he could for such legislation. But he has been turned down by the House rules committee, which has voted six to six against permitting the issue to go to the House.

This is final, unless the committee changes its decision or unless a petition signed by 218 members forces the bill out for a vote. As such a petition has been in circulation for over a month without much success in securing signers, such a course of action seems to be unlikely. The legislation is probably put to one side for this session.

If the House had been given a vote and had passed the bill its hardest going would still have been ahead. Its primary purpose is to prevent discrimination against Negroes. It has, therefore, the same purpose as the anti-poll tax legislation that has twice been passed by the House, only to be killed off in the Senate.

The same forces in the Senate that have killed the one bill would be almost certain to kill the other. They would perhaps prefer to give the Negroes the vote to giving them equal rights with whites in the shops, factories and businesses of the country.

Support of this proposal by the late President was not the least of the factors that gave him the votes of most of the Negro electors in the northern states, and that made efforts by the Republican party to win back their allegiance of no avail. It follows that the political implications of the sidetracking of the legislation are not to be taken lightly.

This is particularly the case because at the same time a Congress dominated by the Democrats refuses to further legislation of the kind Governor Dewey, under the terms of a bill enacted by the New York legislature, with his support and approval, has been taking steps to make the new state law effective. How it will work out in practice is one of the "iffy" questions. But the Governor and the Republicans in the New York legislature have given the Negroes what the Democrats have denied them in Washington.

N.Y., N.Y.

Job Bias Act Faces Liquidation Despite Warnings

P.M.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 26.—As strong groups in both Houses of Congress made plans to liquidate the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) at an early date, members of the President's Committee on Fair Employment warned that abolition of FEPC would cost additional lives in the war with Japan and create troubles at home.

The Senate was scheduled to begin consideration today of the War Agencies Appropriations Bill. A committee amendment provides $500,000 for FEPC, but it will require a two-thirds vote to pass.

As if this hurdle weren't enough, two Southern Senators, Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi and Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina, have announced that they will filibuster to prevent the committee amendment from coming to a vote. Bilbo said he is prepared to talk until Christmas.

N.Y., N.Y.

A Lot of Bluff

While the poll-taxers have in the past shown their skill in filibustering, FEPC supporters believe their talk is pure bluff and are prepared to call it. Because if the Bilbo-Johnston bloc filibusters on the FEPC amendment, it will be holding up funds not only for that one agency, but for some dozen or more other agencies that even it admits are essential for winning the war.

6-26-45

The bill covers appropriations for the Office of Strategic Services, War Production Board, Office of Defense Transportation, Smaller War Plants Corp., Alien Property Custodian, Office of Inter-American Affairs, War Shipping Administration, Office of Scientific Research and Development, War Labor Board, and Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion. Funds for those organizations and others in the bill run out at midnight Saturday.

Anticipating termination of FEPC, the House Appropriations Committee yesterday voted the agency $125,000 to wind up its affairs. The resolution read that the money was to be used for "completely terminating the functions and duties" of FEPC.

Amendment

An amendment provided that if the FEPC is continued by Congress then the $125,000 may be used for its continued operation until additional funds are voted.

At FEPC offices it was said that the $125,000, while normally about a three-month appropriation, would run the organization for less than a month and a half on a termination basis.

Despite the official position of the Republican Party supporting FEPC, the party's top spokesman in the House, Minority Leader Joe Martin of Massachusetts, refused to make good his party's pledge when a score of FEPC backers called on him yesterday and urged that he lead House Republicans in forcing the permanent FEPC bill out of the Rules Committee.

He explained that, while he would vote for the bill if it got to the floor, he could not lead the drive to pry it out of the Rules Committee by the petition route "without specific authorization" from the Republican House conference. He passed the buck to the Senate and indicated the party's pledge was wiped out by its defeat at the polls last November.

Order Still Effective

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, told a press conference yesterday that Congressional failure to appropriate FEPC funds would not set aside President Roosevelt's Executive Order under which FEPC was originally established. That order, he pointed out, provided that Government agencies and war contractors may not discriminate against Negroes and other minority groups in employment.

6-26-45

"Even though our organization no longer existed, Government agencies and war contractors would be required, under the Executive Order, to continue the non-discrimination policy set out in that order."

He said, however, that enforcement of the policy would suffer in the absence of an organization to conduct hearings and in other ways obtain compliance.

Anna Arnold Hedgeman Heads Fine Staff on Permanent FEPC

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa. 12-1-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Some of the country's foremost women have become affiliated with the national council for a permanent FEPC, with headquarters in Washington. It might be interesting for readers to know something about these women, who have been fighting the good fight for minority groups, while some of them are members of the other more fortunate group.

Mrs. Anne Arnold Hedgeman, executive secretary, is well known throughout the country because of her extensive lecture tours. A distinguished woman of color, Mrs. Hedgeman is a graduate of Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn., and has held important posts in the YWCA in several Eastern cities, including New York. She has served as consultant on racial problems for the Department of Welfare, New York City, and was field representative of the National Office of Civilian Defense for two years.

MISS WILKINSON INTERESTING

Miss Sidney Wilkinson admits to having been a jack of all trades during her professional career. She has been secretary to Jascha Heifetz, famous violinist, assistant to the municipal director of music in Baltimore, secretary to the vice president of Macy's in New York, business manager for a sculptor among other activities. Born in Baltimore, she is assistant to Mrs. Hedgeman, at which she is most adept.

Margery F. S. Taylor, legislative representative, is a Wellsley College graduate of '38, with graduate work being done at Miami U., in Oxford, Ohio. She has been on the faculty of the University of Michigan, Western College, and George Washington University, as well as having been secretary at Boston's YWCA. 12-1-45

During the war, Miss Taylor spent twenty months ferrying planes from factory to field as a civilian pilot stationed at Dallas, Texas. The planes included single and twin-engine trainers, dive bombers, pursuits and twin engine commercial transports.

OTHER MEMBERS

Other members of the group include Mrs. Elise Bond Hopson, born in Cambridge, Mass., whose schooling was done at Temple U. in Philadelphia, where she worked as stenographer in the office of the famous attorney, Raymond Pace Alexander.

Miss Elsie W. Lewis is a native Washingtonian, was at one time secretary to the librarian at Howard University, as well as being a public stenographer for many years. 12-1-45

Miss Ida Fox of New York City is a former Government employe who has worked with the Minority Workshop in Washington.

Beatrice B. Schalet, another New Englander, has a background in advertising the social service fields in New York City. She was one of the pioneer organizers of Interracial Consumers Cooperative movement in Washington (which is now doing a million-dollar business in groceries alone).

These young women make up part of the national staff of the FEPC.

PERMANENT FEPC'S OFFICIAL STAFF—Washington, D. C.'s permanent FEPC group has some of the country's most interesting women in its fold. Above are shown eight of the staff, including Anna Arnold Hedgeman, executive secretary. Seated, left to right, are Elsie W. Lewis, office assistant; Ida Fox, legislative representative; Anna Arnold Hedgeman, executive secretary; Beatrice B. Schalet, legislative representative, and Elise Hopson, office secretary. Standing: Sidney Wilkinson, assistant to Mrs. Hdgeman; Anna Belle Douglas, Southern field representative, and Margery Taylor, legislative representative.

Houston Refutes Reasons Given by Truman for Blocking FEPC Directive

The Afro-American.
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON.

Charges that President Truman is giving only "lip service" to the question of democratic employment, were reiterated by Charles H. Houston here Friday in answer to the President's letter defending his action in blocking the FEPC directive to the Capital Transit Company.

Following Mr. Houston's recent action in resigning in protest against Presidential blockade of the FEPC directive, Mr. Truman, on Friday wrote the former FEPC committee member, accepting his resignation and setting forth his reasons for White House interference. 12-15-45

Mr. Truman pointed out in his letter that when the Government seizes property during a strike it "shall be operated under the terms and conditions of employment which were in effect at the time possession of such plant, mine, or facility was so taken."

Attacks Statement

Mr. Houston attacked this statement on the grounds that it was not based on historical fact. The Government, he said, took over the Philadelphia Transit Company at a time when colored workers were not employed as street car and bus operators and later upgraded them to these positions.

He likewise declared that since the Fair Employment Practice Commission was a legally-constituted Government agency the Capital Transit Company should be just as much subject to its directives as those of the Office of Defense Transportation which took over and assumed operation of the company during the recent strike.

Action of the President in blocking the FEPC directive to Capital Transit ordering the employment of colored bus and street car operators was in effect, a nullification of the validity of the FEPC Mr. Houston said.

He demanded that the President owed the people of the country an explanation as to just what is the status of the FEPC and declared that the immediate clarification is necessary. 12-15-45

Held Up "Temporarily"

Additional text of President Truman's letter is as follows:

"In view of this apparent contradiction between the law and the order which the Fair Employment Practice Committee proposed to issue, it was thought best to suggest that the order be temporarily postponed.

"The property was not seized for the purpose of enforcing the aims of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, laudable as these aims are, but to guarantee transportation for the citizens of Washington and vicinity.

"As anxious as I am for Congress to pass legislation for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, I cannot contravene an Act of Congress in order to carry out the present Committee's aims.

"Under the circumstances it was felt the issuance of the proposed order would prove injurious to the accomplishments desired by all of us who are honestly interested in promoting the welfare of minority groups."

Mr. Houston answered the President at a meeting of the National Emergency Meeting on Jobs and Security in the National Press Club auditorium. 12-15-45

He also read an excerpt from a letter Senator Douglass C. Buck (Rep., Del.) had written to the National Federation of Constitution liberties expressing the opinion that no action should be taken on FEPC legislation until the summer of 1946.

The FEPC had scheduled a meeting for last Friday, but a quorum could not be obtained and the meeting was postponed. Malcolm Ross, chairman of FEPC, who was recently released from John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, where he underwent an operation, was at his office briefly on Friday. He was in communication with members of the committee trying to fix a date for the postponed meeting. 12-15-45

Commenting on the resignation of Mr. Houston, Representative Adam C. Powell (Dem., N.Y.) said:

"Mr. Houston's resignation helps to focus public attention on the double-dealing, double-talk with which the FEPC is now being embalmed.

"His resignation will be of no effect unless the people bombard the White House with letters and telegrams urging that a clear-cut policy be immediately arrived at concerning the future activities of the temporary FEPC."

Howard Commends Houston

Said Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman for Mississippi:

"I most highly commend the lofty and dignified attitude of Mr. Houston in resigning from a paper organization, whose existence recently has been farcical.

"I predict that other colored leaders will see the light and begin to get their heads together and take stock at this critical moment of whither are we going in the matter of our civil and political rights."

Administration backers contend that in the Philadelphia situation the racial angle was a definite part of the controversy and one of the reasons contributing to the strike, where in the Washington case the strike was called over wages. 12-15-45

The issue of the employment of colored workers, they say, was foreign to the main issue and the president was correct in his analysis of the legal points involved.

FEPC--A Model of Truman Tactics

Daily Worker

By MAX GORDON

WORDS OK—BUT ACTIONS BAD

Southern polltax Democrats are reported to be very angry with President Truman.

They are angry with him, it seems, because instead of killing the Fair Employment Practices Committee, he has permitted it to gasp out its life, a hopeless cripple, at a slightly more leisurely pace.

That's the classic result of appeasement. Reaction simply will not be appeased. 12-22-45

Truman's political method in relation to the FEPC, as on all other issues, has been one of appeasement of reaction. Pressed by political necessity, he has made verbal gestures of support to the policy of wiping out job discrimination. But his real moves have been in the direction of killing that policy.

A TYPICAL TRUMANISM

His most recent move in "extending the life" of the agency is a sample. He has decreed that the emergency war powers continue until next June 30 even though it was set up as a wartime agency, and the war is over. This is hailed by many as a "liberal" move, and it is "condemned" by the tories as an effort to save FEPC. 12-22-45

But here are the jokers:

1) The agency has been stripped of all power except that of investigation. Even the power to issue orders against companies that discriminate, which it had until the Truman directive Thursday, has now been taken away from it.

2) It has almost no money left with which to operate and Truman has made no effort to get it more. New York, N.Y.

3) Numerous other strictly wartime agencies set up by the President, such as the War Labor Board, had their lives extended long ago.

4) No mention is made in the order of the fight for a permanent FEPC.

Several previous efforts to get the President to extend FEPC's life legally were rebuffed by him. He finally acted on it apparently after a couple of liberal Republicans in Congress had threatened to take the play away from him. By his action, he has also tried to take the edge off his responsibility for its death.

ANTI-NEGRO STAND

Removal of FEPC's power to issue orders was foreshadowed by Truman's conduct in the case of the Capitol Transit Co. in Washington. The FEPC had ordered the company to stop discriminating against Negroes and to hire some as drivers. Truman cancelled the order.

His excuse was that the company had been seized by the government because of a strike and the government had to maintain the same conditions of employment as existed before it took over the company. In other words, if the company violated the law, the government had to continue doing so.

But his most recent executive order shows that the excuse was false, that he was paving the way for ending all orders by FEPC against discrimination.

Last summer, when the country was rocked by the bitter battle in Congress over the appropriation for the temporary FEPC, President Truman was compelled to take a stand. It was a typical one.

The issue that raged at the time was whether or not the existing FEPC would get the funds to continue. The President left that issue strictly alone but made a very strong statement about the need for a permanent FEPC. Thus, he avoided collision with the tories, who were trying to scotch the temporary FEPC, and "satisfied" those who were trying to save FEPC.

MUST SAVE FEPC

Since that time, he has been discreetly silent on the permanent FEPC though the fight for it has become the central issue in the drive against job discrimination.

The President's directive highlights the necessity for stepping up the fight for the permanent FEPC. The House Labor Committee has approved the measure for setting it up. The House Rules Committee, dominated by Republicans and polltaxers, has it bottled up. 12-22-45

To get it to the floor of Congress requires a discharge petition. So far, the petition has about 160 signatures. It can get the remaining 60 primarily from northern Republicans since the bulk of the northern Democrats have signed.

C. P. Calls for Fight to Save FEPC

Daily Worker

The following statement of the Secretariat of the Communist Party, U.S.A., on the threatened extinction of the Fair Employment Practice Committee was issued yesterday.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee, established by Franklin D. Roosevelt to enforce the right to jobs for Negroes and other minority groups, is now threatened with destruction.

Bitterly fought by the Rankins Bilbos and the reactionary Republicans, FEPC has been systematically strangled for lack of adequate appropriations. Recently President Truman dealt it a heavy blow when he suppressed a directive, ordering the Capitol Transit Co. in Washington to employ Negroes.

Legislation to make FEPC a permanent weapon of democratic America in the fight against fascist prejudice has languished in the House Rules Committee. Of the 218 signatures needed on a discharge petition to force a vote in Congress, 60 are lacking. Without immediate action, the bill will be lost.

Meanwhile the Administration has decided to close seven of the present 10 regional offices of FEPC Dec. 15. Staff workers will be reduced from 117 to 27. No provisions have been made for such cities as New York, or Pittsburgh, or the whole of the South. 12-12-45

FEPC contributed splendidly to war production, to the military victory against the fascists, and to the democratic health of the nation. More than 1,500,000 Negroes were drawn into industry. Discrimination in upgrading was to a degree eliminated and Negro workers were employed not only in unskilled, but in semi-skilled and skilled trades.

These developments were reflected in a strengthening of the labor movement, as masses of Negro workers joined the CIO and the AFL. In contrast to World War I, when Negro and white workers were pitted against each other, the great influx of Negro workers into the unions advanced the solidarity of the working class and gave a new health and vitality to the trade union movement. N.Y., N.Y.

The labor movement today is thus far better prepared for monopoly capital's current attack against the workers' living standards and their organizations.

The big monopolists understand the role of FEPC in strengthening labor. In order to defeat the demand for wage increases, big business seeks to weaken labor organization by destroying the alliance of labor and the Negro people, by provoking internal strife in the basic industries. Thus they aim to kill FEPC, exclude Negroes from industry, and establish pre-war and pre-FEPC conditions in employment.

The same forces in Congress and the nation who are trying to hamstring the labor movement are lined up solidly behind the campaign to kill FEPC. They are the ones who cut FEPC appropriations to the bone. They are the ones who today are ganging up to prevent the bill for a permanent FEPC from becoming law.

President Truman has more and more identified himself with these forces in his position on FEPC. He did not fight for sufficient appropriations for the old FEPC nor has he fought for the enactment of the permanent FEPC. His policy of lip-service while following a course of inaction has aided the Rankins, Bilbos and the monopolists in blocking the permanent FEPC.

The Communist Party calls on labor and the Negro people, and on all democratic Americans who support the principles of fair employment practices as advanced by Franklin D. Roosevelt, to take action to save FEPC. The fight to maintain and extend the war-time gains of the Negro people is a fight to maintain the alliance of labor and the Negro people. At stake are the rights and welfare not only of the Negro people, but of the whole working class and the people.

Send resolutions, telegrams, and letters to your Congressmen protesting the suppression of the Capitol Transit order and demanding that the bill for a permanent FEPC be immediately called up on the floor of Congress and supported.

Secretariat, Communist Party
WM. Z. FOSTER, Chairman
EUGENE DENNIS
ROBERT THOMPSON
JOHN WILLIAMSON

56d-1945

President Truman Stopped Order to Capital Transit

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Fair Employment Practices issue blew up in the Truman Administration's face last Monday as Charles H. Houston, militant Washington attorney, asked President Truman to accept his resignation from the FEPC executive committee. 12-8-45

The letter of resignation denounced the Truman administration for forcing FEPC to withhold an "end discrimination" directive it was about to issue to the Capital Transit Company here. In strong language, the communication to the President declared that the issue of the case itself, in which FEPC was about to direct Capital Transit to place Negro workers on the platforms of street cars and buses in Washington, paled into insignificance when placed alongside the attitude of the Government toward minorities.

Deriding the foreign and domestic ideology of the administration, Attorney Houston warned that "the failure of the Government to enforce democratic practices and to protect minorities in its own capital makes its expressed concern for national minorities abroad somewhat specious." 12-8-45

On Nov. 21 of this year the Government was forced to seize the Capital Transit system in order to end a wildcat strike that had crippled the Capital. The FEPC executive committee, after conferring with its legal staff, arrived at the conclusion that the Government-appointed Federal manager, in control after the seizure, had the power and duty to enforce the National policy of nondiscrimination. On this basis, FEPC prepared a directive ordering the hiring of Negroes by the now Federally-controlled Capital Transit system.

WHITE HOUSE AIDE EXPRESSED OBJECTION

On Friday, Nov. 23, Attorney Houston is said to have called the White House and informed Guy Richardson, the Federal manager, of the FEPC decision to issue the directive.

Mr. Richardson is alleged to have expressed vehement objection to the issuance of the directive on the grounds that it "would embarrass the Government." Attorney Houston denied that issuance of the directive was inconsistent and insisted that the Federal manager, Mr. Richardson, was required to operate the Capital Transit system under the non-discriminatory employment policy established by Executive Order 8802 and 9346 even without a directive from FEPC.

SOUGHT WRITTEN INSTRUCTION 12-8-45

Attorney Houston said that on the next day, John R. Steelman, White House aide, called him on the phone and said that President Truman had directed Steelman to notify him not to issue the directive. Upon receiving verbal orders from Steelman not to issue the directive, Attorney Houston demanded written instructions. According to Attorney Houston, Steelman promised to send the written instructions over that afternoon.

Mr. Houston said that evidently the White House had changed its mind about issuing written instructions, for various other members of the White House staff called Houston corroborating the fact that Mr. Hassett, another White House aide, had been with Steelman when President Truman told him to stop the FEPC directive. Attorney Houston insisted that he would issue the directive unless he received the written instructions from President Truman ordering him not to do so.

Mr. Houston's decision to resign came after repeated efforts to see or hear from President Truman after the White House had turned "the red light" on the directive, he said. 12-8-45

HOUSTON'S LETTER

In commenting on President Truman's failure to communicate with him, Mr. Houston noted in the letter of resignation:

"Without notice to the committee (FEPC) or a chance for the committee to present its views, on Nov. 24 you ordered the committee not to issue the decision. November 25, on behalf of the committee, I wrote you asking that you give the committee opportunity to confer with you. The return registry receipt shows the letter delivered to the White House Nov. 26. To date we have not received even an acknowledgment of the letter."

The resignation letter was dated Dec. 3. Added fat to the fire is the report that the White House is busily engaged in getting out another FEPC directive before the effect of Houston's resignation forms in the public's mind. It is believed that the new FEPC directive will be toothless in that it will give the right to investigate but not to issue directives. The source declares that with this new FEPC directive, the White House hopes to cloud the issue on the Capital Transit incident.

FEPC

SAYS TRUMAN HAS DONE "ABOUT FACE" 12-8-45

Meanwhile, political observers are saying that if the President himself did give the order holding up the Capital Transit case, it means that he has done a complete about-face on the executive orders set up by the late President Roosevelt; that such action takes all of the sincerity out of Truman's many public utterances declaring his support for FEPC. 12-8-45

FEPC Office Shuts; 250 Cases Pending

P. M.

Washington Also Is Unable to Handle Them, N. Y. Director Warns

N. Y., N. Y.

The New York Regional office of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) has closed its office here with about 250 cases involving charges of discrimination in employment unsettled. This was one of seven regional FEPC offices closed Saturday because of lack of funds.

Only three regional offices will be operated: in Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis. Work of the office here will be transferred to the top office in Washington. 12-16-45

But, says Edward H. Lawson, Jr., who was New York Regional Director, it will be virtually impossible for the 250 pending discrimination cases to be handled by the Washington office. The Washington headquarters, he explained, because it lacks funds, lacks a staff to handle cases from the closed regional offices.

State Responsibility

Thus the job of eliminating discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color or national origin is shifted wholly to the State Commission which enforces the State anti-discrimination law. Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, said he thought the records and reports of the New York FEPC office would be of use to the State in enforcing the State law, and had offered to make them available to SCAD. 12-16-45

However, he continued, the State Commission had not availed itself of the offer thus far and the records and reports were being packed and shipped to Washington. It was also learned that the New York FEPC office had, because of slashes in its funds, released about 60 employes experienced in fair employment practices work.

'No. 1 Project'

Some weeks ago, a SCAD official announced that recruiting a staff for SCAD was "our No. 1 project." But, according to FEPC people here, SCAD has not hired a single former FEPC worker. A spokesman for the State Commission said Henry C. Turner, Commission chairman, was out of town, and, pending his return, no statement would be made on why Ross's offer of the FEPC records or why qualified FEPC workers were not hired by the State anti-discrimination body.

Break Between Truman, Congress Flares Out

The Birmingham News
Birmingham, Ala.

Discord Due To President's Stand On FEPC, USES, Job Bill; Southerners Are Most Irked

12-21-45

BY CLAIR JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP)—President Truman's relations with Congress took on a new air of tension today, particularly among Southern Democrats.

Some of the latter declared "an open break" now exists between the chief executive and themselves. They told a reporter they saw little hope for improvement in the situation when legislative work is resumed next year.

* * *

THE NOTE OF DISCORD was prompted by these three White House developments yesterday as members began heading home for the holidays:

1. Mr. Truman's news conference assertion that he would express himself forcibly soon on legislation calling for returning of the U. S. Employment Service to the states within 100 days. Several congressmen interpreted this as meaning either a veto or another verbal blast at Congress is in the offing.

2. Release of letters to key lawmakers in which the president termed "unacceptable" a House substitute for the so-called "full employment" bill the Senate has passed. 12-21-45

3. Issuance of an order authorizing the Fair Employment Practice Committee to investigate and report on employment practices in private industry until next June 30.

Mr. Truman's actions were termed "a political blunder" by Rep. Gibson (D., Ga.).

* * *

TALKING TO A REPORTER GIBSON ADDED:

"It was just like waving a red flag in our faces. He should have left well enough alone. Now we have an open break, just like with the late President Roosevelt."

AS FOR THE LATER FACT-FINDING SESSION, General Motors already has announced its intent to bolt the hearings if the board decides to make G. M. profits a part of the inquiry.

The union is demanding a 30 per cent wage increase.

Mr. Truman, whose statement that "ability to pay is always one of the facts relevant to the issue of an increase in wages" precisely supported the UAW argument, also observed that: 12-21-45

"In view of the public interest involved, it would be highly unfortunate if any party to a dispute should refuse to cooperate with a fact-finding board."

Industry as a whole has opposed use of company books as evidence in fact-finding and has argued uniformly that prices and profits should not be related to settlement of wage questions. In the oil industry's fact-finding board, which planned to resume hearings today, company spokesmen also threatened to quit the hearings if issues of profits and prices are introduced.

Negro Vets Return to Find FEPC in Danger

The Worker

By EUGENE GORDON

Negro vets are returning to America from far-flung battle fronts to discover that, in their absence, the prejudice-fighting FEPC has been nearly completely junked by Congress.

The press which talks falsely of a "crime wave" among the Negro people says little of the fact that only three of the 10 original wartime FEPC offices which are empowered to combat race prejudice will be operating after Dec. 15.

The regional office in the Empire State Building will have ceased its excellent surveys and hearings throughout New York and New England. The Philadelphia regional office will be closed. And so on, with the five remaining regional offices scheduled to be closed in a few days. N.Y., N.Y.

MIDWEST FEPC

Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis wartime FEPC regional offices will continue—for a while a bow toward the FEPC ideal conceived by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. His "Freedom from Fear," among the Four Freedoms for which we fought the Nazis, becomes just another phrase, as far as the Negro worker is concerned. President Truman, who once was prodded into saying a good word for FEPC, says nothing any more to remove the Negro's haunting fear of economic security.

But does anyone think the returned Negro vets—mechanics, aviators, truckmen—will meekly accept a "no Negroes for hire" policy?

The wartime offices remaining open will not help the black workers, or the Jewish worker, or any other minority-group worker. True, these offices will hold hearings on discrimination against them in industry, but only for "the record."

What has happened to the wartime FEPC is a warning of what can happen to the bill for a permanent FEPC. HR-2232, sponsored by Rep Mary Norton (D-NJ), which gathers cobwebs in committee. It can be forced out for debates and vote ONLY if enough Representatives sign House Discharge Petition No. 4. This petition needs 60-odd signatures to make the needed total of 218. 12-9-45

SOME SHADY FRIENDS

While progressive constituents of reactionary Republicans House members are lining up signatures for discharge Petition No. 4, everybody should notice the slick trick which self-styled "friends" of the permanent FEPC are trying to slip over. The National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission has not only stopped trying to get action on HR-2232; it is trying to get everybody else to stop. The reason it gives is that to continue pressure on the House is useless but that pressure on the Senate might bring favorable results. 12-9-45

That is a plausible lie, dangerous to the whole idea of a permanent FEPC. For if the bill goes to the Senate before having first gone through the House, it will go minus the strength necessary for it to stand up against the murderous attack bound to follow. The reason why it CAN be passed in the House is that sentiment and strength for it have already been built up there. That is why HR-2232 must receive more, instead of less, support.

Truman Hits Federal Discrimination

President Gives FEPC Power Only to Investigate Complaints

12-29-45 Pittsburgh Courier — Pa.

WASHINGTON—Training both barrels of a new FEPC executive order on discriminating Government agencies, President Truman last week issued an ultimatum calling for the end of racial barriers in civil service employment. Warned by the FEPC committee, only a few days ago, that Government agencies were the biggest violators of the anti-discrimination law, President Truman lost no time in declaring his position in this matter.

"It has come to my attention that a considerable number of loyal and qualified employes have been refused transfer and re-employment by employing agencies solely because of race and creed. This condition is a violation of civil service rules which have been issued by the President and is in violation of existing law," the President charged.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Scoring President Truman's action in setting up FEPC purely as a fact-finding agency as doing "infinite harm by delaying action on permanent FEPC legislation," the FEPC wired the Chief Executive last week, "Failure of your Administration to act in these crises destroys hope and faith of millions of Americans who face joblessness."

BOWLES' LETTER INFLUENCED MOVE

While it is conceded that the FEPC committee first brought this matter to the President's attention, it is felt that a strong letter from Chester Bowles, Administrator of OPA, to the commissioner of the Civil Service Commission, had great influence on the President's sudden announcement. Bowles charged that other agencies were sending out calls for help and then demanding that they be "male, white and gentile." Bowles charged that even the Civil Aeronautics Administration, under the overall supervision of Henry Wallace, was practicing this discrimination in re-employment. 12-29-45

In his letter to the Civil Service commissioner, Bowles strongly urged:

"I therefore strongly urge you and the Civil Service Commission to take whatever steps are necessary to keep open employment opportunities for our Negro employes when they are no longer needed by the OPA."

EMPOWERS COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ONLY

Regardless of the impetus behind the Presidential message, it was clear that the President looked upon the situation as a serious one. Even as he levelled these charges against agencies of the Government, President Truman announced a new FEPC directive which would give that committee the right to investigate and report on discrimination in private industry.

Previously, the FEPC committee had said that it would need a new directive in order to carry on operations. This new directive seemed to be in line with the committee's wishes. 12-29-45

Continuing his charge against Government agencies, the President placed the responsibility for discrimination on the agencies as he warned:

"I am writing to request that you make careful analysis of your personnel policies, procedures and practices in order that you can assure me that they are in accord with national law and policy in order that all qualified workers in existing temporary war jobs will be considered fairly for appointments without distinction because of race, creed, color or national origin.

"In addition, your full cooperation with FEPC in all matters affecting the employment of minorities in Government is requested."

Immediate reaction to the Presidential decree was that the new order left FEPC without power to issue directives. Many considered this a blow to the hopes for any teeth in FEPC as administered by the temporary committee. It has been pointed out that the new order gives FEPC the right to "investigate and report" and not to take any action.

It was also pointed out that while the President called for a report on discrimination in Government hiring, he did not warn of penalties to be inflicted if the condition remained.

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NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
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Nationalists Work for Coalition Based on Hate...

Try to Unite GOP Tories, Democratic Bigots

By Tom O'Connor

The basic political strategy of the Nationalist movement in America—as explicitly stated in editorials of the Newspaper Axis—is to achieve a new coalition of forces opposed to the "internationalist" and "New Deal" policies of the Roosevelt-Truman wing of the Democratic Party and a smaller progressive section of the Republican Party.

The Nationalists believe that by playing upon the respective prejudices, hates, and fears of reactionary Southern Democrats and reactionary Northern and Western Republicans, they can gather enough strength to snow under the liberal, humanitarian wings of both major parties—those Democrats and Republicans who are concerned with securing a permanent peace by genuine international co-operation, and who believe in social progress at home.

Ultimately, the Nationalists hope to formalize this reactionary, isolationist coalition in a Nationalist Party—discarding the name "Republican" because of Southern prejudice against it. Pending the development of the right circumstances for such a move—the right circumstances being postwar economic chaos—they are anxious to develop informal working alliances on particular issues wherever possible.

Pledges Scrapped

The knifing of FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) by a coalition of white-supremacy Southern Democrats and anti-labor Northern and Western Republicans in Congress—each group forswearing its party's pledged word in the last national elections—is an instructive example of the manner in which the basic Nationalist political strategy can work out.

That Man Bilbo has been fronting for the coalition in his Senate filibuster. But the best illustration of the technique by which FEPC was assaulted is to be found in the speeches of two members of the House, a Southern Democrat and a Midwestern Republican—the rabid Nationalist John Rankin (D., Miss.) and Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.).

There were two possible approaches to the mobilization of opposition to FEPC.

One was to play upon race prejudice—principally in respect to the Negro, but also, and importantly, in respect to the Jew.

'Plot' Is Seen

The other was to play upon the dislike of business for any governmental regulation of its affairs, and the belief that continuation of FEPC would place further limits on business's cherished "right to hire and fire" in whatever arbitrary fashion it chose—a "right" already restricted by the upsurge of unionism under the Roosevelt administration.

The common denominator between these two approaches, as is so often the case, was the cry of "Communism." On the one hand, FEPC was represented as a Communist plot to turn the country over to the Jews and Negroes. On the other, it was represented as a Communist plot to extend governmental "regimentation" of business.

Rankin worked one side of the street, Hoffman the other. Each yelled "Communism," but Rankin slanted his remarks to appeal primarily to Jew-baiters and the white supremacy crowd, while Hoffman directed his fire principally to the business man.

The remarks of each on the House floor about FEPC were printed prominently and at length in the Chicago *Tribune*. From there they filtered out to the vermin press, and were printed over and over again in the pro-fascist sheets of small-fry fuehrers the country over—along with suitable original material.

The timing was perfect. Rankin and Hoffman were blowing off at every opportunity on the subject of FEPC during March and April. This gave their speeches time to reach the readers of the vermin press—and don't think there aren't a lot of them—before the issue came up for final disposition.

It's Picked Up

F.E.P.C.

For example, on Apr. 27 Rankin made a speech calling FEPC "Earl Browder's baby," "the most dangerous piece of totalitarian, Communistic legislation ever proposed in the Congress of the United States," which would "stir up race trouble such as this country has never known," and so on. It was reprinted *in toto* in the June 16 issue of *X-Ray*, anti-Semitic sheet published in Muncie, Ind., by Court Asher, one of the group of pro-fascists indicted for sedition.

On Apr. 30 Hoffman made a long and rambling speech on FEPC. He worked up to his climax by saying the bill was needless because the Jews were running the country anyhow, and Negroes had more jobs than they deserved. But the nub of his argument was that a permanent FEPC would be a "snooping" agency with "arbitrary" power to interfere in the affairs of businessmen, and should be rejected for the same reason the Wagner Act should be repealed: "it would penalize employers."

Omissions

It was this latter part of Hoffman's speech which the Chicago *Tribune* chose to play up in its news columns the next day. The vermin press picked that up, too. For example, the *Gentile News*, a Chicago hate sheet whose name is self-revelatory, printed the *Tribune* story verbatim as the lead article in its May issue (*see cut*).

There were certain significant omissions from the list of anti-FEPC propagandists: certain important Nationalists and important Nationalist organs abstained from the fight.

For example, the New York *Daily News*, bellwether of the Nationalist flock most of the time, said nothing against FEPC editorially, did not play up anti-FEPC stories in its news columns. In fact, one of the few creditable editorials appearing in the *News* in recent years was the one favoring passage of the Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination bill in New York. That's right, *favoring*.

The fact that the *News* laid off on FEPC can be rationally explained only by its large Negro circulation. Professor James H. Sheldon of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, which has done an excellent job assembling evidence of the Nationalist fight against FEPC, points out that the *News* has been pretty tender about Negroes ever since its Harlem circulation started dropping off a couple of years ago because it was playing up "muggings."

The *Tribune*, while it did not editorialize against FEPC—Chicago's South Side is the second largest Negro community in the country—did give a big play to anti-FEPC stories when they had a "business regimentation" angle.

Pegler Comes Through

But if some Nationalist propagandists sat this one out, Hearst and his hatchet-boy, Westbrook Pegler, made up for any loss. The great poison pen artist of all time wrote for publication in last Tuesday's Hearst papers one of the great scurrilous columns of his career, with FEPC as his butt.

He was thinking, said Pegler, of going into business. He was going to borrow money from John Hartford, head of A&P, and open a school where a person with a good old American name like Smith or Jones could learn how to join a minority and get a job. He was going to have a supply of burnt cork on hand, and give courses in Negro and Jewish dialect. He gave samples of the dialect; they were so raw that even the New York *Journal-American*, not ordinarily squeamish about Pegler's mouthings, edited them out (but the Washington *Times-Herald* did not).

The appeal to race prejudice probably could not by itself have built up sufficient strength to kill FEPC in Congress. With both major parties pledged to it, with President Truman supporting it, with labor (except for the Jim Crow railroad brotherhoods) for it, and the bulk of the Catholic and Protestant as well, as Jewish clergy behind it, the race-hatelers were faced with a losing battle.

Pressure Helped

It is unquestionably the fact that the racists were able to pull reactionary Northern and Western business groups and their lobbyists into the anti-FEPC alliance which has brought them to the verge of victory.

The success of this coalition of reaction would give the Nationalists increased confidence that their basic political strategy is sound, that the time soon will be ripe to discard the progressive wing of the Republican Party and unite its Tory wing with Southern Bourbon Democrats in a Nationalist Party, dedicated to isolationism and to turning the clock back six or seven decades in domestic affairs.

Minority Plea For FEPC

My deep concern for the future of our country moves us as churchmen, firm in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, to appeal to America's reason—stop this tirade of hate! Washington Post

It is a brazen betrayal of our democracy, an empty victory at Berlin, a cruel mockery of the sacrifices of the Pacific and a ridicule of peace efforts made at San Francisco that the United States Senate should tolerate the propagation of race hate and religious intolerance by the gentleman from Mississippi and his collaborators. Wash., D.C.

Is it that the military victory, won at such costs on the battlefields of Europe, has even now been swallowed up by a political and economic victory for Hitler in the Congress of the United States? Then why do we tolerate this talking marathon of hate? Where is the Daniel that will read the "handwriting on the wall"?

Is race so dear and a political career so sweet that they must be purchased with the enslavement of one third of the Nation?

With one third of the Nation badly clothed, poorly housed, and begging bread, how can we expect to keep the peace? 7-8-45

While headlines give accounts of heroic exploits of Negro GIs on the Marianna Islands in their battle against the Japanese, demagogues in high places ridicule their patriotism and sacrifice by appeals to racial prejudice at home and by a forthright effort to destroy the agency that stands between these men and their future security.

The abolition of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice through the denial of funds for its continuation will be the most disastrous political, economic and moral blunder of our time. It is sowing the seeds for race riots, strikes and national disunity. There is no conflict more filled with revolutionary potential than that which can come when people of different races, different religions and different nationalities are forced to compete for too few jobs, for too little bread, outside the protection of the law. The moral corruption and final collapse of Germany have shown plainly what can happen to a people intoxicated with racial superiority and indoctrinated with prejudice and bigotry.

FEPC's appropriation must be restored. This committee must

not die. It stands as an economic bill of rights for our people and for other oppressed minorities. It is more than a declaration of good intentions: it is an effective law of the land. 7-8-45

REV. WM. H. JERNAGIN,
Director, Washington Bureau,
Fraternal Council of Negro Churches.

Washington, June 30.

Southern Foes Of FEPC Study Compromise

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Proposal Provides Temporary Agency

7-8-45

WASHINGTON, July 7—(AP)—Southern foes of the Fair Employment Practice Committee considered today a suggested compromise to keep it alive as a temporary agency so as to block a move to make it permanent.

The compromise was advanced informally by a Southern House leader in an effort to break the month-old FEPC deadlock that has tied up funds of 16 home front war agencies in a $752,000,000 supply bill for the fiscal year already a week old.

It provides for granting the FEPC as now constituted—a temporary agency created by executive order and lacking legal power to enforce its orders—a "token" fund of perhaps as much as $200,000 to continue to operate.

The agency's budget estimates for the fiscal year are $599,000.

By allowing FEPC to continue without giving it legal backing, the agency's foes believe they might slow down a drive to give it permanent and legal status.

Lying on the speaker's table in the House is a discharge petition which, if signed by 218 members, would bring to a vote legislation setting up a permanent commission intended to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. The petition now has approximately 130 signatures.

Friends Decline to Sign

Many friends of FEPC are displeased with the permanent proposal because they believe it is too far-reaching and have declined to sign the discharge petition.

But said the originator of the compromise, who declined to permit use of his name, said that if the deadlock continues and it becomes apparent that FEPC will get nothing at all, "the heat will be on and we may find ourselves with a permanent FEPC."

"It would be far better to give them a small amount to operate without legal power to act, than to have them set up as a statutory body," he explained.

The compromise was advanced as House Appropriations Committee members indicated they may reverse themselves and recommend that the House accept the $250,000 voted by the Senate, or at least a part of it. That would break the deadlock, provided it could get the support of the House itself.

There has been no record vote in the House on the FEPC this year, its opponents blocking it through parliamentary moves.

Should the FEPC deadlock holding up the funds for the war agencies continue much longer, thousands of employees of those agencies will go payless for work performed since July 1. Congress has authorized the agencies to operate in anticipation of funds to be provided eventually but has not allowed them to do any actual spending.

F.E.P.C. Faces Weakening Compromise

Louisville, Ky. Courier Journal

Southerners May Let Temporary Status Remain

7-8-45

By the Associated Press.

Washington, July 7.—Southern foes of the Fair Employment Practices Committee today considered a suggested compromise to keep it alive as a temporary agency to block a move to make it permanent.

The compromise was advanced informally by a Southern House leader in an effort to break the month-old F.E.P.C. deadlock that has tied up funds of 16 home-front war agencies in a $752,000,000 supply bill for the fiscal year already a week old.

Agency Asks for $599,000.

It provides for granting the F.E.P.C. as now constituted—a temporary agency created by executive order and lacking legal power to enforce its orders—a "token" fund of perhaps as much as $200,000 to continue to operate.

The agency's budget estimates for the fiscal year are $599,000.

By allowing F.E.P.C. to continue without giving it legal backing, the agency's foes believe they might slow down a drive to give it permanent and legal status.

Lying on the Speaker's table in the House is a discharge petition which, if signed by 218 members, would bring to a vote legislation setting up a permanent commission intended to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. The petition now has approximately 130 signatures.

Foes Fear 'Heat' Coming.

Many friends of F.E.P.C. are displeased with the permanent proposal because they believe it is too far-reaching and have declined to sign the discharge petition.

The originator of the compromise, who declined to permit use of his name, said that if the deadlock continues and it becomes apparent that F.E.P.C. will get nothing at all, "the heat will be on and we may find ourselves with a permanent F.E.P.C."

"It would be far better to give them a small amount to operate without legal power to act, than to have them set up as a statutory body," he explained.

House May Backtrack.

The compromise was advanced as House Appropriations Committee members indicated they may reverse themselves and recommend that the House accept the $250,000 voted by the Senate, or at least a part of it. That would break the deadlock, provided it could get the support of the House itself.

There has been no record vote in the House on the F.E.P.C. this year, its opponents blocking it through parliamentary moves.

Should the F.E.P.C. deadlock holding up the funds for the war agencies continue much longer, thousands of employes of those agencies will go payless for work performed since July 1. Congress has authorized the agencies to operate in anticipation of funds to be provided eventually but has not allowed them to do any actual spending.

FEPC Comment

The house of representatives of our Connecticut state legislature, Republican controlled, failed to pass Connecticut Fair Employment Practices legislation during the 1945 session of that body . . . That is now "water over the dam."

Atlanta Con.—Ga.

It seems to me that those of us who would logically benefit most in the event of passage of this legislation, should now focus our attention objectively on the national scene—and the bill of wider scope—taking care to cultivate political friendships in every honorable way we know—and not commit the error of forcefully implying that some certain political party is "all good" and some opposing political party "all bad" (—and that applies to Connecticut as well as Alabama)—it's better psychology to look at it this way, because we are here dealing with the 48 states in the voting arena. For America is 48 states! 7-9-45

It might be well, too, for us to carefully consider the good sense of thinking, and speaking, and writing about this national bill in such terms as will not convey too much of the "social legislation" idea, as this expression in itself can be easily misinterpreted to mean "social equality"—a thing anathema to some of our southern congressmen, even when intended in its purely academic sense. We are not using this term in any of our letters to congressmen, because we want to be very clearly understood.

LUCY BASKERVILLE
Secretary, Carter Patriotic and Civic Assn.
Bridgeport, Conn.

Capital Pickets To Hit FEPC Ban

Daily Worker

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (UP). — A one-hour noontime picket line before the White House tomorrow will remind the President that eight regional offices of the FEPC have closed down, it was revealed today by executive secretary Marie R. Harris of the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress.

Various CIO and AFL locals will cooperate with the NNC in picketing the White House. Picket signs, said Secretary Harris, will bear the following legend: 12-15-45

"Dec. 15, 1945, eight regional offices of FEPC close today. What about your campaign promises?" "You promised a Permanent FEPC as candidate, as President, keep your word." "Action—not talk or double-talk, Mr. President. We demand a Permanent FEPC." "Who did you consult: Polltaxer James Byrnes or the American people?" N.Y., N.Y.

Meanwhile the President, scheduled to meet with the FEPC today, postponed the meeting to Monday, chairman Malcolm Ross said.

Meanwhile John Brophy, director of CIO Industrial Union Councils, and a member of FEPC, told the Daily Worker that discriminatory hiring has grown by leaps and bounds ever since Congress failed to give FEPC adequate funds.

The Washington Council of the NNC recently wired the President protesting against his recent request to the FEPC for a survey designed to show whether the FEPC still is needed.

FEPC Breaks Up Jimcrow Working Units in Navy Yard

Daily Worker, N.Y., N.Y.

10-22-45

Jimcrow working units in the New York Navy Yard, Brooklyn, have been broken up as a result of intervention by the Federal Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC), it was announced yesterday by Edward Lawson, FEPC Regional Director.

Several segregated units were established last year by former Commandant Monroe Kelly, shortly after FEPC had succeeded in getting qualified Negroes promoted to mechanic-instructors' jobs in the drillers' shop for the first time in the yard's history.

A complaint against this form of discriminatory work assignment, which limited promotional opportunities for Negro workers, was lodged with the FEPC by Local 137 of the United Federal Workers of America.

Following investigation last April by Examiner Robert Jones of the FEPC's Regional staff, Rear Admiral F. A. Daubin, new Commandant of the Yard, was requested to eliminate this type of unfair employment practice. At that time the Admiral replied that "special effort will be made to convert these into mixed units."

A final report from the Yard last week indicated all work units are now operating with completely mixed staffs. This was confirmed by Kenneth Murphy, official of the Navy Yard local of the UFW. 10-22-45

56d-1945

F.E.P.C.

National Party Opportunity

Charleston, S.C. News-Courier

Whatever national political party shall consent to separation of the white and negro races while insisting that there shall be no discrimination in wages for equal services whether the workers be white or colored, and shall insist that all people shall have equal protection under the laws of the states, is likely to obtain the political adhesion of the majority of Southern white people.

Were the national Republican party to proclaim the right of employers to hire whom they prefer and were it to denounce the FEPC as a federal policy, a vigorous and aggressive Republican party would instantly take the field in South Carolina. The cotton mill workers as well as executives want "protection against the pauper labor of Europe" and they also want protection against the entrance of negroes into the weave rooms, the card rooms, the spinning rooms in which white women work.

The workers are in complete sympathy with textile corporations in owning villages in which the families of white operatives are segregated. 8-11-45

The national party that would have the support of Southern white people can get it by recognizing these facts. Meanwhile, we repeat, Southern white people are more than willing that the negroes shall prosper by building and carrying on industrial and commercial plantations, hotels and banks.

'Iniquitous Law'

To The News and Courier:

The FEPC will soon be law, but what law! News-Courier

This iniquitous law deprives the states of one of their fundamental privileges in governing themselves; also it deprives the individual of his God given right to employ whom he wishes. It is a stench in the nostrils of decency that our own people should have consented and helped to continue the New Deal, the Roosevelt administration, in power. Charleston, S.C.

The time is coming when you ladies and gentlemen, will have to stand for negroes alongside of you in pullmans, in day coaches, on buses, in hotels and restaurants, the negro and the white children in the same schools, presided over by teachers of both races, riding there in the same school buses, sharing the same seats and lunches, getting used to each other, and finally inter-marrying, the Haiti I have told you about several times before. 9-24-45

The country will be alive with spies, just as it is now and worse, hunting up persons to prosecute, finding them and sending to jail those who can't pay their fines.

It is pure Nazism, no use to call it by any other name.

There is not a pint of "guts" left in South Carolina, and a bucket could hold all in the South.

You are today beholding the utter failure of "Planned Economy" and people suffering for necessities in the midst of plenty.

You have allowed your legislature to pass numerous socialistic laws, so as to follow the New Deal idea of spend, spend. 9-24-45

The governor is on the New Deal side. He will profess to be willing to oppose the FEPC but he is not man enough to call a special session of the legislature whose object would be to advise the federal government that the FEPC is non-effective in South Carolina, and that the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the federal constitution are null and void.

The state and the county governments should be seized by our leading men and a provisional governor be selected who would act as above and organize the state for resistance, if necessary.

D. F. JAMISON.

Ridgeville.

BILBO ASSAILED BY GOLDSTEIN

N.Y., N.Y. Sun

Nominee Wishes He Could Impeach 'Crackpot.'

9-22-45

Speaking last night at an anti-Bilbo meeting in Brooklyn, Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, Republican-Liberal-Fusion candidate for Mayor, called the Senator from Mississippi a "crackpot" and said that he wished it were within his power to impeach him. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Four Freedoms Committee in the Newman Memorial Church, Macon street and Throop avenue, Brooklyn.

Bilbo "may represent a narrow viewpoint in Mississippi, but he assuredly does not represent an enlightened America," Goldstein said. "Unfortunately I cannot have him removed from public office in Washington; but I assure you and I pledge you that I will not permit Bilboism to be practiced either openly or under cover here in the great city of New York.

"We have made a start in the State of New York in the fight against discrimination in employment. We have the Ives-Quinn act. New York city can help carry out the provisions and intent of that act by establishing a New York city anti-discrimination committee.

"The committee I propose would be appointed by the Mayor. Its first duty would be to examine the practices of all departments of the city, and all agencies subsidized by the city. This would include our schools, hospitals, housing projects, and the social service and health agencies of our city. It would be the duty of the committee to make recommendations to abolish all discriminatory practices." 9-22-45

Three hundred persons, most of them Negroes, attended the meeting. A resolution urging the immediate impeachment of Bilbo was adopted and copies were sent to Senators Robert M. Wagner and James M. Mead with the request that they start impeachment proceedings at once.

Declining an invitation to speak at the rally, Bilbo had requested that "your whole mongrel congregation should be told: "I absolutely have no apology to make for anything I have said."

Near the platform last night was an unoccupied chair in which there was a sign: "Reserved for Senator Bilbo."

The Memphis World

President Lays Down 21-Point Peace Program

Memphis, Tennessee

Asks For USES Under Federal Jurisdiction

9-14-45

BY HARRY S. McALPIN
(Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, — (S N S) — President Truman made an urgent plea for enactment of legislation for a permanent FEPC in his 18,000 word message to Congress today. The FEPC was one of the 21 points covered in the message filled with recommendations for congressional action.

The President indicated that he is continuing the present FEPC during the transition and reconversion period. Set up as a war time agency many fears had been expressed that the FEPC was on its last legs following victory over Japan.

Mr. Truman recalled that during the years of war production we made substantial progress in overcoming many of the prejudices which had resulted in discriminations against minority groups. He said many of the injustices based upon considerations of race, religion and color were removed. Many were prevented he declared." Perfection was not reached, of course, he said but substantial progress was made. In the Reconversion Period and thereafter we should make every effort to continue this American ideal. It is one of the fundamentals of our political philosophy and it should be an integral part of our economy.

He also called on Congress for enactment of "full employment" legislation and Federal employment benefit payments to provide weekly unemployment compensation up to a maximum of $25 throughout the country

President Truman requested that the Fair Labor Standard Act be amended to substantially increase the minimum wage level of 40 cents an hour, which he said was now "obsolete," and asked that the provisions of the Second War Powers Act be extended to perserve "the powers necessary" to keep the economy stabilized and "permit us to enter into the difficult period of readjustment without the threat of a disastrous price collapse."

USES UNDER FEDERAL CONTROL

The President also called on Congress for continuance of the United Employment Service under federal control until the expiration of the Mobilization Act June 17, 1947, and asked for an increase in appropriations for the employment service to help find jobs for demobilized veterans and displaced war workers.

His 21-point program further suggested a traditional tax bill; a public works program; countinued induction of men 18 through 25 for periods of two years; a broad and comprehensive housing bill; and legislation strengthening the Department of Labor and giving it supervision of collective bargaining, conciliation and voluntary arbitration.

FEPC Fights All Discrimination

Daily Worker

Manhattan, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker: 12-17-43

In most articles on the FEPC and in the Communist Party's "Call for Fight to Save FEPC," most all the stress is laid upon protection to the Negro people.

I know very well that their's is the greatest suffering through discrimination but I feel that the broader interpretation of the powers of FEPC should be explained in our press so that we can all see how it directly concerns each one of us. I have lived in Reading, Pa., and Waterbury, Conn., and have witnessed discrimination against both Negroes and Jews in the large industrial plants of these cities. In many sections of our country, Roman Catholics are discriminated against in the same way, and we have all heard of the discrimination against Jehovah's Witnesses, etc. N.Y., N.Y.

I hope that we will all get together to save FEPC. There is not one of us who can afford to say, "It does not concern me, personally."

JEAN HILL.

Walter White Tells Senate Group That Unemployment Would Aid Ku Klux Klan

Iowa Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa 9-6-45

Washington, D. C.—Negro workers, who got employment largely in emergency in war time plants and in temporary civil service jobs, need the Full Employment Bill passed by Congress, Walter White, NAACP secretary, told the Senate Banking and Currency committee August 29.

Not only does the Negro need the bill, but his fortunes as a wage earner will form "an important aspect of the whole problem of post-war employment," Mr. White said.

"While there has been a decided increase," he said, "in the number of Negro workers employed in what we consider continuing industries, the majority of Negro war workers have been employed in strictly war production. According to the War Manpower Commission's most recent reports, the Negro labor force in essential employment is distributed in the following categories: Shipbuilding, 192,000; Aircraft production, 116,000; Ordnance and communication equipment, 122,000; Basic metals and rubber, 103,000; other munitions, 160,000. From these estimates it will be observed that 600,000 Negro workers are concentrated in the indusries that now suffer most severe cutbacks with the coming of peace.

Suffer Cutback

"With reference to the post war prospects of the Negro worker it may be noted, on the basis of a comparison of the 1940 and 1944 figures on the occupational and industrial distribution of the Negro labor force that (1) the Negro has made his greatest employment gains in those occupations (especially semi-skilled factory jobs) which will suffer the severest cutbacks during the post war period; (2) further, he has made his biggest advances in those industries (especially the 'metals, chemicals and rubber' group) which may experience the greatest proportionate post war declines.

"Finally," testified the NAACP secretary, "it also should be noted that in those occupations and industries in which the Negro has made his greatest employment advances, he was generally among the last hired. Therefore, under seniority rules he is more likely to be laid off than the average worker in these occupations.

Mr. White pointed out that widespread unemployment and suffering would speed the organization and influence of organizations like the Ku Klux Klan. The NAACP head also urged the enactment of the bill for a permanent FEPC, the national housing bill, S. 1342, the Kilgore unemployment compensation bill, the Pepper amendment to the Wage-Hour act, the Wagner-Murray-Dingell social security bill, and a federal anti-lynching law.

FEPC Head Deplores Trend Toward Downgrading Negroes

PM New York, New York
9-24-45

He Sees Minorities Relegated to Menial Jobs In Industry

By Donald Ross

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Federal Committee on Fair Employment Practice, warned yesterday that reconversion has brought a "disturbing" nationwide trend toward a downgrading of Negroes, Mexican Americans, and other minorities to menial jobs in industry.

Ross added that it is "too early to make a final judgment" of this trend, but he described himself as not being optimistic. He spoke at a conference on "Federal Responsibility for guaranteeing Fair Employment Practice" held in the Hotel Commodore by the New York Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Discrimination

Ross cited an eastern war plant which recently cut back all its several hundred Negro employes except 12, who were retained as porters. In this same city, which he didn't identify by name, Ross charged that reconverting plants already have advertised for "white" or "white Gentile" workers only.

"To permit minority group workers now to become a disproportionately large part of the unemployed, even though it is transitory unemployment," Ross said, "is to invite their use as strike-breakers and to inject into already delicate situations the added racial hazard." He recalled that Negroes were used as strike-breakers after World War I.

In 1919, Ross said, there were many race riots as a consequence of reconversion, but he added that "we are in much better shape now because of our war experience, the Fair Employment Practice Committee, the "excellent" attitude of unions and many employers.

The all-day conference, described as an educational gathering, consisted of four panel discussions in the morning, a luncheon at which reports were given on the panels by their respective chairmen, and a dinner at which Ross spoke.

Gain During War

Ross pointed out that in July, 1942, Negroes comprised only 2.5 per cent of those employed in industry, according to War Manpower Commission figures. In November, 1944, he said, the figure had risen to 8.3 per cent, and on the day the Japs surrendered every twelfth American war worker was a Negro or Mexican-American.

Malcolm Ross

The pressing question, he said, was whether this new labor force represented a "merely temporary wartime use of the industrial skills" of this group or whether their skills would be taken over "for the building of peace and prosperity."

The questions discussed by the four conference panels were:

¶ Do the Constitution and the General Welfare Demand Federal Guarantees of Fair Employment Practice?

¶ Do Full Employment and Industrial Stability Demand Federal Guarantees of Fair Employment Practice?

Necessary for Unity

¶ Do National Unity and Justice for American Minorities Demand Federal Guarantees of Fair Employment Practice?

¶ Do the American Creed and the American Conscience Demand Federal Guarantees of Fair Employment Practice? 9-24-45

Reports on the panels showed that there was general unanimity that a permanent FEPC was necessary. Panel Chairmen reporting were Charles Houston, vice chairman, American Council on Race Relations; Morris Rosenthal, vice president, Stein Hall & Co.; A. A. Liveright, executive secretary, American Council on Race Relations, and the Rev. Robert W. Searle, executive director, Greater New York Federation of Churches.

Mrs. John Hammond Jr., and Dr. Channing Tobias were co-chairmen of the conference.

Ballot on FEPC Blocked in House

The Afro American
Baltimore, Maryland

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Opponents of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission forced adjournment of the House after a 16-minute session last Wednesday to prevent possible action on legislation creating such an agency. 10-6-45

Representative Mary T. Norton, of New Jersey, chairman of the House Labor Committee, had intended to use a parliamentary maneuver to bring the measure to the floor.

Approved 74 to 31

The motion to adjourn was made possible moofbcl6j by Representative William M. Whittington (D., Miss.) and was approved by a standing vote of 74 to 31.

Mrs. Norton told reporters that the attempt to bring the bill up under "calendar Wednesday" rules represented a new strategy to try to get a permanent FEPC. On "calendar Wednesday" bills on the calendar may be called up.

Since the Norton bill has been reported by the House Labor Committee, it is on the House calendar, but its consideration has been blocked because the House Rules Committee will not give it a rule making it a special order of business.

Leaving for Europe

Mrs. Norton said she is leaving for Europe soon to attend an international labor meeting.

"Supporters of the FEPC bill will not try to bring up the bill until I get back," she said. "That won't be for a couple of months."

She said she was "confident" that the measure will be finally acted upon "before many weeks are past."

Southern opponents of the FEPC countered with the statement that parliamentary maneuver or no, it will be "many, many weeks"—if ever—before Mrs. Norton can get her bill before the House.

Bilbo Puts Finger On Evil of FEPC

PM

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Sen. Theodore (The Man) Bilbo (D., Miss.) has put his finger on the trouble with the bill to create a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission (FEPC). Said Bilbo: "The FEPC is dedicated to equality." 12-23-45

Bilbo also "revealed" Friday that the proportion of Negro Federal employes in the capital ran almost 10 per cent higher than the Negro ratio throughout the country and therefore suggested that the FEPC seek employ for white workers who are victims of race discrimination.

It was then no problem for the Senator to jump over to his other favorite topic as he blamed Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt for FEPC activity. He proclaimed that it was this black mark against her which occasioned his protest a day earlier over her nomination as a delegate to the Assembly of the United Nations Organization. N.Y., N.Y.

Despite Bilbo, legislation for a permanent FEPC seems closer to enactment today than ever before. Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. Mex.) promised that he will move for a vote on it immediately after the holiday recess. Indication that the GOP would side with Administration Democrats to upset Bilbo & Co. was given by Sen. Wayne Morse (R., Ore.), who said the Republicans were ready now to debate and vote on the bill.

Employer Groups Flood Mails with Attacks on FEPC and Job Bills

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 10-16-45

10-16-45

CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN SMALL BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

Expresses the Deliberated Opinion of delegates from more than 300 organizations representing over 260 different lines of industry in 48 states, a cross-section of national retail trade, manufacturers, contractors, wholesalers, jobbers, printers and other business associations; a cross-section of state and local chambers of commerce, representing an affiliated membership of over 300,000 small business concerns.

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SPECIAL BULLETIN

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TO PREVENT THE LEGAL HAMSTRINGING OF BUSINESS—

THE SO-CALLED FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE COMMISSION ACT (F.E.P.C.) WOULD DO JUST THAT

HOUSE BILL 2232 (SPONSORED BY CONGRESSWOMAN MARY NORTON, D., N. J.), TO LEGALIZE BUSINESS PERSECUTION UNDER THE GUISE OF ANTI RACE DISCRIMINATION IS STILL

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Nashville, Tenn.

SECRETARY
C. C. GILBERT
Nashville, Tenn.

August 31, 1945

Mr. Irving Potash, Mgr.
Furriers Joint Council
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Potash:

I feel sure it is unnecessary to remind you personally of the evils of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Act and the effect it will have upon employment relations throughout the country. So long as such a bill is before Congress, it behooves all of us to do what we can, through our Senators and Congressmen, to defeat it.

The Southern States Industrial Council is doing everything it possibly can to bring about the defeat of this measure. We are glad to report that practically every Senator and Congressman from the sixteen Southern States is vigorously opposing the Norton Bill, and will oppose any like bill which might be introduced.

Foes of FEPC: Some of the hate propaganda that is flooding the mails against enactment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice law. Employer groups, especially in the South, are sending such stuff out widely in a high pressure campaign. Letter to Furriers Joint Council, a CIO affiliate, was apparently sent under the impression it was an employers' organization.

By DOROTHY LOEB

Employer groups are campaigning feverishly to block enactment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices law and measures looking toward full employment and a stable economy.

Elaborate brochures, tracts with scare heads and specially prepared personal letters are flooding the mails in a drive that seems to center in the South but which also originates material from Chicago and Washington, D. C.

The "Southern States Industrial Council" of Nashville and the "National Federation of Apparel Associations" sent material (see photostats) out so widely that they included on their mailing list Irving Potash, manager of the CIO Furriers Joint Council. Potash and the Council are among the hardest fighters for the FEPC and for government action to assure jobs. Probability is that the "free enterprise" boys thought the Council was an employer organization.

Frantic "special bulletins" emanate from a "Conference of American Small Business Organizations" which has offices at 407 South Dearborn St., Chicago.

HYSTERICAL CLAIMS

The Conference, which claims to represent more than 300 organizations in over 260 different lines of industry sends out broadsides that summon Jimcrow supporters to arms with hysterical claims that enactment of an FEPC law would "legalize business persecution under the guise of anti-race discrimination." 10-16-45

"This is one issue which is not subject to arbitration or compromise because it is the cornerstone on which all free enterprise has been built," says one Conference special bulletin. "If you give up this fundamental right to hire and to fire, you may as well close your doors and quit business."

As might be expected, the Conference material, while concentrating fire against the FEPC, also includes a violent barrage against all proposed legislation that would give government aid in promoting jobs, controlling prices, preventing monopoly abuses or extending social security. 10-16-45

Conference literature lists Frederick A. Virkus, chairman, simply as president of the Virkus Co. Doned as treasurer of the Illinois Small Business Men's Association and H. Barry McCormick, treasurer, is listed as president of McCormick & Henderson, Inc. Other directors listed include O. E. M. Keller, president, Toledo Small Business Assn.; William J. Petersen, executive secretary, Wisconsin State Chamber of Commerce, and M. W. Harrison, editor, Savings Bank Journal.

Murray Stresses Wage Raises, Permanent FEPC

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

11-9-45

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—CIO president Philip Murray declared today that refusing to grant wage increases to America's workers now means "opening the depression gates." Mr. Murray, in an article released by CIO, emphasized that the practical elimination of overtime and the unemployment of millions of war workers has brought on, according to President Truman's own calculations, a reduction in the national income of 35 billion dollars.

Murray laid emphasis on the Negro worker as "the chief victim of a notorious low-wage policy."

"Because of the evil bars of discrimination," he said, "the Negro industrial worker has been the chief victim of a notorious low-wage policy, a policy which is a cancerous growth in our economy."

Murray warned that "until we secure the establishment of a permanent FEPC, we face the fact that the wages of Negro workers will drop even lower as the wages of non-Negro workers go down."

Murray said the CIO would not cease its efforts until the FEPC receives permanent status.

Murray also drew from Truman's recent wage policy address to prove the obvious capacity of the large corporations to meet the wage and salary demands of labor.

"The issue of immediate and substantial wage and salary increases can be translated into the ever-present conflict between progress and reaction," he said. "Just as a permanent FEPC and the abolition of the polltax—issues on which the CIO will never rescind its efforts—are key issues in our battle for full social democracy, so are wage and salary increases the cornerstone of the battle for economic democracy."

THE FAIR PRACTICES ORDER

The New York Times

As a war agency the Fair Employment Practices Committee is on its last legs. Already ordered by Congress to wind up its affairs by June 30 next, it was yesterday deprived by Presidential order of its power to issue directives to private employers. At the same time, however, Mr. Truman made it plain that he did not intend to countenance racial or religious discrimination in Federal employment. In a letter addressed to heads of governmental departments and agencies he asserted that "a considerable number of loyal and qualified employes had been refused transfer and re-employment by employing agencies solely because of race and creed," pointed out that this action violated civil service rules and existing law, and insisted that "all qualified workers in existing temporary war jobs" be "considered fairly for appointments without distinction because of race, creed, color or national origin."

12-5-45

The question of whether or not a peacetime FEPC could be successful is in controversy. There can be no controversy, for anyone honestly committed to democratic principles, as to the policy President Truman has laid down. Until more employers—and, it must be added, employes—become wiser than they are today there will be some discrimination in private employment. In public employment there can be no such discrimination without violating not only rules and laws and the Constitution itself but the spirit of American democracy. President Truman, at a crucial moment, has taken a proper stand. 12-21-45

Shutdown Ordered From Washington

Atlanta Daily World-Ga.

11-15-45

The Fair Employment Practice Committee will close its field offices in New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, San Francisco, San Antonio, Los Angeles, and Washington, D. C. on December 15, Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, announced Wednesday. This move was made necessary because of lack of sufficient funds for the effective handling of cases in these offices, Mr. Ross said. "However," he added, "regional offices in Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis will be kept in operation."

The decision to close the seven offices and to concentrate FEPC attention on the reconversion problems of minority group workers in these three areas was made after discussions of the Agency's future held recently among members of the commitee. "FEPC is extremely reluctant to lose the able workers in the seven offices to be closed," Mr. Ross stated. "The personnel of these offices during the years of actual war performed a notable service in keeping the war plant gates open to all American workers irrespective of race, creed, color or national origin."

QUESTIONS AHEAD

"The months immediately ahead pose many questions in this field. Those plants which are reconverting to peacetime production ought as a matter of fair play and common sense to offer work opportunities to all applicants without favor or discrmination. Many employers and labor organizations learned during the war that tolerance is a keystone to economic stability. It is the hope of FEPC that these principles will be applied in the areas where the Committee's offices can no longer be maintained."

Dr. Witherspoon Dodge, regional director of the Atlanta office, said, "It has been a privilege to function as the instrumentality for affording the members of the minority groups in the South at least a small measure of that democratic protection of a worker's right to earn a living at his or her maximum skill which it is hoped will constitute a larger part of the democracy of the future."

11-15-45

SMALL APPROPRIATION

Congress cut appropriations for FEPC following a bitter filibuster and wrangling in commttees of both House and Senate a few weeks before the close of the 1944 fiscal year. A compromise was reached for a $250,000 emergency appropriation for the war agencies unit after Southern members of Congress and friends of the agency debated at length the merits of the FEPC. The appropriation was acknowledged as insufficient and immediate staff cuts resulted.

Despite President Truman's personal plea to Congress for a permanent FEPC, measures to promote the agency remain pigeon-holed or stalled in committee rooms.

Friends of FEPC have been urged in its automatically dying hours to keep up the fight for a permanent agency by putting pressure on representatives in Washington.

FEPC Faces Extinction; Plans Mass Hearings in 3 Cities

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—Faced with extinction FEPC is planning a final push against discrimination in three mass production centers.

Whether FEPC can go on after this will depend on whether President Truman issues a new executive order extending the agency and whether Congress passes legislation giving it permanent status.

As a result of dwindling funds, FEPC has been forced to order shutting down all but three regional offices.

11-15-45

But on the basis of investigations, these three offices, in Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis, will launch public hearings on racial discrimination in reconverted industries.

Wholesale discrimination against Negroes in motor, metal fabricating and other industries has promoted this new move.

BIAS AT FORD

Ford managers last week asked the U.S. Employment Service in Detroit to supply "white" laborers for the River Rouge Plant. Negroes were excluded.

The Chrysler Gear & Axle managers asked the USES to furnish 400 "white" mechanics.

Few Negroes are left in the Northwest Airlines and Minnesota Mining Co. plants in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

In St. Louis, the Emerson Electric Co. fired almost all its Negro workers when it closed its turret division, leaving many whites on the payroll elsewhere.

Check-up in the Martin Bomber plant in Baltimore showed only 13 Negroes at work out of nearly 3,000, whereas 8,000 to 9,000 whites are left.

The Bendix Aircraft plant at Philadelphia, dominated by General Motors, has seven or eight Negroes left out of 265, though several hundred whites remain.

Closing of regional offices in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Atlanta, San Antonio and San Francisco will paralyze FEPC work in most of the country.

The Atlanta closing will end government investigations of discrimination in the heart of the South.

The San Antonio closing will withdraw protection from the Mexican workers.

A 50 percent staff cut also impends in the National FEPC headquarters in Washington.

Time Running Short To Act on FEPC Bill

Dailey Worker New York City

In two weeks, seven of the 10 regional offices of the temporary Fair Employment Practices Committee will shut down, including the office in New York and all those covering the South.

12-1-45

Only those in St. Louis, Detroit and Chicago are scheduled to remain open, and even that is doubtful.

Meanwhile, the measure voted favorably by the Labor Committee of the House for a permanent FEPC is languishing in the Rules Committee.

A petition to discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill—to get it before the House—still lacks some 60 signatures to make up the 218 needed. Fourteen New York congressmen, all Pepublicans, have thus far failed to sign the discharge petition despite GOP platform pledges and the pious statements of support from state GOP leaders.

These fourteen should hear from their constituents at once, demanding that they sign the discharge petition for a permanent FEPC. They are:

12-1-45

Edgar A. Sharpe, Long Island; Leonard W. Hall, Long Island; Ellsworth Buck, Staten Island and the lower western part of Manhattan, Ralph Gwinn, Westchester; Ralph Gamble, Westchester; Jay LeFevre, Kingston area; Clarence Kilburn, Malone; Hadwen Fuller, Utica area; Clarence Hancock, Syracuse; John Taber, Auburn; W. Sterling Cole, Southern Tier; James W. Wadsworth, Rochester; Walter G. Andrews, Buffalo; Danield Reed, Jamestown area.

Tories Scuttle 7 More FEPC Offices

New York, N.Y.

The Worker

By MAX GORDON

The wartime Fair Employment Practice Committee, which broke down Jimcrow barriers in tens of thousands of factories, offices public utilities and mines, is on the way out.

On Saturday (Dec. 15), seven of the ten remaining regional offices were due to close their offices for lack of money. They are the offices in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, San Antonio, Atlanta, San Francisco and Kansas City. The closing of the San Antonio office will hit Mexican workers especially.

Five others were shut down in July. Remaining are the offices in St. Louis, Chicago and Detroit. These are expected to go in March.

Those associated with the FEPC are fearful that the great gains made in the course of the war will be lost immediately. In New York employers knowing that the agency's days were numbered have down-graded Negro workers, stalled in taking up complaints and engaged in other abuses.

12-16-45

Even federal agencies, released from the pressure of FEPC, are resorting to old discriminatory practices. Laid-off employes, who formed a pool to be drawn from by other agencies that needed workers, are being chosen reportedly on the basis of color and religion.

FEPC had been instrumental in wiping out these practices in the recent past.

Established by President Roosevelt as a wartime agency, FEPC could not handle peace production and hence was unable to touch the reconversion problem. Reports from all over the nation showed that Negro workers have lost their jobs rapidly as industry reconverted.

A committee of social work experts this week told President Truman that their surveys showed that Negroes were among the worst and most immediate sufferers of lay-offs in war industry.

An informal survey of 107 factories in New York State, undertaken at the request of FEPC, showed that while 10.7 percent of all workers were laid off right after V-J Day, the percentage of "non-whites" was 32.7.

Meanwhile, the permanent FEPC bill in Congress, which can preserve the wartime gains in peacetime industry, is languishing in the tory-dominated House Rules Committee. It was approved by the House Labor Committee. Its backers in Congress have been circulating a petition to discharge the bill from the Rules Committee for the past several months.

12-16-45

They have thus received about 160 of the 218 signatures needed. Few Republicans have signed despite the pledges made by the GOP in its 1944 platform. Since the Southern tory Democrats will not sign, the bulk of the signatures will have to come from northern Republicans.

The tory-GOP alliance dominating Congress is responsible for the fact that the wartime agency is running out of funds. FEPC spent $446,000 last year and asked for over $500,000 to carry out its work this year, which ends next July 1. Instead, the reactionary alliance, after a bitter fight, succeeded in chopping the amount granted to $250,000.

President Truman has helped the process of killing the agency, despite the lip-service he has given to it. Aside from his failure to fight for the permanent FEPC, he killed an order Negro attorney who was a member of the Capitol Transit Company found guilty of discriminating.

Company after the agency rected at the Capitol Transit

The Need for the FEPC

RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH 7-2-45

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

The following statement in your editorial of June 14 is one of the finest arguments that I have seen yet advanced, albeit unintentionally, for the need of an FEPC which will operate in the South as well as in other sections of our nation. I quote: "We should say that a majority of white people in Virginia approve the appropriation of public funds for the education of Negroes along the same lines that are provided for whites from the same funds. Furthermore, we believe that a majority of Virginians approve equal facilities for Negroes, not only in the public schools, but also in such spheres as publicly provided health facilities and in waiting-room accommodations and on transportation lines."

If your conclusion is valid, then the least that can be said is that the majority has an extremely poor method of seeing that its beliefs are really carried out. For example, just a comment concerning the items as mentioned by you: Times Dispatch

Public schools: Surely there is no one now in Virginia, whether he has read the Denny report or not, who believes that education and educational facilities are equal for white and colored children in the Commonwealth. 7-2-45

The statements published in most of the daily papers in our State concerning the diversion of State funds granted for instruction because of the number of Negro children in average daily attendance is but one case in point. An investigation has led a State Department of Education official to declare that 90 per cent of all school buildings used by colored in the rural areas in Virginia are obsolete according to modern standards. A Federal court in one city has just had to go back after several years and declare a school board (acting for the people) and a superintendent (most prominent in educational affairs in Virginia), in contempt of court because they refused to obey a previous court order to establish pay parity as between colored and white teachers.

The writer is quite aware that improvement is needed also in the education of whites in Virginia, but he knows and so do you that an abundance of figures are available showing that the need for improvement in Negro schools is far greater than that of similar schools for whites.

Health facilities: Did you really mean that public health facilities are equal as between Negroes and whites in our various localities? Examine the record.

Waiting-room accommodations and transportation facilities: I have traveled more than 2,000 miles on buses alone in Virginia in the past year. I have often wondered how the front and middle seats of our buses ride. Take my word for it, the rear seats right over the rear wheels (where colored are forced to ride) are most uncomfortable. Most of the lavatory facilities for colored in our bus stations are filthy, and I don't believe you can blame the war for their lack of cleanliness. In the bus station in the largest city in the Southwest section of our State, colored people who wish to buy food must secure it by going up to a small, unpainted window and having it passed to them over a large container in which there is always a stack of dirty dishes. If you think these are isolated cases, spend a few minutes in the colored part of the waiting-room in either one of your two large bus stations on Broad Street in Richmond or in bus stations in a hundred other places in the State. And don't forget the railroad stations.

You say the majority of white Virginians approve equal facilities for Negroes. I sincerely hope so but many people will doubt this opinion. Whether they do or do not, the majority has neither the time nor the energy nor, what is more essential, the courage to follow through and make certain that their liberal attitudes are carried out. For this reason, and there are others, we urgently need the FEPC.

J. RUPERT PICOTT.

Senator Eastland's Remarks

RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Your article on Senator Eastland (D-Miss.), which appeared June 30, interested me very much. I am a returned veteran, and if a man elected to lead and govern citizens of the United States can make such a statement as Senator Eastland made, and really believe it, we are far from civilized.

It was a disgrace to every member of the Army of the United States. I can see that all of our sacrificing with blood and sweat on foreign soil has been in vain (in Senator Eastland's eyesight and anyone else who thinks the same way as he does). 7-4-45

Negro soldiers are still fighting and working as they have been doing faithfully for the past three and one-half years to help make free democratic nations a true democracy and rid the world of aggressive war lords. And if what Senator Eastland said carries any truth at all in it, the three years of my life I spent overseas fighting and working was for a cause that doesn't exist as long as Senators Bilbo, Eastland and others are spreading propaganda that we know is far from true. I suggest that Senator Eastland pay a visit to one of the many American cemeteries in Italy and other parts of the world and see graves of Negro soldiers who have paid the price in full. It might do him good.

PURPLE HEART.

Camp Lee.

The FEPC and Fascism; Southern Style

P.M. N.Y., N.Y.

WASHINGTON

Reactionary Southerners are trying to get away with an unprecedented violation of democratic procedure in order to kill the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee), the agency which tries to give Negroes and other minority workers in this country a fair chance to earn a living.

They are trying to kill off the FEPC by preventing the House from having a chance to vote on its appropriation. This is the only way they can win. The Senate has approved a new appropriation for the agency and the House will, too, if it has a chance to vote.

Twice before in recent weeks, the Southerners, with the aid of some of the Republicans, have been able to keep the House from having a chance to vote on its appropriation. This is the only way they can win. The Senate has approved a new appropriation for the agency and the House will, too, if it has a chance to vote.

7-3-45

Twice before in recent weeks, the Southerners, with the aid of some of the Republicans, have been able to keep the House from voting on this fundamental issue of the right to work without discrimination because of race or religion. They succeeded in preventing the House from voting on legislation to create a permanent FEPC or from voting on funds for the temporary FEPC.

But the Senate's approval of funds for the FEPC has made it necessary for the anti-democratic forces in the House to adopt extraordinary procedure to keep the House from voting on the issue. This procedure is to kill the bill which already has passed the House and the Senate carrying appropriations for the war agencies, and put through an entirely new bill which will omit the funds for the FEPC.

The purpose of this complicated parliamentary plan is simply to prevent the House from having a chance to vote on the FEPC. The normal procedure, and the much easier procedure, would be for the House to vote on the bill passed by the Senate and either accept or reject the Senate amendment.

The program for engineering this legislative lynching is complex and the situation is further complicated by the fact that many members of Congress are playing a two-faced game on the FEPC. They are willing to let it die, if they aren't held responsible, if they don't have to vote on killing it. Forced to vote, the majority will support the agency.

This makes it difficult to fix the blame where it belongs, or to bring pressure where it will do the most good.

But the House is the master of the situation and can stop the legislative lynching if the people back home make it clear they don't like what is happening.

Remember that the House has ignored President Truman's demand that it vote on a permanent FEPC. Remember that it adopted a complicated legislative course to avoid voting on the appropriation for the temporary FEPC, and is now trying again to avoid that vote even after the Senate has approved the fund.

7-3-45

This is a far cry from democratic procedure. It is an outrage not only against the millions of citizens whose right to work is jeopardized, but against every American citizen who believes in fair play.

The voters must make clear to the members of the House that they want a vote on the FEPC and no more ducking of the issue. They must tell House members that it is time to stop this monkey-business.

The time is short. The issue is vital. The best way to bring quick pressure is to wire or write the leaders of the House demanding that the House vote on the FEPC. So wire or write today to: P.M.

Speaker Sam Rayburn,
Democratic Leader John W. McCormack,
Republican Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr.

—NATHAN ROBERTSON FOR THE EDITORS OF PM

BAYONNE, N. J.
TIMES
Circ. D. 13,959
SEP 19 1945

FIRM TO FIGHT ANTI-BIAS ACTS

J. C. Company Promises To Halt Any Action Aimed at Discrimination

Meeting with the labor relations attorney of the company in Jersey City yesterday, the Hudson County FEPC Council was assured that any acts of discrimination will be immediately halted at the Hatfield Wire and Cable Company, 346 Bergen Ave., Jersey City.

The assurance was extended for the company by Harold Grotta, the attorney, who asserted that discrimination has not been the policy of the company, but that if it is being practiced by local management it would be stopped at once.

The charges were brought by the county FEPC when six Negro women filed complaints against the company for refusing to hire them while employing other workers with less, or as much experience. Several of the women charged that the company even refused to accept their applications.

Investigation into the alleged unfair practices was conducted by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO), and the FEPC council then arranged for yesterday's meeting of citizens and the company attorney at the office of Meyer Pesin, chairman of the county anti-discrimination group.

The Hudson County CIO Industrial Union Council meanwhile brought the charges to the attention of Mayor Frank Hague, of Jersey City, who sent a representative to the company, asking it to refrain from any such practices.

Since the charges were brought, four Negro women have been hired by the company, it was reported.

Letters To The Editor

Communications must carry writer's name and address, though pen names are permitted at the editor's discretion. Letters should be held to not more than 200 words. They are subject to condensation.

Washington Post

Save FEPC

I wish to commend you on your very timely and forceful editorials in support of FEPC. These editorials certainly reflect the feelings in the hearts of all freedom-loving Americans.

It is inconceivable that any person invested with the trust of democratic American principles should oppose legislation which promotes national unity at a time when peace is not yet won. What fears lie in the minds of the Congressmen who threaten filibusters. Are they afraid that their own little kingdoms will fall because we practice the kind of democracy that is written in the laws of our land?

Fascism in Europe was started by suppression and intolerance against minorities—certainly it could happen here if we allow a few bigoted persons to exercise their will.

We cannot have a real democracy or unity if we arouse doubt and suspicion in the minds of any American—when we have been told that we are fighting for a better world in which to live. This is no "band wagon" sentiment—it is stark reality. What is there to lose by granting a man an opportunity to earn a living so that he may guard against poverty, crime and disease. Do not these gentlemen who oppose FEPC realize that suppression and intolerance will reap its toll eventually directly or indirectly on their personal welfare?

"The gentlemen cry Peace! Peace!"—there will be no real peace until men recognize that all must share—there can be no unity or hope of a democratic nation should freedom be granted only a chosen few. 7-2-45

I hope that many Americans see the dangerous implications of opposition to this type of legislation and that they will voice their opinions to their Congressmen in no uncertain terms. 7-2-45

LAURA H. KIRKLAND.

Washington, June 29.

War Agencies Appropriation Bill Stalled As F.E.P.C. Loses Again In House

Louisville, Ky.

Courier Journal

2 Committees Block Action On Measure

7-3-45

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

Special to The New York Times and The Courier Journal.

Washington, July 2.—In the bitterest congressional controversy of this session, two committees of the House refused today to accept the Senate's appropriation of $250,000 to continue the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the whole of the war agencies appropriation bill thus was delayed indefinitely.

The Senate on Saturday had passed the measure, carrying $771,000,000 for various war agencies, among them F.E.P.C. Proponents of the F.E.P.C. tried first today before the House Rules Committee to obtain clearance for it but were defeated in executive session on what was understood to have been a tie vote of 5 to 5.

O.W.I. Cut Restored.

With the whole measure thus halted, they then went to the House Appropriations Committee but that body declined by vote of 20 to 11 to approve F.E.P.C. and then, by vote of 21 to 12, reported out an entirely new war agencies bill of $752,000,000 not only eliminating F.E.P.C. but restoring a $21,000,000 cut which the House had voted earlier in the appropriation for the Office of War Information. The parliamentary situation was such that no decision on the new bill was possible before Thursday.

Members of the Rules Committee assembled in the late afternoon intending to give the measure right of way, under a "closed" rule by which amendments to it would be impossible, but Chairman Sabath (D., Ill.), an F.E.P.C. proponent, appeared only long enough to announce that he had called no meeting of the committee but might call one tomorrow.

Recess Plan Threatened.

Tonight, at the end of a day of angry maneuvering, a legislative pile-up has been created so serious as to bring into question the House plan to recess soon for the summer.

Those controlling the essential House committees were plainly resolved to defeat F.E.P.C. at any cost and the available information indicated that the Senate would not recede from its stand in behalf of that agency, particularly since some Republicans had sought to make it an outright party issue.

At F.E.P.C. headquarters it was said that 120 Washington employees of the agency, which was created by President Roosevelt by executive order to seek to end racial discrimination in the employment of workers, had been advised that they might not be paid their salaries and that no new obligations of any sort were being incurred.

Petition Is Circulated.

Meanwhile, friends of F.E.P.C. were seeking to recruit signers to a long-pending petition to remove the Rules Committee from jurisdiction over a bill to establish a permanent F.E.P.C. with much broader powers than the existing committee. Thus far, the petition was far short of the required 218 names to accomplish that objective.

The agencies directly involved in the war agencies bill had been theoretically out of money since midnight Saturday, the end of the fiscal year. They were not in fact "broke," however, for a blanket provision in the second deficiency appropriation bill passed on Saturda ywas interpreted generally in Congress as making emergency provision for them.

Many Agencies Affected.

The agencies are the following: National War Labor Board, Office of the Alien Property Custodian, the Office of Defense Transportation, the Office of Economic Stabilization, the Office of Scientific Research and Development, the Office of Inter-American Affairs, the Office of War Information, the War Production Board, the Smaller War Plants Corporation, The War Shipping Administration, the Office of Censorship, the Office of Strategic Services, the Petroleum Administration for War, the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, the Office of Retraining and Re-employment, the Surplus Property Board, the Selective Service System and the War Relocation Authority.

When the Rules Committee met this morning to take up the F.E.P.C. issue, a delegation of New York Negroes entered the room. Almost at once the committee, as is customary when a vote is to be taken, decided to go into executive session. All nonmembers of the committee began to file from the room and Charles Collins, a New York City organizer for the Hotel and Club Employees Union, asked when F.E.P.C. would be discussed. A committee attendant took him by the arm, explaining that all save members of the committee were required to leave the room.

"What is this—Germany?" Collins cried in resentment. "I had a brother who died in this war."

Offers Come From Several Sources - ANP

Atlanta, Ga.

Philanthopist Offers Substantial Amount To Agency

Daily World

7-9-45

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— Serious consideration is being given to the question of acceptance of private funds ,already offered, for the continuance of the FEPC should congress fail to allow the embattled war agency a budget, the Associated Negro Press has learned.

The offers have come from several sources, it is learned at least one of which, a substantial amount being that of a well-known philanthropist with emphatic New Deal leanings.

The idea is looked upon favorably in at least one section of high administration circles which, it is safe to say, has given some stimulation to the only out which may be left to FEPC and the fight on discrimination.

OPINION SOUGHT

From another source it is understood that an informal opinion from the attorney general has been sought. No one in FEPC, however was prepared to confirm this information. 7-9-45

The concern for the agency in this respect was registered almost immediately following the statement of Chairman Malcolm Ross to press conference week before last that the committee had given thought to the possibilities of continuing on a voluntary basis. He pointed out at the time that the failure of congress to appropriate money would not necessarily invalidate the presidential executive order establishing the agency. He intimated further that the committee would probably go further into the possibilities of this as an alternative in the light of developing circumstances.

The budget bureau had recommended that FEPC be allowed $599,000. Other figures considered during floor discussion went down as low as the $125,00 for liquidation purposes. In conversations held thus far on the matter of providing private funds the higher figure was the one most nearly approximated.

DOUBT REMAINS 7-9-45

There remained some doubt, however, as to whether funds so raised could be provided for a federal agency. Before the move could be taken the opinion of the attorney general would have to be gotten. The procedure here would be to state the case to the Whtie House, since FEPC is an independent agency, and the opinion would be asked from there. 7-9-45

Opinions are conflicting on the possibility or propriety of the method. Those favoring it believe that the money could be turned over to the public treasury earmarked for FEPC, and disbursements would be made from it. On the other hand, those who doubt the feasibility say that the effect might be to produce an "unwholesome influence on government."

56d-1945

F.E.P.C.

Bilbo Talks On and On At 'Funeral' of F.E.P.C.

Courier Journal 6-29-45

By FRANCIS J. KELLY.

Washington, June 28 (AP) — Theodore G. "The Voice" Bilbo of Poplarville, Miss., strengthened his claim today as the talkingest man in the United States Senate.

His tonsils humming with health, his desk piled high with reading matter, the balding Mississippi Democrat announced he was preaching the funeral sermon of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. He began it yesterday afternoon, "held" the floor under parliamentary procedure overnight, and then resumed talking today. He talked four hours today before finally yielding the floor so other business could be transacted.

Bilbo said F.E.P.C.'s actual funeral would be held Monday. That's the first business day of the new fiscal year. He proposes to hold the floor until the present fiscal year ends Saturday midnight, to keep Senator Chavez (D., N. M.) from offering an amendment to the war agencies appropriation bill giving F.E.P.C. $446,200 to finance another year's policing of industry against racial and religious discrimination.

Nails Driven Into Coffin.

(On the other side of the Capitol, the House Rules Committee drove nails into F.E.P.C.'s coffin by tabling legislation to grant it $125,000.) 6-29-45

Anybody who dropped into the Senate gallery for as long as 5 minutes found out that Bilbo doesn't like F.E.P.C. He doesn't call it this bill or this measure; it's "this damnable piece of legislation" or "this smooth deliberate scheme to integrate the Negro race with the white and foster intermarriage and interbreeding."

Bilbo read editorials from Negro newspapers. He read a column by Westbrook Pegler, in dialect. He read an extract from The Daily Worker, but explained he wasn't a Communist. He read letters from Southern friends.

Chavez Challenges Bilbo.

"How long does the senator intend to speak?" a colleague inquired gently.

"Until F.E.P.C. is dead," Bilbo replied.

Chavez charged Bilbo was imperiling the life of 16 war agencies by his filibuster. Bilbo said no, it was Chavez who was doing the damage by his insistence on offering his amendment. Its adoption would require suspension of the rules and a two - thirds majority. Chavez challenged Bilbo to let the Senate vote on it. Bilbo said he wasn't taking any chances.

"I assure my friend from Mississippi," Chavez said, "that he can filibuster until doomsday, but that motion will be offered."

Bilbo said: 6-29-45

"If you are so hell-bent on doing so I may not give you an opportunity to offer it."

Mississippi Braying

Atlanta Constitution

Editor Constitution: I see where the Mississippi jackass is braying again in the senate. . . . I agree with you . . . don't like him or the FEPC. J. LORENZO WHITE.

Anniston, Ala. 6-30-45

Editor Constitution: Bilbo almost rhymes with dodo. Is there any hope he may become extinct? A disgrace to the democratic procedure. JOHN STAUNTON.

Atlanta, Ga.

Limicolous Ass

Editor Constitution: Someone has sent me a copy of your recent editorial under the title of Bilbo Makes Friends for the FEPC. If you are really at heart against the FEPC then why write such an editorial? If you think my opposition to the FEPC will help pass the damnable legislative monstrosity, why not keep it a secret instead of playing it up that I am against it?

I have an idea that you are just "smart" boys, but you aren't bright—what I mean is that you are kinda "nutty." Of course, I am still talking about the one that wrote this editorial.

Just watch the Congressional Record day after day and you will finds lots of material for editorials for a man who really has the ability to properly evaluate things and is able to understand Einstein's doctrine of the relativity of things.

In conclusion, let me say that I think your reference to me is gratuitous and proves that the writer is a limicolous ass.

THEO G. BILBO.

U. S. S.

(Editor's note: Limicolous is from the Latin, Limus, meaning mud, and "colo," to dwell. It usually refers to shore-dwelling birds).

FEPC Filibusterer Slurs Negro GIs

Daily Worker 6-30-45

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 29.—All day long today Sen. Theodore Bilbo's Mississippi colleague, James O. Eastland, was permitted to flood the Senate chamber with abuse of Negro troops and almost everything progressive in American life.

Eastland was carrying the filibuster ball against the FEPC appropriation for the tired out Bilbo. Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D-SC) says he will carry it tomorrow.

But tomorrow is the last day of the talk marathon before the vote on cloture—that is the limitation on filibuster debate—comes Monday.

The cloture vote is not coming Saturday as was expected because the Mississippi-born sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, Wall Doxey, didn't round up enough Senators in time for a quorum Thursday night till midnight had passed.

The petition was ready early in the evening, with the necessary 16 signers, but there wasn't a quorum, so it couldn't be filed. And Doxey didn't bring enough Senators in for a quorum till a new legislative day had begun. That meant delay until Monday, for a cloture petition must lie on the clerk's desk two legislative days before the vote can be taken. 6-29-45

neral would be held Monday. That's the first business day of the new fiscal year. He proposes to hold the floor until the present fiscal year ends Saturday midnight, to keep Senator Chavez (D-N. M.) from offering an amendment to the War Agencies Appropriation Bill giving FEPC $446,200 to finance another year's policing of industry against racial and religious discrimination.

House Tables Bill

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Chavez Challenges

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Bilbo Tonsils Are Humming With Health

Richmond Times Dispatch 6-29-45

WASHINGTON, June 28—(AP)—Theodore G. (The Voice) Bilbo, of Poplarville, Miss., strengthened his claim today as the talkingest man in the United States Senate.

His "tonsils" humming with health, his desk piled high with reading matter, the balding Mississippi Democrat announced he was preaching the funeral sermon of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. He began it yesterday afternoon.

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Southerners Block Action On War Funds

Richmond Times Dispatch 7-1-45

FEPC Death Warrant Signed by House

WASHINGTON, June 30—(UP)—Southern Democrats blocked House action on the $771,000,000 War Agency Appropriation Bill tonight and thus signed a death warrant, effective at midnight, for the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Their move also cut off other war agencies from their regular source of funds but they will be kept functioning through other arrangements until the dispute over the War Agency Bill and the FEPC has been resolved.

With Congress racing against time to complete action on appropriation bills involving billions of dollars before the fiscal year ended at midnight, Southern Senators had abandoned their filibuster against the FEPC. The Senate approved a $250,000 item for the agency—The House had included none—and passed the war agency bills. 7-1-45

Cannon Asks Conference

But when the measure returned to the House, Chairman Clarence Cannon (D-Mo.), of the House Appropriations Committee, asked that the bill be sent to conference to compromise differences between House and Senate versions. His request required unanimous consent, and Southern Democrats shouted him down.

Cannon explained to reporters that he now will have to ask the Rules Committee, which has been consistently hostile to the FEPC, to send the bill to the floor so the House can vote on the proposal to send it to conference. If that committee refuses, the measure will go back to the Appropriations Committee to be redrafted—presumably without the FEPC item.

The Senate FEPC fight ended when Southern members abandoned their filibuster tactics and offered no fight against a compromise proposal.

61b-1945

In The Nation

New York Times

Adverse Conditions for FEPC Filibuster

6-28-45

By ARTHUR KROCK

WASHINGTON, June 27—A Senate filibuster is usually unpopular in the country, though some successful ones have, after varying periods of time, won the praise and gratitude of the people. But, generally, a filibuster is deemed to be an abuse of the latitude given to individual Senators by the rules, and in the Nineteen Twenties this sentiment produced a regulation which permits the Senate to impose a modified form of closure to put an end to these delaying actions if it chooses.

This public attitude and the consequent closure rule constitute a threat to any filibuster. But the one that may now be attempted against the appropriation to finance for another year the temporary Fair Employment Practices Commission would be confronted with other disadvantages.

First, if the filibuster is launched and is carried through this week, the fiscal year will have come to an end without appropriations for many other war agencies, since funds for the continuation of these are part of the bill that allots $466,200 for FEPC for another year. It will be charged that the Senate filibusters, in the course of war, have stopped the operation of essential Government units, and that will arouse widespread resentment. It is quite true that the salaries of employes of these agencies are not due until July 15, by which time the issue over FEPC probably will have been resolved one way or another. And it is also probably true that, if it weren't, the President and the Treasury could find contingent funds to maintain the other agencies until the appropriation bill was passed. But the latter can't be proved, and the opponents of the filibuster will easily be able to persuade the people to the contrary.

Second, the FEPC appropriation—which the House has blocked—occurs as a rider to the war agencies' supply bill, and therefore a two-thirds Senate vote will be required to bring it before the chamber for action. If the advocates of the FEPC fund can muster two-thirds for this purpose, it is argued, they can impose closure and thus end the filibuster ingloriously. And the whole Senate, including the filibusterers stand in dread of the precedent which would thus be made.

The United Nations' Charter

Third, and perhaps most important, if the filibuster comes and lasts throughout the remainder of the fiscal year (until Sunday night, that is), the President will bring the United Nations organization Charter next Monday into a bad Senate atmosphere. It will be engaged in one of those delaying actions which will remind the country and the world of the tactics by which the last attempt at a peace-keeping league was damaged—some still think mortally—by the United States whose President had been its chief advocate and architect. This will be an uncomfortable setting for the President and for the introduction of the Charter, and the Senate will probably get a bad press everywhere—a consequence of its actions to which the Senate is highly sensitive.

All these factors are unfavorable for a filibuster on the FEPC item. Several Senators who approve the objective of such an effort, and think the FEPC a dangerous aggravation of the social ills it was designed to cure, oppose a filibuster for these reasons and will probably try to end it—if launched—after Friday, when the last of the votes they could hope to muster against accepting the appropriation-rider will be on hand. Then, to shut off any threat of closure, and for the other causes enumerated above, they will try to assemble at least the one more than one-third required to keep the appropriation out of the bill, after which they will join to vote the funds for the other war agencies.

Another Chance Later

6-28-45

These Senators will use another argument against a prolonged filibuster. They will point out that the funds proposed are only for one year and for the temporary FEPC, which was established by executive order. They will remind filibustering colleagues that the bill to make the FEPC permanent and statutory is blocked in the House, which also declined to appropriate for the temporary agency, and that therefore the prospects are excellent against a permanent establishment. They will say further that if and when the Senate has before it a measure to make a permanent FEPC, they will gladly join in a filibuster, which will not be affected by the present adverse factors; because, on the clear-cut issue, they will feel justified resisting such a proposal with every means in their power.

These arguments may prevail; the threatened filibuster may be tried and succeed in its general purpose; the Senate may invoke closure, thus clearing the way to repeat the process when the poll-tax repeal measure is before it; or some other solution may be found. But there is a very deep sentiment in the Senate against a permanent FEPC which will not be accurately reflected in the roll-calls. Despite all the arguments made for it, and despite the admirable objective which is claimed for it, social and economic conditions in many parts of the country forecast as violent and demoralizing a career for a permanent FEPC as they did for the Prohibition Amendment and the Volstead Act. 6-28-45

In this connection it is notable that two of the most progressive Southern Democrats, with outstanding liberal records on the racial question—Governor Arnall of Georgia and Mark Ethridge of Kentucky—oppose the bill.

The FEPC

The New Republic

Southern Democrats have used all their tricks against the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, and in spite of President Truman's forthright statements making the FEPC an Administration issue, the Southern Democrats blocked consideration of the whole war-agencies-appropriation bill until they thought they had enough votes to throw out the FEPC item. As this is written, every effort is being made to obtain the two-thirds vote of the Senate necessary to suspend the rules and consider the FEPC appropriation. Unless this succeeds, the present Fair Employment Practice Committee dies on June 30. 7-2-45

Regardless of the outcome, work will continue on the drive to obtain permanent fair-employment legislation. Two-thirds of the House members will have to sign a discharge petition to get the bill on the floor, since the reactionary Rules Committee has refused its approval. Following the summer recess, Senator Chavez is also expected to press for Senate consideration of his bill for a permanent FEPC, and public support must be kept up with this action in mind. 7-2-45

Bilbo Stacks Books About Negro on Desk During Filibuster

the Call

6-6-45

By HARRY McALPN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — The uncultural, un-American attacks made by Sen. Theodore Bilbo (Mississippi) against the Negro and the Jew during his filibuster against the FEPC on the floor of the Senate last week should not be dignified by giving them wide-spread publicity through our papers, is the opinion expressed by a number of leading Negroes in Washington.

It is interesting to note, however, that Bilbo used the occasion to attack the appropriations made to Howard university, and to point out that it is the only educational institution in the country supported by federal funds. He was using it as a point to prove that the white folks of America are the ones being discriminated against, not Negroes.

He said he would seek a law in the District of Columbia outlawing intermarriage of the races, and possibly one to outlaw such marriages in all states.

On his desk during the debate, he had most of the recent best-selling books on the Negro,—Rayford Logan's "What the Negro Wants," Richard Wright's "Black Boy," Roi Ottley's "New World A-Coming," Lillian Smith's "Strange Fruit," and Gunar Myrdal's "An American Dilemma," among others.

During most of his 'extended remarks," he was baited by Sen. Langer, Republican of North Dakota. Langer left the Republican side of the Senate to take up a position right in front of Bilbo. He swung his chair around so he could "watch" Bilbo's every word. At one point, when he was called out of the chamber, he told Bilbo, I'll be back." It was a timely remark, for the Senate floor was almost empty, though the galleries were full watching the circus performance.

Walter White Pays Pres. Truman Visit

Atlanta World — Ga.

5-27-45

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP and one of three Negro consultants with the American delegation at the San Francisco conference, told President Truman at the White House Friday that he did not consider the United States had taken "as unequivocal a stand" on the trusteeship issue "as the human and material resources of the U. S. gave it the power to take."

White talked with the chief executive for 15 minutes and said he had discussed both domestic and international matters with the permanent FEPC being the main point of the latter. On this he said he agreed with the "impression" held by Rep. Mary Norton that the President favors a permanent agency.

5-27-45

The American delegation at the conference had done a "pretty good job" but had not been as vigorous as it might, White said. He criticized the delegates for siding with Great Britain and France, both colonial powers. The NAACP official endorsed the "excellent plan" favored by China and Russia promising ultimate independence to colonials but deplored the failure of the Americans to assume a similar position.

5-27-45

The President invited White to return later. White received approval to bring with him other Negro leaders. However, such a meeting is not likely to be held until late in June.

Compromise On FEPC Bill Seen Fading

Richmond Times

5-21-45

WASHINGTON, May 20—(AP)—Efforts all but collapsed today to work out some compromise, acceptable to Southern Senators, on legislation for a permanent postwar Fair Employment Practices Commission.

Senator Pepper (D-Fla.) still was pursuing the possibility but Senator Ellender (D-La.) said he had given up.

"I don't believe it will be possible to get together on anything acceptable," Ellender told reporters. "The committee as a whole apparently doesn't want any bill without a full set of teeth in it."

The Education and Labor Committee has a bill by Senator Chavez (D-N. M.) and six others to create a permanent FEPC empowered to issue prohibitions against job discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry. The commission could apply to Federal courts for enforcement of its orders.

A majority of the committee apparently was set to approve the measure at a meeting last Thursday, but agreed to hold off a vote for a week while Southern members, bitterly opposed, tried to work out something all could accept.

5-21-45

Ellender and Senator Johnston (D-S. C.) had served notice they would filibuster if the bill were brought to the Senate floor.

The present FEPC was created by an executive order from President Roosevelt which holds good only for the war's duration.

ENCOURAGING ACTION

New York Post

OPPONENTS of broad social legislation in Congress often brand certain measures as "Negro" bills and through sheer force of demagoguery oft-times are able to muster sufficient strength among Negro-haters in Congress to defeat the legislation.

5-26-45

It was encouraging, then, that at its annual meeting held last week in Brooklyn, the women's division of the American Jewish Congress adopted a resolution urging Congress to establish a permanent FEPC. Negroes welcome this additional and much-needed support from so powerful and vocal a minority. It augurs well.

N.Y., N.Y.

Permanent FEPC:

The protection of job possibilities for the Negro workers is an outstanding feature of full employment for all the people. The permanent FEPC is one of the chief guarantees of such safeguards for the Negro men and women, who have been in war work and who will be looking forward to employment in the reconverted industries. There's yeoman work to be done on this measure in and with Congress.

In the Senate the bill is out on the floor now, but an intense campaign of communications to your Senators is required to make its passage certain.

In the House the hide-bound Rules Committee has held it up from the lower body's consideration, but a petition is now being circulated among the Representatives to get it out on the floor. That petition, still about 60 names short, can be filled by the pressure of public-spirited citizens and labor organizations on their respective Representatives.

SENATORS APPROVE EXTENSION OF FEPC

New York Times

Committee Backs Chavez Plan, 12 to 6, as Southerners Prepare for Filibuster

5-24-45

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 23 — The Senate Committee on Education and Labor approved today, by a vote of 12 to 6, the Chavez Bill which would establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission to succeed the present FEPC which the late President Roosevelt created by Executive Order in 1941.

N.Y., N.Y.

The measure now goes to the Senate calender and Senator Dennis Chavez, Democrat of New Mexico, its sponsor, said he would call it up for consideration "as soon as possible."

A similar measure, reported out by the House Labor Committee, has been stalemated in the House Rules Committee for weeks. Efforts by Representative Mary T. Norton, Labor Committee chairman, to force it to the House floor by petition have failed thus far to discharge the Rules group from further custody of the bill.

As the Senate committee acted on the legislation, which is designed to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry, talk of filibuster was renewed.

5-24-45

One attempt to amend the measure to make it operative only in those States where it was adopted by proclamation of the Governors or by action of the Legislatures was defeated in committee. This and many other amendments were promised as certain to be offered if the bill undergoes formal consideration by the Senate.

Voting to report the bill were Senators Chavez, James E. Murray of Montana, chairman; David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, James M. Tunnell of Delaware and Joseph F. Guffey of Pennsylvania, Democrats; George D. Aiken of Vermont, Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota, H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey, Wayne Morse of Oregon and Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri, Republicans, and Robert M. LaFollette, Progressive, of Wisconsin.

Voting "no" were Senators Claude Pepper of Florida, Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina, J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, and Lister Hill of Alabama, Democrats, and Senator Robert A. Taft, Republican of Ohio.

5-24-45

With the division of the Democrats cutting along the lines of previous controversies over the FEPC, poll-tax measures and anti-lynching legislation, predictions were made in some Capitol quarters that a taking of this legislation to the floor might cause a renewal of intra-party breaks which possibly would be reflected beyond the scope of this one measure.

That the determination of the Southern Senators is as strong as ever to prevent, if possible, any action on this bill by the Senate was indicated in several quarters. Some Southerners said that they hoped a filibuster would be avoided, but they predicted that the mere calling up of the FEPC bill would be the signal for one. In one quarter it was declared that, "if necessary, debate could be continued for three months, or longer."

Legislators Kill FEPC Bill in Michigan

Baltimore Afro-American 4-28-45

LANSING, Mich. (ANP)—An FEPC bill to ban racial discrimination in industry was killed by the House State Affairs Committee of the Michigan Assembly, because members said it would "make matters worse rather than better."

Three From FEPC Visit White House

Memphis World — Tenn.

10-9-45

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— Three FEPC members conferred with a White House official on Wednesday but came away without any answer to their continuing dilemma as to what President Truman intends to do in fulfilling his pledge made in his message to congress on Sept. 6, that the FEPC "is continuing during the transition period."

To be sure, the committee is continuing but its jurisdiction has been cut back so severely as a result of the ending of hostilities that it is of little or no effectiveness in handling cases of alleged discrimination arising in connection with reconversion activities.

SOLUTION DISCUSSED

When the committee met in Aug. several of the war agencies in their problems of liquidation. He is acting as the special representative of the President and without pay. But FEPC was not among the agencies designated for Allen to assist, and apprehensiveness is growing that his interference may not be helpful to the continuance of the committee at all.

Under the appropriation granted by a recalcitrant congress, FEPC may remain in business until June 30, 1946, the end of the fiscal year.

Apparently it was to no avail.

Those in the group were Chairman Malcolm Ross, deputy chairman George M. Johnson, and members Sara Southall and Milton P. Webster.

10-9-45

NOSING INTO BUSINESS

Meanwhile, it is learned, George Allen, a Mississippian by birth and an insurance man by trade, has been nosing into the agency's affairs. The chief executive designated Allen a month ago to assist the war agencies in their problems of liquidation. He is acting as the special representative of the President and without pay. But FEPC was not among the agencies designated for Allen to assist, and apprehensiveness is growing that his interference may not be helpful to the continuance of the committee at all.

Under the appropriation granted by a recalcitrant congress, FEPC may remain in business until June 30, 1946, the end of the fiscal year.

N.J. FEPC Bills Passed; Governor Lauds Measures

Afro-American 4-14-45

Baltimore, Md.

TRENTON—Gov. Walter Edge is expected to sign into law this week seven bills passed by the State Legislature on Friday for the creation of a Fair Employment Practice Commission.

The measures, introduced on March 12, by Assemblyman J. O. Hill (Rep., Essex County), are aimed at the elimination of racial discrimination by employees and broadening the scope of existing civil rights laws.

2 Oppose Main Bill

The main bill, which provided for the creation of the fair employment practice commission, passed the Republican-dominated Legislature with only two dissenting votes. 4-14-45

They were cast by Assemblywoman Hardester of Essex, who said the provision making the State education commissioner the administrator of the law was unworkable, and by Assemblyman Wilson of Hunterdon County. The six companion measures passed without opposition.

Passage of the measures brought varying comments. 4-14-45

Governor Lauds Measure

Assemblyman Hill, the State's only colored legislator, said: "These bills will give us a start toward real democracy," adding that he did not expect a perfect measure and that improvements could be made later on weak points

Governor Edge lauded the measures, contending that by placing the FEPC within the State Department of Education, it would have the benefit of an already established, smooth-working organization.

Called "Weak, Ineffective"

In both the Assembly and the Senate, the Democratic minority attempted to attach amendments asked by delegates during two public hearings. Both efforts failed, resulting in criticism to the effect that the measure was weak and ineffective.

Assemblyman Giles C. Frazier, Democrat of Camden, said: "It isn't worth the paper it's written on."; whil etaoin:u|— 1 23 on": while Assemblyman T. James Tumulty of Hudson asked:

"This law will look swell on the books, but does it protect the persons that it tries to protect?"

"Gross Fraud"

Carl Holderman, executive secretary of the State CIO, described the bill as a "gross fraud upon the people of New Jersey."

"It is a victory for the politicos, a defeat for the people," declared Dr. Frank Kingdom of the Independent Citizens' League, the organization which sponsored an earlier FEPC measure.

The measures provide that the FEPC be placed in the Department of Education, headed by a deputy commissioner whose salary will be $7,000 per year. Appointment is to be by the governor, with Senate approval.

Violators would be subject to charges of misdemeanor, which carries a penalty of $500 fine, ora year in prison, or both.

Truman Runs Into Blockade On FEPC Bill

Washington Post 6-7-45

Washington, D. C.

By Robert C. Albright

President Truman yesterday ran into his first serious legislative blockade when the House Rules Committee failed to heed his request for immediate clearance of permanent Fair Employment Practices legislation.

Rules Chairman Adolph J. Sabath (D., Ill.) tried twice to make good on the President's request. Southern Democrats forced adjournment of the first meeting and literally walked out on a second.

Southerners Hostile, GOP Cool

Sabath promptly called another meeting for today, but the outlook was not hopeful. Southern Democrats were openly hostile to any FEPC legislation, and Republicans appeared cool to the bill in its present form. 6-7-45

On a show-down, four GOP members of the 12-man committee, teaming with at least two Democratic members, are expected to vote for clearance. With one of the six opponents absent, this would be enough to report the bill, provided Sabath can ever get it to a vote.

This he has been trying to do for weeks. Even with the President's letter in hand, he failed again yesterday. Here's how the bill was balked.

When Sabath called up the bill, Representative E. E. Cox (D., Ga.), a leading opponent, protested that Representative Roger C. Slaughter (D., Mo.), was absent. (With Slaughter absent, the vote would have been 6 to 5 for the bill. His presence presumably would have tied the result, preventing action.)

Sabath insisted on a vote, and Representative Howard W. Smith (D., Va.) moved for adjournment. Sabath failed to put the motion, but with House bells ringing for a quorum on the floor, members walked out. 6-7-45

Quorum Never Available

The chairman called another meeting for 2 p. m., but never succeeded in holding a quorum. Opponents used the absentee method this time to prevent action. Among those stepping out of the room, leaving the committee just shy of enough votes to take action, were Smith and Representative William M. Colmer (D., Miss.).

"I am ready for a vote at any time," Representative Charles A. Halleck (R., Ind.), told newsmen. Halleck said he may vote to report the bill, but will support amendments on the floor for judicial review of decisions of the proposed permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission. He said the present bill makes the commission "judge, jury as well as investigator" on findings of fact.

Rep. Norton Pushes Bill

"That's the NLRB method, and we don't like it," said Halleck.

Republican lukewarmness to the Norton bill likewise was noted on the floor, where only a GOP handful has signed a petition to discharge the Rules Committee and force the bill to the floor. The petition now has 121 signatures. It needs 218. No Southern Democrat has signed. 6-7-45

Nonetheless, House Labor Chairman Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.), author of the bill and sponsor of the discharge petition, predicted her petition will be signed up quickly if the Rules Committee refuses to act. It was Mrs. Norton who carried her bill to the White House two weeks ago and obtained the first presidential indorsement.

TRUMAN BACKS BILL FOR FAIR JOB POLICY

New York Times

He Urges Rules Committee to Let House Vote on Making Hiring Practice Permanent

New York, N.Y.

TO DROP IT 'UNTHINKABLE'

6-6-45

Murray of CIO Condemns Delay in Appropriating $599,000 Fund First Set by Roosevelt

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, June 5—President Truman urged the House Rules Committee today to vote out the long-pending bill providing for a permanent Fair Employment Commission. In a letter to Representative Adolf J. Sabath of Illinois, chairman of the committee, he said:

"The principle and policy of fair employment practice should be established permanently as a part of our national law."

The proposed commission would have broader powers than the present Fair Employment Practice Committee, which it would succeed. The permanent measure has been held in the committee since Feb. 0, despite efforts of proponents to get it out. Meanwhile, Congress has failed to provide funds for the 1946 fiscal year for the present FEPC. President Roosevelt recommended $599,000 and President Truman urges this amount.

"Unless it (the bill for the permanent commission) is sent to the floor," President Truman wrote, "the members of the House will have no opportunity to vote upon it. The result will be that on July 1 next the principle of fair employment practices will have been abandoned by the House of Representatives."

"To abandon at this time the fundamental principle upon which the fair employment practice committee was established is unthinkable," the President asserted. "Even if the war were over, or nearly over, the quetion of fair employment practices during the reconversion period and thereafter would be of paramount importance.

"Discrimination in the matter of employment against properly qualified persons because of their race, creed, or color is not only un-American in nature, but will lead eventually to industrial strife and unrest." 6-6-45

The effect of the appeal on the House Committee was uncertain tonight. It is scheduled to take up the measure at a meeting tomorrow.

Failureo f an appropriation for the present FEPC was deplored by Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organization, in a letter to Representative Clarence Cannon, Democrat of Missouri, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Unless the committee is permitted to survive, he said," racial tension will be engendered which will dissolve overnight the industrial democracy which has thus far been achieved." He described as "a legislative maneuver" the explanation that the appropriation had been delayed because of the pending permanent legislation.

The situation in the Senate is different. There a bill similar to the House measure was reported to the floor on May 24 and is expected to be taken up in mid-June.

Negro Leaders Laud Truman

P. Morning Post 6-7-45

Walter White, secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, today called President Truman's statement on the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) "magnificent."

In a message to the President, White said:

"Your statement to Congress denouncing action of the House Appropriation Committee in refusing funds to the FEPC is magnificent. Not only members of minorities are grateful but all Americans who are concerned about winning the war and making democracy real."

Dr. Channing Tobias, Negro leader who consulted frequently with President Roosevelt on FEPC matters, said he had written President Truman praising him on his action to save FEPC. 6-7-45

"The President's letter to Rep. Adolph J. Sabath," Tobias said, "leaves no one in doubt as to his position on FEPC. Mr. Truman has faced the issue faily and the entire Nation of right-thinking people of all colors and creeds applauds his resolute stand."

FOR A PERMANENT FEPC

New Republic

The time has come to recognize that all doctrines of racial and religious hate must die. Not alone in fascist Germany or Japan, but in the hearts and minds of man, of free man, everywhere. This is a simple, clear thought which men who died in this war understood.

2-13-45

In our national life, the seeds of fascist race and religious hate still exist. As honest citizens, we do not blink this fact. We ask you to face it with us. The FEPC is the one federal agency whose duty it is to prevent or correct discrimination in job opportunity because of race, color, creed or national origin. In recent days, an unparalleled attempt, brazen and ruthless, to destroy the FEPC has been made by those in our national life who would perpetuate here what our sons have died to uproot in Germany.

We request that the chairmen of the Democratic and Republican Parties call special meetings of the National Committees and publicly declare their support for a permanent FEPC; and declare themselves unalterably opposed to racial hatred and religious intolerance. We request that the National Committees of both parties act now to execute their campaign pledges on the FEPC made to our people in 1944.

New York N.Y.

—From a Statement by the Steering Committee of the National Citizens' PAC to the Members of Congress.

From The New Republic Mail Bag

Miss Catherine Lundy of Syracuse, N. Y., writes protesting the Congressional cut in the FEPC appropriation and enclosing a check for one dollar to be forwarded as a contribution to the FEPC. She says, "I am sure there are at least 349,000 persons in the United States beside myself who, if the matter is called to their attention in your magazine, wil lbe more than glad to contribute a dollar each in order that the FEPC may function effectively."

Mr. Charles E. Lotreck of Northampton, Mass., calls to our attention the "recent announcement that at the Fall Conference of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs, the principal speaker will be . . . Archduke Felix of the defunct Hapsburg dynasty." He "wonders what principles and motives animate an organization lending a hand to the promotion of the monarchist aspirations of a Hapsburg in this democratic country."

The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces, which has been waging a long, consistent fight to end "military Jim Crow," writes asking for contributions to help fight "the shame of segregating men and women in our armed forces because of their color." Contributions may be sent to the Committee at 101 West 46th Street, New York 19.

We have received from John R. Childs a copy of the Liberal Party's statement on the United Nations Charter. It calls upon progressive forces to work for its increasing democratization on the grounds that "the guarantees given dependent peoples are inadequate and the veto power of th great nations is not sufficiently qualified." It points out that the Charter has not yet "mitigated the desire of most of the great powers to esablish unilateral systems of security," and recommends that the United States "give wholehearted support to the democratic and progressive forces in Europe and Asia," rather than to those of reaction, as the only way of reaching a *modus vivendi* with Russia. The statement emphasizes that the Charter is only a first step in the right direction and that its improvement will depend "upon the developing experience of the nations as they seek to solve common postwar problems."

The Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor sends us "Building the Future for Children and Youth," a summary of recommendations made to President Truman by the National Commission on Children in Wartime for the expansion of protective services for children. The Commission suggests that: "The Social Security Act be amended to allow the federal government to increase its expenditures for child-health services by at least $75 million. . . . It urges federal aid to education and the strengthening of child-labor legislation." Copies of the complete report may be obtained from the Children's Bureau, United States Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C.

Mrs. Dorothea Baker of Brooklyn writes that the letters of Edmund Rucker and Lillian Smith (the *New Republic*, July 2) do not in her opinion lay enough stress on the role of education in fighting against racial discrimination. Textbooks, from kindergarten on up, she believes, should emphasize "the climatic geographic rules governing pigmentation . . . and the true reasons . . . why inter-racial animosities are fanned into . . . fires with the telling stench of politics, trade, industry." If this were possible, "man might mature to an understanding . . . of his fellow man."

Fight Over Permanent FEPC Again Threatens in Congress

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8—(AP)—A bitter revival of the congressional fight over creation of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee is building up.

This became evident today as congressional advocates of the antidiscrimination agency renewed their campaign to put it on the books as a full-time branch of the government, instead of a war-time unit.

President Truman's request in his Thursday message that the permanent committee be set up sparked the new drive, and at the same time, set in motion again the conflict of opinions which kept the Congress in heated debate for two months last Spring.

Eventually a compromise was reached giving the FEPC, set up by executive order of the late President Rooosevelt, limited funds and limited life.

Mr. Truman declared a permanent FEPC is needed to maintain "substantial progress" made during the war "in overcoming many of the prejudices which had resulted in discriminations against minority groups."

Representative Randolph (D-W. Va.), chairman of the House Labor Subcommittee which wrote the permanent FEPC bill, told a reporter:

"We hope the President's request will provide the spark to insure passage of the necessary legislation soon."

"We are starting a renewed drive to get this measure adopted as soon as possible," asserted Representative Joseph Clarke Baldwin (R-N. Y.).

Prolonged controversy over the issue seems certain. Most Southern Democrats are committed to an all-out battle against their party leader. Other Democrats and most Republicans have promised to fight just as hard for the agency.

By agreement of the opposing factions $250,000 was appropriated in the Spring for continuation until next July of the temporary FEPC. This was only half the amount sought, and left unsettled the question of a permanent agency.

The permanent FEPC legislation has been approved by both the Senate and House Labor Committees. It is on the Senate calendar, but no action is expected there immediately. In the House, the Rules Committee has it pigeonholed, but FEPC friends hope to get around this block.

"We are pushing efforts now to get enough signatures to discharge the Rules Committee of further responsibility," Representative Hook (D-Mich.) reported.

"We only need 60 or 70 more signers, and many Republicans who have promised us support have not put their names on the list as yet."

If a majority—218—of the members sign such a discharge petition the bill would be referred to the floor for immediate consideration.

Even opponents have said that if the measure reaches the floor they cannot block its passage in the House. Their only hope then would be to kill it by the filibuster method in the Senate.

GALLUP POLL

The Atlanta Constitution

FEPC Law Advisable?

Atlanta, Georgia 9-23-45

PRINCETON, N. J.—Few issues have produced such sharp differences of opinion in the United States as the issue involved in anti-discrimination, or FEPC type, laws proposed in Washington and in various states of the union.

The idea of requiring employers to hire a person qualified for a job regardless of color was recently written into law in New York and New Jersey, but a current survey shows that the idea has not yet achieved widespread acceptance throughout the country as a whole.

The south is not the only section which shows resistance to such legislation. In questioning Americans from coast to coast the Institute finds that large numbers of people in the middle west, and in the far west, are also reluctant to see legislative action to abolish racial and color lines in employment.

* * *

FARMERS the country over are especially unreceptive to the idea. The farm population, even outside the south, is more opposed to FEPC laws concerning employers than any other large group.

Manual workers, on the other hand, show preponderant sentiment in favor of the FEPC program. A majority of these say they would like to see employers required to hire without regard to race or color.

Manual workers also express greater willingness than white collar workers, executives, professional men or farmers to work alongside persons of any race or color.

* * *

YOUNG PEOPLE—those under 30—also show more inclination to accept anti-discrimination laws than older people—a fact which suggests that such proposals will win increasing support as time goes on.

Of all geographical sections, the northeast shows the most receptiveness at present, a majority of people there expressing themselves in favor of FEPC-type legislation.

* * *

THE QUESTION used was this: "Do you favor or oppose a law in your state which would require employers to hire a person if he is qualified for the job regardless of his race or color?"

The vote:

	Favor	Oppose	No. Op.
National	43%	44%	13%
By Sections:			
New England and Middle Atlantic	58%	31%	11%
East and West Central	41	43	16
South	30	60	10
Far West	41	46	13
By Age:			
21-29	55	34	11
30-49	42	45	13
50 and over	38	48	14
By Occupation:			
Business and professional	43	48	9
White collar	41	51	8
Farmers	25	57	18
Manual workers	52	35	13

Reconversion

The abrupt and apparently unexpected end of the war in Asia presents the nation with a problem that is unprecedented in history. Of course the cessation of the fighting brought joy to most of the people everywhere. Even the war workers joined in the celebration even if some of them —especially those who needed work—soon realized they must readjust themselves to peace time conditions.

The readjustment will be difficult, to be sure, with many. But we believe the great majority of Negroes will join other Americans with the same devotion, patience and loyalty in helping to make smooth the transition from war to peace as they demonstrated in helping conclude victoriously the greatest war in the history of the world.

Hardly had President Truman announced capitulation of the last enemy nation than machinery move of necessity to close millions of war time jobs, many of which had, after collective efforts, been opened to Negroes for the first time. In a few short months, perhaps weeks, all war jobs will be closed and the nation reconverted to peacetime production.

Newspapers reported last week that FEPC, salvation of Negroes during this war, along with other agencies is to go. It was created by the late Mr. Roosevelt as an emergency body, to operate for the "duration." In the absence of congressional action and continuation of FEPC, firms may resume discrimination against Negroes in employment, and with federal approval. Of the sixty million jobs we need now, unless vigorous action is taken, Negroes will be the last considered, even for the menial work. That's how it was before; that's how it will be again unless we do a lot of thinking and working on our part. First, we must redouble our efforts to get a permanent FEPC. In spite of our political status in the South, we should let all our representatives in Congress know our view. Moreover, we should write now our relatives and friends in nothern states where the public representatives are more responsive to the wishes of the Negro citizens, urging them to make known to their members of Congress the need for this legislation.

Although most of the nation will be reconverting to a past condition, we the Negroes in the South, must never reconvert to the political slavery which held us prior to the Supreme Court decision April 3, 1944 in the Texas primary case. This decision legally grants us political equality. We must realize our new and improved status politically and grasp this great weapon and use it to improve our conditions generally.

Let every minister, every teacher, every professional and community leader stress over and over, again and again this most important fact. Let every Negro aspire first of all to become a registered voter because even if we get an FEPC law, remember the force and effect of any law is determined largely by the spirit and attitude of those who administer it.

Considering the obstacles against us as a race, we should be on the average the most vote-conscious citizens in our country. But at the present the reverse is the case. If we are to hold what we have and enjoy the benefits available to the average American, we must never reconvert to political impotency. We have the numbers to become a political factor in the life of our city, our county, our state and our section. Let's organize and use this power.

Chicago Adopts FEPC Ordinance

Pittsburg Courier 9-1-45

Pa.

CHICAGO—(ANP)—With only one dissenting vote, a Fair Employment Practices ordinance, drafted and introduced by the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, was adopted Tuesday by the Chicago City Council. Chicago becomes the first city to enact such an ordinance. The ordinance makes it a misdemeanor for an employer to refuse to employ or for a union to refuse to admit any person because of race, creed, color or national origin.

The ordinance committed the city of Chicago to a policy of non-discrimination in its own hiring and requires contractors and sub-contractors working for the city to include in all contracts an agreement not to discriminate.

The Illinois House of Representatives passed a State FEPC bill, but it was defeated in the Senate by employer organizations.

CITY PROSECUTOR TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS 9-1-45

Ira Latimer, executive director of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, stated: "The new ordinance is of the greatest importance because of the multi-million dollars public works project which Chicago is planning to undertake in the months and years just ahead.

"The city prosecutor will receive complaints of violations of the ordinance and prosecute these violations in the municipal court. Public officials in all city departments will be held responsible for all employes and contractors working under their direction. The new ordinance will have the support of the majority of public opinion and will be therefore quite effective in ending discrimination in employment against minority groups." 9-1-45

The new ordinance is as follows:

Section 1. Whereas, it is the policy of the United States Government in furtherance of the successful winning of the peace to insure the maximum participation of all available workers in production, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the Nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders, the city of Chicago, to cooperate with the United States Government, by elimiating discrimination in public and private employment, enacts this ordinance, to be known as the Fair Employment Practices ordinance.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful for any department of the city of Chicago; or any city official, his agent or employe, for or on behalf of the city of Chicago; or any private employer performing work within the city of Chicago; involving any public works of the city of Chicago, to refuse to employ or to discharge any person otherwise qualified on account of race, color, creed, national origin, or ancestry; to discriminate for the same reasons in regard to tenure, terms or conditions of employment; to deny promotion or increase in compensation solely for these reasons; to publish offer of employment based on such discrimination; to adopt or enforce any rule or employment policy which discriminates between employes on account of race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry; to seek such information as to any employe as a condition of employment; to penalize any employe or discriminate in the selection of personnel for training, solely on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry.

Section 3. All contracting agencies of the city of Chicago, or any department thereof, shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employe or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color or national origin and shall require him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts. 9-1-45

Section 4. It shall be unlawful for any person to discriminate against any other person by reason of race, creed, color or national origin, with respect to the hiring, application for employment, tenure, terms or conditions of employment or union membership.

Section 5. Any person, firm, or corporation who shall violate or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine in any sum not exceeding $200.

Section 6. If any part of this ordinance shall be declared invalid, the balance shall remain in full force and effect.

Organize House Steering Body For FEPC Bill

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
9-25-45

Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY) announced in a speech Sunday night the formation of a steering committee in the House for the FEPC Bill, and told his listeners he expected the bill to pass.

The Harlem Congressman accused the coalition of southern Democrats and reactionary Republicans on the powerful Rules Committee of "bottling up the bill." He said that he and Rep. Mary T. Norton (D-NJ) planned to get the bill onto the floor on 'calender Wednesday' when committee chairmen or members may present a bill when their committees are reached on the calender.

Marcantonio spoke at a dinner which ended an all-day conference called by the New York Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare on "federal responsibility for fair employment practice."

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Marcantonio also revealed that the House Steering Committee for the FEPC Bill will call a national conference in Washington soon to put pressure on Congress for passage of FEPC legislation.

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Federal Committee on Fair Employment Practice, in his speech expressed alarm at the tendency during reconversion to downgrade Negroes and other minorities. He recalled that following World War I employers had used Negroes as strikebreakers and that "during this present war there were more than 100 strikes over racial issues." To permit minority workers to become too large a proportion of the unemployed, Mr. Ross thought, would "inject into an already delicate situation the added racial hazard."

Charles Houston, Negro attorney, said in reporting the findings of the conference that "the alternative to FEPC is a perpetuation of substandard living conditions for large sections of the population and moral degradation."

"Liberal pressure is necessary," he said, "because reactionary vested interests are constantly at work."

Sharp Differences Of Opinion Found On Race Discrimination Proposal

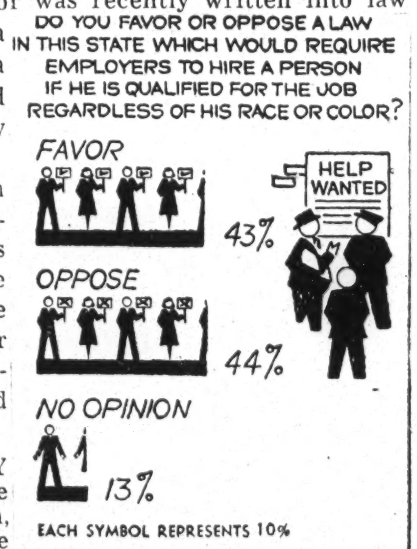
The Birmingham News
Birmingham, Alabama
9-23-45

Manual Workers Favor Legislation To Abolish Color Lines In Employment, But Farmers And Others Are Against Taking Any Legal Steps

BY GEORGE GALLUP
Director, American Institute Of Public Opinion

Few issues have produced such sharp differences of opinion in the United States as the issue involved in anti-discrimination, or FEPC type, laws proposed in Washington and in various states of the union.

The idea of requiring employers to hire a person qualified for a job regardless of his race or color was recently written into law in New York and New Jersey, but a current survey shows that the idea has yot yet achieved widespread acceptance throughout the country as a whole .



The South is not the only section which shows resistance to such legislation. In questioning Americans from coast-to-coast the Institute finds that large numbers of people in the Middle West, and in the Far West,, are also reluctant to see legislative action to abolish racial and color lines in employment.

* * *

FARMERS THE COUNTRY OVER are especially unreceptive to the idea. The farm population, even outside the South, is more opposed to FEPC laws concerning employers than any other large group.

Manual workers, on the other hand, show preponderant sentiment in favor of the FEPC program. A majority of these say they would like to see employers required to hire without regard to race or color.

Manual workers also express greater willingness than white collar workers, executives, professional men or farmers to work alongside persons of any race or color.

Young people — those under 30— also show more inclination to accept anti-discrimination laws than older people—a fact which suggests that such proposals will win increasing support as time goes on.

Of all geographical sections, the Northeast shows the most receptiveness at present, a majority of people there expressing themselves in favor of FEPC-type legislation.

* * *

THE INSTITUTE'S SURVEY was conducted for the sole purpose of finding the facts as to national opinion on the matter—facts which may serve as a guide to those interested in promoting better race-relations in the United States.

A true cross-section of the population was polled.

The question used was this:

"Do you favor or oppose a law in your state which would require employers to hire a person if he is qualiifed for the job regardless of his race or color?"

The vote:

	Favor	Opposed	No Op.
National	43%	44%	13%
By Sections:			
New England and Middle Atlantic	58	31	11
East and West Central	41	43	16
South	30	60	10
Far West	41	46	13
By age:			
21-29	55	34	11
30-49	42	45	13
50 and over	38	48	14
By Occupation:			
Business and Professional	43	48	9
White collar	41	51	8
Farmers	25	57	18
Manual Workers	52	35	13

* * *

AS A FURTHER TEST of sentiment a second question dealing with the willingness of employers to work alongside persons of any race or color was asked, as follows:

"Would you favor or oppose a state law which would require employes to work alongside persons of any race or color?"

The national vote:

Favor	34%
Oppose	56
No opinion	10

Order to ISU May Be Tip on FEPC Survival

P.M.

Negro Seamen Issue Is Big Test for the Committee

N.Y. N.Y.

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—Unless somebody—presumably the American people—does something about it, the war-born Fair Employment Practices Committee is on its way to an early peacetime grave.

A survey of FEPC's chances of survival in a reconverting industrial world are far from bright in spite of a crystal clear White House order extending its powers int othe reconversion period.

A test of FEPC powers, which may clarify the situation, is the only order the agency has issued since V-J Day, one which says the Seafarers International Union (AFL) cannot refuse to accept Negro seamen in its deck gangs.

So far, according to Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, the Seafarers' Union has not acknowledged receipt of the order. Chances are, the union will tell the FEPC to go fly its kite and not conform to the order. That is why the order is a significant test.

President Truman has expressed his flat opinion that there should be a permanent FEPC in the U. S. A., but the prospect is gloomy. A House bill to create such an agency has been interred in the reactionary Rules Committee of the House, dominated body and soul by Southern Democrats, to whom the FEPC is an ogre of unpleasant proportions. 10-17-45

A petition to by-pass the Rules Committee on the legislation requires 218 signatures of Congressmen. So far they have 150, far short of the needed number.

There were 115 persons working for FEPC before the appropriations cut from $500,000 to $250,000 early this year. Now 53 are attempting to enforce the democratic principle that a man looking for a job should not be discriminated against because of his race, color or religion. Only nine offices are operating—New York, Atlanta, St. Louis, San Antonio, Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles San Francisco, and Washington.

Ross's surveys have shown the heaviest cutback in employment are among Negroes and Mexican-Americans. Usually, these were the last employed so there could not be a fuss raised about their loss of jobs.

Ross warned communities which imported Negro and Mexican-American labor they must be prepared to integrate them into reconverted industries ar pay the cost of having them on their hands unemployed.

The next six months should decide the fate of the 1,500,000 Negroes and Mexican-Americans employed in war industries who are being let out today. That, he says, is where FEPC could assist the Nation.

Since its inception, the committee processed about 12,000 cases and settled 40 per cent of them. It had only 30 hearings, involving 102 companies, 38 unions and five Government agencies.

Normally, about 80 per cent of the cases concerned race discrimination, 10 per cent creed and 10 per cent national origin—Europeans of foreign birth. Lately discrimination because of national origin decreased to about 5 per cent and that because of race increased to about 85 per cent. 10-17-45

A report on the discrimination situation, which was FEPC's job, will be ready in about two weeks for presentation to either Congress or the White House.

Seek To Heal Breach Between FEPC Committee, Nat'l Council

The Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

9-16-45

Differences Need Ironing Out For Success

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— Differences between the National Council for a Permanent FEPC and the committee itself are going to have to be ironed out shortly if the drive to secure passage of the ligislation in either chamber is to be successful, it is learned.

Last week the problem was laid before A. Philip Randolph, co-chairman of the council, in an effort to have him intercede with the committee with the objective in mind of arriving at an answer to the question of respective roles.

The conflict between the two groups began sometime ago but was never allowed to reach the surface primarily because to do so might have jeopardized the fights being made last spring and early summer first to get the Norton bill out of the house rules committee, and second to secure an appropriation for the committee.

DUTIES RESERVED

In essence it is this: the national council has reserved to itself the primary -- though not exclusive necessarily--role of developing and executing strategy with regard to the legislation. This is the job the set out to do in 1943 and the one it is diligently prosecuting now. It has preferred to leave to the committee the responsibility of directing the annual struggles for the appropriation.

Because these two distinct areas of operation have not always been mutually observed, individuals from both sides have been frowning at each other with some real feeling behind it all.

Legally the FEPC has no right to interfere with the course of pending legislation, except when invited by congress, and ethically ought not inject itself into the picture where it might appear that it is trying to perpetuate itself. On the other hand, this is a very sound project for any outside, non-governmental group such as the council to undertake.

TWO BILLS DRAFTED

Late in 1944 when it was apparent that the 78th congress would end without passing a permanent FEPC bill, the national council busied itself with plans for reintroducing its bill in the next session and for pressing its drive.

Quite unbeknowing to the council, however, Will Maslow, formerly director of field operations with the FEPC, drafted a bill and handed it to Mrs. Mary Norton (D) of New Jersey and chairman of the house labor committee. The bill was sufficiently different to permit the opposition members of the committee to insist upon a new public hearing. However, a number of bills were presented, all in the council's version, and in the compromise worked out a new hearing was avoided and a satisfactory measure was allowed to be reported to congress.

9-16-45

Another source of the dispute is the fact that staff members of the committee have been lobbying on the hill among same congressmen without checking with the national council which feels that this is its particular job.

QUESTION INITIATIVE

Officials of the council recognize that the experience of the committee can be useful to the fight it is making but does not believe the committee should exercise such initiative, which at times has proved embarrassing to the council.

On the other hand, a committee spokesman maintains that there should be no objection of they have friends on the hill and decide to ask these friends to support the permanent legislation.

The course open to Randolph, in the event he decides to move on the situation, is to talk over with Chairman Malcolm Ross of the committee the best procedures for cooperating both on the legislation and future appropriation arguments.

Randolph Expects Riots if FEPC Dies

P. M. N.Y. N.Y.

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Race riots are inevitable in big industrial cities of the U. S. A. unless Congress assures minority groups—mostly Negroes—of a fair and equal chance for work, A. Philip Randolph, co-chairman of the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission, warns lawmakers of Capitol Hill.

If the Congress does not pass the bill creating a permanent FEPC, Randolph said, "it is difficult to see how violence, perhaps exceeding that which after the last war brought terror to 26 American cities in one year, can be prevented."

He added that "anti-social employers" are "reconverting" to their habit of discriminating against Jews and Catholics, Negroes and Mexicans thanks to Congressional inaction and a dying wartime FEPC. They want cheap labor markets, he charged.

"This is the very basic invitation to violence," he told a press conference which did not number in its representatives a single major wire service or a single major metropolitan newspaper.

Randolph reached his conclusions after surveying conditions in St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Kansas City and New Orleans and consulting with members of the 70 national organizations supporting a permanent FEPC.

10-19-45

Randolph recalled the cities terrorized by race violence in 1919, climaxed by disastrous riots in Chicago. Then there were only 1,000,000 men out of work in the Nation, 50,000 in Detroit.

"Today," he warned, "one of the most optimistic estimates is that there will be 8,000,000 jobless by Spring. Right now there are 143,000 unemployed in Detroit, three times as many as in 1919. By Spring America will have eight times as many jobless as it had in 1919.

"Saving FEPC will not prevent violence completely, but would certainly tend to restrain employers and give hope to vast numbers of the minorities," he added.

He said inaction in Congress fosters discrimination on the part of employers and disillusionment among the jobless, with "resultant outbreaks."

Randolph emphasized that 1,000,000 non-whites are returning as veterans of the armed services.

During the war, he said FEPC raised the 3 per cent minority citizens in war jobs to 7.2 per cent. Since cutbacks began, minorities are being tossed out at higher rates than other workers.

The Glen L. Martin bomber plant in Baltimore had employed 50,000 white workers and more than 3000 Negroes at its peak, he said. Now, only 13 Negroes are left. And, for another example, he cited the fact that the U. S. Employment Service again is getting requests for "white Gentile workers only."

Negroes Hardest Hit in Buffalo Layoffs

The Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

FEPC REPORTS 6,000 JOBLESS: MINORITIES FIRED FIRST

Buffalo's war industry layoffs have hit the Negro population of that city hardest of all, Regional FEPC Director Edward Lawson reported yesterday.

10-31-45

Lawson, who has just returned from a tour of the upstate area, said that at present more than 6,000 Negro workers, formerly employed in war plants in Buffalo, are now without jobs and face small opportunity of obtaining them in peacetime industry.

10-31-45

He also reported that women workers of other minority groups, chiefly Jewish, Polish and Italian, are also being squeezed out of reconverted plants.

Mounting unemployment in Buffalo stems from removal of the city's two big war plants, Curtiss-Wright and Bell Aircraft. Each of these plants employed more than a thousand skilled and semi-skilled Negro workers as a result of FEPC's negotiations with them two years ago. Two other plants, Buffalo Arms and Colonial Radio, which had hired many Negro workers as a result of pressure from FEPC have closed down entirely.

Mr. Lawson reported that only a few hundred of the thousands of Negro women who had wartime employment in Buffalo's plants are now employed.

THIS MORNING

by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

Birmingham Herald Alabama

"Blind guides, which strain at a gnat and swallow a camel!"

9-18-45

More and more conservatives are discovering that the Full Employment Bill is not a camel but a gnat. Fulton Lewis, most conservative of the radio commentators, took this position last week. So do Mark Sullivan and Raymond Moley. Beardsley Ruml thinks so. The act does declare the "policy" of the government to be that all Americans have "the right to useful, remunerative, regular and full-time employment" and of having the government "assure the existence at all times of sufficient employment opportunities to enable all Americans "to exercise this right (with obvious exceptions). But just as strongly the act declares it the policy of the government to "foster free competitive enterprise" and "the investment of private capital." Insofar as the two policies are incompatible they cancel each other and only emphasize the more that the policy statements are not the real bill.

* * *

The bill amounts only to a provision that the president shall report each year what, if any, unemployment is in prospect. Congress may then do whatever appeals to it about the situation. The bill takes pains to stipulate that the carrying out of any measures for which the situation may call or seem to call shall not be considered as authorized "unless by provisions of law other than this act."

9-18-45

And yet, so single-minded have some of us become against anything, with the old New Deal earmarks that here is my friend Editor Peter Molyneaux, of the Southern Weekly, earnestly denouncing the bill as one under which, if nationwide unemployment is indicated, "it becomes the duty of Congress and the president to supplement private and other non-federal spending by whatever amount of federal spending and investment is required to make up the deficiency." Maybe it would become "the duty" in Sen. Murray's eyes, and Sen. Wagner's, but it is such a duty in their eyes already, without any bill. It is not the duty in the sense of any legal obligation in the bill itself.

It is hard to understand those who are denouncing this Full Employment bill as a monstrous advance into controlled economy and yet are keen for the Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, in comparison with which the former is only a toothless pleasantry.

9-18-45

"Is there any essential difference between a commission regulating the way railroads may charge their customers and a (fair employment committee regulating the way employers may hire or pay their workers?" asks H. V. Richardson, of Jacksonville, Fla. It seems to me that there is a very total difference. Two, in fact. One is that railroads are public services apart from our regular competitive economic system. Government regulation of such operations has been accepted by everybody as proper, and as proving nothing in regard to governmental interference with ordinary economic processes. Another is that there is a big difference between having the government supervise railroad rates, or even prices, wages and working hours, and government efforts to interfere in the million and one considerations involved in deciding whom you want to employ and whom you don't.

9-18-45

For government to regulate railroad rates is difficult. For government to exercise price, wage and production controls in general is much more difficult. But for government to dictate colors, religions, races and points of view on private payrolls is impossible. Only confusion and strife can come of the attempt.

First City To Enact Such An Ordinance

Violations To Bring Fines Not To Exceed $200

CHICAGO— (ANP)— With only one dissenting vote, a fair employment practice ordinance drafted and introduced by the Chicago Civil Liberties committee was adopted Tuesday by the Chicago City council. Chicago becomes the first city to enact such an ordinance.

The ordinance makes it a misdemeanor for an employer to refuse to employ or for a union to refuse to admit any persons because of race, creed, color or national origin.

The ordinance committed the City of Chicago to a policy of non-discrimination in its owns hiring and requires contractors and sub-contractors working for the city to include in all contracts an agreement not to discriminate.

ILLINOIS BILL DEFEATED

The Illinois House of Representatives passed a state FEPC bill but it was defeated in the senate by employer organization.

Ira Latimer, executive director of the Chicago Civil Liberties committee, stated: "The new ordinance is of the greatest importance because of the multimillion dollars public works project which Chicago is planning to undertake in the months and years just ahead.

"The city prosecutor will receive complaints of violation of the ordinance and prosecute these violations in the municipal court. Public officials in all city departments will be held responsible for all employes and contractors working under their direction. The new ordinance will have the support of the majority of public opinion and will be therefore quite effective in ending discrimination in employment against minority groups."

The new ordinance is as follows:

"Section 1. Whereas, it is the policy of the United States government in furtherance of the successful winning of the peace to insure the maximum participation of all available workers in production, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life with in the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders, the city of Chicago, to cooperate with the United States government, by elminating discrimination in public and private employment, enacts this ordinance to be known as the Fair Employment Practices ordinance.

PINS DOWN CITY

"Second 2. It shall be unlawful for any department of the City of Chicago; or any city official, his agent or employe, for or on behalf of the city of Chicago; or any private employed performing work with in the city of Chicago; involving any public works of the city of Chicago to refuse to employ or to discharge any person otherwise qualified on account of race, color creed, national origin, or ancestry; to discriminate for the same reasons in regard to tenure, terms or conditions of employment; to deny promotion or increase in compensation solely for these reasons; to publish offer or employment based on such discrimination; to adopt or enforce any rule or employment policy which discriminates between employes on account of race, color religion, national origin, or ancestry; to seek such information as any to employe as a condition of employment; to penalize any employe or discriminate in the selection of personnel for training, solely on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry.

"Section 3. All contracting agencies of the city of Chicago, or any department thereof, shall include in all contracts hereafter negotiated or renegotiated by them a provision obligating the contractor not to discriminate against any employe or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color or national origin and shall require him to include a similar provision in all subcontracts.

"Section 4. It shall be unlawful for any person to discriminate against any other person by reason of race, creed, color or national origin, with respect to the hiring, application for employment, tenure terms or conditions of employment or union membership.

"Section 5. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shal be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, shall be punished by a fine in any sum not exceeding $200.

"Section 6. If any part of this ordinance shall be declared invalid the balance shall remain in full force and effect."

A Permanent FEPC

The President has again insisted that Congress create a permanent FEPC which will protect Negroes and other minorities in their right to earn a living without discrimination.

He has called for a housing program, financed largely by private capital, but with government aid, to build from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 units a year.

He has urged a vast public works program, including construction of roads, airports, hospitals and development of America's river valleys.

He has proposed improvement of medical, hospital and loan provisions for veterans.

He has recommended to Congress an increase in the "obsolete" 40-cent minimum of the wage and hour act.

These are all essential aspects of Roosevelt's Economic Bill of Rights. And these are the most significant and positive features of President Truman's 16,000-word message to Congress.

FEPC Finds Lundeberg Union Guilty of Bias

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7. — The badly battered Fair Employment Practise Committee came back today with an important anti-jim-crow decision, directing the AFL Seafarers International Union to stop discriminating against qualified Negro seamen.

It is understood that several other important decisions against the jimcrow in other industries are expected later this month.

The Seafarers Union headed by Harry Lundeberg, was found guilty of discriminating against Negroes on some 32 counts in hearings conducted in New York City Oct. 10, 1944.

The FEPC order was signed by Chairman Malcolm Ross. If Lundeberg ignores it the case will be certified to President Truman for action.

Uncontradicted evidence from the Port of New York and other SIU shipping centers showed the Lundeberg's union consistently refused to ship out Negro deck and engine department workers, who had been sent to the union hiring halls by the recruiting and manning organization of the War Shipping Administration.

The SIU's jim crow began in its union halls, where separate black and white hiring departments were established.

~~F-97~~

Life or Death of FEPC Up to Truman

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—FEPC's life or death depends on President Truman. And time is very short. The wartime non-discrimination cannot do its job during reconversion unless the President issues a new executive order extending FEPC's jurisdiction to industries in transition from war to peace production.

Hope that such action may come quickly is felt by some Negro, CIO and AFL representatives. Such Fair Employment Practice Committee members as Attorney Charles Houston of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, John Brophy of the CIO and Boris Shishkind of the AFL found the President sympathetic when they visited him this week.

Nevertheless there is no guarantee that the order will be signed. Any letup therefore in labor's campaign could be disastrous.

NEGROES, JEWS HIT

Meanwhile FEPC's doubtful status is encouraging discrimination in many industrial cities.

Both Negroes and Jews are affected. It was learned today that the U. S. Employment Service is getting an increasing number of calls from employers for "white only" workers, and "white and gentile" workers.

Some Philadelphia employers are said to be among the worst sinners in this respect.

USES leaders are distressed by the situation. In the past—before the Japanese surrender—they could turn for action to FEPC. Now FEPC's powers are in dispute.

White supremacy employers have been laying off Negroes with a vengeance since the victory celebration. One Philadelphia plant manager, for instance, fired all of his approximately 280 Negro employes but 12, whom he kept on as porters.

A much higher proportion of the firm's 700 whites were retained.

Many discriminatory Negro layoffs are also reported from Detroit, Chicago and elsewhere especially from war industry cities in the South.

ROSS' WARNING

The danger of race riots, which Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, recently predicted would follow the liquidation of the agency is increasing. White supremacy propaganda is fanning this peril as Negroes seek a share in the jobs ebbing out.

Fortunately many Americans are alerted to this peril. Friends of FEPC from Portland, Ore., told today how a member of the influential City Club, who made a public attack at a club meeting against the Negro people, was dramatically rebuked at the following meeting this month when several hundred members passed a strong resolution supporting FEPC and the right of Negroes to work.

FEPC, incidentally, won a major victory in Portland last year when it compelled the AFL boilermakers union to let down its barriers against Negroes in the Kaiser shipyards.

Such former victories, however, will be largely wiped out unless the President sees his way to extend FEPC jurisdiction quickly, trade union leaders emphasized today.

Much depends on the energy with which the labor movement makes its demand for FEPC felt in government circles. Philip Murray, CIO president gave a lead on this issue in his strong FEPC declaration before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee during the full employment bill hearings last Wednesday.

The drive for 218 House signatures to get the bill for a permanent FEPC out of the clutches of the Rules Committee and onto the floor, will be stepped up when Congress reconvenes next week. Less than 150 have signed up to date. The immediate crisis, however, centers around the issue of extending the jurisdiction of the wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee to industries reconverting for peace.

Talk With Truman on FEPC Encourages Negro Leaders

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The prospect that the Federal Government may retain some power to control racial and religious discrimination in employment during peace as well as war brightened today following a conference among President Truman, Chairman Malcolm Ross of the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) and prominent Negro and labor leaders.

Although there still is doubt as to whether the President can and will exercise his war powers to assure minority groups fair job opportunities during the reconversion period, Ross and other members of the conference group are extremely optimistic.

The power given the temporary wartime FEPC created by President Roosevelt is fast ebbing as the agency was set up with specific assignment of protecting minorities only in war plants. 8-23-45

Ross said today that the President "fully understood the problem," but declined to state just how Truman expects to handle the problem of job discrimination over the next few months. P.M.

Accompanying Ross to the White House were Charles H. Houston, attorney for the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People; John Brophy of the CIO, Boris Shishkin of the AFL, and Deputy Chairman George Johnson of the FEPC. New York, N. Y.

Shishkin said:

"The President said explicitly that he will proceed with the measures necessary to alleviate racial and religious employment bias during the reconversion period."

Negro Magistrate Quits GOP For Knifing FEPC in Pa.

Special to the Daily Worker

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 26.—Magistrate Edward W. Henry, nationally known Negro Elk leader and considered a Republican bulwark among the Negro people, has announced that he has quit the GOP because it killed FEPC in Pennsylvania.

Magistrate Henry, in an interview with People's Voice, said he had refused to attend a meeting of Republican leaders in New York last week, and declared: "The state GOP murdered FEPC. I am through with the Pew-Grundy machine. I no longer care to be considered a representative of the Republican Party of Pennsylvania in view of the outrageous attitude of Republican leaders toward the FEPC bill introduced by Legislator Homer Brown. . . . The power behind the throne, who in this case happened to be Hon. Joseph Pew, gave his secret orders, and the bill was referred to a committee where it died an unnatural and untimely death.

Labor's Job Program

Permanent FEPC Essential During Reconversion Period

Daily Worker New York, New York

The enactment of the permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee bill now before Congress is an essential part of the reconversion program. The bulk of the Negro workers in industry will be among the millions laid off in the next few weeks and months. The temporary FEPC will not be able to help them get jobs in peacetime industry because its functions are confined to war industry.

The permanent FEPC measure had been approved by the House Labor Committee and the Senate Labor and Education Committee blocked by the tory-GOP-dominated Rules Committee which refuses to allow it to get to the floor for a vote. A discharge petition to get the measure to the floor has about 150 out of the required 219 signatures. The job now is to see that the petition is completed as soon as Congress gets back.

Specifically, the measure bars discrimination in industry and provides that a permanent committee be set up to investigate cases of such discrimination. If it is established by hearings that discrimination exists, it issues an order that it be cut out.

The procedure then follows that of the National Labor Relations Act. Failure to carry out the Commissioner's order will land the culprit in the courts. If the courts rule against him, he must either obey or face certain penalties. The committee will thus have broader power than has the temporary wartime commission, which has only power to persuade.

French Advisor Scores Eastland

Baltimore Md. afro-American

By MICHAEL CARTER

NEW YORK—Sen. James Eastland (Dem., Miss.), who insulted French African troops by saying they had attacked 5,000 German women is not only a liar but a "distinguished Senator who is using Nazi tactics and is doing the Germans a great favor."

This statement was made to the AFRO last week by Jean de la Roche, French Advisor on Colonial Affairs, who said he was positive that the alleged subway assault "never took place in any subway anywhere." 7-21-45

There is no subway in the place where Senator Eastland said the alleged attack took place.

Personal Insult

French official circles here take the Senator's slanderous attack as a personal insult, and see in it the beginning of a new type of soft peace approach.

"This is the same sort of thing they said after the last war," de la Roche said.

In taking something said against a colored Frenchman as a personal insult, French officials show a marked difference to some American whites who would not consider a slander against a colored American as an affront to the entire country.

No Press Record of Story

A check-up of the Associated Press, International News Service, United Press and the Columbia Broadcasting System press service revealed that none of the major press services transmitted such a story from overseas.

Army public relations officers here said that European war news reached this country through five authoritative channels: the press service, accredited individual correspondents in the employ of newspapers, magazines, or other publications, the overseas radio, the OWI and official Army sources.

"Nothing like this was ever brought up," press-service men said.

Not Generally Believed

From my observation, the attack story is not generally believed by whites in New York City.

They may have believed it if Senator Eastland had not used it as a filibuster against the FEPC. If it has had any effect on white New Yorkers, it has made them more conscious of the need of a Federal FEPC.

'Pushing People . . .'

PM 7-25-45

Dear Editor:

I have noted with interest your stand on racial discrimination. You have inferred that those who discriminate against a race, color or creed are betraying the democracy for which we are fighting. Has it ever occurred to you that your own stand is as fascistic and totalitarian as that of your opponents? You advocate the FEPC which would *force* a majority to accept a minority. You decry the stand of the Mt. Vernon chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and intimate that they should be *forced* to admit colored members. To me, the use of force to gain the acceptance of any one race, color or creed by other races, colors or creeds, whether legally or otherwise, is not democratic in any respect.

We have in our U. S. A. another minority, the original owners of this country. We despoiled him of his lands and relegated him to a reservation. He cannot vote; in fact, he cannot legally take a drink of liquor. He is not accepted as an equal, yet he, too, has fought and is fighting for this country. No howls of anguish have ever emanated from your pages on the unfair treatment of the American Indian. Perhaps they, too, need publicity agents.

SGT. ROBERT N. ZIMMERMAN
Greensboro, N. C.

Let's be sensible. "PM is against people who push other people around . . ." So does PM have to be against the Allied armies which pushed the Germans around all over Europe? We aren't Gandhiists; we believe in active, not passive, resistance to the pusher-arounders. N. Y.

You say FEPC would force the majority to accept a minority. Well, do you say the Government should abolish the income-tax law because it forces people to pay taxes? The conscription law, because it forces people into the Army? Laws against murder, because they force people to abstain from putting arsenic in Grandma's eggnog?

We wish laws against murder weren't necessary. We wish the whole thing could be handled by education. We wish laws against discrimination—which is sometimes a slow kind of murder—weren't necessary. We wish everybody were educated to the understanding that discrimination—denying a man employment because of his race or creed, refusing to serve a man in a restaurant because his skin is darker, denying a man the right to vote for the people who make the laws he has to live under—is an unjust thing, an undemocratic thing, an evil thing. We're trying to do our bit to help educate people to that understanding.

But the world can't wait for education to make all laws unnecessary. So we're for FEPC. If that be fascistic and totalitarian, make the most of it.

As to the 333,939 U. S. Indians: we oppose discrimination against them as much as we oppose discrimination against any other minority. FEPC protects them just as much as it protects any other minority. Granted that U. S. treatment of them has been shameful. We can't revise history; all we can do is try to make everybody's future a little better.—ED.

Fate of FEPC

N.Y. Times

Last week the Rules Committee was under fire, as Congress was locked in the sharpest wrangle of the present session. The crux of the controversy was a proposed appropriation to keep alive the Fair Employment Practices Committee, which acts to ban discrimination in war industries for reason of race, color or national origin. Southern Congressmen on the House Appropriations Committee had stricken from the War Agencies Appropriations Bill a $446,000 item to finance FEPC. The Rules Committee, in admitting the bill to floor debate, prevented supporters of FEPC from introducing an amendment restoring the FEPC fund. 7-8-45

The House passed the bill without the FEPC fund. In the Senate FEPC backers restored a $250,000 appropriation for the agency. Under usual procedure the House and Senate bills would then have gone to a joint conference committee to iron out the differences. But the Southern-controlled Rules Committee in the House referred both Senate and House bills back to the Appropriations Committee. There an entirely new bill was written, eliminating FEPC.

When this new bill reached the House floor FEPC backers retaliated. They struck from it appropriations for ten of nineteen agencies with the threat that if FEPC could not have funds neither could the others—including such important bodies as the Office of Defense Stabilization, the War Labor Board, the War Production Board, the Office of Economic Stabilization and the Office of War Administration. Thus stripped of its major items the War Agencies Bill was sent again to the Senate, where FEPC advocates said they would seek to have that chamber sit on the bill until the House reconsiders.

Chances for Adjournment

In view of the bitter recrimination and frayed tempers that the FEPC wrangle caused, such a tactic could bottle up Congress for the entire summer. It could deprive employes in nineteen affected war agencies of their pay—they have been technically without funds since the end of the fiscal year, June 30—and bring to a stop activities vital to the prosecution of the war. On the surface it appeared that such a stalemate might develop. But observers familiar with Congressional impasses predicted otherwise. For one thing, they pointed out, the Washington heat and the House's urge for a summer vacation were strong incentives to an early compromise. Since the Senate is committed to staying on for the San Francisco Charter debate, it is less sensitive to these incentives than the House. Most Washington observers predicted that an agreement would be worked out, with the House yielding ground. But whether or not it would restore the FEPC was still a moot question.

F.E.P.C. Bill Is 'American,' LaFollette Says

Courier Journal Louisville Ky.

Hoosier Representative Backs Measure On Air

7-28-45

The Courier-Journal Washington Bureau.

Washington, July 27.—The legislation proposing a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee is as American as Plymouth Rock, Representative Charles M. LaFollette said in a radio address tonight.

It is based, he said, upon the realization that the democratic ethic upon which this Government is founded must be made to operate in the economic field, as well as the political field; that men not only possess the right to speak and vote, but also the right to eat. 7-28-45

Address Broadcast.

The Republican congressman from Evansville, Ind., spoke in New York on a program carried by the American Broadcasting System. The discussion involved a measure now pigeonholed in the House Rules Committee by Southern Democrats.

"The proposed legislation," LaFollette said, "declares it to be a matter of national policy, operating in industries which affect interstate commerce, that the right of an individual to work in any job which he has the ability to attain and the character qualifications to keep shall not be denied to him because of the color of his skin, his creed, his race or the nation of his origin."

MASS RAPE IN REICH IS DENIED BY DEVERS

New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 26 (AP)—Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commander of Army ground forces, replying to allegations by Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat, of Mississippi, said today he believed there was no mass rape by French Colonial troops in Stuttgart.

He said, however, that there were cases of individual attacks on women because "I know that they [French Army authorities] shot at least twelve soldiers, Moroccans, Algerians and Goums," on charges of rape. He added that other cases had been reported. 7-27-45

General Devers discussed the matter at a news conference, in response to question.

One report, the general said, was that 2,500 women had been raped in a tunnel in Stuttgart after the German city fell to Allied troops of the Sixth Army under General Devers' command in late April. He asserted his own belief that the figure was nearer 300 and that these were individual cases.

General Devers said he based his opinion on an investigation he ordered immediately after the stories reached him. The general said he went into Stuttgart personally and left an inspector there to interview reported victims. An American doctor accompanied the general. In no instance, General Devers asserted, was evidence found of the alleged mass rape.

Senator Eastland had said the reports described the Colonial troops allegedly involved as Senegalese, who are African natives of Negro stock. General Devers said that to his knowledge only four Senegalese were in the Stuttgart area, the Colonial contingents being made up of Moroccans, Algerians and Goums.

Southern Democrats and FEPC

Atlanta Constitution

An inkling of the Democratic dilemma was provided by the long battle over appropriation for the Fair Employment Practices Committee, designed to prevent racial and religious discrimination. President Truman, pursuing a policy subscribed to by both political parties in the last campaign, had asked that the FEPC be made a permanent government institution.

The stake in this conflict is strictly political. It is the Negro vote in a dozen crucial northern states, which is openly threatening to bolt the Democratic party en masse unless the prevailing southern domination of it is broken.

7-26-45

Mr. Truman has given lip service to the FEPC, but he has shown no inclination so far toward going to war with the southern wing of his party. Of his six cabinet appointees, five are southerners or near-southerners, hailing from South Carolina, Kentucky, Missouri, Texas and New Mexico.

Atlanta, Ga.

FEPC is emphasized here only because it was the one disputatious domestic issue with which the expiring congress came to grips. There are a multitude of questions far more pressing and equally loaded with political dynamite.

FEPC AND OWI

N.Y. Times

Six weeks of wrangling, which wore out tempers in both Houses of Congress and held up nearly $750,000,000 of funds urgently needed by war agencies, have resulted in a qualified victory for the Fair Employment Practices Committee and a real victory for the Office of War Information. On Thursday, without a record vote in either House, FEPC received $250,000, or about half of what was asked for it. The terms of the grant are ambiguous, for the money may be spent either to liquidate the FEPC or to continue it in case Congress next year feels like doing so. In either event the principle has been accepted that this nation is not in favor of discrimination in wartime employment because of race, creed or color. OWI won a real endorsement, with an appropriation of $35,000,000. The House of Representatives, in which the fight against the agency was led by Representative Taber of New York, apparently took the view that Mr. Taber's charges of "ridiculous waste" were more than counterbalanced by the testimony of General Eisenhower, Chief of Staff Marshall and President Truman as to the need for OWI in the European theatre.

N.Y. 7-14-45

It is disquieting that such a squabble as this should take place on Capitol Hill in the midst of war with so many vital matters demanding attention. But the enemies of FEPC and OWI had every opportunity to present such arguments as they had and they were duly defeated by the common sense of the majorities in both Houses. Perhaps FEPC and OWI both stand more firmly today because they were fought over and not carelessly taken for granted.

Southern Paper Tells Sen. Bilbo: 'Shut Up, Sit Down'

Daily Worker

N.Y. N.Y.

By BILL MARDO

Theodore Gilmore Bilbo may hail from Poplarville, Miss. —but he isn too Popular with the folks back home—if we're to judge from newspaper reaction in the south.

Listen to what leading Southern dailies have said since Bilbo began his infamous spree against FEPC and minority groups.

The Chattanooga Times, while opposed to a permanent FEPC, declared on June 30: "The Times believes in continuing the wartime commissions until the war is won. Senator Bilbo ought to shut up and sit down."

8-4-45

And the Augusta Chronicle, while also against the FEPC, was nonetheless incensed by Bilbo's "demagoguery." On June 23, the Chronicle editorially declared: "Those who signed and circulated the petition favoring the FEPC were perfectly within their rights in doing it, and there was need to pillory them or insult them by applying to them such vilifying language."

On July 10th, the New Orleans Item outspokenly affirmed: "Bilbo's recent reversion in the Senate to characteristic indencencies for inciting racial and religious hates has not surprised anybody who knows 'The Man.' But they have again aroused disgust all over the country."

Demand Swells For Bilbo Ouster

Demands that Bilbo Must Go increased in volume yesterday as additional organizations called for the Mississippi Senator's impeachment.

The National Negro Congress noted that a "genuine national sentiment is aroused" by Bilbo's "vicious conduct." It called on all NNC council leaders to join in a countrywide campaign to remove Bilbo from the Senate.

The Jewish Peoples Committee described the Senator as a "polecat polltaxer obviously desiring to incite pogroms against Negroes, Jews and Catholics." Therefore, the committee stated, "our Senators and Representatives must be deluged with the demand that Bilbo must go."

The following organizations also called for a quick cleanup of Bilbo and Bilboism:

CIO United Federal Workers of America, Local 204:

"We are shocked at Sen. Bilbo's insulting remarks and demand an apology. We feel strongly that Sen. Bilbo's remarks are not becoming to a member of the United States Senate." The union represents 5,000 clothing workers producing and distributing naval uniforms for the war effort.

The Garibaldi Society, International Workers Order:

"On the stationery of the United States Senate and signed by a United States Senator (Bilbo) was seen the offensive slur, 'My Dear Dago.' Perhaps this gentleman forgets that Italians have always been part and parcel of our country's life and its progress."

The Communist Party, Chicago, Ill.:

"In answer to the insulting and outrageous Hitlerite remarks an aroused American people should call for the removal of this fascist spokesman from Congress. Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi is a fascist menace to America."

Meanwhile, Chicago's Southside Council of the Communist Party this week initiated a move for Bilbo's impeachment. Street corner meetings were held in Chicago's Negro community and 20,000 leaflets were distributed to fans attending the Negro All-Star East-West baseball game last Sunday.

Test Of The FEPC

Washington Post

The Fair Employment Practice Committee deserves commendation for coming to grips at last with the Capital Transit case. It is admittedly a difficult case, and the committee had been exhorted by many, including some elements of the Negro community, to postpone the hearings which were held this week. For the committee to have yielded to this counsel of expediency would have been, we think, to destroy its own prestige and effectiveness. The transit company's absolute ban on the employment of Negroes in platform positions is a matter of common knowledge. The FEPC could not countenance its continuance in the Capital City of the Nation without stultifying its whole effort to end job discrimination.

D.C.

The discrimination in this case is candidly acknowledged by the company, but attributed entirely to an unwillingness on the part of its white employes to work alongside Negroes in platform jobs. The company made an effort in 1943 to train a Negro bus operator and encountered employe resistance. It made an apparently careful survey of the attitudes of its white drivers and operators and discovered what should have been surprising to no one, that many of them have strong racial prejudices and threatened to quit their jobs if Negroes should be hired. The company's position, therefore, as stated by its counsel, Edmund L. Jones, is that "it cannot take upon itself the responsibility of employing Negro platform employes as long as the hazard of complete stoppage exists." A disruption of transport would, of course, be calamitous in this headquarters of the national war effort.

1-18-45

It seems to us, however, that the company has magnified the hazard of complete stoppage. Transit workers tried this in Philadelphia, but the Army put a speedy end to it. Negro platform workers are now employed in that city with no evidence of friction. In Los Angeles, a threatened stoppage failed to materialize after the Philadelphia strike was quelled, and Negroes are now employed there, too, without difficulties. No doubt prejudice is more rife among the predominantly Southern employes of the Capital Transit Co.; but we do not believe they would—or could—defy the power of the United States Government.

Nor do we think that the Government ought to yield in this or any other situation to the threats of a bigoted and truculent minority. It was clear in Philadelphia that the whole resistance to the hiring of Negroes was inspired by a handful of hoodlums. The same, we are convinced, will be found to be the case here. Our manpower trouble, as Philip Murray stated before the May Committee, stems in large measure from underemployment of Negroes. Bus and streetcar operators are urgently needed in this city. To bar men from serving in these jobs because of their race or color is at once to hamper the war program and to subvert the principles for which the war is being waged. Since the Capital Transit Co. will not take the responsibility of instituting fair employment practices, the FEPC must shoulder this responsibility for it. The hazard that men will defy their Government is not so great as the hazard entailed in a failure by the Government to uphold the principles upon which it is established.

Crack Down On Jim Crow

PM News

8-17-45

Alleged Jim Crow practices in the AFL Seararers' International Union brought an order from the Fair Employment Practice Committee this week, directing it to revise its policies and practices so that seamen shall be hired without regard to race, creed or color.

Wash. D.C.

The FEPC also directed the union to "cease specifying the race or color of seamen requested by it from the rotary hiring list of the War Shipping Administration."

The order prohibited the union from continuing its practice of refusing to accept men for jobs because of their race when they are referred to the union.

56d-1945

F.E.P.C.

How to Handle Bilbo

Afro-American

Senator Theodore (White Trash Bloc) Bilbo wrote a letter to a Brooklyn woman in which the salutation was "My dear Dago."

8-4-45

Asked by Congressman Vito Marcantonio of New York to apologize, Bilbo said that he would be glad to do so if she would withdraw "the dirty letter."

The dirty letter to which he referred was one in which a young Italian woman, Miss Josephine Piccolo, had asked Bilbo to stop filibustering against the FEPC, advising him that his remarks slandered colored people and Jews.

For a woman to dress him down in this very polite fashion, said Bilbo, was dirty, and therefore he had to insult her by calling her "Dago."

Baltimore, Md.

In previous instances, he has used epithets applying to colored people and to Jews and now it is the Italians.

Who is to blame for it? Not Bilbo, but members of Congress themselves, from your State and from yours and yours. If Congressmen had your welfare at heart, they would not let Bilbo or Eastland or anybody else insult Italians, Jews and colored citizens without quickly and quietly taking such steps as to make these castaways feel the united disapproval of Congress.

There are a hundred ways in which Congress can handle recalcitrant members and Congress ought to do it. Let's stop answering Bilbo every time he opens his mouth to utter dirty words. Let's jump on our Congressmen to find a way to close him up and if they can't, then let's vote for new Congressmen.

THE DEEP SOUTH

New York Times

FEPC Closing as Business Groups Map Fair Policies

N.Y.

By GEORGE W. HEALY Jr.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 4—The FEPC is preparing to fold its tent in the Deep South.

8-5-45

The New Orleans region's Fair Employment Practices office will be closed about Aug. 31, because of the reduction of the FEPC budget from $507,600 to $250,000.

Although most business men in the Deep South frankly did not like the FEPC or its methods, they are not rejoicing about its regional fadeout. Instead, they are planning the organization of voluntary fair employment practices committees which they hope will keep Federal agencies of this kind out of the South permanently.

John W. Moore, chairman of the New Orleans Association of Commerce manufacturers' committee, is pushing the organization of a voluntary successor to the FEPC.

"We are advocating a program which would show the world that New Orleans is trying to set up a fair employment policy which should be an example for other cities," Mr. Moore reported after a meeting of his committee.

By coincidence, the first Negro lawyer admitted to practice in Louisiana since 1927 was accredited by the State Supreme Court as W. Don Ellinger, regional FEPC director, was arranging to close his office. Only three Negroes applied for admission to the bar in the past eighteen years, and two failed to pass the bar examinations.

8-5-45

Practically every war plant in the Deep South is employing Negroes on the same basis as white workers. However, in many plants segregation is enforced, as in garment factories and other plants in operation before the war.

News Notes: Louisiana cane growers predict that increased subsidies recently approved by the Department of Agriculture for producers and processors will stimulate a maximum crop in 1946. . . . Mississippi's Agricultural and Industrial Board is opening a new drive to take advantage of availability of more building materials to continue its "Balance Agriculture with Industry" program.

THE UPPER SOUTH

N.Y. Times

Opposition to FEPC Remains General in the Area

By VIRGINUS DABNEY

RICHMOND, June 30—It is humiliating to many citizens of the Upper South to have a man like Senator Bilbo of Mississippi serving, in effect, as their spokesman in Congress, but most white persons in this section appear to be opposed to the creation of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, with authority to hale employers into court. Large numbers sympathize with the desire of the Negroes for better employment opportunities and would accept without misgivings the continuation of the existing FEPC, which relies on conciliation and persuasion.

7-1-45

No holders of elective office from this region have advocated either type of FEPC, and many have expressed opposition. One of the most extreme opponents is Representative Joe Ervin of Charlotte, N. C., who said on the floor that under the bill for a permanent FEPC, this over-all Government agency would help select all employes of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of your State government, the faculties of your State colleges and universities, all employes of your city and county, all school teachers and all election officials, as well as all employes of all purely local corporations."

The foregoing is contrary to the statement of Representative Norton of New Jersey, patron of the bill, who says the measure would apply only to agencies of the Federal Government, employers of six or more persons whose operations affected interstate or foreign commerce, Federal contractors and subcontractors who employed six or more persons, and labor unions whose practices affected interstate commerce.

7-1-45

Signatures of more than 1,600 white and Negro Southerners are attached to a petition for enactment of the Norton bill. The petition has been submitted to Senator Barkley of Kentucky by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, with headquarters in Nashville.

News Notes: Another Kentucky county, Boyle, has voted dry. . . .

Walter White People, Politics And Places

Chicago Defender

8-4-45

One-Legged FEPC

A ONE-LEGGED FEPC now pursues a lusty monster of race prejudice which for three centuries has waxed fat, swift, and strong on hate. Hacked off with dull blunt instruments wielded by the Eastland-Bilbo-Rankin-Republican combine, the other leg representing the difference between a $599,000 and a $250,000 annual appropriation festers in the trophy room of the bigots.

None too potent at its best because it lacked any real power save that of public opinion to enforce its findings which proved insufficient as in the case of the railroads and railroad unions, for example, the FEPC was always more of a promise and a hope than a reality. But the direness of the job situation of the Negro, Jew, and Mexican was reflected in the magnificent fury of the fight to beat back the cocky, blatant boast of Rankin that he was preaching the funeral sermon over the FEPC.

We cannot—we must not—let that fury abate one iota. Unless it cuts its staff and activities in half or more, the FEPC has precisely one half year to exist and operate. The House bill to establish a permanent, statutory Fair Employment Practice Commission, H.R. —, remains before the Congress until this, the 79th Congress, expires by adjourning sine die at the end of December, 1946.

Plan Of Action

Chicago, Ill.

HERE IS A PLAN of action which neither hot weather nor distance nor personal inconvenience should stop you from pursuing. An exodus from Washington of Congressmen has already begun. As soon as the San Francisco Charter and the Bretton Woods Agreement are disposed of both House and Senate will adjourn until around October 1st. Most of the Congressmen and Senators will hasten to their home districts to build up political fences in anticipation of the 1946 elections.

8-4-45

Refugees from their spacious, air-conditioned Washington offices and wearied from their strenuous shadow boxing and buck-passing, these solons will claim the right to rest and quiet. See to it that they get neither. Organize delegations representing labor, Jews, Negroes, and decent Anglo-Saxons to call on their Congressmen at home. Ask them bluntly if (a) they have signed the discharge petitions on the anti-lynching and FEPC bills; (b) if not, why not; (c) will they, immediately on the reconvening of Congress sign both petitions regardless (especially if they are Republicans of what their party leaders advise). Accept no evasions or circumlocutions. Ask for an unequivocal yes or no.

If they are Senators, ask them if they (a) will vote for cloture to limit debate when filibusters are started by Eastland, Bilbo or any other Southern demagogue; (b) will they get up off their fat and ancient derrieres and fling the lie into the teeth of Eastland and his loathsome kind as did Senators Wagner and Mead of New York when filthy lies are told by professional Southerners like Eastland to traduce the job being done by black soldiers, sailors, and marines overseas to preserve a way of life for obscene and worthless humans (God save the mark) like Rankin.

A Crisis Looms

8-4-45

WE ARE NOW FACING the crisis in the fight which should have been met last February when the House Labor Committee reported out the permanent FEPC bill favorably. A drive should have been launched immediately to obtain the necessary 218 signatures to the discharge petition. Instead there appears to have been faith, fatuous in the light of the composition (six Southerners and at least two undependable Republicans on a committee numbering twelve) of the House Rules Committee, that a favorable rule would be obtained.

We have seen the futility of such hopes. Let's waste no tears nor recriminations. Let's get the 218 signatures, force the bill to the House floor for a vote as soon as an increasingly discredited Congress reconvenes in October, and in the ensuing fourteen months smash a Senate filibuster by making the Senators who can continue to be Senators only if they retain the support of politically mature labor, Negro, Jewish, and liberal voters to stand up and fight and be counted on the side of right and decency. Right now they count on you and me continuing to be suckers. Will we?

Grave Threats to FEPC Seen in Present Job Crisis

Daily Worker N.Y. 8-20-45

BY ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee may be almost liquidated after Congress convenes Sept. 5 unless President Truman and the labor movement speak out with the utmost vigor. The danger comes from two sources:

First, reactionaries will seek to cut FEPC's jurisdiction down to the bone with the ending of hostilities.

Admittedly the need for an anti-discrimination agency is greater than ever at this moment when workers in shipyards and aircraft plants and other work shops, where Negroes have made great advances, are being laid off by the hundreds of thousands.

Negroes are the first to be fired when FEPC protection ends. This is happening today in shipyards in New Orleans where FEPC offices closed down when Congress cut the agency's appropriation this summer.

LIQUIDATION DRIVE 8-20-45

Negrophobes in Washinugton are now pressing for the virtual liquidation of FEPC on the alleged grounds that the agency has no jurisdiction over war industries during the period of reconversion. These enemies of FEPC argue that its jurisdiction is limited by statute to workers engaged in war work, or employed by the government or in plants under government contract.

Acceptance of this interpretation by the Government would practically put FEPC out of business. The vast majority of its cases came from the war industries. The facts could not be otherwise when nearly all industry was geared into the war effort.

Friends of FEPC of course will fight this narrow interpretation as socially disastrous and legally incorrect. There are judicial precedents to show that certain wartime powers can be used in industries reconverting for peace.

CANNON SWINGS AXE

The second danger comes when Chairman Clarence Cannon (D-Mo) of the House Appropriations Committee, a foe of FEPC, begins overhauling the war agencies, for the purpose of demanding drastic cuts in their budgets. 8-20-45

Cannon left FEPC out of the war agencies appropriation last summer until a dramatic Congressional fight led by Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY) forced him to retreat.

Cannon's committee goes to work on the war agencies with the opening of Congress. In preparation for the committee's probe the Budget Bureau has asked all the agencies to submit estimates of their expenses.

Meanwhile job discrimination against Negroes and members of other minorities is still rampant, great progress has been made but there are still big plants that hire no Negroes. And there were still 2,600 discrimination cases pending before the FEPC at the end of the last fiscal year.

TRUMAN SILENCE

Since June 30 the agency has been extremely handicapped by lack of funds. 8-20-45

The compromise appropriation cut, which Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky) helped to put through, left FEPC with only $250,000 for the coming 12 months—about half of what it had before. And now this half ration may be cut drastically again.

President Truman who did urge the passage of a permanent FEPC bill, has kept silent on the extension of the present FEPC, which stands between Negro workers and unemployment and hunger.

ployment Practices Committee.

The temporary committee, established by President Roosevelt to outlaw discrimination in war plants, was created under the War Powers of the President—powers which obviously cannot carry the FEPC through the difficult reconversion period.

Re-creation of a permanent fair employment agency was said to be clearly up to Congress. President Truman, according to most officials in Washington, probably lacks any authority to extend FEPC on even a temporary basis, regardless of his determination to project the anti-bias policy into the postwar era.

Closing Down

Disclosure that the wartime FEPC is practically out of business accompanied rumors that racial tensions are already developing as a result of cutbacks and grave Negro-white economic rivalries in the South.

Chairman Malcolm Ross of the FEPC admitted that in "at least 10 cities the situation could become acute." 8-19-45

But he would give no specific examples and emphasized that it is too soon to analyze the wholesale contract cut-backs in terms of what groups are affected.

ing contracts were immediately cancelled Negro women were the first to be fired.

Capital Worried

Up till now these reports have not crept into print, but they are not being taken lightly in the Capital. 8-19-45

The main concern here is whether Congress and the President will set up some kind of agency to prevent the outbreak of serious racial conflicts.

The wartime FEPC and Chairman Ross are frankly confused about the agency's present status. But there appears to be little doubt that, in view of the fact that Congress cut the appropriation in half less than two months ago and that FEPC's permanency rests on Truman's war powers, the agency is presently impotent.

The extent to which FEPC's burden grew heavier as the war neared an end is indicated by the fact that the 2600 cases pending before the committee on July 1 represent a 20 per cent increase over the number of cases pending the same time last year.

The prospect of growing discrimination even in war industries coincided with Congressional action six weeks ago which gave the agency $250,000—less than half the amount of money requested by the President. 8-19-45

Viewed by Southern Democrats and many employers as a vast agency with the power to revolutionize the U. S. A., FEPC employed only 117 people at its peak. Now it is operating with 51 persons on its nationwide administrative staff.

Even with a small organization the agency's records show that it settled 3000 cases in the last year

peace as in war.

Legislative measures to implement the President's request, pending in both houses, have been stacked in the corner under pressure from the Southern Democrats.

The question being asked in Washington is whether Congress will anticipate the danger signals or whether a series of major race riots is required to alert it.

FEPC Stripped Of Power by End of War

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 8-25-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—Wholesale cancellation of war contracts by the Army and Navy is stripping the FEPC of its authority over discriminations in hiring and working conditions.

Under the Executive Order of the President, the agency has had jurisdiction over complaints against all agencies of the Federal government, over complaints against all employers and the unions of their employes having contractual relations with the Federal government, which expressly or by implication, contain a non-discrimination clause, and over complaints against employers and unions of their employes engaged in industries essential to the war effort, whether or not they have contractual relations with the Government.

POWERS LIMITED

Except for a few contract holders, the FEPC will be limited now to handling complaints against agencies of the Federal government.

This is happening at a time when discriminations in layoffs and hiring and rehiring are likely to increase. There is nothing the present FEPC can do, however, until Congress passes legislation making the agency permanent and giving it jurisdiction over industries involved in interstate commerce.

Reconversion Crisis:

FEPC's Prospects Grow Slimmer As Need for Agency Grows Greater

P.M. N.Y. 8-19-45

Race Tensions Developing as Result of Layoffs in Industry

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Any prospect that the Government can assure men and women of every race and color the chance to work for peace as well as war faded today amid growing uncertainty over the fate of the President's Fair Em-

But informed Negroes in Washington, who want to avert any sensational publicity, privately admit that in Birmingham, Ala., a "white supremacy" group, modeled on the Ku Klux Klan has formed into a corps of "minutemen." The group is said to be organizing a block-by-block campaign and collecting arms and ammunition to prepare for racial warfare.

In New Orleans, where the FEPC had to close its regional office this month for lack of funds, it is reported that when huge shipbuild-

and that 36 per cent of the complaints were "satisfactory adjustments" where racial barriers against war workers quietly were removed.

Congress Can Do It

While the President apparently lacks the power to continue FEPC, the reconvening Congress can do so almost immediately.

Truman recently asked both houses to establish the committee as a permanent agency of Government, pointing out that the problem of job discrimination is as vital in

Plans Made In N. O. For FEPC Conference

Houston Tex. Chronicle

The Informer

NEW ORLEANS — Industrialists and businessmen, who employ colored as well as white workers, met here Friday and laid plans for an early Fair Employment Practice Conference. Conducted in the Association of Commerce building, the meeting was the result of a recommendation by the New Orleans Item, in a June 15 editorial, calling for voluntary action on the part of employers and unions in working out a code of employment ethics in lieu of federal control.

The aforementioned meeting was a follow-up of an original meeting, called by Father Vincent J. O'Connell, at the request of Ralph Michelson, president and publisher of The Item, to consider the need for a conference on unfair employment practices. The date of the proposed fair employment practices conference, and the personnel of the special manufacturers' committee which will participate in it, will be announced in the near future.

Father O'Connell stressed the economic liability to the city as a whole, as inadequate housing and living conditions for the Negro population. He said New Orleans has 200,000 Negroes who represent a third of its population, and the whole city would benefit if the buying power of a third of its people were increased. 8-1-45

He also pointed out that since the war, 3,500,000 people, "white as well as colored," have been lost to the South because of better job opportunities outside Dixie.

"New Orleans should take the lead in eliminating discrimination in employment," said John W. Moore, chairman of the Association of Commerce Manufacturers' Committee.

Clifford F. Favrot, co-owner of Dorn Roofing Company, told of a satisfactory experience he had during the recent $200,000 building drive for a colored YWCA, and he is convinced that much can be gained by making the colored population aware that leading white businessmen are concerned about its welfare.

SOUTHERN EDITORS PROTEST

THE vicious and unwarranted attack on Negro soldiers made during the Senate filibuster against FEPC by Senators Bilbo and Eastland was not to the liking of many Southern newspaper editors who were even more vocal in their protests than most Northern editors. New York Age

The Macon, Ga., News in a two-column editorial said: New York

"We conceive it to be the duty of every Southerner to repudiate every appeal to racial prejudice. The white people of the South cannot live on terms of enmity and hostility with a racial minority constituting one-third of the population. Persons who fan the flames of racial hatred are enemies of the people and their free institutions.

"This speech of Senator Eastland's is one of the basest appeals to such prejudice and hatred we have ever read. We hope the entire South will repudiate it and that the Senator's own state at the first opportunity will return him to the obscurity from which he came."

The Louisville Ky., Courier-Journal editorially said: 8-4-45

"The Senator himself is branded as a dangerous enemy of national unity in his cowardly use of sweeping assertions designed only to discredit a loyal American minority."

And the Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch editorially said:

"If Mississippi wants to send to the United States Senate such men as Theodore Bilbo and James Eastland, there is little the rest of the country can do about it, but the peoples of the other Southern States certainly do not have to remain silent under the possible imputation that these spreaders of interracial hate speak for anyone but themselves . . . It is humiliating to the South for two Mississippi demagogues to misrepresent the Southern people with their unfair distribes."

FEPC CLOSES FIELD OFFICES IN SIX CITIES; 66 WORKERS LET OUT TO KEEP AGENCY FUNCTIONING

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City,

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Five feild officers and 66 staff members are being lopped off the Fair Employment Practice committee within the next 30 days in order to keep the agency within the limited funds afforded it by congress, Chairman Malcolm Ross said on Friday. Okla.

The office closings represent one third of those opened during the four years the committee has been functioning, and more than one-half of the personnel. The present staff numbers 117 persons.

"The committee ordered a 30-day period in the closing of these offices," the chairman said, "in order to wind up the affairs of these units and to give displaced staff members time in which to seek other positions."

The 10 field officers to be continued are in war production areas where minority-group problems are likely to be most acute during the remainder of the war, Ross announced. These are at New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, Detroit, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis San Antonio, San Francisco and Los Angeles. 8-4-45

The five offices being closed are at Cleveland, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Pittsburgh and New Orleans.

This staff is being made in this manner: "In the Washington headquarters, the field operarions division will be reduced from eight to four persons; budget and administration, from 17 to 11; and the legal division, effective Sept. 30, from nine to five.

The information division is being eliminated and its functions merged with the review and analysis division, which will be reduced from nine to six employes.

Under the new plan of operation, Ross commented, the typical field office will consist of a regional director and a secretary. The New York City, Chicago and St. Louis offices, however, will have, in addition, one field examiner each.

Congress appropriated $250,000 for the agency whereas last year it had $507,600. The ambigity of the language used in connection with the item promted FEPC last week to seek a ruling from the acting comptroller general. They were told that they may spend all of the appropriation for operations without setting aside any for liquidation.

If the agency is to be terminated ultimately, congress will have to give them additional money to wind-up.

Empty guns are useless, hungry men are helpless targets, and the huge American bombers do not land in open fields. We are the ones who have kept ammunition for those guns, who provided the food for the combat troops, and lest Mr. Eastland forget, many of the bombs that helped to defeat Germany and will help to defeat Japan were loaded by the back breaking efforts of the ground crews.

O'Dwyer Blasts Discrimination Urges National, Local FEPC

Daily Worker 8-21-45

Gen. William O'Dwyer has placed himself squarely on record against race discrimination and for national, state and local FEPC's.

The Democratic-American Labor-Veterans Party candidate for Mayor, speaking before the Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Brooklyn, declared himself flat-footedly for the elimination of all phases of discrimination 'in whatever form or whatever place it may appear."

"We must not tolerate any public practices that single out the Negro or any other minority group from enjoying the equal opportunity to earn his livelihood or to achieve a higher standard of living, or to make his way in the political and economic fields of endeavor," he declared.

Specifically, he placed himself on record as "wholeheartedly in favor of the Fair Employment Practice Acts in our national, state and municipal governments."

"They should be permanent features of our public life," he maintained, and "must not be dead letters."

He pledged to do "everything in my power to enforce laws against discrimination in employment and laws providing safeguards for our mutual protection against bigotry."

The former Brooklyn district attorney presented in considerable detail the "able and heroic" record of Negro servicemen in the war and noted that the "loyalty of the American Negro is proverbial."

Among the facts detailed were that 700,000 Negroes are in the Army alone, of whom 500,000 served overseas. A quarter of a mllion were in Europe on V-E Day. He cited the 92nd and 93rd divisions and the 24th Infantry Regiment as units that had become famous for "courage, fighting ability and devotion to duty."

He assailed the "shortsightedness of our economic and social system" which forced "difficulties and handicaps" upon "our Negro fellow-citizens" and demanded that the American people stop ignoring the problem.

"We must all be on the alert against the inequalities that eat into the vitals of true democracy," he declared. 8-21-45

"It has always been one of my major and uncompromising obligations to curb the intolerant elements in the community, who would seek to draw dividing lines between our citizens of various creeds and color," he said. "Bilboism has no place in American life."

He criticized the word "tolerance" in relation to religion, color or national origin on the grounds that we should strive "not for tolerance but for mutual respect."

FEPC and Reconversion

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y. 9-13-45

9-13-45

By Abner W. Berry

As President Truman recognized in his message to Congress, this is an emergency period. It will be of long duration. Each returning boatload of GIs adds greater urgency to the need for quick action. It was in this sense, then, that we must take the President's proposal for the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee. For it is a definite MUST in in reconversion legislation.

Already the organizations of big business are ganging up against the FEPC bills now pending in the House and Senate. They want a "free hand" in chosing their workers. They are opposed to "burocratic controls."

But the returning Negro veteran is going to want the assurance that his livelihood will not be dependent upon the economic kings who have always exercised their "freedom" to exclude him from jobs. That is not the freedom for which he fought. He is expecting rather that "freedom from want" —which means a job at decent wages— becomes for him a fulfilled promise. 9-13-45

A Million Negro Veterans

There will be nearly a million Negro veterans, most of whom come from the South. They should become considered an important factor in the program of industrialization there. The Negro war workers who manned posts in factories and mills producing for victory must have a share in building for the peace.

Henry Wallace, in his recent book Sixty Million Jobs, wrties: **". . . industrialization in the South, to stand up against the competition of other areas, will need both increased productivity and greater consumption on the part of both the white and Negro working population."**

Fight Needed For FEPC Bills

In placing together the ability to **produce** and to **consume**, Wallace implies decent wages and the development of technical skills. From all of past experience such a program so vital to the social and economic health of the nation cannot be left to "free enterprise."

Progressives foresaw the need for a permanent FEPC long ago. FEPC bills are now pending in the House and Senate. But these bills have been fought by the poll-tax wing of the President's party and by the "free enterprise" group of reactionary Republicans.

In the House the Labor and Education Committee has reported out a permanent FEPC Bill. But the Judiciary Committee headed by Texas' Hatton Summers refuses to give it a rule, so it is not on the calendar. Representative Mary Norton is circulating a discharge petition for its release.

In the Senate the Labor Committee has voted favorably on a similar bill, but red tape keeps it from the floor and the chance for a vote.

It is clear then that the mere proposal for such legislation is not enough.

The President and his suporters in Congress will have to fight hard for the proposed reconversion program. On FEPC legislation they will have to fight even harder, as their opponents have already made known their stubborn opposition and a willingness to stoop to the lowest levels of racist skullduggery to attain their ends. 9-13-45

Labor unions, the organization of the Negro people and all groups now supporting the reconversion legislative program proposed by President Truman will have to place special emphasis on FEPC legislation. It is highly possible that the fight for a people's reconversion program will fall short of complete victory by the loss of this vital section.

It is an unhappy truth that to utilize America's black arm in building the peace and postwar democracy requires legislation and to get that legislation on the books it is necessary to conduct a sharp political fight.

Secession Is The Word 'Suh'

Asks South Carolina To Defy Constitution

Pittsburgh (Pa) Courier

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP)—A special session of the State Legislature to defy FEPC and the Federal Constitution was urged in a letter signed by D. F. Jamison of Ridgeville, S. C., to the News and Courier. The writer declared "there is not a pint of 'guts' left in South Carolina, and a bucket could hold all in the South."

Jamison decried the finally passed FEPC as an "iniquitous law" and laid it to the New Deal and Roosevelt administration. The letter continued:

"The time is coming when you ladies and gentlemen will have to stand for Negroes alongside of you in Pullmans, in day coaches, on buses, in hotels and restaurants, the Negro and white children in same seats and benches, getting the same school buses, sharing the used to each other and finally intermarrying.

"It is pure Nazism, no use to call it by any other name.

NO "GUTS" IN SOUTH 8-4-45

"There is not a pint of 'guts' left in South Carolina, and a bucket could hold all in the South.

"The Governor is on the New Deal side. He will profess to be willing to oppose the FEPC, but he is not man enough to call a special session of the Legislature whose object would be to advise the Federal Government that the FEPC is non-effective in South Carolina. and that the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Federal Constitution are null and void.

"The State and the county governments should be seized by our leading men and a provisional governor be selected who would act as above and organize the State for resistance, if necessary."

Following the Supreme Court ruling against the Texas white Democratic primary, South Carolina was the first State to call a special session of the Legislature to remove all reference of the primary from the State Constitution and to defy the high court's ruling.

Jim-Crowed Heroes

8-25-45

Dear Sirs: Captain Charles L. Thomas, commander of a tank-destroyer contingent, is the first Negro officer to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action. He holds an air pilot's license and when he gets out of the army intends to study mechanical engineering in order to become an aeronautical engineer. But it's almost certain he won't get a job unless the federal Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee bill is passed. It is not now the practice of the airline companies to hire Negroes as pilots or engineers, or indeed in any other capacity than as porters. Wyatron

I wonder whether Captain Thomas's white fellow citizens will help make it possible for him and others like him to have a fair chance at decent jobs in the post-war world. If so, we will need the full-employment bill as well as the Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee bill. Thus far both are stalled in the mazes of Congressional opposition such as that voiced by Senator "Dear Dago" Bilbo. New York N.Y. 8-25-45

CONSUELO C. YOUNG
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
New York, July 27

56d-1945

Cartelism In Congress

Washington Post

IN CONGRESS you can make a career these days by being against cartels. It's as safe as being against sin and the common cold.

To be ultrasafe, you can be against cartels in Germany. Nobody wants cartels in Germany.

What Congress conveniently overlooks is that it is in itself a kind of political cartel. Or, rather, under certain circumstances it becomes a tight little political monopoly with freedom of action frozen to zero.

That happened over extension of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, first in the Senate and then in the House. Senator Theodore (The Man) Bilbo of Mississippi resorted to filibuster to block consideration of FEPC. He was ably assisted by his colleague, Senator James O. Eastland of Ruleville, Miss., who made one of the most shocking speeches ever heard on the floor of the Senate, in the course of which he slandered not merely whole races but the armed forces of the United States as a body.

Mississippi has a population of 2,184,000. In the 1940 primary election Bilbo got 91,000 votes, which was 29,000 more than his nearest opponent. Bilbo's total was less than 10 per cent of all potential voters in that poll-tax State. It is a small fraction of 1 per cent of all the voters in the country, yet, nevertheless, Bilbo can say no to all of us.

7-6-45

THE GREAT MAJORITY of Senators, who favored the FEPC, finally were able to break the Mississippi filibuster and included a provision for its continuance in a war appropriation measure. On the other side of the Capitol, FEPC came up against the perfect ring—an airtight trust—for preserving a political monopoly which in the past has repeatedly blocked progressive legislation.

This is the House Rules Committee. The Rules Committee is a bottleneck through which all legislation must pass before it reaches the floor for action. It is a very narrow passage, by comparison the Biblical needle's eye is a broad boulevard.

Of the 12 members of the Rules Committee, 6 are Democrats from Southern or border States. For all practical purposes, that is a working majority.

Two of these men, Eugene Cox of Georgia and Howard Smith of Virginia, are veterans who know every parliamentary trick. They are also two of the most reactionary members of the House.

In effect, Cox and Smith run that committee. They sit beside the monopoly toll bridge and say what shall get by. They are masters of the political trust which, by reason of the Rules Committee, the House has become. If 218 members sign a petition, the Rules Committee can be by-passed; but it's hard to get 218 people to sign any kind of petition. 7-6-45

Another monopoly device is called "senatorial courtesy." It has been used over and over again to keep back legislation that one or two individuals wanted to kill. In recent weeks, it has been used to hold up approval of plans for international airlines after the war.

Bilbo and Eastland

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

The editor of The Times-Dispatch should be commended for his timely editorial, "Misrepresenting the South," in which he condemned the tirades of Senators Bilbo and Eastland, of Mississippi.

As a Negro, I am glad to say that I am too intelligent and broadminded to judge all the people of Mississippi by these two representatives. But what a pity that any State in this intelligent, enlightened age, when tolerance and world peace are the principal topics of discussion, should have this type of representation. Maybe one reason is that nine Southern States spend on an average only $59 a year for the education of a white child when the average expenditure for the nation is $88. Mr. Eastland said he wasn't prejudiced toward the Negro, but what about the $19 a year educational expenditure for the Negro child as compared with the $59 for the white child? Yet the Negro is supposed to be qualified to meet all requirements in an emergency such as war.

7-5-45

After a lecture by the late Dr. Carver at the University of Mississippi, Senator Bilbo shouted to the press, "What is the proud State of Mississippi coming to, having that peanut nigger from Tuskegee making an address?" He said he couldn't understand what any "nigger" could have to say that would interest Southern white boys and girls. I think Mr. Bilbo could have learned a great deal from Dr. Carver himself if he hadn't been blinded by prejudice. Dr. Carver will go down in history as one of the world's greatest scientists, but I wonder what history will have to say about Mr. Bilbo.

If I were either of these two distinguished gentlemen from Mississippi and boasted of white superiority, I would not be afraid of the FEPC or to prove that superiority on the testing ground of fair competition, since we say that fair play is a fundamental American principle. It includes the concept that every man has a right to work at a job or compete for that which he is capable, and that individual ability should be rewarded.

We say we want a new world where peace will reign supreme, but that new world can't be bought with race slavery, prejudice and hate, but with democracy of the human spirit, intelligence and brotherly love.

CHARLES W. STORRS.

Richmond.

Another Chance

The FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) gets another chance for survival tomorrow on the floor of the House in Washington, but the outlook for its continued life is slim unless public pressure demands a showdown in Congress on the agency.

Tell the leaders of the House that you insist on continuance of the FEPC. Tell them you insist that last year's election campaign platform promises be kept. Wire or write to:

Speaker Sam Rayburn.

Democratic Leader John W. McCormack. 4-7

Republican Leader Joseph W Martin, Jr. 7-4-45

Bilbo Attacks Dewey For FEPC Legislation

Richmond Times Dispatch

WASHINGTON, July 6—(AP)—Senator Bilbo (D-Miss.) today attacked Governor Thomas E. Dewey, of New York, because of his attitude on FEPC.

New York State has adopted legislation along the lines of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, barring discrimination in employment for race, creed or color.

Dispatch

Bilbo, in a new speech to the Senate, again condemned the FEPC and commented: 7-7-45

"If any of you think Dewey has a chance in 1948, forget it. He's dead. And in 90 days when the people of New York find out what this FEPC means he'll be dead in New York State, too."

FEP Too Drastic For Sen. Pepper

Chicago Daily

Florida's Sen. Claude C. Pepper declared here this week that he was flatly opposed to a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The famous Dixie liberal said that he would approve a temporary committee but would not vote for a permanent FEPC.

Here to speak at a rally for ratification of the United Nations Charter, Pepper told a press conference that he believed the Negro issue "was the most difficult problem in America today."

He said that he had failed in his attempt to write a compromise FEPC Bill when caught in a cross-fire between liberals who resented his efforts to weaken the bill and Southerners who opposed any FEPC whatsoever.

"I found that there can be no compromise on an FEPC Bill," said Pepper. He said that he agreed to the principle of equal economic rights for Negroes but stated he felt it should be done "in another way, preferably through the courts."

Hits Bilbo

Pepper, however, blasted Sen. Bilbo's filibuster on the FEPC as "disgraceful" and stated that he would vote for cloture to end the attempt to "talk the bill to death."

Regarded as one of the leading liberals in the Legislature, Pepper indicated that he felt FEPC was an attempt to change social conditions too rapidly. Citing his record on the anti-poll tax bills and other liberal measures, the Floridan said he wished there "was some way to make a widespread distribution" of Negroes so that the problem would not be too acute in any one region.

When a Defender reporter corrected him on his statement that "50 per cent of the people in Mississippi are Negroes," Pepper said that, nevertheless, such large concentrations of Negroes in one area constituted a problem "which is essentially different from that in New York or Chicago."

Pointing to the bitter opposition faced by Southern advocates of liberalism, Pepper said that his last photograph taken with Negroes in 1942 at a Los Angeles Baptist church, had been circulated against him throughout his home state. He indicated that he did not wish to have this experience repeated.

Pepper said that "the true spirit of the South is the spirit of liberalism," and added, "I am not a Southern Bourbon in any sense of the word." 7-7-45

ROBERT QUILLEN

Atlanta Constitution

Fair Deal For Negroes

This is addressed especially to those people, unacquainted with the "deep south," who think congress must do something to insure fair employment practices because Negroes in the south are either denied the right to work or forced to toil long hours and paid in table scraps, old shoes and second-hand clothing.

(Incidentally, an F. E. P. C. investigation a year or two ago revealed more unfair practices in Detroit than in Texas, and now the reduced staff is giving most of its attention to the "ten worst cities," only three of which are south of the M. & D. line.)

I dislike writing about my private affairs, but in this instance it is unavoidable. After all, how can any witness testify without being personal?

South Carolina is not the deepest south on the map, but in all that is typical of the south it qualifies as Exhibit A.

The small brick house that is now my winter home in South Carolina was built while our nation was enjoying one of the periodic economic sprees we call booms. Everything was outrageously high. Cement was $2.50 a sack; the poorest quality of oak flooring (the only kind available) cost $140, and pressed brick cost a nickel a brick, $50 a thousand.

My boss carpenter was a white man. I paid him $5 a day. The brick mason was a Negro. He charged me $15 a day, and the white man who mixed mortar for him cost me only $2.50. (The Negro mason found another one for me in a neighboring town, and he also charged $15 a day, but his work was so awful it had to be torn down and he quit without waiting to be fired.) 8-20-45

The plasterer was a big Negro with a fine baritone voice who sang as he worked. He was an expert. I have forgotten what he charged, but he took the job "by contract" and set his own price.

Every white painter in town was tied up for months to come, but a transient came by just in time. He was a little brown Negro and one of the best workmen I ever saw. I think he charged me $5 a day. His only fault was that he got drunk every weekend and I had to bail him out of jail every Monday morning. 8-20-45

Negroes get the lowest wages because they do the common labor; but in every pick and shovel gang, in ordinary times, you find unskilled white men who are drawing the same wage. Skilled Negro workers, around home, get the pay of skilled white workers.

I do not mean to say that Negroes get an economic fair deal. I am only testifying concerning a few matters in one small place which I happen to know about.

The Senate: Heights and Depths

New Republic

OUTSIDE, the damp Washington heat of 97 degrees pressed down on the sweltering city like a hand. In the Senate chamber it was cool—cool as a big-city movie house—but tempers were reaching the breaking point. For the Chamber had stood almost all it could endure and Negro-baiting Bilbo was still carrying on his venomous filibuster against the Fair Employment Practice Act.

There he stood, a little, hateful man with a small, triangular, catlike face, peering out from steel spectacles, scanty hair brushed back over narrow forehead, and using words of racial bigotry against Catholics, Jews and "Negras" that would have made Goebbels chuckle. The audience in the galleries, many of them servicemen, moved about uneasily, or gave embarrassed giggles. A few Senators were at their desks; others glanced in through the glass doors of the lobbies, sighed helplessly, and departed. Under the archaic Senate cloture rule there was little they could do. On and on Bilbo talked, hour after hour; long into the night his filibuster proclaimed the helplessness of the American democratic process. A majority in each chamber favored continuation of the FEPC, but the minority would not let it function. "Some of my best friends are Catholics," observed Bilbo, before launching a new attack. Around midnight the Senate lacked a quorum, although Sergeant-at-Arms Wall Doxey and his assistant scoured the city. And next day Mississippian Eastland took up the thread, preaching racial hatred in even more vicious terms from the very floor of the American Senate. 7-9-45

This was the curtain-raiser and prelude for the Senate debate on the San Francisco Charter. By the indulgence of Bilbo, who had the floor and whose permission it was necessary to obtain in order to interpose other business, Tom Connally and Arthur Vandenberg made their eloquent reports on the international situation, and hope for world brotherhood. Connally preceded Bilbo; Vandenberg next day preceded Eastland. I doubt if ever there have been two days on which the Senate rose so high and then stooped so low. Vandenberg's speech in particular was moving and effective. It was to a Senate still shaken by the Bilbo-Eastland filibuster that Truman came this week to make his own dramatic appeal for prompt ratification. Well, the charter certainly will be ratified. Isolationists may make a brief effort to attach a rider limiting authority of the American delegate, but in my opinion it will get nowhere. About the only element of suspense left now is how long debate will take, and how few the opponents will be. Valuable though the charter is, perhaps the Bilbo-Eastland filibuster that preceded it was helpful too, in its way, as a reminder not to expect sudden Utopias. With such hate and bigotry in the world—the Goebbelses in Germany, the Bilbos in America—even the most effective international machinery will be hard pressed to succeed. 7-9-45

It is the ungenerous but perhaps inevitable consequence of the collapse of Senate opposition to the charter to wonder how far that document might have gone and have still been accepted under present circumstances. It is my impression that the Senate would have taken a considerably stronger measure and even one in which some degree of sovereignty was sacrificed. The very unanimity which the charter now seems likely to obtain indicates its possible failings. At any rate, by the standards of 1919, America's forthcoming entrance into a world organization evidences a tremendous advance. The real battle, so far as Congress is concerned, has moved ahead to the time when it becomes necessary to implement the charter, particularly with economic coöperation. Fortunately, votes on these matters—on loans abroad, on authority of the American delegate, on the establishment of an American section of the international police force—will come up under simple majority-vote procedure. The only two-thirds hurdle is the charter's ratification as a Senate treaty.

The House has passed the Truman recommendation to make the presidential succession go through the office of the Speaker. The Senate will take a long time before passing this very dubious measure, and may reject it altogether. Mr. Stettinius is out as Secretary of State and James F. Byrnes has been appointed to the job. The Senate has confidence in Mr. Byrnes, its former colleague, and will see little benefit in shifting the role of heir-apparent from his office, where it now lies, to that of the Speaker. The historic record shows that the appointed Secretaries of State are generally stronger men than the elected Speakers of the House. It is a fair bet, I think, that the presidential succession will stay where it is.

Mr. Truman is fashioning his cabinet gradually to his own pattern and is expected to make further changes shortly. The least enviable role so far is that of Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico, who started out as a congressional critic of the Food Administration and suddenly found himself the new Secretary of Agriculture. Mr. Anderson must be a very brave man indeed. Congress has insisted upon giving him more and more authority over food, and Mr. Truman has not made his position any easier by telling interviewers that he thought the meat situation would get better as soon as Mr. Anderson took over. 7-9-45

Notes. – According to the *Guild Reporter*, no Boston newspaper carried the news that two of the city's largest department stores—Jordan Marsh and Kennedy's—and 40 other New England clothing stores had been convicted of violating OPA price ceilings, with total fines of $12,500. Instead they printed columns of display advertising from the convicted stores on the day the penalty was announced. The American Society of Newspaper Editors which recently sent a three-man mission round the world in the interest of access to news should include Boston in its next itinerary. . . . Rivalry between army and navy continues in the Pacific and some observers fear that it may take another Pearl Harbor to dramatize it; meanwhile General Eisenhower's "one-uniform" recommendation for all armed forces is not making much headway. . . . An inter-Allied commission has just decided that coal is the big problem of Europe, taking precedence even over food and coming second only to security itself.

Washington

T. R. B

SOUTHERNERS TALK OF TRUCE ON FEPC

Some Suggest $200,000 Grant to Temporary Body in Move to Bar Permanent Agency

N.Y. Times

WASHINGTON, July 7 (AP)—Southern foes of the Fair Employment Practice Committee considered today a suggested compromise to keep it alive as a temporary agency and block efforts to make it permanent. N.

The compromise was advanced informally by a Southern House leader in an effort to break the month-old deadlock that has tied up funds of sixteen war agencies in a $752,000,000 supply bill for the fiscal year already a week old.

It provides for granting to the FEPC as now constituted, a temporary agency created by executive order and lacking legal power to enforce its orders, a "token" fund of perhaps as much at $200,000. The agency's budget estimates for the fiscal year are $599,000.

On the Speaker's table in the House is a discharge petition which, if signed by 218 members, would bring to a vote legislation setting up a permanent commission to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. The petition now has about 130 signatures. 7-8-45

Many friends of the present FEPC are displeased with the permanent proposal because they believe it is too far-reaching and have declined to sign the discharge petition.

The originator of the compromise declared, however, that if the deadlock continued and it became apparent that the FEPC will get nothing at all "the heat will be on and we may find ourselves with a permanent FEPC."

"It would be far better to give them a small amount to operate without legal power to act," he added, "than to have them set up as a statutory body."

The compromise was advanced as Appropriations Committee members indicated that they might reverse themselves and recommend that the House accept the $250,000 appropriation voted by the Senate to the temporary FEPC, or at least a part of it. That would break the deadlock provided it could get the support of the House.

There has been no record vote in the House on the FEPC this year, its opponents blocking such a vote by parliamentary moves.

Should the deadlock continue much longer, thousands of employes of war agencies will go payless for work performed since July 1. Congress has authorized the agencies to operate in anticipation of funds to be provided eventually, but has not allowed them to do any actual spending.

Support of FEPC bill pledged

Los Angeles Tribune 9-13-45

Support in the fight for a permanent FEPC was promised here last week by John S. Barcome, chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Los Angeles county. Los Angeles, Calif.

Said Barcome, "We believe in the prevention and elimination of practices of discrimination in employment against persons because of race, creed, color, or national ancestry or origin. The Policy Committee of the Republican Central Committee of this country, in its recent submission of policy recommendations to the executive committee of the party and to all segments of the party, specifically wrote: 'We pledge the establishment by Federal legislation of a permanent FEPC'."

"We also are aware that certain interests, in setting-up a so-called non-partisan group to support an FEPC bill in the state legislature, placed individuals in front of the bill who are entirely of one party,—and that party was not the Republican party. We realize that Republicans in this area were never invited to participate in the handling of the bill until the bill was 'buried' in committee, and the so-called non-partisan griup found itself unable to move the bill for vote." 8-13-45

It was pointed out that William Nickerson, Jr., was an active member of the Policy Committee of the county Republican party, and as such, has helped to draft policies of the party.

56d-1945

Labor Dept. Studies Taking Over FEPC

N.Y.

Schwellenbach Says Union Leaders OKd Inclusion of Agency

P.M

By John T. Moutoux
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach is studying the desirability of bringing the Fair Employment Practices Committee, the War Labor Board, and the National Labor Relations Board into the reorganized Labor Dept.

Other Government agencies being considered for inclusion in the enlarged department include the U. S. Employment Service and the Labor Divisions of the War and Navy Depts. and of the War Production Board. 7-18-45

All this would be in line with the recommendations made to him by most of some 30 labor leaders who have called on him since he took over the office July 1.

"There was a uniformity of opinion among them," he said, "that all functions of the Government that involve labor should be included in the Department."

Same as Rest

7-18-45

Asked if that included FEPC, Schwellenbach replied in the afirmative, adding that its activities were closely connected with labor. He said he would study its inclusion, "the same as all the rest."

The new Secretary made it clear that if he took over these bureaus, it would be more with the idea of centralizing administrative functions—doing the "housekeeping" as he called it—than for the purpose of controlling the decisions of such agencies as the WLB or the NLRB.

Schwellenbach said that the second point on which all his labor callers agreed was a desire that the Labor Dept. do all within its power to minimize strikes and labor controversies, especially during the reconversion period.

William Green, AFL president, Philip Murray, CIO president, and John L. Lewis, UMW president, were among the callers.

BLS Gets Clean Bill

Lewis Schwellenbach

Schwellenbach discounted printed reports of his dissatisfaction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics by announcing that he had asked the heads of all but two of the Department's division to remain for an indefinite period. Included was the head of the BLS. The two exceptions represented divisions that he had not yet finished investigating and therefore excluding them "in no way reflects on them or their chiefs," he added. N.Y.

The Secretary said he has asked the chairman of the House and Senate Labor Committees to introduce bills providing for creation of two additional Assistant Secretaries of Labor. If this is done, he said he would ask that Carl Moran, a recent Assistant Secretary, be made Under Secretary of Labor. Dan Tracy, of the AFL, will continue as one of the three Assistant Secretaries. Presumably the other two would come from the CIO and the Railroad Brotherhoods, although Schwellenbach said he wanted to make it clear that any appointee would have to represent the public in general and not just a certain group.

FEPC

It Can. . . Did Happen Here On The Floor Of The Senate

Pittsburg Courier

Excerpts from remarks of Senator Eastland during filibuster on FEPC appropriation:

"The Communist Party is behind this agitation. The Negro group in the United States is the greatest minority, the largest minority, the most powerful minority politically, that we have. The Communist Party has been behind and has promoted legislative measures such as the one now pending, and I submit the Communist Party is behind the present FEPC."

* * *

"What is the object of the FEPC? Economic equality? Then why has it devoted its time to tearing down partitions between white and colored lavatories in Government buildings and war factories? Why has it gone into industry and taken measures to bring about social equality? I will tell the Senate why. It is a part of the Communist program for racial amalgamation in the United States."

* * *

"The Negro race is an inferior race. The Negro organizations which are supporting this measure know that today all the power in the world could not bring about social equality, and could not force the white people of this country to associate on terms of equality with the Negro race. So there is agitation by them for a gradual tearing down, one at a time, over a long period of time, of the safeguards which have been erected to maintain the purity and racial integrity of the white race." 7-7-45

"Mr, President, we must have racial harmony in the United States. We must have racial tolerance in the United States. A great rift has been driven in American life. Our country has been divided and weakened, in accordance with Hitler's doctrine of divide and conquer, and Stalin's doctrine of making the races and classes in each country race-conscious and class-conscious in order that the state may be weakened. Has this agitation helped the Negro? Has it helped any minority group? Mr. President, whom has it helped, except the cause of Communism in the United States?"

* * *

"But let us go further. By setting up this agency, we grant an unfair preference to the Negro soldier or to the soldier of a minority group over the returning white soldier. We set up an organization to see that the returning Negro soldier gets a job, to help him get a job, and to see that there is no discrimination in giving jobs to the white soldier. Who has won this war? Why should the white soldier, the warrior who has returned home after having achieved the greatest victory in history, be penalized for political reasons?"

* * *

"To begin with, that division (the Ninety-second)—and I state it authoritatively—had the best equipment of any division in the American Army; it had the best training of any division in the American Army. For political reasons—and when I say 'political reasons,' I quote American geenrals—they were forced to commission some Negro officers for that division. In not one instance, Mr. President, could they place a Negro officer in a responsible position. In not one instance could they place upon his shoulders the responsibility of combat, and I tell you now, Mr. President, that division could not be placed in an important position in the line. Had we depended upon it, the German Army would have gone south to the toe of the Italian boot and destroyed our armies in Europe. The Negro soldier was an utter and dismal failure in combat in Europe. When I make that statement, it is not from prejudice; I am not prejudiced against the Negro."

* * *

"In a number of instances these soldiers would desert their posts of duty, officers would desert their posts of duty, without cause, and the whole division would, without cause, rhyme or reason, quit fighting. The officers told us the soldiers had no initiative, no sense of responsibility, very low intelligence, and were a failure."

* * *

"Mr. President, I understand a Negro from the War Department went to Italy, and after coming back, gave out a statement that the division had not been so 'hot,' that it had failed in combat, and he made the excuse that it was because of discrimination in the United States and because of segregation here."

* * *

"In Europe Negro soldiers are used principally as service troops behind the lines, and I state now, on the authority of many Ameri-

ROANOKE, VA.
TIMES
Cir. D. 37,265—S. 59,918

JUL 20 1945

Fair Play For The Negro

John Temple Graves has something to say in his column this morning about fair employment practices. He laments the fact that so fine a name as "fair employment" should have been tacked on to a bureaucratic monstrosity and legislative trouble-maker. And he takes occasion to make the point, and it is a pertinent one, that the white people of the South who are decent and what he calls "commonly sensible" believe in fair employment practices where Negroes are concerned, though not under the dictation of a federal bureau and in the absurd details of a federal law agitated by Northern politicians for their own selfish political benefit, politicians more concerned with the Negro's vote than with his welfare.

Mr. Graves quotes the new Governor of North Carolina, Gregg Cherry, as predicting that "as our industry and even our agriculture becomes more and more mechanized, employers will tend to look at the individual competence and skill of a man rather than his color". In Gov. Cherry's opinion, "the time will come when a colored man need not expect to get a job, or his race a percentage of jobs, on the basis of color, but each individual will seek a job on the basis of skill and efficiency as a person".

That is the way it ought to be, and that is the way it will have to be. The Negro must look to the day when he will be given a job, not because he is a Negro but because he is entitled to the job on the basis of his skill and efficiency. No fair employment practices bill will bring that about. It will come as the result of social evolution and economic readjustment.

can officers, that they were lazy; that they would not work; that it was a mistake to send them to Europe; and furthermore, that they should be returned from Europe and sent to the Pacific, where there are races of color."

* * *

"Mr. President, I dislike going into these things, but by the pending measure we are actually asked to discriminate against the white war veteran, and give the Negro preference over him."

* * *

"It was necessary during the Normandy invasion to disarm a good many Negro soldiers, I was reliably informed by a high-ranking general in Paris. Negro soldiers would go to farm houses and holler 'Boche! Boche!' as if they were looking for Germans, call the men of the families out into the yards, and hold guns on them while they went in and criminally assaulted the women members of the family. In the small Normandy peninsula, from invasion date to May of this year, there were thirty-three cases of criminal assault—twenty-six by Negroes, seven by whites."

* * *

"Mr. President, I state that the conduct of the Negro soldier in Normandy, as well as all over Europe, was disgraceful, and that Negro soldiers have disgraced the flag of their country."

* * *

"In Europe the Negro has crossed the color line. He has gone with white girls of the very lowest caliber, and I know how the Northern white boy feels about that. Thank God, the white soldier from Pennsylvania, the white soldier from New York, feels about the racial question today just as does the veteran from Mississippi or Georgia or South Carolina or Tennessee."

* * *

"FEPC might be good politics now, but I have talked to literally hundreds of soldiers from every section of the country, and I know what they think about it. I know what is going to happen when the soldier returns home."

* * *

"Mr. President, I state further that the conduct of the Negro soldier in Europe, the soldier to whom it is proposed to give preference, has caused the United States to lose prestige; he has caused hatred for our country and for our people. I was told in any number of cities that decent white girls could not go out on the street because they would be accosted by groups of drunken Negro soldiers. I know from conversations with Army officers, with generals in the American Army, and with civilians, that in England, in France, in Belgium, that feeling exists in a very intense degree. He has disgraced the flag of his country. He will not fight. He will not work. Yet we give him a preference. We discriminate against the white soldier in order to get some Negro votes."

7-7-45

* * *

"This agitation for social equality has destroyed racial tolerance; and I state frankly that the white soldier is openly and avowedly waiting for his chance when he returns to the United States."

* * *

"I spoke to a young man from Altoona, Pa., who broke down and cried when he told me that he realized there would be serious trouble in the United States in the post-war era; that the racial question would be the great domestic issue to be settled, and he said he was fearful of the results. He said he did not like the attitude of Negro soldiers. That they had been taught they could cross the color line, and he said that under no conditions would they be permitted to do so."

* * *

"There will be no FEPC! There will be no social equality! There will be no such un-American measures, Mr. President, when the soldier returns. Thank God, there still burns in his breast the fire of real Americanism. Thank God, he is going to put a stop to this agitation, to this attempt to destroy his country, when he gets back home."

* * *

"We are dealing with an inferior people, and yet we are discriminating against the white soldier, in favor of the inferior person, and under this measure we are giving the inferior person a preference in securing employment."

* * *

"I have no prejudice against the Negro. I believe in economic equality for him. I believe in equal pay for equal work. I believe that every Negro is entitled to kind, just, and considerate treatment. I have defended Negroes in court on numerous occasions. Several of them are personally employed by me in my business. I know their shortcomings. I know what they can do. I am speaking in behalf of racial harmony in America. There is an attempt being made by the Communist Party, which knows the desire of the Negroes for social equality, to inflame them, and, step by step, tear down the safeguards and segregation practices which have been established in the United States."

Here are some excerpts from Senator Theodore G. Bilbo's remarks in his filibuster against the Fair Employment Practices Bill:

"If this bill passes it is so far-reaching they will be up here going into every office on Capitol Hill and saying you'll have to stick some Jews in your offices."

* * *

"I want good homes, colleges, school, swimming pools and ball parks for n——rs. But I don't want them puddling around and messing in my pool."

* * *

"This is a damnable, Communist, poisonous piece of legislation."

* * *

"If you go through the Government departments there are so many n——rs it's like a black cloud all around you."

* * *

"Some Catholics in this country are lined with some rabbis trying to bring about racial equality for the n——rs. Some of my best friends are Catholics. A Catholic priest in my State gives me a birthday present every year. But you can't get away from the fact that some of them are rotten."

* * *

"The n——rs and the Jews of New York are working hand in hand. That's why you find Eugene Meyer—a Jew—(owner of the Washington Post) denouncing me and saying I'm bankrupt."

* * *

"I'm not taking any chances on this bill passing. I'm going to a funeral Monday. I'm preaching a sermon in advance. The FEPC is dead."

* * *

"If the n——rs will come North, God bless 'em. I want 'em to come North."

* * *

"The few Jews in Mississippi are exemplary citizens. They all vote for Bilbo."

* * *

"As I told those newspapermen and this guild, if they don't stop this Communism there's going to be a revolution and we'll lick the whole damn crowd."

Excerpts from remarks of Senator Dennis Chavez in reply to Senator Eastland during filibuster on FEPC:

"When the casualty lists come from the War Department, when a telegram is sent to a worrying and grieving mother about the death of her child on a foreign field of battle—a boy who perhaps may have had his throat cut by a Japanese bayonet—it matters not whether he happens to have been from the South or the North, or anywhere else! Death on the battlefield does not differentiate between the Jew, the Negro, the Mexican, and the so-calld Anglo-Saxon."

* * *

"Due to the intolerance of people who call themselves Americans; due to the hatreds of humans, war manpower was practically at a standstill, and thousands of Americans—indeed, millions—who do not have to ask anyone else's permission to be an American, and who were willing to toil and work and sweat, could not obtain employment because they happened to be of Jewish extraction, or possibly Mexican extraction, or possibly because they happened to come from an area where Negroes live."

* * *

"Some persons were so intolerant that they were willing to jeopardize the boys in the front lines in order to keep a Negro or a Jew, and in places a Catholic, from working in the war effort."

* * *

"We find people in this country who would object to and who would not themselves permit fair play to the relatives of those who died in Tunisia, of those who died on Anzio Beach, or at Salerno. There was no discrimination as the boys got off the ships and tried to reach the beaches. There is no discrimination or separation in the military graveyards all over the world. There is no discrimination by the Japanese when he is trying to reach an American boy, be that boy Hebrew, Mexican, Irish, Negro, or what. The Japanese would cut the throat of that boy if he had a chance to do so.

* * *

"In this, our own country, a country which preaches decency for all the world, which preaches fair play for all the world, which wants to adopt the San Francisco Charter, in this country we still find those, as was stated on the Senate floor yesterday, who object to doing something which would provide that a Negro, or a Pole, or a Catholic might have a job after the war."

7-7-45

FEPC to Abandon Five Field Offices

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Present Staff of 117 Workers Pared to 51

CUTBACK IS DRASTIC

8-4-45

Backlog of 2,600 Cases Pending Need Service

WASHINGTON — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice will close five of its 15 field offices late in August, and reduce its present staff of 117 to 51 persons, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, said Friday.

This action is necessitated, Mr. Ross said, by the recent reduction of the agency's budget from the $507,600 expended last year to the $250,000 appropriated for the current fiscal year.

The committee will continue operation of 10 field offices in war production areas where minority-group problems are likely to be most acute during the remainder of the war, Mr. Ross announced.

These offices are at New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C.; Detroit, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, San Antonio, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The five offices to be closed are at Cleveland, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, and New Orleans.

Given 30 Days

"The committee ordered a 30-day period in the closing of these offices," the chairman said, "in order to wind up the affairs of these units and to give displaced staff members time in which to seek other positions."

Under the new plan of operation, Mr. Ross said, the typical field office will consist of a regional director and a secretary. The New York City, Chicago and St. Louis offices, however, will have, in addition, one field examiner each.

8-4-45

"This reduction in force, of course, will not permit us to service any of these areas to the same extent as we have in the past," Mr. Ross said. "The handling of complaints of discrimination in war industry and in Government service will continue, but on a necessarily greatly reduced scale. A present backlog of 2,600 pending cases needs servicing."

66 to Lose Jobs

The present FEPC staff of 117, including all field office and Washington headquarters' personnel, will be reduced by 66 persons. In the Washington headquarters, the field operations division will be reduced from eight staff members to four; budget and administration from 17 to 11; and the legal division, effective Sept. 30, from 9 to 5. The information division will be eliminated and its function merged with the review and analysis, which will be reduced from nine to six employees.

vorah Tisdale of this city.

700 GEORGIANS GIVE SUPPORT TO FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Democracy and Fascism Clash in Struggle to Efface Job Discrimnation

Black Dispatch

SOUTH FACES UNWHOLESOME CONSEQUENCES

6-30-45

Seven hundred prominent citizens of Georgia, both black and white, joined last week in a petition to President Truman and both houses of the federal legislature demanding that a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee be established by statute. The petition, which was addressed to the Congress, reads as follows:

"To the members of the Congress of the United States:

"With far-sighted vision the founders of our republic laid for its foundation stone the divine principle of human dignity. In a shrine in the Library of Congress, revered by all the people of the United States, rests that document which enunciates the basic philosophy of this nation: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' In support of that declaration is pledged 'our sacred honor.'

"Within a generation, two devastating wars fought in defense of democracy have impressed its meaning and implications upon the people of the world.

"Today, two schools of thought are in conflict: democracy with its philisophy of individual rights and dignity; fascism with its ideology of force, built on discrimination against racial and religious minorities.

"Such discrimination has no place in American life; by its very nature it is fascistic. Yet such discrimination exists in our country and mocks our words before the world. It has handicapped us in making maximum use of our manpower for war production. It has been used effectively in the propaganda of our enemies. If continued it will weaken our leadership in the council of nations; it will lessen the chances for a durable peace.

"Here in the South we have experienced the unwholesome consequences of discrimination in employment. A large segment of our people held at a low wage level has depressed the income of all and has stunted the progress of the area.

"In 1941, the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, in order to make full use of the nation's manpower and to demonstrate on the home front the principles of democracy for which we are fighting abroad, created by executive order, under the war powers granted him by the Congress, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice as a temporary war agency. It is a significant fact that in his last campaign for office, Mr. Roosevelt singled out by name the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, from among all the war agencies, and advocated its continuance in peace.

"Legislation to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is now before the Congress. The act recognizes that in matters of employment the practice of discriminating against properly qualified persons because of race and creed 'forces large segments of the population permanently into substandard conditions of living, thereby creating a drain upon the resources of the nation. Passage of the act would be in line with other feleral legislation, for in the past ten years Congress has enacted twenty-three laws which forbid discrimination in their administration, and the Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly condemned discriminatory employment practices. Furthermore, the administrative procedure of the proposed commission is not new, since it would be like that of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and a number of other administrative agencies, with orders enforceable only by the courts.

Establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is supported by some sixty-odd national organizations. Both the Repullican party and the Democratic party are commited to such legislation by their party platforms, as well as by the fact that the presidential nominees of both parties promised support to this legislation in the last national campaign.

We are approaching the end of our military war. Events are moving swiftly. We cannot afford to permit our actions to lag behind the tempo of irresistible forces.

"We join with President Truman in calling upon the Congress to fulfill the pledges of their parties by enacting S. 101-H. R. 2232, setting up a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission to prevent economic discrimination based on race, creed, national origin, or ancestry."

Signed: Armand May, Father Samuel Chew Williams Fleming, Kendall Weisiger, Dean R. B. Brazeal, Dr. Rufus E. Clement, L. D. Milton, Rev. William Holmes Borders, Dr. M. Ashby Jones, C. F. Palmer, Bishop W. A. Fountain sr., Dean Raimundo deOvies, Rabbi David Marx.

Dixie Solons Talk Of FEPC Compromise

Montgomery adv.

Plan To Give Agency Small Fund To Head Off Permanent - Unit

7-8-45

WASHINGTON, July 7.—(AP)—Southern foes of the Fair Employment Practice Committee considered today a suggested compromise to keep it alive as a temporary agency so as to block a move to make it permanent.

The compromise was advanced informally by a Southern House leader in an effort to break the month-old FEPC deadlock that has tied up funds of sixteen home front war agencies in a $752,000,000 supply bill for the fiscal year already a week old.

Token Fund Proposed

It provides for granting the FEPC as now constituted—a temporary agency created by executive order and lacking legal power to enforce its orders — a "token" fund of perhaps as much as $200,000 to continue to operate.

The agency's budget estimates for the fiscal year are $599,000.

By allowing FEPC to continue without giving it legal backing, the agency's foes believe they might slow down a drive to give it permanent and legal status.

Lying on the speaker's table in the House is a discharge petition which, if signed by 218 members, would bring to a vote legislation setting up a permanent commission intended to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. The petition now has approximately 130 signatures.

Many friends of FEPC are displeased with the permanent proposal because they believe it is too far-reaching and have declined to sign the discharge petition.

Permanent FEPC Feared

But the originator of the compromise, who declined to permit use of his name, said that if the deadlock continues and it becomes apparent that FEPC will get nothing at all, "the heat will be on and we may find ourselves with a permanent FEPC."

"It would be far better to give them a small amount to operate without legal power to act, than to have them set up as a statutory body," he explained.

The compromise was advanced as House appropriation committee members indicated they may reverse themselves and recommended that the House accept the $250,000 voted by the Senate, or at least a part of it. That would break the deadlock, provided it could get the support of the House itself.

There has been no record vote in the House on the FEPC this year, its opponents blocking it through parliamentary moves.

Should the FEPC deadlock holding up the funds for the war agencies continue much longer, thousands of employes of those agencies will go payless for work performed since July 1. Congress has authorized the agencies to operate in anticipation of funds to be provided eventually but has not allowed them to do any actual spending. 7-8-45

Bilbo Lambasts White Georgians For Backing FEPC

Black Dispatch

ATLANTA,—(ANP)—Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo, regarded as one of America's leading race baiters, lambasted 736 white Georgians last week in the senate for urging passage of a permanent FEPC act. 7-7-45

Bilbo called the white Georgians "Quislings of the white race" for advocating a permanet FEPC law and described this city as a "hotbed of Southern Negro intelligentsia, Communists, pinks and reds."

The Mississippian's accusations were included in a letter he sent to Dr. M. Ashby Jones, retired local Baptist minister; the Rev. William Holmes Borders and Armand May, local manufacturer.

The 736 Georgians asked "fair play for all American citizens," said Dr. Jones. He added that their stand was "an appeal to reason instead of prejudice, which is outdated in the South."

Bilbo's letter was inserted in the Congressional Record.

F.E.P.C. Backers Strip War Agencies of Funds

Courier Journal

Appropriations for 10 Bureaus Knocked Out In Retaliatory Action By House Advocates

7-6-45

By WILLIAM S. WHITE.

Special to The New York Times and The Courier-Journal.

Washington, July 5.—House backers of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, resolutely denied money authorizations to continue the agency, retaliated today by striking from the overdue war agencies appropriation bill allocations aggregating $618,000,000 for ten other Government bureaus directly assisting in prosecuting the war.

As the controversy thus deepened in harshness and complexity, while several hundred persistent advocates of F.E.P.C. from New York and Philadelphia walked about the corridors of an angry Congress, all House plans for a summer recess were imminently threatened and it developed as well that unless some compromise could be made within two weeks many thousands of Government employees apparently would have no pay day late this month.

'Sit Down' Proposed.

Tonight, F.E.P.C. proponents in the Senate, which had voted $250,000 as a part of the war agencies bill to carry the agency forward, declared themselves determined to go on in its behalf to the end and as they considered the alternatives a movement was on foot among them to try to have the Senate simply "sit down" on the issue and refuse this latest of the bills of the House.

7-6-45

Senator Chavez (D., N. M.), who had been leading the fight for F.E.P.C. in the Senate, suggested that this could be done simply by a majority vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee tabling the new House measure. That measure, which should have been passed before last Saturday midnight to provide the funds to continue a total of 19 war agencies, emerged from the House today in a form so shrunken and so involved in parliamentary technicalities as to present to those who sought some solution a far more formidable job than they had faced before.

New Bill Prepared.

The position was this: The House from the start had refused to give anything to F.E.P.C., which is a temporary organization set up by President Roosevelt to try to end discrimination by employers in hiring workers. On Saturday the Senate, which within its own membership had been bitterly engaged upon the issue, adopted at last a compromise amendment to the war agencies bill allowing $250,000 for F.E.P.C. and appropriating $771,000,000 altogether for all the war agencies.

When this measure reached the House for conference Southern opponents of F.E.P.C. stood adamant against it and at length the House Appropriations Committee prepared a wholly new war agencies bill, minus F.E.P.C.

When this bill came to the House floor today the situation was such that under parliamentary rule "points of order," which customarily are waived on appropriations bills, could be made against 11 of the affected agencies since they had no precise statutory base. The one agency which was open to this attack, but was not attacked, was the War Relocation Authority.

7-6-45

Points of Order Made.

Representative Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.) and Representatives Celler of New York and Mary T. Norton of New Jersey, both Democrats, set out at once to make such points of order, all of which had to be conceded by the House leadership, and thus knocked from the war agencies bill the following agencies in chronological order.

The National War Labor Board, the Office of Defense Transportation, the Office of Economic Stabilization, the Office of Scientific Research and Development, the Office of Inter-American Affairs, the Office of War Information, the War Production Board, the War Shipping Administration, the Office of Strategic Services and the Petroleum Administration for War.

The resulting bill carried $134,000,000 instead of the $752,000,000 it had carried upon submission to the House, and the shouts of the leaders on both sides left no doubt that compromise had been made more difficult than ever.

Accepts Showdown Challenge.

For example, Representative Hendricks (D., Fla.) a member of the Appropriations Committee, recalled that the F.E.P.C. advocates had expressed a willingness to "stay here all summer" for a showdown, and added:

7-6-45

"If there is to be an implied threat that we must make an appropriation (for F.E.P.C.) to get a recess, then as far as I am concerned there will be no recess this summer. And some of the members from near by who have been accustomed to taking week ends at home may find it extremely difficult to continue that practice." This appeared to have been directed at such delegations as those from New York City and Philadelphia.

It had been thought in Congress heretofore that employees of the war agencies could be paid through an emergency blanket provision hastily inserted last Saturday in a noncontroversial deficiency bill. But the Treasury held that while this emergency clause would permit the agencies involved to incur obligations for the fiscal year that began on Sunday, it did not empower them actually to hand out money.

Two 'Wilful' Groups in House Block FEPC, Rep. Norton Says

P. M.

She Protests Sabotage of Bill in Tactics by Commitees

7-4-45

By United Press

WASHINGTON, July 4.—Rep. Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.) said that two groups of "willful" house members have prevented the House from considering FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) legislation.

Southern members defended Committee action against the measure as vital to the national welfare. A fight will be made in the House tomorrow to overrule the action by two committees and permit the House to consider an FEPC appropriation.

Mrs. Norton told the House that President Truman asked the Senate to consider not only the words of the world security charter, but the spirit in the light of "human rights and fundamental freedoms for all men and women."

"Later on a group of six willful men on the Rules Committee, which controls legislation in the House, and 21 on the Appropriations Committee refused to grant this request" for the House to be permitted to vote on FEPC funds, Mrs. Norton said.

"How dare we explain what freedom and justice is to the other peoples of the world when we deny it to a shall group of our own people?"

Her remarks brought two Southern Democrats to their feet in defense of Monday's FEPC blocking action.

Rep. Dan R. McGehee (D., Miss.) congratulated members of the Rules and Appropriations Committtees "for having the backbone not to foist upon the people an unconstitutional act."

Rules Committee Member Rep. Eugene E. Cox (D., Ga.) declared the group was being criticized by Mrs. Norton "for standing guard over the liberties of the people."

He added that he could understand Mrs. Norton's disappointment because "once upon a time Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard to get her poor dog a bone and when she got there the cupboard was bare and so the poor dog had none."

Bilbo Called Spokesman For Northern Money

Fight Against FEPC Bill Hit By Clark Foreman

Atlanta Daily World

NASHVILLE—(ANP)—The names of Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo, frequently called Mississippi's "white supremacy" leader, was mentioned as one of the south's congressmen who are serving the interests of northern capitalists in the fight against the FEPC bill. The tieup of Bilbo and other southern congressmen with northern financiers was revealed last week by Clark Foreman, president, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, during a discussion "What's New About the New South" at Fisk university here.

7-28-45

NORTH OPPOSES UNIT

In explaining the Bilbo filibuster against the FEPC, he said the financial north does not want F. E. P. C. and they are letting the southerners fight it for them. Such senators as Bilbo do not represent the northern capital in the south.

Northern capitalists do not want the poll tax repealed, he continued then cited an Alabama instance where it was said that a repeal of the poll tax would scare northern investors away, and therefore the state was against a repeal.

Clark listed five barriers to democracy in the south:

1. The poll tax.
2. Registration of voters.
3. The white primary.
4. Reapportionment of state legislature to give preference to agricultural sections where votes are more easily controlled.
5. The county unit vote, which he called a distortion of the electoral college.

7-28-45

END OF REBELLION

He mentioned two major political incidents that occurred in the south last July 4. One was the raising of the American flag in Dade county, Ga., during Independence day celebrations and other was the celebration of Independence day at Vicksburg, Miss. Both events were interpreted as marking the end of the 80-year post-Civic war rebellion against the United States government.

7-28-45

In predicting that a permanent FEPC bill will be passed, on the basis of the war-time measure, Clark said human as well as physical values will soon be taken into consideration. The caste system is the basis for fascism, he declared.

56d-1945

FEPC

How the good fight was won

Daily Worker N.Y.

By ART SHIELDS

7-22-45

WASHINGTON.

THE polltaxers' prestige has been blunted by the FEPC victory in Congress last week.

Success of the people in winning the appropriation to continue the non-discrimination committee, that protects the right of Negroes, Jews, Mexicans and other minorities to work, can be followed by victory for the right to vote without paying taxes.

The methods used in the FEPC fight give the cue to victory in many coming battles for jobs and democracy in the months that are ahead. The same combination of skilled, hard-hitting floor work in Congress with determined mass pressure can defeat the representatives of race hatred and monopoly again.

The polltaxers hoped to catch the people asleep when they started their fight against renewing the appropriation for the wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee last month.

In the House they insolently expected to kill or bog down the measure in the committees they control. The perpetually elected polltaxers have won this control by climbing the seniority ladder a rung at a time every two years.

In the Senate they intended to smash FEPC with the dreaded filibuster.

Their strategy was to prevent a floor vote. They knew that most Northern members of Congress would not dare to defy the wishes of organized labor, as well as of the Negro, Jewish and other minority peoples on this point.

The polltaxers had grown even confident by a preliminary success. For months white supremacy spokesman like Rep. Eugene Cox (D-Ga) and Rep. William Colmer (D-Miss) had been able to bury Rep. Mary Norton's (D-NJ) bill for a permanent FEPC in the Rules Committee, that powerful body that can thwart the people's will by preventing a bill from reaching the floor.

The Coxes and Colmers had been able to get away with this strategy because Rep. Vito Marcantonio and other progressives had been centering their attention on the fight against the polltax. But the House end of the polltax fight had been won by late May. The 218th Congressional signature had been gained to take the Marcantonio polltax bill out of the Rules Committee and the House had given the bill a 253-to-105 vote.

This was the situation when the fight against the FEPC appropriation began. But men like Cox, Colmer and John E. Rankin, the shaggy, gray Mississippi Democrat, who rates as the most virulent enemy of the Negro people in the House, didn't sense all the forces against them. They kept boasting that FEPC would never come to a vote.

BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.

CHARLES COLLINS

REP. VITO MARCANTONIO

REP. MARY NORTON

The polltaxers won the first rounds in the fight through their committee control. In a secret session, the Appropriations Committee left FEPC entirely out of the War Agencies bill. The Rules Committee then refused to let the House put in an FEPC amendment from the floor.

Some liberals felt licked. But Marcantonio, who knows the House's parliamentary rules almost by heart, wasn't discouraged. "We'll have another move when FEPC comes back from the Senate," he said. "And by that time Congress will be hearing a mighty protest from the people back home," he predicted. 7-22-45

The filibuster bludgeon then struck at FEPC after the bill had gone to the other end of the Capitol and the Senate Appropriations Committee had inserted a $446,000 fund amendment in the War Agencies bill by a 14-to-4 vote.

Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D-Miss), chief race hate spieler in the upper chamber, was the first to pick up the bludgeon. Realizing that FEPC had a majority, probably two-thirds of the Senators behind it, Bilbo began filibustering before the amendment was even read on the floor. Bilbo himself held the floor two days; his fellow Mississippian, James O. Eastland, spoke another full day. Olin D. Johnston (D-SC), who disgraced the labor forces, who had backed him against "Cotton Ed" Smith on his pro-Roosevelt professions, brought up the rear.

N.Y.

Wild Hitlerite propaganda ran through the filibuster speeches. Ignorant demagogues ranting about the "culture" they represented, spewing lies about "murder" and "rape" against the Negro people, and red baiting continually, were talking against the June 30 deadline, when FEPC funds would run out.

Perhaps never in this generation has the Senate been treated to such a vicious performance as in Eastland's speech, when he slandered the decorated heroes of the 92d Negro Regiment as men who wouldn't fight and falsely accused Negro Senegalese troops of raping thousands of German women in a Stuttgart subway, which didn't exist (Stuttgart has no subways).

To the shame of the Senate, no one answered these liars at the time. Robert F. Wagner and James Mead, New York's two Democratic Senators, however, blasted Eastland on the Senate floor later with documentary War Department proof after citizens' delegations appealed to them for action

7-22-45

The fury of the filibusterers, however, didn't hide their real weakness. The country was against them. Delegations were protesting to Senators. Thousands of protest letters and wires were pouring in. And active steps to end the filibuster by

a cloture vote to limit speeches to one hour each had begun.

This weapon, used only five times in Senate history, seemed within the grasp of the FEPC forces Thursday, June 30. The necessary two-thirds vote was apparently at hand at that midnight session. But they didn't get the vote for two reasons: (1) Sergeant-at-Arms Doxey, from Bilbo's own State, didn't round up enough Senators for a quorum when he was sent out on that job; and (2) Sen. Alben W. Barkley, majority leader, who had temporarily gotten the floor, didn't yield to a Senator who wanted to present the cloture petition for a vote.

Barkley said he didn't know what the Senator wanted. Be that as it may, his failure then, as well as his role later in effecting a compromise to cut the FEPC appropriation down to $250,000, reveals the weakness of the Administration leaders on this fundamental issue.

The danger of cloture still presented itself to Bilbo later, however, and his group eventually accepted Barkley's $250,000.

Far better would it have been to have enforced cloture and appropriated the full amount.

The FEPC fund deadline had expired. But haste would still bring funds before the July 21 payroll came due. And Monday morning, July 2, found a delegation of 60 Negro and white men and women from New York.

While Capitol police swarmed around them, the delegates, led by New York's Negro Councilman, Ben Davis, a Communist, and Charles Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, did a wonderful job.

7-12-45

Locked doors barred the delegation from the Appropriations Committee room, where a new War Agencies bill without an FEPC appropriation was substituted for the Senate bill.

Some liberals in Congress felt sick at this point. The Rules Committee wouldn't let the House put an FEPC amendment into the new War Agencies bill. "We are beaten," they said.

But Marcantonio wasn't licked With a militant group of Congress members behind him he took unexpected steps to prevent any substitute war agencies bill from passing while the House was barred from voting for FEPC. So while hundreds of Negro and white union members from Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York swarmed through the Capitol the next Thursday he rose in the House and began raising points of order against one war agency after another. Rep. Emanuel Cellar (D-NY); Rep. Mary Norton and others, with Rep. Hugh De Lacy (D-Wash) abetting, raised points of order too. Ten executive war agencies, involving some 600 million dollars, were stricken from the substitute bill on the technical grounds that Congress had not provided for them by law.

The mutilated bill was ignored by the Senate Appropriations Committee. So the House Appropriations Committee had to reconsider the original, Senate-amended bill with its $250,000 item. The committee, at first, put in a proviso that the $250,000 must be used for "liquidation" only. But after a speech by Marcantonio, calling for defeat of this amendment, the committee added a saving clause permitting the money to be used for the work of the agency.

The amendment was sustained by a 188-to-116 vote later in a dramatic House session when Marcantonio brushed off cries of "Communist," "subversive" and "revolutionary" from the polltax bloc and branded the foes of equality as practising "Hitlerism in America."

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY), who had been absent as the result of an accident during most of the fight, and Rep. William Dawson (D-Ill), the two Negro members of the House, got the floor for effective two-minute speeches.

The War Agencies bill of which FEPC is a part, was flown to President Truman soon after.

The delegations had the chance to help wake up Congress to its duties because the masterful parliamentary work of Marcantonio and others prolonged the fight while the protests were rising.

All credit in Congress itself is due to the indomitable progressives, who led the fight of the people.

7-22-45

And none is due to the Republican Party, though it seeks to cash in. Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-O), for instance, who earlier offered an amendment to provide on FEPC without enforcement powers, is now calling on the Negro people to return to their "historic" friends.

President Truman, on the other hand, publicly appealed to the Rules Committee to let the House vote on the permanent FEPC, though he didn't intervene publicly for the wartime FEPC appropriation.

Two jobs lie ahead for FEPC friends. (1) The fight for the permanent FEPC, which needs 70 or more signatures from members of Congress to get a House vote, must be carried through. (2) More funds for the wartime FEPC now on half rations must be won. Senator Mead has indicated the way. A deficiency bill appropriation can furnish the additional funds.

But time doesn't wait.

BEHIND THE FILIBUSTER

Afro-American

(AN EDITORIAL)

Those among us who think Mississippi's Senators Eastland and Bilbo made their vicious anti-race speeches simply to win Dixie votes or kill the FEPC are political and economic adolescents. Their motives go deeper than that.

These men are fighting to preserve a system. The South is still a feudal fortress peopled with vassals and serfs exploited for the benefit of the moneyed class.

Feudalism and slavery must be perpetuated with force. Force is not always physical. It can be psychological, and the task of maintaining an atmosphere of force is the job of the Bilbos, Rankins, and Eastlands.

It is not necessary to maintain an armed band of brigands, such as Hitler created in his SS black shirt Elite Guard, to keep people in a state of fear.

Only a small percentage of the citizens of Germany ever landed in concentration camps, but the existence of these camps, with popular knowledge of the atrocities visited upon the unfortunate, was enough to keep a large mass of the timid in check.

7-31-45

The Southern hierachy has a cheaper and equally effective scheme for keeping both colored and poor whites in subjection.

They simply create a psychology of fear in both races so that the poor whites become the jailers of the poor blacks. But in order to do this, they must remain in an economic jail themselves. Terror is the handmaiden of low wages and exploitation.

The guard in the prison is the natural and fundamental enemy of the man who wants to get out.

During the days of physical slavery, foreign travelers in America were quick to observe that the South was an armed camp. Every white man, regardless of whether he owned slaves or not, felt duty bound at all times to carry a weapon. Slavery makes slaves of both the victim and the master.

Which brings us to our point. The South knows that returning colored veterans are not going to take lying down the same kind of treatment they endured before the war.

The South also knows that in order to maintain the status quo it will need the help of all the whites of the South, poor and rich alike. Each white person must be a committee of one to keep the colored man in "his place."

So it was the job of Eastland to build a feeling of bitter resentment of all whites against colored vets by spreading his infamous falsehoods about colored soldiers engaged in wholesale rape in Europe, to strike fear in the hearts of Southerners, and put them on the alert when the boys come marching home.

Baltimore, Md.

In this way the whites are mentally rearmed with the desire to lynch, a weapon they had apparently placed in its sheath during the war.

The spokesmen of the South are afraid that through educational and civilizing processes, plus a sense of gratitude, the few decent people might develop tolerance toward their comrades in arms and be inclined to live and let live.

This must never happen and so again we have the red flag of rape waved before the bull of Southern passion, all for the purpose of keeping racial hatred and suspicion alive, and the races at each other's throats.

That is the why of Eastland's speech. That is the why of Bilbo. The fight on the FEPC was only incidental and a sounding board for their deeper motives.

RALPH MATTHEWS

Fund Slash Cuts FEPC Work

Daily Worker

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

7-28-45

WASHINGTON, July 27.—With 2,600 cases of job discrimination on grounds of race, creed, color or national origin still unsettled the work of the Wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee faces near paralysis this summer as the result of fund slashes.

Director Malsolm Ross announces that "the handing of complaints of discrimination in war industries will continue, but on a greatly reduced scale."

N.Y.

Five field offices are being closed in August, said Ross, so that the committee can keep within its apapopriation of $250,000, which is approximately half the sum voted last year. The closed offices are in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Pittsburg and New Orleans. Offices, with reduced staffs, will be continued in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D. C., Detroit, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, San Antonio San Francisco and Los Angeles.

56d-1945

LONGVIEW, WASH.
NEWS
Cir. D. 10,075
JUL 11 1945

Editorials—

FEPC Proves Bitter Issue For Congress

Congress has a hot potato which is being tossed back and forth from the house to the senate, with no one wanting to hold on to it long. It is the effort to secure an appropriation for continuance of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, which in theory requires that workers, regardless of race, color, or creed, be given equal opportunity. The issues simmer down to that of the Negro question being brought in to the fore and this is a question of major importance on the West Coast where tens of thousands of Negroes have arrived and are engaged in war work. Are they to remain and be absorbed in industry and commerce, or are they to be directed eastward and southward?

The unions, especially in the shipyards and plants, have been attempting to stave off this issue. During a filibuster in the senate some very intemperate speeches were made by Senator Bilbo of Mississippi and some of his southern colleagues. Bilbo didn't spare Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, of whom he spoke in anything but complimentary terms, and another senator drew fire when he charged that Negroes didn't make good soldiers. The anti-FEPC members of congress from the south have been openly hostile to any legislation that would equalize the status of colored and white workers. The Southerners also claim that the Northerners by their acts and at heart were opposed to the FEPC, but feared political reprisals if they voted against it.

The lower house has been attempting to avoid the issue, but the senate has demanded action, as it is holding up a major appropriation bill which includes the funds of the FEPC. So there can not be much more delay. President Truman has urged continuance of the committee, but up to now the whole picture of the FEPC is a complicated one.

The agency, which was one of the Roosevelt New Deal measures, has never been authorized by congress, but was created by an executive order back in 1941 and supplemented in 1943. Congress inserted a provision in the appropriation bill whereby it was ordered that no funds may be used to pay the expense of any agency unless congress has specifically appropriated money for it, or has authorized it to expend funds. That is the reason the FEPC is now stymied. It has no drawing account at all until congress takes action on the pending appropriation bill.

Despite the social significance of the controversy, the importance of the Negro vote is a factor that the politically minded must take into consideration. It is perhaps the most significant single development in American politics in the last decade. In some Northern industrial states the Negro holds the balance of power, and although traditionally Republican, he is presumed to have supported the Roosevelt program. Roosevelt's popular majority over Willkie in 1940, outside the south, was slightly under two million votes. In three large states, New York, New Jersey, and Illinois, the result was close enough to have been decided by the Negro vote. Whether it was, no one can say.

In 1890 only 10 per cent of all Negroes in the United States lived above the Mason-Dixon line. In 1940 it was 23 per cent, and later migrations northward have probably brought the percentage to 30, with an estimate of probably four and a half million Negroes in the north. This whole issue was given another airing recently in Congress when the abolition of the poll tax in the Southern states was being debated before committees and on the floors of congress. Thus we have an issue all bound up in social, union, and political entanglements. There are those who say the Republicans want to bring the dissatisfied Negro vote back into the party. The Southern Democrats do not need the Negro vote.

Back in April 1942 the Republican National Committee had its meeting in Chicago and came out for "ending, under the pressure of war, such injustices as discrimination against the Negro citizens in industry, labor and in the armed services." This verbiage is modeled much after that used by the Democrats. So, regardless of the FEPC legislation, there is a possibility that the colored boys and gals may find themselves in the position of wielding the balance of power politically in the next presidential election. And wouldn't that be something?

Cleveland, Ohio
Catholic Universe
Bulletin
July 13, 1945

LETTERS

Criticizes U. B. for Stand on FEPC Bill

To the Editor—First let me state that I am a Catholic and a reader of your publication. For some time now I have noticed that you do not have a column in which your readers can express their thoughts and opinions and I have begun to wonder if your readers are supposed to digest what you and your writers think is right without having any ideas of their own.

The main reason that prompts me to write this letter is that I do not care for the stand your paper takes on the Fair Employment Practices Commission.

It appears to me that your paper goes to great lengths to let us know that you are in favor of the bill but does not take the trouble to explain just what it is or what the results will be.

WHY DO YOU not tell your readers that it is designed to create employment for the Negroes by taking jobs from others?

Why not tell them that the employer will be forced to hire these people even if he has to fire others to do so?

It is very evident that you expect to have unemployment in the near future or there would be no need of such a bill. Its results as I see it would be like this: a soldier who works for a company which hired a few or no Negroes would return home to find that his employer had work to do but that he could not hire him because he had older employes with more seniority who made up the bulk of his help and he was required by law to hire 10 per cent Negroes.

THIS IS NOT a bill to create work or to abolish poverty. It is a bill to divide unemployment and poverty among all the people.

I am sure that it will make our G. I. Joe very happy especially if he happened to live in one of the many sections of the city where conditions caused by the war and the greed of the capitalists have turned his street and home from something to be proud of to something to sell as quickly as possible at bankrupt prices. Then he will have to find other living quarters at twice their true value. Neither can you convince people that they can live with this recently acquired population in peace and happiness.

Mr. Editor, there is no justice in this bill or in a newspaper which does not give its readers a chance to express their opinions.—**Gilbert F. Uline, 2958 E. 81st Street, Cleveland**

MERCHANTVILLE, N. J.
COMMUNITY NEWS
Cir. W. 2,329
JUL 19 1945

ARE THE MEDDLERS HELPING THE NEGRO?

The possibility may be remote, but still a possibility, that the Negro of the North may suffer from the meddling white Northerners who are fighting for FEPC. At the same time, the Southerners, opposing "fair practice," may come to realize that the meddlers have eased the "social problem" of the South.

In the United States News we find figures collected to show the considerable increase of Negro skilled labor at war plants. In four years the employment of civilian Negroes increased one million. Foremen and semi-skilled operatives doubled. The survey showed 12 percent of Federal Government employes are Negroes.

All of this is heartening to the Negro, but the survey also shows that in many northern cities, Negro populations have doubled during the war.

Conceding that the Negro can reason equally with the white, there must be many of his kind who are born and established northerners, now wondering what this increase of population means to him, and how his chances at the end of war work will compare with his chances in pre-war times.

The increase of Negro population in northern cities can come from but one place —the South. And most of the southern Negroes intend to remain in their new homes, the survey showed. Each southern Negro in cities with doubled Negro population, is going to reduce by one-half the chances of the "native" northern Negro of finding employment after the war boom.

The migration, it would seem, is bound to reduce the Negro population of the South. That may be an advantage to the South.

The southern Negroes who have remained at home probably are satisfied with their opportunities. They will have more opportunities with less competition for jobs. The South may lose some cheap labor, for it will find returned "migrants" dissatisfied after having enjoyed northern prosperity.

Perhaps the "meddlers" fighting for "fair practice" are not helping the Negro with his problem of self preservation. FEPC may be another effort to "upset nature," which improves conditions gradually and not radically.

New York's most serious problem is overcrowded Harlem. Other cities will find similar, if smaller, problems should work become scarce. For, no matter how much we may talk about and desire "racial equality," the fact remains that the Negro districts provide the greatest percentage of public dependents in a depression.

We continue to believe that the champions of the Negro have the wrong idea in believing that "fair practice" will be a cure-all. We believe the same efforts should be expended in helping the Negro take care of himself, with his own industries, stores, professions, farms, with concentrating upon the employment and service of the Negro by the Negro.

Give the Negroes a chance to progress by themselves, and later on we may need a "fair practice" national law to force them to employ some whites.

N. Y. C. NEW REPUBLIC
JULY 23, 1945

The FEPC

Congress has finally compromised the issue of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. After a long deadlock, the FEPC has been given $250,000 for the next year, as opposed to $600,000 which committee members believe is the minimum required to do its job. The bill is confused and ambiguous as to whether the FEPC has now been ordered to go out of business. We earnestly hope that until a clearer mandate from Congress is received, it will continue to function as in the past. The FEPC is an acid test of the intentions of Congress. If this country is not willing to spend $600,000 a year, out of an annual budget of approximately $100 billion, to fight discrimination on grounds of race, creed or sex, America is a good deal farther away from democracy, a good deal closer to fascism, than many people have supposed.

We do not believe that the vote in Congress fairly represents the sentiment of the American people. We think, on the contrary, that it was a demonstration of the abnormally large power of a minority of Negro-hating Southerners from poll-tax states. We hope that next autumn another attempt can be made to marshal public opinion behind the FEPC in such overwhelming strength that the Southern tories will be forced to give up the fight. If this is not done, President Truman's chance of reëlection in 1948 will be seriously diminished. Many thousands of Negroes, both North and South, are saying today that if they have to choose between reactionary Republicans and reactionary Democrats, they prefer reactionary Republicans who at least are not filled, as so many Southerners are, with ideas of racial supremacy that are on all fours with those of the Nazis.

TOLEDO, O.
BLADE
Cir. D. 167,963

JUL 17 1945

The Blade's Daily Forum

UPHOLDS FEPC AIMS

To the Editor of the Blade:

The rather surprising attack of George Vradenberg on the proposal for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee was published in The Blade July 11. What moves me to reply to his letter is the fact that Mr. Vradenberg is a well known Toledo industrialist and a highly respected and influential citizen.

At a time when the integration of Negroes, industrially, is made doubly difficult by the proximity of the demobilization of a million and a half Negro service men, and the inevitable disturbance in employment due to reconversion, his ill considered and and unsupported attack upon the FEPC was not worthy of him as a responsible citizen.

The passage of a law establishing a permanent FEPC does not mean that "the free enterprise sytem goes out the window for all time." A study of the measure as proposed would reveal that it is limited in its application to goverment agencies, industries under interstate controls, unions operating in the interstate field. It is not true that the "boys" have been fighting overseas to eradicate a system characterized by such measures as the FEPC. While to appeal to all of us generally to prevent the passage of the FEPC on the ground that we must otherwise lose the freedom for which our boys have given their lives for the past 150 years borders pretty close to such irresponsible statement as we expect from a Senator Bilbo.

What proposal would Mr. Vradenberg make for these more than 3,000,000 Negroes now in industry or government employ or in the armed services?

The proposal for a permanent FEPC is based on these realistic considerations: First, that discrimination against Negroes has been a deeply rooted part of the pattern of the American economic life; second, that equality of economic opportunity is one of the freedoms which the Negro in America has never enjoyed but for which he has been willing to fight along side of his white American brother; third, that the present status of the Negro American requires a special consideration on the part of the community as a whole if the task of progressively integrating Negroes economically is not to deteriorate.

Some agency of the people such as the FEPC seems to some of us and many industrialists, essential if the free enterprise system is to continue and to preserve our integrity as a free people.

COORDINATING COUNCIL
FOR ACTION
The Rev. G. J. Johnson, chairman
457½ Avondale Ave.

Sirs: Time Magazine

Whether by accident or design, your juxtaposition of the three articles concerning the [FEPC] filibusterers, Vicksburg, and the Marshall Islanders was a masterful presentation of the crisis that confronts America in her aspirations towards world leadership. Throughout the world there are many thousands who, like the Marshall Islanders, are looking to the U.S. and the magnificent ideals which have become symbolical of American leadership. But will they continue to feel that way when they learn about Senators Bilbo and Eastland? 7-30-45

What a tragic paradox it is for this hate-weary planet that one of its mightiest nations, the one presumably destined to lead it into a new era of peaceful cooperation, is unable to heal its own festering wounds of hate and distrust of more than 80 years' duration.

ROBERT E. FULLILOVE JR.
New Orleans

Sirs: Time Magazine

What variety of goons elected Theodore Bilbo to the U.S. Senate? This country stinks to high heaven with prejudice and intolerance and loudmouthed Senators. 7-30-45

No Negro, I am nonetheless for them all the way, and it is time we realized that they are no different from any other race in their capabilities and intelligence, if given the opportunity to develop both.

Senator Bilbo sits on a "black cloud" spitting down on Negroes, Jews, Catholics and Communists. What kind of people live in Mississippi, anyway? It is time some Americans opened their small, tight minds. . . .

(MRS.) CAROL WHITNEY
Westborough, Mass.

"Tragic Paradox"

Sirs: Time Magazine

When I first read your account [July 9] of Senator Bilbo's filibuster against the FEPC [Fair Employment Practices Commission] I was furious, then sick with disgust to think that after so many fine young men of all faiths and races have died to defeat fascism and preserve individual freedom, a U.S. Senator should openly make such vile statements in the U.S. Senate.

In the Army, "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," or disgracing one's uniform are court-martial offenses. Apparently the Senate would benefit by a similar regulation. 7-30-45

Few people ever see Congress in action or read the *Congressional Record*. You are doing us a great service by bringing us the actual words of our Congressmen. This is real news, and, to my knowledge, at least, Bilbo's remarks were not quoted in any of the local papers, though Eastland's tirade was.

(MRS.) MARION REILLY
Arlington, Va.

56d-1945
NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292

JUN 30 1945

Filibustering for Murder?

On July 1, 1917, a quiet American community burst into flames. Before East St. Louis, Ill., settled back, 39 Negro Americans had been hanged, shot or burned to death and six thousand more driven from their homes.

There was murder that week in East St. Louis because Negroes, unable to find decent war jobs and hard-pressed to live, had worked as scabs and strikebreakers.

The country quieted down largely because fifteen thousand Negroes marched down New York's Fifth Avenue a few weeks later in a "Silent Protest Parade" but carrying a banner which fairly shrieked, "Mr. President, Why Not Make America Safe for Democracy?"

It quieted down because President Wilson answered that plea—in a limited way and for the duration. Job conditions became easier—Negroes found less discrimination in federal shipyards, arsenals, loading docks.

That was for the period of World War I. But when peace came and factories began to close down, Negroes resented losing their jobs before whites, and whites resented their resentment.

In Omaha, Chicago, Washington

A Negro was lynched in, of all places, Omaha, Neb., the courthouse burned down, and the whole city seethed with violence until federal troops moved in, bayonets unsheathed. There was fighting in the streets of Chicago, and in Johnston County, Arkansas, 25 Negroes and five white men died violently.

There were 26 riots in 1919. And many the next year. In 1921 rioting broke out in Johnstown, Pa., Springfield, Ohio. So it went those years.

The terrible events of 1917 in East St. Louis have been paralleled by the equally terrible Detroit riots of 1943. For the "Silent Protest March" down Fifth Avenue substitute the proposed March on Washington which caught on like wildfire among the Negroes. In place of Wilson's non-discriminatory employment policy that followed the "Silent March," place Roosevelt's Fair Employment Practices Commission which was set up only four days before the threatened march on Washington was to start.

At the end of the last war Negro soldiers returning from France were filled with fury over discrimination. At a ceremony in France, when ordered to sing "America The Beautiful," one outfit of 3,000, which had just suffered 1,100 casualties (for which it had received the Croix de Guerre) stood, arms folded and lips tight. Only the six white officers sang. In Houston, Tex., Negro soldiers were so mistreated that they raided the city, for which 13 were hanged.

Now, for that, substitute the race riots at Fort Bragg, the killing of three men at Dix, the "mutiny" of the four Negro Wacs, the rumors, once heard all over Harlem, that Negro soldiers at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, were hiding FEPC arms in the hills for the day when they would get "even."

It's Worse Now

If this historical parallel errs, it is because the situation today is even more explosive than the situation after World War I.

The Negroes have become less willing to tolerate intolerance. They will not swallow the old injustice of "Last hired, first fired" in the Booker Washington, "Uncle Tom" tradition.

They have looked since 1941 to the FEPC to protect them against discrimination in employment. Any American who now tries to take that simple justice away from Negroes may be responsible for the first shot fired in race riots this time.

We warn Bilbo who filibusters against FEPC with such aplomb, we warn the House Rules Committee which has tabled the appropriation of FEPC funds, we warn a half-irritated, half-disinterested nation watching this, that there is blood in Bilbo's words, murder in the Committee's action.

The next few hours will tell. Are we such a helpless people that we must stand by and watch as a handful of evil men lay the groundwork for possible murder in our land? This is a time for Americans to speak.

DANVILLE, VA.
REGISTER
Circ. D. 14,580 - S. 15,175

JUN 30 1945

EASTLAND MIXES ISSUES

Although we oppose legalizing the birth certificate of the misnamed Fair Employment Practices Committee and are of the opinion that making such an agency a permanent part of the federal structure would be to set up a dictatorship over business that would create rather than eliminate discrimination, *The Register* is unable to see what relationship the battle record of Negro troops has with the question of continuing or killing the FEPC.

Senator EASTLAND of Mississippi, second youngest of the members of the Senate, uttered highly inflammatory and uncomplimentary references to the war record of Negroes during a filibuster attack on the FEPC. He claimed that his comments were not provoked by prejudice but simply reflected opinions and reports made by high ranking officers of the Army. Accepting EASTLAND's word for the source of his bitter criticism, one wonders just how injection of such matter into the filibuster can help the cause for which he was speaking—opposition to the FEPC.

The FEPC should be judged by its conduct during the period of its existence as a war measure. We do not believe that record justifies continuing it into the peace years when the manpower problem will be somewhat reverse of conditions prevailing in June, 1941, when A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and director of the March on Washington, and WALTER WHITE, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, forced President ROOSEVELT to issue Executive Order No. 8802 as the price of calling off the invasion of the capital by tens of thousands of Negroes to protest what they termed "exclusion from the war effort."

The debate over the FEPC is no place, however, for disparaging the combat record of Negroes in the uniforms of the fighting services. Any criticism to be made of Negro troops should come from their commanders, not from the general public. It is dangerous to brand whole units or races for deficiencies shown by some of their number. The high officers who gave the adverse report on Negro troops to EASTLAND also could have designated certain other American units, formed entirely by white troops, which failed to prove themselves in some engagements. Human frailty being what it is, some men will prove heroes and others cowards, regardless of the color of the skin.

The wiser course, we believe, is to leave the evaluation of the Negro as a fighting man to the War and Navy Department and to historians, while the Senate disposes of the FEPC. Neither issue is relevant to the other.

Southern Daily Feels Ashamed Of Bilbo Gang

Philadelphia Tribune
7-28-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The type of representation in Congress furnished by the State of Mississippi is a burden on the South, according to an editorial appearing in the Montgomery Advertiser, one of the South's leading and oldest newspapers, established in 1828.

In a lead editorial last week, the Advertiser declared:

"One would think that the fair name of Dixie, with all her Bilbos, Eastlands, O'Daniels, Coxes, and Rankins in the United States Congress, already has more than enough of shame and reproach to bear without having another Southern Congressman join their company. Surely it is an unkind providence that thus saddles us with a disproportionate number of mentally perverted representatives in the highest legislative body of men in the nation—a body which once was honored by such Southern giants as Clay, Calhoun, Hayne, or a dozen others of hardly less imposing stature. Maybe we in the South are unduly sensitive on the point, at least a few of us may be, but no other section of the country is represented in Congress by so imposing a galaxy of intellectualy bankrupt demagogues and tub-thumpers." 7-28-45

Committee Set to OK Meager FEPC Fund

P.M.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 10.—The House Appropriations Committee is expected to meet tomorrow and vote approval of a meager fund of $200,000 for the FEPC as a means of breaking the deadlock on the entire War Agencies Bill.

Despite rumors of House-Senate week-end conferences there was little, if anything, done to settle the issue. House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D., Tex.) denied at his daily press conference that he had taken part in any discussions. 10

Yesterday and today found two members of the House Appropriations Committee—Reps. Clifton Woodrum (D., Va.) and John Taber (R., N. Y.)—out of town. So the Committee is not expected to meet until tomorrow. 7-10-45

Meanwhile, the Senate Appropriations Committee is pursuing its course of silence; refusing to consider the second War Agencies Bill passed by the House, until the House Committee and the House itself act on the first bill and vote one way or the other on FEPC.

The $200,000 compromise which the House Appropriations Committee is likely to take is the fifth figure that has been discussed seriously in connection with FEPC's new appropriation for FEPC in the budget.

It amounts to less than half of what FEPC spent last year and is even $50,000 under the sum the Senate approved for the agency two weeks ago.

Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) declared yesterday that, if the House sends the bill back with a cent less than the $250,000 originally approved in the Senate, he will fight to restore it to more than $500,000.

Both Republican and Democratic House leaders who are watching their members drift out of town by the score recognize that there is small chance that the House will have a quorum on hand after Thursday. So they are determined to finish business and get the House off on a prolonged vacation.

The threat of "no quorum" is only one factor which is forcing the FEPC issue to a head in the House. A second is the subtle pressure being exerted on Southern Democrats who reportedly have been warned that, if the wartime FEPC doesn't get some money, a bill establishing a permanent fair employment agency is likely to pass.

Leaders on both sides in the Senate and House hope to get the War Agencies Bill cleaned up this week. But if the House cuts FEPC below the Senate-approved sum of $250,000, supporters of FEPC predict there is more trouble ahead.

vote.

Bilbo was allowed to declare and carry out his filibuster "to hold the floor until the fiscal year ends" on June 30, although at the last minute a "compromise" was accepted, hamstringing the FEPC bill. Then Bilbo threw the ball over the fence into the House of Representatives where Rankin and Colmer of Mississippi continue the sabotage.

* * *

THIS fight is only beginning, and it can be won. But right now, while fighting, let us get the big lesson from this system of sabotage.

Here is the opportunity for Americans to study the process and structure of our United States Government. Sticking to Mississippi, there are 1,195,000 citizens of that State of 21 years of age and above, and therefore theoretically presumed "under the American system" to possess the right to vote. But only 173,000 people voted in the last election, which is about one-seventh of those supposedly having the right. More than one million adult citizens of that State do not vote for reasons that include the most primitive rope-and-shotgun terrorization and polltax, other State restrictions and the general system of white degradation which is called "white supremacy." Approximately one-seventh, including the worst gangs of organized thugs the world still possesses after V-E Day and also the narrow fringe of well-to-do business and professional classes, cast the votes. Of this one-seventh, somewhat over half cast their votes for Theodore G. Bilbo—but in doing so, lo and behold! they elect, in effect, 96 Senators!

This is not the letter of the law. But we of the United States go rather by the rule that the law is not applied except as it serves certain purposes of the classes in power. 7-7-45

For instance, switch to the House of Representatives. Mississippi has seven members in the House at Washington. Under the U. S. Constitution that State is entitled to seven Congressmen as long as she permits her 1,195,000 adult citizens to vote. But to the extent that she deprives them of the vote, the Constitution requires that her representation be cut down in proportion. She deprives six-sevenths of her adult citizens of the right to vote. Under the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution—passed exactly for this purpose—Mississippi forfeits the right to six out of the seven congressmen.

But this provision of the 14th Amendment has not been applied since the 1870s.

A bloc of some 40-odd men sit in the United States Congress with no right to be there at all as long as the millions of southerners, Negro and white, whom they are supposed to represent, are excluded from the right to vote. Sixteen of the 21 members of the House of Representatives from Texas, for example, would be thrown out of Congress if the present disfranchisement continued and the penalty of the 14th Amendment were applied.

* * *

OF COURSE, no single individual brings about this sabotage. Every American ought to see into the background. We are to enter into a period in which every strain upon our democracy will be increased by the dislocation of the change from war production to peace production—questions of employment being first of all. A host of war-fat corporations would like disunity among the people. They would like to wreck, or at least severely to cripple the labor movement, and they consider the South, with its hangover of slavery, with its enormous mass of millions of disfranchised workers and impoverished farmers, with its Bilbos, Rankins, Eastlands and Coxes representing nothing but a cancer in the body politic—as a foothold against the democracy of America as a whole.

Such interests are reflected in the disgraceful tolerance of the Bilbo-Rankin sabotage in legislative halls.

But they can be beaten.

Mississippi's 96 Senators

by Robert Minor

Daily Worker

ALL of the 96 Senators from Mississippi are named Theodore G. Bilbo, and all of them have decided unanimously to embark the United States upon a course that will take us through many storms—if the decision of Senators Bilbo stands.

You know there are 96 United States senators—twice as many as there are States in the Union, and under the law they come in pairs, one pair from each state of the 48 States. And not at all do I mean that they are all identical with Bilbo of Mississippi; some are human, or thereabouts. But they all uphold the sacred right of Bilbo to sabotage the process of legislation to prevent the passage of a bill to give the legal right to live like other Americans to that half of the people of Mississippi, and one-tenth of the United States, who belong to the second largest ethnological group of America's basic population stock, those of African descent. 7-7-45

The entire government of the United States, with all its machinery down to policemen on the streets of Washington, defended the right of a single individual to hold up the working of the Senate, prevent the payment of the government employees, interfere with the war, cost the American Army and Navy many lives—in order to prevent the Fair Employment Practices Bill from coming to a

Courier-Journal

Says He Was Misinterpreted

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

I find that The Courier-Journal and other Southern newspapers have misinterpreted a letter of mine and other men published in the New York Times last winter against the New York Fair Employment Practices Bill as meaning that we were also opposed to the federal measure. I cannot speak for all the other signatories, but my opposition to the New York bill was not in any way due to any objection to the federal measure. Louisville, Ky.

There were grave faults in the bill signed by Governor Dewey and I questioned the necessity for the whole measure as long as the federal Government was concerning itself with this field. Had I known what action Congress would take in regard to the federal commission I should probably not have opposed the New York measure, despite its weaknesses. 7-24-45

To my mind the federal Fair Employment Practices Committee has in every way justified itself and I cannot understand The Courier-Journal's supporting its work in wartime and yet finding its continuation undesirable in peacetime.

OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD.

Thomaston, Conn.

The Courier-Journal has carried a single editorial reference, February 19, to a letter signed by Mr. Villard and five other New Yorkers in The New York Times February 12. The letter included arguments which clearly applied as forcefully against federal as against State legislation on employment practices. For example: "It is as impossible to destroy prejudice and discrimination by law as it is to control opinion or morals."

The original letter signed by Mr. Villard also noted a difference between wartime employment conditions and those which may prevail after the war. For example: "And if we have a period of serious unemployment after the war, the commission will be overwhelmed with claims, many of them without merit." 7-24-45

Evidently Mr. Villard has revised his views since he signed the letter which we quoted February 19. He is obviously entitled to do this, but, with all deference to him, we do not think he is entitled to say that The Courier-Journal misinterpreted the views expressed over his signature in the letter to The New York Times February 12.—(Editor.

56d-1945

FEPC

Carried FEPC Fight to Capital

The Philadelphia Inquirer 7-21-45

Shown are part of the Philadelphia delegation who journeyed to Washington last Thursday to persuade congressmen to support the FEPC bill. From left to right are: Sylvia Rosen, Germantown Good Neighbors; Rev. E. S. Dennis, pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church; Walter Beckett, undertaker; A. William Hill, Jr., chairman of Lansdowne FEPC committee; Mrs. Geraldine Chaney, respresentative of Berean Church, and son; Enoch D. Whitlock, Germantown Good Neighbors; Domincovich, Independent Voters League; Mrs. Lillian R. Narins, State Committee for Permanent FEPC; and John C. Lymas, National Alliance of Postal Employees. 7-21-45

WEEK-END CHATS

By

JAMES A. HAMLETT, JR.

The Phoenix Gazette

THE TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION set itself in town with the Negro voters last week when the Fair Employment Practice Commission was saved. . . During the days of the battle to get the appropriation, things looked as if it was going to be "bye bye Blackbirds" for the Democratic party so far as minority groups were concerned, but through political maneuvering the liberal element saved the day and rendered a great service to humanity. . . . The Republicans thought they had a laugh up their sleeves when Senators Bilbo, Eastland and others were out in front on the back stretch, but in the home stretch, the advocators of Hitlerism were lost in the shuffle. . . . The Republicans killed the FEPC bills in every state except New York and Indiana and supported Senators Bilbo and Eastland in the senate. The score now stands . . The Truman Democratic Administration delivered . . . the Republicans failed. 7-20-45

Of course a lot of things will be happening every day and the score may change. There is yet a measure asking for permanent legislation for a Fair Employment Practice Commission. There will be another battle. So as the score stands today, Truman is in the lead.

CINCINNATI, O.
ENQUIRER
Cir. D. 125,806—S. 217,398

JUL 8 - 1945

WITH THE DEAN OF WASHINGTON

CHARLES M. DEAN

Washington Bureau, 1387 Nat'l Press Bldg.

THERE WAS A BIG rush to cancel Pullman reservations by members of the House of Representatives Thursday. The House had planned a summer recess and, though the Senate is to remain in session, had intended to take it by the "three-day recess route." But the War Agency appropriation bill is now in a snarl that may take several weeks to unravel.

The trouble resulted from the appropriation of $250,000 inserted in the bill by the Senate for the Fair Employment Practice Committee. The FEPC had asked for more than twice that amount, but the $250,000 will pay the salaries of the staff of the Washington office and give them a little fund for incidental expenses, though it is conceded it will not provide for traveling to hold hearings to determine whether persons are being discriminated against because of "race, color or creed" by certain employers. Many of the employees are Negroes who are demanding that funds be supplied at once, and threatening the politicians in both the Democratic and Republican parties with dire things if they don't get the money.

When the appropriation bill came back from the Senate to the House the Rules Committee refused to permit a vote on "concurrence" as long as the FEPC amendment was in the bill. The House rules required that it be sent back to the Appropriations Committee. This committee wrote a new bill, again leaving out the FEPC appropriation and this bill came before the House under a "wide open" rule Thursday. Reps. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor party, New York; Mary Norton, Democrat, New Jersey, and Emanuel Cellar, Democrat, New York, are loyal supporters of FEPC. They all have a big Negro vote in their districts. Before the matter came to a vote this trio served notice if FEPC received no appropriation nine other war agencies would receive nothing. This list included the Office of War Information, which is not meeting with much approval on Capitol Hill. Enemies of FEPC promptly assured them FEPC would get nothing.

House rules require all appropriations must be "authorized by law." It was easy for Marcantonio, Mrs. Norton and Cellar to make points of order that eliminates the appropriations for the war agencies who exist because of executive orders by the President. None of them had ever been "authorized by law." This was done and the bill passed and sent to the Senate. It is conceded the Senate will, when it gets around to it, reinsert all the appropriations for war agencies. It is also likely it will reinsert its $250,000 appropriation for FEPC. Enemies of FEPC from the South contend they have the votes in the Rules Committee and a single objection will again send the bill to that House committee. Thus there are excellent prospects the appropriation bill will again be rewritten and the FEPC left out. The supporters of the FEPC hold to their ultimatum requiring an appropriation for FEPC with the threat that unless it is forthcoming the other agencies will suffer by the "point of order route." Unless one side or the other surrenders the bill may be kept in the process of enactment for months. In the meantime the war agencies may obtain funds for operation by borrowing through the Controller General's office. Until the bill actually is passed none of the war agencies will be able to do much planning as to their expenses and there will be much reduction of expenses in all of them.

Ohio Republicans in the House favor letting the $250,000 appropriation stand. They want to go home and until this matter is settled they must remain in Washington. Fortunately the weather moderated toward the end of the week and they did not suffer the usual Washington heat wave in July. Many of them are busy trying to effect a compromise, including Rep. Clarence J. Brown, who is a member of the Rules Committee.

Veterans in Congress say nothing like this ever happened before, but when the war was on in Europe no one dared to raise a point of order that would deprive war agencies of appropriations. There is little prospect of the quarrel being settled in the next week as the Senate insists it must dispose of the Bretton Woods monetary legislation before it acts again on the appropriation bill. But the Senate is set to remain in session as many Senators desire to make speeches on the San Francisco peace charter, even though it is virtually certain that the charter will be approved with less than half a dozen votes against it probable, and likely only half that number will be actually cast in the negative.

The Senators say if the House desires to be stubborn the best thing for them to do is to wait and cool off. That will be possible as long as Washington weather remains as it is this week end.

Congress OK's Only $250,000

Afro-American

Closing of Regional Offices Expected

7-21-45

BILL AMBIGUOUS

Southerners Wanted Funds for Liquidation

WASHINGTON.

The Fair Employment Practice Committee faces a reduction of approximately 50 per cent in its personnel and activities in the curent fiscal year, although the question of fair employment practices while the war with Japan continues and during the reconversion period looms important.

This reduction is forced because Congress approved an appropriation of $250,000 only for the FEPC in ambiguous language, which may continue the subject of controversy.

The appropriation for FEPC for the fiscal year which ended June 30 was $446,000. The Budget Bureau recommended the sum of $599,000 for the current fiscal year.

Must Close Regionals

Economies are expected to be effected chiefly by a closing of a number of regional offices. FEPC maintained as of June 30 nine regional offices and sux subregional offices. Only the most important of these offices are likely to continue.

Of its staff of 117 persons, forty-seven are employed in the central offices here and the other seventy in the field. A reduction in personnel in the Washington offices is also anticipated.

Other economies are expected to be effected in such items as travel, for which $63,800 was available in 1945; communications, printing and binding, rents and services, and supplies and materials.

The inadequacy of the fund of $250,000 is demonstrated by the fact that in 1945 FEPC had only thirty-seven field examiners covering forty-eight States and the District of Columbia.

Approval Friday

Final Congressional approval of the compromise appropriation of $250,000 came last Friday when both the Senate and House approved the conference reports on the $769,364,850 war agencies supply bill.

7-21-45

Passage of the bill was delayed thirteen days beyond the end of the fiscal year when the war agencies appropiations for 1945 expired. A bitter fight against any apropriation for FEPC by Southern Democrats was responsible for the delay.

Actually the FEPC controversy was not involved in the question of approval of the conference report as that controversy had been settled on Thursday. But Southern Democrats in the House, who had opposed FEPC, wanted the record to show that by voting to adopt the conference report they were not in fact voting to give FEPC any funds.

Amendment Clarified

The other question they sought to have clarified was the meaning of the language of the compromise amendment. Opponents of the FEPC wanted this language construed to mean that out of the $250,000 appropriation money had to be used for the liquidation of the agency unless Congress passed within the fiscal year legislation creating a permanent FEPC.

The General Accounting Office, to which the compromise amendment was referred for construction, ruled that the money can be used for operation of FEPC, which shall be liquidated by 1946 if there is no permanent legislation.

The compromise was effected last Thursday. There was no record vote in either the House or the Senate on continuing FEPC with an appropriation of $250,000. The compromise amendment reads as follows:

"Salaries and expenses: For completely terminating the functions and duties of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, including such of the objects and limitations specified in the appropriation for such agency for the fiscal year 1945 as may be incidental to its liquidation, $250,000: Provided, That if and until the Committee on Fair Employment Practice is continued by an Act of Congress, the amount named herein may be used for its continued operation until an additional appropriation shall have been provided; Provided further, That in no case shall this fund be available for expenditure beyond June 30, 1946."

Adopted by Voice Vote

The amendment was adopted first by the House and then by the Senate by voice votes. In the House an effort to obtain a roll call vote failed. Under the rules, a fifth of all present must stand to signify insistence upon a roll call. Only about fifty stood, most of them on the Democratic side.

The Senate accepted the House amendment after Senator Wayne Morse, Republican, of Oregon, criticized both Democrats and Republicans for not making an effective attempt "to maintain FEPC on an adequately financed basis."

Senator Morse contended that it were better that FEPC "not have any money at all than that it be given an insufficient amount of money, which makes it perfectly certain that FEPC cannot do the job which needs to be done."

He said the sum of $250,000 "is totally insufficient for it to succeed in its work and the language in which the amendment is phrased is ambiguous, subject to disagreement as to its meaning and is bound to produce confusion."

Yields Floor

His speech had at first been interpreted as a filibuster to force a reconsideration to give FEPC more money, but he yielded the floor when it became apparent that this was a hopeless undertaking.

7-21-45

Senator Theodore G. (The Man) Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi, who previously had led the filibuster against FEPC, said he recognized the futility of continuing to oppose the compromise and that he was "taking his medicine."

In a sudden flip-flop the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday recommended continuation of the FEPC with an appropriation of $250,000 to be used for the sole purpose of liquidating the agency.

Marcantonio Protests

When this action was reported to the House, Representative Vito Marcantonio, American Labor, of New York, denounced it as "no compromise at all" and called on supporters of FEPC to oppose the committee recommendation. The Appropriations Committee went back to work and emerged with a slight change in its amendment giving FEPC $250,000 to continue its work for a year.

The national war agencies appropriations bill had been pending in Congress since June 1, when the House Appropriations Committee reported it to the House without funds for FEPC on the ground that a bill to authorize a permanent agency was under consideration.

The Senate inserted an amendment in the bill giving FEPC $250,000 but the House Appropriations Committee laid aside this bill and reported a new bill omitting FEPC. Representatives Marcantonio, Mary T. Norton, of New Jersey, and Emanuel Celler, of New York, took turns making points of order against appropriations carried in the bill which were not authorized by law.

When the emasuclated new bil was referred to the Senate Appropriations Comittee, Senate and House leaders, Democratic and Republican got together and worked out the compromise.

U. Of C. Denies Ducking FEP Issue On Radio Forum

Chicago Defender

Widespread reports that the University of Chicago's Radio Round Table had ducked the hot Fair Employment issue were denied this week by university officials.

A proposed July broadcast with Walter White, NAACP chief, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Andrew Higgins, Southern liberal, had been reportedly by passed by the university because of anti-FEPC sentiments within Dixie states which aired the program.

7-21-45

John Howe, the university's radio director, said that withdrawal of the program from its scheduled place had been left entirely up to him. He stated flatly that there was no connections between the university's skipping the FEPC discussion at a time when proponents of the bill were fighting for its life in Congress, and pressure from Southern opposition.

Howe told the Defender that the broadcast had been omitted because of his inability to get "top people" for the discussion.

Mrs. Roosevelt, he said, had declined participation in the radio program at this time and Higgins had been sent out of the country on a government mission. This left White, which the university apparently considered unmatched in the country except by Mrs. Roosevelt or Higgins.

This marked the second time the University of Chicago's Round Table had shelved the NAACP chief from a tentativel scheduled broadcast. The last Round Table at which White was to appear with former Alderman Paul Douglas had been mysteriously buried for no apparent reasons.

Reports of the university's cancellation of an open pro-FEPC discussion while the Congressional fight rages to kill the agency immediately started rumors here that the school or the network had yielded to demands from anti-FEPC forces.

NBC spokesmen, however, said that the program had been fully approved by them and that its choice of personnel was the responsibility of the university.

Advertised as the "oldest educational program on the air" the Chicago Round Table has discussed directly the Negro issue once in the past two years.

Howe said that "if the FEPC becomes an issue" in the future, the university would probably schedule another broadcast on it. He said that the proposed program had "neither been cancelled nor postponed." It simply will not go on the air.

The FEPC

The New Republic

Congress has finally compromised the issue of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. After a long deadlock, the FEPC has been given $250,000 for the next year, as opposed to $600,000 which committee members believe is the minimum required to do its job. The bill is confused and ambiguous as to whether the FEPC has now been ordered to go out of business. We earnestly hope that until a clearer mandate from Congress is received, it will continue to function as in the past. The FEPC is an acid test of the intentions of Congress. If this country is not willing to spend $600,000 a year, out of an annual budget of approximately $100 billion, to fight discrimination on grounds of race, creed or sex, America is a good deal farther away from democracy, a good deal closer to fascism, than many people have supposed.

7-23-45

We do not believe that the vote in Congress fairly represents the sentiment of the American people. We think, on the contrary, that it was a demonstration of the abnormally large power of a minority of Negro-hating Southerners from poll-tax states. We hope that next autumn another attempt can be made to marshal public opinion behind the FEPC in such overwhelming strength that the Southern tories will be forced to give up the fight. If this is not done, President Truman's chance of reëlection in 1948 will be seriously diminished. Many thousands of Negroes, both North and South, are saying today that if they have to choose between reactionary Republicans and reactionary Democrats, they prefer reactionary Republicans who at least are not filled, as so many Southerners are, with ideas of racial supremacy that are on all fours with those of the Nazis.

Liberals Believe FEP 'Gift Horse' Appropriation Bears Watching

Chicago Defender
7-21-45

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Weathering a death struggle against stubborn Congressional opposition, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices was given a new, but shaky, lease on life when both houses voted a $250,000 appropriation to continue its work for another 12 months.

This action broke a six-weeks FEPC deadlock and cleared the way for the passage of the 800 million dollars War Agency Appropriation bill which loosed funds for some 19 war agencies tied up since July 1.

The final outcome of the bitter congressional battle can be chalked up as a victory over the "rule-or-ruin" group of southerners in the House, who, abetted by a score or more of Republicans, waged a losing fight to wipe FEPC off the books.

As for the agency which was created by President Roosevelt to combat discrimination in employment based on race, creed, color, or national origin, the outcome represented a decided loss. 7-21-45

The so-called compromise appropriation passed in a heated conflict which shifted from the House to the Senate and then back to the House again gives the FEPC less than half the money requested for its new budget, and sets the agency off to a crippling start at a time when it will need to operate at capacity strength.

Moreover, the language of the House amendment to the Senate-passed war agencies bill is contradictory.

No Strings

Although Senator McKellar (D., Tenn.) president pro tempore of the Senate, stated categorically that the money would be available without strings for operating purposes, Senator Wayne Morse (R. Oregon) expressed doubt "that the courts will agree," adding, "I am perfectly convinced of the interpretation which the foes of the FEPC will make of it the moment public knowledge of this debate fades away . . . I do not think a group of men could have sat down and devised language more clever to thwart FEPC, to doom it, to make it difficult for it to administratively function, to place it under a cloud, to give it insufficiency of funds so that it cannot do a good job, than the language which has been brought to us in this amendment."

In one section of the bill FEPC is ordered to liquidate. This process, according to those close to the agency would take approximately $100,000 of the total for liquidation and other obligations.

If this order is upheld by the Comptroller General of the United States, then FEPC would have only $150,00 — or approximately one-third of the funds voted them last year—for operational purposes.

Seek Official Ruling

Another section of the bill states the total $250,000 are to be used for operational purposes.

It is understood that the agency is pinning its hopes on the latter version, interpreting the entire appropriation voted to be used as an operational fund with no necessity for earmarking any portion for liquidation.

It is expected that FEPC chairman Malcolm Ross will seek early a ruling from the Comptroller General on the intent of the language in the FEPC bill.

Additional Funds

If the agency's position is sustained, they can operate at their present level until mid-January or February and then seek a deficiency appropriation. With the 1946 congressional election looming, it is expected that a deficiency appropriation would have excellent chance of passage.

The House compromise to the Senate war agencies bill came after days of both secret and open haranguing in which House leaders sought desperately to remove the administration from the disgraceful position in which it found itself.

But, there were the handful of southern reactionaires moving under the leadership of William Colmer (D., Miss.) who had to be stopped.

The Senate had steadfastly refused to take action on any new bill the House intended to cook up. This was done in an effort to force House approval of the bill which they had passed. They had decided it would be the Senate bill or nothing.

Chairman Clarence Cannon (D., Mo.) of the House Appropriations Committee, called a meeting of the committee which brought out what they termed a compromise amendment to the Senate bill. In effect, it recommended the death sentence for FEPC.

The bill read: "for completely liquidating the functions and duties of the Committee on Fair Employment Practices . . . $250,000 provided; that if the FEPC continued by an act of congress the amount herein named may be used for its continued operation until an addditional appropriation shall have been provided.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio of New York, lone American Laborite in the House immediately challenged the so-scalled compromise. "It is no compromise," Marcantonio contended, "It is liquidation."

He immediately began to rally the liberal forces in the House to fight the House Appropriation Committee recommendation.

Marcantonio's brilliant leadership in the FEPC fight won for him the plaudits of the galleries and many of his fellow congressmen—indeed, if not the fear of Southern House leadership, many of whom head important committees.

He has come to be regarded in the last few weeks the leader of the House. His recent success with the anti-poll-tax legislation, and with a resolution reported favorably by the Foreign Affairs Committee to recognize Italy as a full ally has done little to allay these fears.

Through Marcantonio's insistence the language of the amendment was changed to provide for the continued operation of the FEPC "if and until" it is made permanent by an act of Congress.

Colmer accused "the distinguished gentleman from New York" with "cracking the whip" over the heads of the House again. He warned, "this is not a sectional issue," and predicted, that those who are finding out what is in this iniquitous proposal, are not going to find it to be so popular to follow the leadership of the gentleman from New York on this thing in the future.

Cox To Rescue

Quickly, Rep. Eugene Cox (D., Ga.) and company came to the support of Colmer. Others in the group included Representatives John Rankin (D., Miss.), Howard Smith, (D., Va.), and D. Worth Clark (D., N. C.)

This is the same group which has bottled up in the Rules Committee legislation to create a permanent FEPC. Efforts to force the bill out by discharge petition have netted only 145 of the required 218 representative's signatures after approximately three months.

Cox told the House Appropriations Sommittee that changing the language of the bill "was a sorry surrender to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Marcantonio) upon whose single pair of legs stands every extreme leftist in this country feverishly engaged in digging the grave of private enterprise."

Marcantonio told the southerners that they were enraged and frustrated, for, in spite of them, "the American people through their representatives have an opportunity to vote in support of this fundamental American institution," the FEPC.

He accused them of being pseudo patriots" clothed in "pseudo patriotism" out to do a "subversive job on this American agency."

"The genesis of FEPC is found in the greatest American document of all time," Marcantonio declared, "the Declaration of Independence, in which it is unqualifiedly stated that all men are created equal. And when they said 'all men are created equal,' they meant that every man had a right to work irrespective of his race, color, and creed; and that goes for Negroes in Georgia and Mississippi and everywhere else."

Fascism Charged

He then asked, "Who and what is subversive?" and soberly declared, "To deny equality is not only oubversive but it is practicing Hitlerism in America." Lashing out at the southerners he boldly stated, "those who here seek to deny equality in employment are not only subversive but are the adept technicians of the Nazi anti-racial practices."

Going down the line with the southerners in support of the Colmer amendment to liquidate the FEPC which was defeated by a teller vote of 188-116 were observed a handful of Republicans among whom was Rep. Jessie Sumner (R., Ill.)

Although the majority of the Republicans opposed the Colmer move, they refused to support a Marcantonio motion for a roll call vote.

Several House liberals including Representatives William Dawson (D., Ill.), Emanuel Celler (D., N.Y.), Adam C. Powell (D., N.Y.), Keefe ((R., Wis.) Bender (R., Ohio), and Dirksen (R., Ill.), stood solidly beside Marcantonio.

Dawson told the House that "the Negroes are citizens of the United States and under our laws are entitled to every right of citizenship," basic among which is the right to a job. "We want the right to work, we want the opportunity to work out our salvation like every American citizen is entitled," Dawson said, and declared, "certainly every American citizen is entitled to a job in this country of ours."

Bender In Plea

Bender made an impassionate plea for Republican support of the Appropriations Committee's amendment. This represented a change of approach from that used by Minority leader Joseph Martin Jr., (R., Mass.) who earlier in the week sought to place the entire blame for holding up action on the Senate bill on the shoulders of the Democrats.

Martin said, "the delay and fuddling around on the War Agency Appropriation bill is not at all creditable to the congress and is a serious reflection upon the capacity of those in charge of the legislation."

The House amended bill was committed to conference and subsequently passed by both houses.

In the Senate, Morse objected to the compromise because of the reduction by one-half the amount of $46,000 which was recommended by the Bureau of the Budget.

Morse said, "I do not believe that my party has lived up to its pledge made at the convention or it never would have agreed to the compromise. But, the administration leadership forced this compromise on the Congress and in my opinion it would be better if the FEPC had not a single cent rather than insufficient funds on which to operate."

Then, speaking from his long experience on the War Labor Board where he made a distinguished record, Morse warned, "We are going to lose the war in a very real sense, if, as an aftermath, we become engulfed in a wave of bigotory, prejudice, and hatred which do violence to those great principles of democratic government which differentiate our government from others."

He was finally persuaded by fellow Republicans to abandon his fight and accept the compromise. He relinquished the floor after speaking for approximately one hour.

For a split second it appeared as if Senator Theodore Bilbo, arch foe of the FEPC, would throw a monkey wrench into the entire works. He suggested the presence of a quorum just about the time the Senate was ready to vote on the compromise. He was promptly shushed by Majority Leader Alben Barkley (D., Ky.).

Bilbo, who conducted a three-day filibuster against the FEPC, said that if he had the remotest chance for success he would never give up the fight. As things stand, he said, "I'm just taking my medicine."

The War Agency Appropriation bill was flown to President Truman in Potsdam, Germany, for his signature.

NEW YORK
BENNINGTON, VT., BNR & REFMR
JULY 18, 1945

Mississippi Senator Seething Over Rebuke by Vermonters

A wire sent to Senator Bilbo by Miss Esther M. McCullough, Miss C. S. Anderson, and Mr. and Mrs. Ned Jennings of Old Bennington, rebuking the Mississippi legislator for "vituperative attacks on Negro soldiers", drew an irate reply and as prompt a rebuttal from Miss McCullough, quoting the article in The Christian Science Monitor upon which the protest had been based.

The long distance exchange of Yankee-Dixie opinions was as follows:

Copy of wire sent to Senator Theodore G. Bilbo July 8, 1945

Your recent vituperative attacks against the Negro soldier and his part in this War is a disgrace to the democratic ideals for which this War was fought.

(signed) Esther Morgan McCullough, C. S. Anderson, Ned Jennings and Helga Jennings.

Copy of wire from Senator Bilbo to Esther Morgan McCullough July 9, 1945:

Your telegram of July 8th accusing me of an attack on the Negro soldier and his part in this War has been received. This is just a plain inexcusable lie. If you will get the Congressional Record and read my speeches for the two days you will find that I did not utter one word against the Negro soldier. I demand an apology for your deliberate misrepresentation. Kindly wire apology immediately so I can insert it in the Congressional Record along with your telegram. Otherwise I will exhaust Webster's International dictionary in finding appropriate words to describe the kind of liars you are.

(signed) Theo G. Bilbo, USS.

Copy of letter sent by Esther Morgan McCullough in reply to above telegram, July 11th:

It seems strange that we should have to convince you about your own speeches. I enclose a resume from the Christian Science Monitor, a newspaper known all over the world for its accuracy and impartiality in reporting the news.

I hope you will include our wire and, by all means, your reply to it, in the Congressional Record. We, on our part, will do all we can to publicize both wires.

Sincerely,
(signed) Esther Morgan McCullough

Miss McCullough quoted the following article from which she got her information in the Monitor of July 6th:

"Most serious effect of the fight so far may be the vituperative racial attacks of Senators James O. Eastland and Theodore G. Bilbo, both Democrats of Mississippi, made on the Senate floor particularly on Negroes and Negro soldiers. There is evidence that these at[redacted]k in, with bitter consequences likely to leave a lasting sting.

"Robert P. Patterson, Undersecretary of War, yesterday answered this attack by declaring the Army is proud of its Negro soldiers. But such a careful columnist as Marquis Childs, writing here today, declared that Senator Eastland 'made one of the most shocking speeches ever heard on the floor of the Senate, in the course of which he slandered not merely whole races but the armd forces of the United States as a body.'"

The article was on the subject of the FEPC dispute in the Senate.

NEW YORK
LINCOLNTON, N.C., TIMES
JULY 12, 1945

IT SEEMS TO ME.

Booker T. Medford, Pastor.
Moore's Chapel A. M. E. Zion Church, Linsolnton, N. C.

"LABOR AND THE NEGRO."

Whatever the outcome of the sen ate debate on the permanence of the FEPC, the negro in the South must remember that he will still have a problem in labor relations that is unique and singular. It may have its benefits in some sections of the United States, but there is a "psychology" here within our own borders that will largely determine who will be hired and who will not be hired. This is a fact and a reality however we look at it, and to plan a profitable labor-life without realizing this is to deceive ourselves. In spite of all that may be promised by some agencies, it is still true that economic evolution is much more permanent and profitable than economic revolution. Let us, as negroes, remember these things:

1. There has always existed in the mind of the Southern employer a sense of fairmindedness as regards negro laborers. When times were bad and the depression swept down upon us, statistics revealed that the North had more unemployment among its negroes than the South. This is indicative a sense of needed employment of negroes in the industries of the various Southern communities. The South has always regarded the negro, not as a burden to its taxpayers, but has made provision for him in the economics of its cities. This could not and would not have been done had there not existed a deep sense, in the South's own way, of fair play towards negro labor. It is encouraging to also note, in this regard, that the interest of the Southern employer has always extended beyond that of the work he required to be done. It has reached out into the colored communities, into the negro churches and deep into the affairs of the negro in times of family sorrow and trials. Play grounds have been established, churches have been rebuilt, homes have been erected and various comforts of life have been ours because of the sense of fairness that exists solely here in the South.

2. The spirit of arrogance on the part of the negro laborere is not helpful, neither to him or to negroes as a whole. It breaks a chain of deep sympathy and understanding which has been functional and profitable down through the years. And no man should do anything that would injure the expression of goodness among men.

'. This brings us back to the topic of our first article, "Let Down Your Bucket Where You Are." Remember the bridges that carried you over in the flood times. It is your solemn duty to, by virtue of your labor, thought and attitude, to help keep relations friendly, courteous and kind.

Next topic: "The Other Side of the Picture."

ROBERT QUILLEN
Atlanta Constitution

One Man's Rights

Atlanta, Ga.

When a certain man was forced out of business and ruined because union men refused to work for him, he carried the matter to the supreme court. His plea was denied by a 5-4 decision, which means that one man—say Justice Black of the majority—made the law as it now stands.

Justice Black said that laborers "can sell or not sell their labor as they please and upon such terms and conditions as they choose." 7-25-45

Now this is a free country or it is not. If men are free, it is obvious that the humblest man has the right to refuse or quit a job if he doesn't like the wages or hours or working conditions.

(What is more, if he is prejudiced in such matters, he may refuse to work for a woman, a white man, a Negro, a Protestant, a Catholic or a Jew. Otherwise he would not be free.)

But the law enacted by Justice Black goes farther. It affirms the right of laborers "in combination to refuse to work." (Though he was speaking of transport workers, the word "laborers" clearly was meant to include all who work for hire.)

This detail of the Black law is nothing new. It merely reaffirms the right to strike. But in its application to this particular case, it raises a question.

All free men have equal rights. No one can in justice possess a legal right that is denied to other men. And though Coolidge won fame by saying there is no right to strike against the public safety, it should be obvious that no man's legal rights can be taken from him because of his occupation.

If "laborers in combination" have the right to ruin one man by refusing to work for him, when they in effect have a monopoly of labor, why haven't firemen and policemen the right to injure many people by stopping work and leaving their city without police or fire protection?

(And if a free and prejudiced man has the right to refuse to work for another because of his race or religion, why hasn't an equally free and prejudiced man the right to refuse to employ another because of his race or religion?)

(Bear in mind that we are discussing rights—not what is right. There is a difference.)

There are problems that cannot be solved by law. And no problem is solved until it is solved justly and equitably. 7-25-45

It is axiomatic that one man's rights end where another's begin. Our whole body of law is based on the premise that one man has no right to injure another. Lawmakers or courts must find a way to reconcile one's man's rights to the rights of another when the two conflict.

The Battle for FEPC

by Adam Lapin

Daily Worker

ONE phase of the fight for FEPC has ended in partial victory. FEPC did not win enough funds to do an adequate job, but it did get $250,000. Now the second phase of the fight opens—the fight for a permanent FEPC. And this is perhaps a good time to review the significance of what has happened so far.

One question that will have to be cleared up is the role of the Republicans on the FEPC issue. There is no doubt that the Republicans will make a major attempt to capitalize on the fight. Senator Robert Taft of Ohio, who has actually been opposed to an FEPC with compulsory powers, laid the basis for this by making a half-hearted gesture at calling for cloture during a stormy Senate night session.

And Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon has condemned the compromise of $250,000 as a betrayal of FEPC. He said he thought it would have been better if FEPC had received no funds at all—which seems to be a peculiar standpoint for one who claims to have been interested in saving the agency.

7-16-45

Morse is astute enough to admit that the Republicans didn't really live up to their campaign platform pledge to support FEPC. But he adds that the record of the Republicans was so much better than that of the Democrats.

Now the fact of the matter is that the GOP record is nothing to write home about. Certainly Republicans did not show any indignation or fight when Senators Bilbo and Eastland were filling the Congressional Record with unspeakable slanders of the Negro people. And leading GOP Congressmen cooperated actively with the poll tax Democrats in the attempt to kill FEPC.

Republicans and Democrats on the House Appropriations Committee voted to eliminate funds for the agency on the ground that a permanent FEPC bill was pending. And in the Rules Committee where the permanent FEPC bill was bottled up the GOP Congressmen played political footsy with their poll-tax friends. The committee was evenly divided six to six, with the four Republicans voting for FEPC.

But the deadlock could have been broken a couple of times when poll tax Congressmen were absent. Instead, they reached a gentlemen's agreement not to force a vote and actually stayed away themselves to balance the absenteeism of the poll taxers.

And, of course, there is the plain fact that even after the Senate voted $250,000 for FEPC half a dozen Republican members of the House Appropriations Committee voted against this pittance. The truth is that the Republicans cooperated in preventing FEPC from ever coming up for a record vote in the House.

But what complicates the situation and makes it possible for the Republicans to make political capital is the equally plain fact that the record of administration leaders on the FEPC issue was little short of disgraceful.

Majority Leader Alben Barkley had no stomach for a real fight with the poll tax Senators. And it was he who started FEPC down the toboggan slide to a $250,000 appropriation. There was no real reason why FEPC could not have won at least $500,000.

Rep. John McCormack, majority leader in the House, actually appeared before the Rules Committee on one occasion to support the demand of the Appropriations Committee for a rule which would make an amendment to restore FEPC out of order. He did change his attitude a bit later, but never enough to become a real fighter for FEPC.

7-16-45

The attitude of administration leaders was that here was an unpleasant issue that involved them in difficulties with Southern Democrats, and that the sooner it was disposed of any way at all the better. There was no feeling of responsibility to the Negro people and other minority groups.

It is true, of course, that President Truman did send a strongly worded letter to Chairman Sabbath of the Rules Committee urging action on the permanent FEPC bill. But Truman did not commit himself on the more immediate and urgent issue. He did not demand an appropriation for FEPC.

In short, Truman handled himself with his usual political finesse. He made a play for Negro support with his letter to Sabbath. But he did not get into any serious difficulty with the Southern Democrats, who are winning new positions of prominence in his cabinet, because he failed to fight actively for an FEPC appropriation nor did he demand that his leaders in Congress do a real job.

Substantially the same pattern of administration tactics has been in evidence on the issue of unemployment compensation. Truman and other officials have come out for it—but they have not made a real attempt at getting action in Congress to the point of risking friction with conservative Democrats.

7-16-45

This kind of business looks like good politics. It leaves Truman in a position where he is friends with everybody. But in the long run it is sure to be profoundly unsatisfactory to labor and the progressive forces. Truman's fences in Congress are still intact after the FEPC fight, but it might be a good idea for the administration to begin mending its fences out among the Negro people.

The fact is that neither administration leaders nor the Republicans can claim credit for the partial FEPC victory. The credit goes to the Negro and labor organizations that put the heat on Congress, and to courageous progressives like Rep. Marcantonio who made a real fight. This combination did the job. It will no doubt have to do many other jobs if the 79th Congress is to pass any important progressive legislation.

FEPC Battle-Tide Turns

Daily Worker - N.Y.

Daily Worker

By Doxey Wilkerson

THE tide of battle in the struggle for FEPC is definitely turning, and that fact poses important lessons which the Negro people, labor and other progressive groups would do well to ponder.

This is written prior to Thursday's crucial vote on the proposed $250,000 "compromise" FEPC appropriation in the House. Even so, these things are already evident:

FIRST, the polltaxers and their big-business cohorts CAN be beaten. They were hell-bent to destroy FEPC NOW, and used every legislative trick in the trade to accomplish their purpose—delay and refusal to recommend a House appropriation, vicious and disgraceful filibustering in the Senate, rewriting the whole War Agencies Appropriation Bill to avoid a House vote on the Senate bill proposing funds for FEPC, and lots more.

But now the House foes of FEPC have been forced by overwhelming popular pressure to propose a compromise appropriation in the hope of warding off the full $500,000 sum requested by the President's budget. Even their last-minute attempt to earmark the reduced $250,000 sum for "liquidation" purposes was beaten back, and the House Appropriations Committee was forced to rewrite its bill to permit FEPC to use the money for a continued fight against discrimination in employment.

7-14-45

FEPC Foes Beaten Back

The congressional enemies of FEPC and all other people's programs are determined, noisy, diabolically clever, and backed by powerful feudalistic forces in the South and tremendous industrial wealth in the North, but still they have no easy task in trying to carry through their reactionary purposes. Whatever the outcome of Thursday's House vote on FEPC funds—where there is a real possibility of restoring the full amount—one thing has already been demonstrated: **The congressional enemies of the people CAN be beaten.**

SECOND, defeatism in the people's struggle must be avoided like a plague. Any readiness to "give up" plays right into the hands of reaction and tends to demobilize the forces of progress and weaken the power of their struggle.

Last week, for example, when the enemies of FEPC seemed to be emerging triumphant, many reactionary newspapers and radio commentators hasten to pronounce the agency as good as "dead." We well understand why. But it is most unfortunate that many so-called "liberal" papers, including certain Negro weeklies, promptly echoed this defeatist propaganda of reaction.

Marcantonio Kept Fighting

7-14-45

Representative Vito Marcantonio showed the way to win. When FEPC's doom seemed most certain, "Marc" intensified his fight, refusing either to yield or to compromise, and using every parliamentary trick at his command to keep the struggle going while labor and other friends of FEPC were marshalling their forces to back him up. As a result, a deadlock was provoked between the House and Senate over FEPC, creating a situation out of which ultimate victory for the people can readily be won.

It would have been possible to prevent this FEPC crisis if labor and other forces of the people had been in there fighting all along, confident of their power and determined to win. It is possible even now to restore the full temporary FEPC appropriation and pass the permanent FEPC bill—**if we cast aside all tendencies toward defeatism and fight with the vigor and consistency of Vito Marcantonio.**

THIRD, what we do in this struggle for FEPC will have far-reaching consequences for our whole fight to beat back the current reactionary onslaught against the liberties and security of all the people.

None should be so naive as to think that the real power behind the drive to kill FEPC stems from the "racial prejudice" of a Taft or a Rankin. This effort to destroy the Negro's wartime employment gains is more fundamentally an effort to break the growing unity between the Negro people and organized labor, and thereby to weaken the whole progressive movement and block attainment of the democratic goals for which we are fighting this war.

The People Will Win

7-14-45

But reaction shall not carry through its program. The democratic forces of the people are far stronger now than ever before. They are learning more and more the lessons of unity and mass political action. They are beginning to understand the peril to their liberties and security which lies in the resurgence of reaction since V-E Day. And they are increasingly ready to fight back.

The reactionaries will continue their struggle against the people, but they will fail. They cannot match the mass power of an organized and fighting people. We will win a permanent FEPC, and we will use the strength demonstrated in this struggle to carry through on all other fronts a genuine program of democracy and freedom for Negroes and all other Americans.

The Achilles Heel Of the Filibuster

Courier-Journal

An incidental but perhaps historic result of the respite won by the Fair Employment Practices Commission is the suggestion it bears that Congress may have found the answer to the filibuster and other kindred forms of parliamentary assassination. The new discovery, it seems, involves the application of a kind of squeeze, by which the statesmen who undertake to talk a measure to death in the Senate, or to wall it up in the pigeonhole of a House committee, may be saddled with the blame of killing other things, besides. It is, in short, a counter-filibuster. 7-16-45 Ky.

We could hardly believe our eyes when we read that Senator BILBO himself, giving a forlorn acknowledgement to the shrunken F.E.P.C. appropriation as it sailed past on its way to formal approval, admitted that he was licked. He had lost his fight, as the Southerners in the House had lost their fight to bottle the appropriation in the Rules Committee, because for the first time the majority of the two chambers chose to stand up and slug it out with them. A ruthless technique, the filibuster thus gave rise to reprisals that had to be just as ruthless, and that amounted to a determination to stop completely the legislative wheels from grinding, if that is what it took.

To be sure, it was necessary also to inject a certain amount of compromise into the situation. The F.E.P.C. is saved, but only for a year. It gets only half the appropriation it requested, but it is relieved of the order to use the money to wind up its affairs and get out of the Government. It won a breathing spell, but in light of the ferocity of no-quarter opposition that had been thrown against it, this partial victory demonstrated that it has a political vitality that is rather phenomenal.

FEPC's Future

Washington Post

The long, ugly battle over funds for the executively created Fair Employment Practices Committee has ended unsatisfactorily from every point of view. Neither of the major political parties came out of the wrangling with much credit. The outcome is an altogether ambiguous compromise—a compromise which, as Senator Morse observed, "is plainly an unconscionable one." It continues the FEPC—but only under crippling conditions. And it leaves unresolved the basic issue whether the authority of the Federal Government is to be employed for protection of the economic opportunities of minority groups. 7-14

Congress has adopted a Janus amendment which declares that the FEPC must use its funds for liquidation and which at the same time stipulates that it need do nothing of the sort. This double-talk was threshed out on the floor of the Senate Thursday, and Senator McKellar, who was in charge of the appropriation bill, stated categorically that the money appropriated would be available without strings for operating purposes. "As I understand," said Senator Chavez, "the FEPC is not in any different position now than would be the OWI or any other agency covered by the same bill." "That is correct," replied Senator McKellar. And he went on to say: "We have been careful to take the matter up with the department which will have charge of it, namely, the General Accounting Office. Representatives of that office have expressed the opinion that the effect of the amendment is as I have stated." Even Senator Bilbo, when pressed, admitted: "They do not have to make arrangements to go out of business under this amendment. I think that is a correct construction of the proposal." 7-14-45

Nevertheless, there are grounds for the fears expressed by Senator Morse. "I am not at all sure," he said, "that the courts will agree with the distinguished Senator from Tennessee. But I am perfectly convinced of the interpretation which the foes of FEPC will make of it the moment public knowledge of this debate fades away . . . I do not think a group of men could have sat down and devised language more clever to thwart FEPC, to doom it, to make it difficult for it administratively to function, to place it under a cloud, to give it insufficiency of funds so that it can do a good job, than the language which has been brought back to us in this amendment."

FEPC must now, at best, cut its staff in half and curtail its activities at the very time when its effective operation is most needed to prevent job discrimination in the reconversion period. Congress cannot indefinitely dodge the vital public issue which lies behind this shoddy compromise. It now has before it legislation to establish a Fair Employment Practices Commission on a statutory basis. That legislation has been ducked and dodged far too long. It should be confronted and resolved—in open debate and with an open record vote, so that the American people can know where their legislators stand. 7-14-45

For a Permanent FEPC

Daily Worker

CONTINUATION of the wartime FEPC is a significant victory over the polltax filibusterers in Congress and their reactionary Republican allies.

It is, however, only a partial victory since the $250,000 appropriate is less than half of what the agency needs to do its job. If, however, the GOP-polltax group was unable once again to ride roughshod over Congress it was because of the initiative of progressive Congressmen led by Rep. Vito Marcantonio, New York laborite, and because of the forceful intervention of the people throughout the country in the last few weeks.

The wartime FEPC has, of course, an exceedingly important role to play in continuing the fight against discrimination in war industry. But, both because of the inadequate appropriation and because of its limited function, it cannot tackle the necessities of the reconversion period where the problem of job discrimination is becoming particularly acute. 7-14-45

Therefore, it is essential that the nation take up at once the fight for a permanent FEPC with adequate funds to battle against bias in every phase of employment and with adequate powers to do the job right.

One of the weaknesses of the fight for the wartime FEPC was that the people were late in starting their campaign and that wide circles that were active in the battle for state FEPCs, including leaders of the AFL and of Catholic and Jewish life, never became involved at all. The partial victory for the temporary agency demonstrates that if all these groups get together and conduct a vigorous campaign, they can win the battle for the permanent FEPC.

Right now, the fight requires that some 75 more Congressmen be gotten to sign the discharge petition to bring the permanent FEPC bill before the House. About 145 of the 218 signatures needed have been obtained.

Drives should be opened immediately in each state to get the Congressmen to put their names on that discharge petition.

A WARTIME FEPC IS NEEDED

New York Times

Rather than give in on what they assert to be a matter of principle, members of two House committees and a large group on the floor of the House seem willing to hold up the $771,000,000 war agencies supply bill indefinitely. The principle they are upholding is that there ought not to be a Federal agency to discourage racial and religious discrimination in wartime employment. They oppose such an agency, even when the FEPC appropriation has been whittled down to $250,000 by the Senate and the FEPC functions remain primarily persuasive and conciliatory. 7-4-45

This "principle" cannot be defended when every citizen, including Negroes, is taxed to maintain war agencies and pay the bills on war contracts, and when service in the armed forces is not limited by race, creed or color. Some agency to promote fair employment practices is needed while the war lasts, and to be effective this agency must be national in scope. The proposed appropriation is much too small to enable FEPC to play the tyrant, even if it were disposed to do so.

A permanent FEPC, operating within the States and empowered to bring court proceedings against employers, is another matter. In many States it probably would not succeed, despite a growing sentiment in those States for better economic opportunities for the Negro. But the present FEPC is by its terms impermanent. It ought to be continued until the end of the war, and perhaps thereafter limited to employers and employes engaged on Federal contracts. 7-14-45

Democracy A La Bilbo

Washington Post

I have never read a stronger argument for local suffrage than that carried in the local columns of Monday's *Post*. Senator Bilbo, self-styled "Ex officio Mayor" of Washington, says flatly "he will keep the job [Chairman of the Senate Committee on D. C.] as long as he stays in the Senate and the Democrats are in control, and that he has no doubt about reelection" in 1946, "because none of the supporters of FEPC can vote in Mississippi."

That's pure democracy for you, from a Senator who in the 1940 primary as a candidate for the Senate received a vote slightly less than 4.2% of the population of Mississippi, his State. 7-19-45

A REAL DEMOCRAT.

Washington, July 17.

56d-1945

Challenging Problems Confront Congress

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.
1-1-45

Washington, Dec. 31 (AP)—The 79th Congress convenes next Wednesday, hoping its main job will be shaping the plowshares of peace from the instruments of war forged during the last four years.

It faces many challenging problems, most of them dealing with that transition.

But one of the toughest jobs it will tackle is directly related to war—universial military training.

Many Members Returned.

In name only will the 79th be a new Congress. More than 80 per cent of the 435 House and 96 Senate seats will be occupied for the next two years by veterans of the 77th and the 78th "war Congresses."

The incoming Congress will be composed of 243 Democrats, 190 Republicans and two minor party members in the house. The Senate will be composed of 57 Democrats, 38 Republicans and one Progressive.

Ranking high on the program of legislation awaiting consideration are these subjects, in addition to peacetime conscription:

Broadening of the social security program.

Revision of the war-weighted tax structure.

Reconversion of industry from war to peace, and planning for full-time employment.

Military Training An Issue.

Wage stabilization and price controls. 1-1-45

Continued financing of the war and curbing of the mounting national debt.

Strengthening of labor laws, particularly those dealing with the War Labor Board.

And possibly the drafting of a "lasting peace" plan.

The Army, the Navy, the White House and Congressional leaders are anxious for prompt disposition of compulsory peacetime military training legislation. Hearings will start early before the House Military Committee, with indications Congress will be asked to require every male youth to take one year of straight military training at the age of 18 or shortly thereafter.

Social Legislation Proposed.

Both major political parties have advocated liberalized social security benefits, some of the proposals awaiting consideration calling for government-backed security from the cradle to the grave. The subject is certain to lead to a knock-down and drag-out fight.

Taxes boosted to a record high in recent years to finance the war may be trimmed as the result of a current congressional study of a postwar revenue program. Some Capitol Hill fiscal leaders believe a 10 per cent tax cut can be effected to soon as Germany falls.

Some Want High Taxes.

There are others who feel that taxes should be kept high as long as employment is up, so much of the revenue can be diverted towards reduction of the national debt. The debt is approaching the statutory limit of $260,000,000,000 and Congress may have to lift the legal ceiling to $300,000,000,000.

Continued slashing of non-war spending has been promised by the House Appropriations Committee, which will start work immediately on a score of supply measures. 1-1-45

Wage stabilization and price control legislation, always a battleground, must be handled before June 30, when the existing emergency statutes expire.

Postwar Job Problems.

Tied in with reconversion, the foundation for which was laid by the 78th Congress, is the subject of full-time postwar employment. Retiring Vice President Wallace has predicted that one of the first pieces of legislation presented will be "a full employment bill" under which the President would submit not only a budget of proposed federal expenditures but "a national budget as well."

The "nationl budget" would deal with the total investment and expenditure by Government, business and consumers, with an attempt being made to determine the total expenditure needed to provide full employment. 1-1-45

Congress also will grapple with the subject of reorganization of its own machinery including, possibly, higher pay for the lawmakers.

May Amend Labor Act.

The second Government seizure of Montgomery Ward property has emphasized calls for labor legislation. House Democratic whip Ramspeck of Georgia believes Congress should give the War Labor Board statutory authority to enforce its orders.

Whether the 79th Congress will blueprint the peace program only war-front developments will determine. But foreign policy is certain to be a live issue.

Rayburn to Be Re-elected.

There is growing dissatisfaction in Congress with the handling of the Polish, Greek and Italian problems. An effort may be made to write definite foreign policy into the Lend-Lease and reciprocal trade programs, renewable in June. 1-1-45

The first few weeks of the new session will be devoted to organization and formalities. Democrats, in strengthened control on "The Hill," will re-elect Sam Rayburn of Texas as speaker of the House and retain their organizational structure of the 78th Congress. They may even take a larger proportion of seats on major House committees, in view of their larger representation.

Mrs. Norton Seeks FEPC Bill Action

AFRO-AMERICAN
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Protesting the delaying tactics of the rules committee in granting an open rule for permanent FEPC legislation, Rep. Mary Norton (Dem., N.J.) laid on the table of the House last Friday a petition to discharge the bill for debate.

Simultaneously, A. Philip Randolph and Allen K. Chalmers, co-chairmen of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, issued a joint statement urging that supporters of the measure hurry to obtain the 218 signatures necessary for discharge. 5-5-45

Given Opportunity to Sign

"I have waited two months for a rule and have frankly given up any idea of securing it," declared Mrs. Norton, chairman of the House Labor Committee, which is sponsoring the bill.

As this legislation is so very important now, we have put this petition on the desk to give those who are in favor of the bill the opportunity to sign it and bring the measure to the floor for complete debate, she added. 5-5-45

Declaring that "the rules committee does not reflect the attitude of most Congressmen" on permanent FEPC legislation, Randolph and Chalmers said that many in both parties are eager to discuss this bill on the floor and enact it. 5-5-45

Rankin Rants

Rep. John H. Rankin (D., Miss.) warned that the FEPC measure was "the most dangerous piece of totalitarian, communistic legislation ever proposed in the Congress of the United States," and was promptly answered by Congressman Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.), who accused Rankin of "flag waving."

Marcantonio declared:

"I say that white men who have been fighting shoulder to shoulder with colored are not going to come back here and object to working shoulder to shoulder with colored in the offices, the mines, the mills and the factories of this country.

"They have been fighting against fascism and Hitlerism to protect the principle of equality and they expect to return to a United States where that principle is applied."

No Action Before May 14

May 14 is described as "the earliest date" by which the bill can be brought to the floor. One informed source speculated that "if we can't get 218 names in that time, the case is lost for present."

For four days last week the rules committee listened to those opposing the reporting of the bill. On Thursday morning, the remarks of certain of the Southerners reflected a feeling of anti-Semitism, it was reported.

Jewish Issue Injected

Rep. Howard Smith (Dem., Va.) inquired whether a Felix Cohen (an associate solicitor in the interior department) had written the original bill, but was told by Chairman Adolph J. Sabath (Dem., Ill.), "We have positive evidence of the chairman (Mrs. Norton.)

At the same session, Rep. Lee Allen (Rep., Ill.) directed a series of questions to Rep. O. C. Fisher (Dem., Tex.), who was testifying. Fisher, answering, not only condemned the present FEPC but predicted of what might be expected of a permanent FEPC.

Earlier in the week, Rep. L. Mendel River (Dem., S.C.) appeared to oppose the measure, while Rep. Charles Halleck (Rep., Ind.), who has inferred that he favors the bill, continued to labor the likelihood of breaches of administration if the bill is passed in its present form.

FEPC Bill Dies in Committee

AFRO-AMERICAN
Baltimore, Md.

House Votes 102-97 Against Discharge

GOP BLOC BLAMED

5-5-45

Housing and Health Legislation Passed

HARRISBURG, Pa.—The FEPC bill of Rep. Homer Brown (Dem., Pittsburgh) was killed Tuesday night when the State House of Representatives voted 102 to 97 against a motion to discharge the bill from the House Labor Committee.

Of the 108 Republicans in the House, 102 voted against the motion made by Representative Brown, while 92 Democrats, including 3 from Philadelphia, and 5 Republicans favored it.

GOP Bloc Scored

Representative Brown scored the Republican bloc for the defeat of the bill, stating that it was "a brazen stifling of the ordinary processes of our constitutional form of government, and a reprehensible denial of the right of a people to be heard and their voices to be acted upon."

The administration opposed the Brown bill which was introduced in the House in January. Its passage had been advocated, however, by a large number of persons attending a public hearing here on March 27, and at that time sponsors of other FEPC bills pledged to endorse the Brown bill.

Four bills designed to create better housing facilities throughout the State and another measure to improve the State health program were approved by the House of Representatives here Monday.

The four housing measures, sponsored by Rep. Franklin H. Lichtenwalter (Rep., Lehigh Co.), covered the wide housing program which had previously met with the approval of Gov. Edward Martin. 5-10-45

The major proposals were the result of a careful study of the housing needs within the State and recommendations made by the Pennsylvania Post-War Planning Commission.

New Housing Agencies

Not only will certain blighted areas be reclaimed for the purposes of improved housing, but public bodies will be established as redevelopment authorities.

These groups will "plan and contract with private, corporate or governmental redevelopers—defining and providing for the exercise of their powers and duties, including the acquisition of property." 5-5-45

The proposed new redevelopment authority will be organized under the Department of Commerce rather than under the Department of Health as is now the case with the housing authority.

Health Bill Passed

A bill providing for a continuation of the full program of the Department of Health, was approved Tuesday by the House by a vote of 107 to 88, despite considerable opposition from the Democratic delegates.

Rep. Adam T. Bower (Rep., Northunberland), defended the bill and steered it on to passage. He also defended the special provision of the bill which prohibited the Department of Health from accepting Federal funds.

According to Democratic representatives, the State is refusing millions of dollars which might be used for the protection of the health of its citizens.

PENNSYLVANIA FEPC

Courier
HARRISBURG, Pa.—With the Joint House-Senate Committee probably taking action early this week on which of three pending Fair Employment Practice Bills to give the green light, the measure sponsored by Representative Homer S. Brown (Democrat), Allegheny County, has the support of the House Democratic Minority, and the backing of the Pennsylvania CIO Industrial Union Council.

Governor Martin, while favoring the "principle" of Mr. Brown's measure, opposes it as it would probably cost $300,000 to set up the agency as conceived by the Allegheny County representative.

HEAVY FINES

5-10-45

Mr. Brown's Bill would create a five-man commission, independent of the State Labor Department, with $10,000 annual salaries and power to investigate and punish unfair labor practices by employers and labor organizations. Fines would amount to $25 to $200 for first and second offenders, and $500 to $1,000 fines, one-year maximum term, or both for subsequent violations.

Administration's Silent On Federal FEPC--Charge

New York Amsterdam News
3-31-45

By BERNARD K. JOHNPOLL
(Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON—Inferring that the administration was doing nothing to assure the speedy introduction of the Permanent FEPC Bill on the Floor of the House, Rep. Charles M. LaFollette, (Rep., Indiana) ,called upon Rep. Adolph Sabath, (Dem., Ill.), chairman of the House Rules Committee to speed action on the legislation.

The Bills Introduced

The first bills for a Permanent FEPC were introduced in the 78th Congress in the middle of January, 1944, by Mr. Scanlon of Pennsylvania, a Democrat, who is not a member of the 79th Congress; by Mr. Dawson of Illinois, a Democrat, and myself. He said:

3-31-45

"That therefore a year and two months have elapsed since this legislation was first introduced; that in the 79th Congress, H. R. 2232 was reported out by the Labor Committee on February 20, 1945, after twelve practically identical bills had been introduced on this subject, six by Republicans and six by Democrats; that the first hearings were held before the Rules Committee on March 8, 1945; and that two weeks have now elapsed since that first hearing before the Rules Committee; and that Committee has not held further hearings upon this legislation.

"I do not take the position that the opponents of this legislation should be precluded from a hearing before the Rules Committee, but I do point out, not for the purpose of injecting politics into this legislation, but for the purpose of answering the two articles herein above referred to, that the chairman of that committee is the Dean of this House; that he is an ardent supporter of the administration; that to my knowledge he has never failed to heed a request of the administration to take all steps which it is possible for him to take as chairman of the Rules Committee to expedite hearings upon administration-supported legislation; and to obtain a decision in the Rules Committee upon such legislation at the earliest possible date.

3-31-45

He Rejects Politics

"Therefore, I do not believe that I am now injecting politics into this matter, and I certainly have no desire to drive a wedge between the supporters of this legislation in both political parties by requesting the chairman of the Rules Committee, after the recess to exercise his prerogative as chairman of that committee in such a way as to bring the granting or the refusing of a rule on H. R. 2232 to a head in the Rules Committee at the earliest possible date after the recess.

"I make no prediction as to the outcome in the Rules Committee, I do not attempt to bind any member of my party as to his vote. I have no right to do so, and I do not do so. I only ask that there be a decision of the issue in the Rules Committee at the earliest possible date.

"I urge this for several reasons:

Several Reasons

First, it is my opinion that so long as this legislation pends in the House of Representatives without giving the membership an opportunity to debate it and dispose of it, it constitutes rather a cankerous political sore which is injurious to the national unity at this critical time. Second, that the appropriation for the Temporary Committee is very apt to reach the floor of the House in an Appropriation Bill late in April or early in May, and that it would contribute much to the orderly disposition of that legislation if the basis underlying issues involved in a Permanent FEPC were debated first upon legislation coming from a legislative committee. And, third, there has been some discussion by some members of filing a discharge petition upon this legislation, discharging the Rules Committee from further consideration. I want to point out that only one piece of legislaion has ever become law which came to the floor of the House under a discharge petition. From which it follows that the use of this procedure will be very detrimental to the ultimate passage of this legislation, and that in no event should this procedure be used until the Rules Committee has refused to grant a rule after full hearings and an opportunity to vote upon the question of granting a rule has been afforded the members of the committee.

3-31-45

"For these reasons, I am firmly of the opinion that it is in the best interest of this legislation that hearings be concluded and a vote reached in the Rules Committee upon H. R. 2232 at the earliest possible date and that the responsibility for concluding such hearings and reaching a vote rests squarely upon the chairman of the committee, the Hon. Adolph Sabath of Illinois."

LP Asks Signers For FEPC Petition

P.M. 5-7-45

The New York State delegation of 45 U. S. Representatives was asked today by the Liberal Party to sign the petition which would bring the pending permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission bill out on the floor of the House from the Rules Committee.

A letter signed by Dr. John L. Childs, LP state chairman, and Alex Rose, administrative committee chairman, said:

5-7-45

"We are confident that the Representatives of New York State will help accomplish on a national level what was done on a state level when New York State adopted the Ives-Quinn Bill against discrimination in employment. The people of New York State have indicated in unmistakable terms what they believe in the principles of FEPC."

Filibuster Threat Dims Hope For Permanent F.E.P.C. Bill

Courier Journal
5-18-45

Washington, May 17 (AP)—A group of Southern senators openly served notice today they will filibuster any legislation for a tight federal ban on job discrimination because of race.

Furthermore, Senator Taft of Ohio, chairman of the Republican steering committee, pronounced "absolutely unworkable" a bill sponsored by seven senators for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission.

The two developments dimmed the already none-too-bright prospects that Congress will enact any F.E.P.C. legislation this session, although platforms of both major parties contained anti-discrimination planks last year.

In the House, a bill for a permanent F.E.P.C. has been approved by the Labor Committee, but the Rules Committee, where Southern influence is strong, has shown no disposition to let it reach the floor.

5-18-45

The filibuster threat was voiced by Senators Ellender (D., La.) and Johnston (D., S. C.) after a meeting of the Senate Labor Committee, which had scheduled a vote on the F.E.P.C. bill.

Confronted with the Southerners' attitude, the committee decided to postpone action until next Thursday.

Anti-Discrimination

Survey Midmonthly

Among the bills in the Colorado legislative hopper receiving the backing of the State Conference of Social Welfare is a "little FEPC" bill which would make unlawful discrimination against an employee or applicant for employment because of his race, color, creed, national origin, or ancestry. The bill provides for a three-man commission to receive complaints of violations, and empowers the commission to issue cease and desist orders to be enforced by the District Court.

April 1945

Other social measures backed by the conference would codify the child welfare laws, provide a legal basis for the merit system in county welfare departments, establish a more effective state parole and probation system, provide for the reorganization of the State Board of Health and the establishment of a State Department of Health, remove ceilings from aid to dependent children payments.

Truman Asks House Action To Keep FEPC

Montgomery Post
6-6-45

Letter Hits Racial Discrimination; Vote Is Set for Today

By Robert C. Albright

President Truman yesterday called on the House Rules Committee to clear legislation for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission, terming racial discrimination "un-American in nature," and sharply rapping a House move to dry up FEPC funds.

Mr. Truman addressed his letter to House Rules Chairman Adolph J. Sabath, (D., Ill.) staunch advocate of a permanent antidiscrimination statute. Sabath has called a meeting of his committee today to vote on the hitherto bottled-up FEPC bill.

6-6-45

Provocation Shown

Showing provocation with Congress for the first time, President Truman cited recent action of the House Appropriations Committee in deleting all appropriations for the FEPC from the recently reported war agencies bill.

"This action will have the effect of abolishing the committee and terminating its work without giving the members of the House of Representatives an opportunity to vote on the question," he wrote Sabath.

The Appropriations Committee had denied funds for OPA as well as FEPC, contending legislative authorizations for both agencies are still pending in Congress and allotment of funds should await "legislative developments."

Protest by Murray

6-6-45

Coincident with the President's letter to Sabath, President Philip Murray of the CIO protested FEPC omission from the war agencies bill in a letter to Chairman Clarence Cannon (D., Mo.), of the House Appropriations Committee.

"It is a cruel hoax not only upon the Negro people but upon all the progressive elements of our national community to withhold action on an appropriation for the Fair Employment Practices Committee upon the ground of the pendency of a bill to make that agency permanent," Murray wrote Cannon.

"Indeed, the Appropriations Committee's resort to this justification cannot be viewed as other than a legislative maneuver to insure prompt defeat of the late President Roosevelt's program to remove the shame of race discrimination from American industry."

Move to Floor Sought

6-6-45

A bill to create a permanent antidiscrimination agency, with far wider jurisdiction than the present limited FEPC, has been tied up for weeks in the closely divided Rules Committee. Truman's letter was calculated to help shake it loose.

Already a petition move is under way by Representative Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.), author of the bill, to discharge the committee and force the bill to the floor. Only about 118 members have signed the petitoin, which needs 218 signatures.

Sabath told newsmen he had tried many times to get a vote in his committee, but has never been able to get the necessary full attendance. The 12-man committee is so closely divided that one vote either way may swing the result. Only two Democratic committeemen are committed for the bill—Sabath nad Representative John J. Delaney (D., N. Y.). The four Republican members were reported for it "in principle."

HACKENSACK, N. J.
BERGEN RECORD
Circ. D. 31,085
JUN 4 1945

F. E. P. C., Doomed By Congress's Hostility, Won't Be Able To Aid Negro In Postwar Era

Industrial Cutback Will Hit Negro First With No Relief In Sight

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington, June 4 (AP)—The Fair Employment Practices Committee (F. E. P. C.) is gasping for breath. It's a dead duck unless Congress pumps some money into it by June 30.

This comes at a time when Negroes, laid off by the thousands in cutback war plants, will find job-getting a lot tougher than during the war against Germany.

The F. E. P. C. was created by executive order of President Roosevelt in 1941. It was designed to prevent war plants, in hiring workers, from discriminating against any one because of race, creed, color or racial origin.

Since July 1, 1943, the F. E. P. C. has received more than 8,000 complaints of discrimination and has disposed of all but 2,500. About 85 per cent of the cases involved complaints of discrimination against Negroes. About 5 per cent charged discriminations against Jews.

SOUTH HATES PLAN

In the south the F. E. P. C. was hated. Southern congressmen have talked against it. Now Congress, or at least the House, seems to have found a way to kill it off.

Each year since its creation the F. E. P. C. had to be kept alive by appropriations from Congress. Last year it got $500,000. This year, or, rather, for the fiscal year starting July 1, it wanted $590,000.

Unless it gets an appropriation by June 30, it automatically goes out of existence. The House Appropriations Committee has found money for other government agencies, but not for F. E. P. C.

The committee ignored it on the grounds that legislation to create a permanent F. E. P. C. is pending in Congress. This permanent agency would be a successor to the present, temporary agency created by Mr. Roosevelt.

True enough. Such legislation is pending, and has been a good while. But it's almost certain the legislation will not reach the floor of Congress for debate and action before June 30, if ever. It's buried in committee.

IT'S NEAT STRATEGY

So, by failing to provide money to keep the temporary F. E. P. C. going until a permanent F. E. P. C. is set up, the House is knocking it on the head. It's a neat way to get rid of it.

It's possible the Senate will insist on Congress providing the money to continue the temporary F. E. P. C. That might involve a wrangle between House and Senate. It's hard to guess what the outcome would be.

As of the moment prospects for the F. E. P. C. continuing are not bright.

The war has given the American Negro his greatest job opportunity. The May issue of the monthly Labor Review, published by the U. S. Department of Labor, says:

"The wartime gains of Negroes in federal employment have been enormous."

ONE-EIGHTH OF EMPLOYEES

By the end of last March almost one-eighth of all employees on the federal payroll were Negroes. Employment for Negroes after the war will be a grim problem.

The F. E. P. C. told Congress last week that 500,000 Negroes had left the south for war production centers in the East, Midwest and Pacific Coast.

But F. E. P. C. Chairman Malcolm Ross said that Negroes have obtained their greatest employment in industries which will be the first to suffer cutbacks on war production.

Because of this, he said, there's a likelihood of many Negroes being jobless.

The war, and the various efforts of the F. E. P. C., has given the whole idea of fair employment practices a big boost. New York State last March put through a fair-employment practices law to prevent job discrimination.

Fair employment practices bills have been introduced in the 1945 Legislature of 17 states.

The Republican Party platform from the 1944 campaign had a plank in it supporting a permanent F. E. P. C. It will be interesting to see what the Republicans do about supporting the legislation to set up a permanent F. E. P. C. now awaiting rescue from a Congressional committee.

A petition to force the measure out of the committee has been circulated among Congressmen for their signature. It is far from having the 218 names required to do the job.

Southern Congressmen can be expected to hit a permanent F. E. P. C. bill on the head. Republicans, however, face this problem: either support the bill or leave themselves open to accusations of deserting the party platform.

If the Democrats beat a permanent F. E. P. C. bill to death, Republicans later will be able to say, if they fight for it in Congress—that they did what they could but were overwhelmed by Democratic numbers.

In this way the F. E. P. C. might disappear but Republicans would have an issue.

FEPC Order Brings Strike

Pittsburgh Courier 6-16-45

HOUSTON, Texas—Shell Oil refinery workers in Dear Park, on Thursday evening voted 803-204 to strike if the FEPC insists on the upgrading of Negroes and Latin-American employees of the company. The vote was taken after a 30-day cooling off period following a partial walkout on April 27 when two Latin-Americans were upgraded.

According to John W. Sanderson, member of the conciliation committee at the plant, the vote was held in compliance with the "cooling off" period agreement, before a strike. In this instance it is not stated that Negroes were upgraded.

Salute Aubrey Williams

Defends FEPC And Negro Before Bilbo In Hearing

Pittsburgh Courier 3-3-45

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Aubrey Williams may have doomed his chances last week to head the Rural Electrification Administration when he dared to defend the FEPC and the rights of Negro workers during a Senate Agriculture Committee hearing on his fitness to serve in that post. 3-3-45

Grilling by Senator Theodore G. Bilbo, Mississippi's "white supremacy" champion, brought out the fact that Williams favors the FEPC and the rights of Negroes to work on a basis of equality with other American citizens. Bilbo, who opposes Williams' nomination as REA administrator, inquired:

"Do you subscribe to the President's executive order setting up the FEPC, which resulted in the breaking down of color barriers in Government cafeterias, which forced the two races to eat together and which caused whites and blacks to use the same toilets?"

BACKS JOB EQUALITY

"I completely subscribe to the FEPC," Williams replied quietly, realizing the danger of his reply. "I subscribe to the principle that there should be no discrimination in employment because of race, creed or color." 3-3-45

"Do you believe that the United States Government has a right to go into a Mississippi sawmill employing ten men and tell the foreman he must employ Negroes?" Bilbo asked.

Williams, a native of Alabama, replied that "if a Negro applicant has the necessary qualifications and was rejected solely because he was a Negro, the Government has a responsibility to stop that kind of treatment."

NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUN
Circ. D. 277,172
JUN 21 1945

FEPC SAYS NEGRO PROBLEM PERSISTS

Washington, June 21 (A. P.).—While reporting that minority groups have been successfully used in war industry and "religious hatred" has been forestalled, FEPC says Negroes and Mexican-Americans constitute a "known economic problem."

In a report to President Truman last night covering the first eighteen months of its existence through December, 1944, the Fair Employment Practice Committee said that the immediate problem is to guard against discrimination in the syphoning of workers from cutback plants into new war work and civilian goods production.

While asserting Nazi hopes to infect this country with religious hatred has been forestalled, the report said:

"The margin of our victory over religious intolerance has been narrow. Hoodlums have attacked Jews in some of our wartime cities. The dangerous undercurrent is there. In war industries and Government service, citizens of the Jewish faith have been denied opportunity to serve their country.

"Yet it may still be said that such cases, however symtomatic, have been relatively few in number."

END OF RACIAL BIAS IN INDUSTRY IS URGED

New York Times 6-27-45

There can be no secure peace in American industry for working men and women, for employers or for the public until "race prejudice is licked," Malcolm Ross, chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, declared last night before a crowd estimated at 20,000 at the third annual Negro Freedom Rally in Madison Square Garden.

Defending the objectives of his committee, now under fire in Congress, Mr. Ross asserted that it had "stuck to its role of seeing to it that the Jew, the Catholic, the Negro and the Mexican-American shall have his opportunity to serve his country in the production of war material." In its efforts to uphold a national policy of equal job opportunity, he added, the FEPC has created powerful enemies. 6-27-45

Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. accused the House of "double-dealing" in its refusal to pass legislation setting up a permanent FEPC. He charged that there had been "double-dealing on both sides of the aisle as regards FEPC."

Entire War Agencies Bill Being Held Up

6-28-45

Mississippian Threatens Talk For Five Months

BY HARY S. McALPIN

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Despite an impassioned plea by Senator Kenneth McKellar (Democrat of Tennessee) that the proponents and opponents of FEPC in the Senate come to a compromise, Senator Theodore Bilbo (Democrat of Mississippi) continued to rave and rant in an anti-Negro speech Wednesday to prevent a vote on suspension of the rules which if passed would permit the Senate to restore the FEPC appropriation to the war agencies bill from which it was omitted by the House.

McKellar pointed out that there are only three more days before the end of the fiscal year and the entire war agencies bill is being held up—threatened with failure to pass in time to continue the war activities of the many agencies provided for therein. He stated that he has proposed a compromise amendment granting the FEPC half the appropriations originally proposed which amount would be allocated to its operations for six months.

NO AGREEMENT

Bilbo however, would not agree to the compromise unless a proviso was inserted in the amendment for the liquidation of FEPC in the six-month period and also an agreement that no bill for a permanent FEPC would be submitted to the Senate. To these provisos Senator Dennis Chavez (Democrat of New Mexico) would not agree.

By a twisted bit of logic, Bilbo reasoned that the proponents of FEPC are holding up the war agencies bill, although it is he who is holding the floor and preventing a vote with a threat to talk for five months against the bill. A two-thirds vote is necessary to suspend the rules and permit the FEPC amendment to be voted on. Friends of the measure claim a slight margin over the necessary votes.

6-28-45

An effort to have a night session in order to exhaust Bilbo failed when Senator Barkley, majority leader in the Senate was called on business to Chicago Wednesday night. He will return Thursday morning. The Senate recessed with Bilbo still on the floor and insisting that he have the floor at the beginning of Thursday's session. He agreed to yield to Senator Tom Connolly (Democrat of Texas) today in order that the returning chairman of the foreign relations committee may make a report on the proceedings at San Francisco where he was an official delegate. After the Senate hears the report on the efforts of the United Nations to make prominent the peace of the world, Bilbo will resume his Un-American ranting against America's largest minority.

FEPC Killed In California

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (FP) — Attempts to set up an FEPC program in California, modeled after that of New York and other states, were defeated through a series of parliamentary maneuvers and delays.

6-23-45

The anti-job discrimination measure, which had the strong support of organized labor, was on the floor of the assembly on the last day the lower house could consider its own bills. By offering amendments and more amendments and through other delaying tactics, opponents succeeded in forestalling a vote on the measure until after midnight, when it was too late.

Assemblyman August Hawkins (D), author of the measure, hopes to get a three-fourths vote of the house to take it up again but his chances of success were considered slight. "The FEPC bill was killed through a silent filibuster," the Assemblyman remarked.

Filibusterer Says Negro Troops Fail

The Courier-Journal, Ky.

Eastland Continues Southerners' Fight Against Retaining F.E.P.C.

6-30-45

Washington, June 29 (AP)—Senator Eastland (D., Miss.) carrying on today the Southern filibuster against the F.E.P.C., said today that Negro troops are "an utter and abysmal failure."

Flailing his arms and jerking his tie askew, the Mississippian declared "high-ranking generals" had told him on a recent European trip that the Negro troops would neither work nor fight.

In Normandy, he shouted, they criminally assaulted members of the families of French farmers.

Political Activity Blamed.

"And we're asked here," he said, "to set up an unfair preference against a white soldier solely because the Negro minority sells its votes to the highest bidder in a political campaign. If it weren't for political considerations, this measure wouldn't get 10 votes in the Senate."

The Fair Employment Practices Committee was set up by executive order of the late President Roosevelt to police industry against discriminations on account of race, creed, color or national origin.

Eastland and other Southerners are fighting a move by Senator Chavez (D., N. M.) to appropriate to F.E.P.C. $446,200 or any part of that amount. They demand an absolute death sentence.

Their filibuster is threatened by a move to limit debate through the parliamentary device of cloture. The decision will come Monday afternoon, unless a compromise is worked out meantime. Two-thirds of the senators present must favor cloture if the talk is to be cut short.

Audience Packs Galleries.

Only half a dozen senators were on the floor as Eastland spoke, but the galleries were filled with visitors who had turned out in a frolicsome mood to see how a filibuster works. As the 40-year-old senator slashed out at Negro soldiers, they shifted uneasily in their seats. Some turned covert glances at the Negro men and women among them.

Eastland opened with the same gambit used yesterday by his colleague, Theodore G. Bilbo. He wasn't filibustering, he said; the whole thing was part of a gigantic plot to Sovietize the United States; the racial purity of the white race must be maintained.

"We must have racial harmony, we must have racial tolerance in the United States," he said.

Then he told his fellow senators what he said he had heard in Europe. All of it, he said, came from "high-ranking generals," one of them in Paris.

Politics In Army Charged.

6-30-45

He said the 92d (Negro) Division had the best training and best equipment; it also had Negro officers whom the generals were "forced to commission" for political reasons.

"That division," he said, "could not be placed in an important position in the line. If all our divisions had been like it, the Germans would have pushed us to the toe of the Italian boot.

"Some of the Negro officers deserted their posts, the whole division without cause, rhyme or reason would quit fighting."

He said it was necessary to disarm "a good many Negro soldiers" in Normandy because they would go to French farmhouses under the pretense of hunting Germans, "call the men out into the yard and hold guns on them while they went in and criminally assaulted members of their family."

Veterans Adopt Color Line.

Eastland quoted American generals as authority for a story that French Negro Senegalese troops locked 5,000 German girls in a subway at Stuttgart for five days, "kept them there and criminally assaulted them."

Eastland said there are color lines in all parts of the country, "but down in Dixie we are a little more open with it than they are in the North." He said he was convinced that veterans from Pennsylvania and New York will return from the wars with the same attitude toward the Negro as that in the South.

Bilbo, of Part of Mississippi

R.M.

THE State of Mississippi has a population of 2,183,276. One unit of this figure represents Theodore G. Bilbo. Theodore G. Bilbo represents the other 2,183,275 in the United States Senate. Theodore G. Bilbo won his seat in 1940 by a vote of 91,334 to his opponent's 62,641. 6-30-45

Such is the election background of the man who is determined to talk the FEPC appropriation to death. He has talked to similar purpose on similar bills, including anti-poll tax measures. He yields the floor only to re-charge his vocal batteries.

It is a truism that a people get the kind of representation they deserve. That doesn't apply to the people of Mississippi, because of the poll-tax. Only 91,334 out of more than 2,000,000 are getting the kind they want in the Senate.

56d-1945

FEPC Compromise OKd, Leaves Agency Shaky

Part of Bill Orders Liquidation, Part Says Never Mind

P.M.

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The hasty compromise on the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee passed both Houses of Congress, but a majority of the members still are shaking their fists at each other and claiming a victory.

7-13-45

Whether the Congressional opponents or supporters of FEPC won a technical victory is still undecided. But it is clear that the wartime agency to outlaw job discrimination suffered a substantial defeat.

The so-called compromise gives FEPC less than half the money it requested for its new budget. The sum finally settled on is $250,000.

In one section of the bill FEPC is ordered to liquidate—a process which would require a large part of its funds. Another section of the bill states that FEPC doesn't need to expend any of its money on liquidation.

What Is Status

Debate on the issue yesterday proved beyond a doubt that neither the House nor the Senate knows which provision will guide the FEPC. Does the agency have to use a large portion of the fund to liquidate or can all of it be spent on processing cases which involve discrimination of employers against workers because of race, color, or religion?

Congress doesn't know the answer.

But Congress will be the first to complain if the executive branch of the Government fails to administer the funds according to the "intent" of Congress.

The final speech on the subject of fair employment, and whether the Government should back the agency, came from Sen. Wayne Morse (R., Ore.).

Compromise

The Morse address to the Senate followed House acceptance of the FEPC compromise. The speech was delivered at the moment when the Senate foes of FEPC felt that the compromise could wi.. Senate approval without any debate.

Instead, Morse in a blistering attack on the GOP and Democratic leadership, made the Senate pause for breath.

"I do not think," Morse declared, "that my party has lived up to its pledge made at the convention or it never would have agreed to this compromise. But the Administration leadership forced this compromise on the Congress and in my opinion it would be better if the FEPC had not a single cent rather than insufficient funds on which to operate."

The House, having rejected an attempt by Southern Democrats to curtail further the spending powers of FEPC, already had accepted the compromise.

But the House, largely because only a half-dozen Republicans supported a roll-call vote, refused to stand up and be counted on the FEPC issue.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.) moved that the House vote separately on FEPC which is hitched to the $800,000,000 War Agency bill.

The Marcantonio motion was defeated and the House stubbornly refused to go on record as to whether they favored or opposed the compromise. It was carried by a voice vote.

Then the War Agencies bill made its way back to the Senate where the House compromise had to be adopted. Quick approval was anticipated.

Voice Vote

Then again, the compromise was approved on a voice vote, but not until after Morse had rebuked both Houses in his hour-long speech.

During the Morse speech, Republicans and Democrats—including leaders from the House—gathered on the Senate floor in small groups seeking a method of cutting off Morse so the Senate could vote.

Morse was finally stilled and the Senate hastily approved the compromise.

The only other amendment of any importance made in the War Agencies Bill by the Senate was the addition of $21,000,000 to the appropriation for the Office of War Information. However, this was ironed out in conference and under the conference agreement the sum was upped from the $18,000,000 passed by the House to $35,000,000.

Today the War Agencies bill, carrying funds for 16 war agencies, will leave Congress and be flown overseas where it must be signed by President Truman.

Call On Congress For Legislation

Chicago Def.

By JOHN LEFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala.—A petition bearing the names of 464 Alabamians, a majority of whom are white, asking the congress to enact legislation to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, made its way to Washington last week.

The petition was submitted to Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley by the Southern Conference of Human Welfare. 7-7-45

This action upon the part of prominent civic, welfare and labor leaders of this state stands in noble contrast to the foul and vulgar procedure of demagogic southern senators and congressmen who are opposing the FEPC and attempting to kill it as one of the means of thwarting the growth of democratic principles in the South.

Among the widely-known white citizens whose signatures graced the plea for a permanent agency to assure equal employment opportunities were: Mrs. Pauline Dobbs, executive secretary of the Birmingham Southern Conference Human Welfare unit; Mrs. Caroline Ballin, also of Birmingham, secretary of the Alabama Committee for Equal Justice for Reecy Taylor; Miss Erma Appleby, of Mobile, Y.W.C.A. secretary; Clyde Ganaway, of Mobile, port agent of the National Martime Union, (CIO) and Dr. H. P. McDonald, also of Mobile, head of the Mobile Council American-Soviet Friendship.

Protest Wage Levels

Other white Mobilians who signed the petition were: Charles Revans, official of the NMU; Mrs. Eunice Brunson, of the Y.M.C.A.; Mrs. Roland Miles, of the USO-YWCA; Mrs. Frances Durham, school public relations director; E. P. Johnson, official of the NMU; Miss Betty Sherwood of the USO-YWCA; Miss Mary Watkins, of the USO-YWCA; the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, Local 18; Mobile chapter of the Southern Conference of Human Welfare, and the National Martime Union.

The petition charged the South with practicing discrimination in employment and stated that about 25 per cent of the Southern people (colored) were held at low wage levels.

It warned that "Discrimination has no place in American life by its very nature it is fascistic . . . If continued it will weaken our leadership in the council of nations; it will lessen the chances of a durable piece.

"If the average income of the Negro family in the South were raised to that of the white Southern family, it would add a billion and one-quarter dollars to the income of the South. If the income of the average southern family were raised to the national level, it would add over 10 billion dollars to the national income.

The petition also asserted that "the FEPC is an important step forward in translating the American ideal of democracy and brotherhood into working relationships."

Carey E. Haigler, of Birmingham, stated CIO leader, told the Defender by long distance telephone call that while he was not in Alabama at the time the FEPC petition was prepared, he should like for it to be known that his organization is in complete accord with the effort to let the nation know that fair-minded citizens of this state want the Negro to have equal job opportunities.

Walterboro, S. C. Press & Standard
June 25, 1945

1-FEPC

INSTEAD OF BEING FAIR FEPC MOST UNFAIR

MUCH time is taken up each year by Congress debating the "Fair Employment Practices Act," which has not yet been enacted. It passed the House but is striking obstacles in the Senate.

This legislation is clearly an effort to place the negro in the saddle down South. It forbids any discrimination as between races, colors, or what have you?; in the matter of employment, and is supposed to affect only relations in plants having federal contracts or engaged in federal business. Of course there is where the trouble will begin.

It is allegedly a "fair practices act," but its proponents seem most "unfair" in their advocacy. Some figures used in debate in Congress indicate the unfair attitudes of the advocates. For instance there is only about one person in ten in the nation whose color would be brought into the adjustments brought about by this act. It would seem, therefore, that such proportion would be proper in the administration of this act. But is it true? The following quotation from a letter to a Charleston newspaper written by Julian Mitchell, a Charleston attorney of ability, will prove otherwise.

Mr. Mitchell wrote:

"I wonder now many employers know of the composition of the committees who would pass on their cases if complaint was filed against them because they refused to promote or hire or discharge an employee because of such employee's race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry

"The committee itself is composed of five whites and five negroes, but the division of field operations, which make the examination of their cases is composed of nine persons, of whom three are white, five are negroes and one is Japanese-American, and the case will then be reviewed by the review and analysis division in Washington, consisting of eight persons, of whom six are negroes, and two are white. What a travesty is the use of the word "fair" in the employment practice bill."

It is obvious to all that such a bill so administered would breed injustice turmoil and strife throughout the nation and would in no way help the cause of those it is alleged to aid.

Wetumpka, Ala. Herald
June 21, 1945

AS A FRIEND OF THE NEGRO

There is no newspaper, no public official, no sociologist, no individual of either race who is more anxious to see an improvement in the relations between the white and colored races than is the Enterprise.

There is none more anxious to see an improvement in the economic status of the negro.

And there have been very few who were quicker to point out and to oppose incidents of injustice to the negro race—incidents which we all know occur more frequently than was once the case.

Our attitude is not based on charity. Rather it is based on the conviction that no country, no section, no community can achieve real prosperity as long as a large proportion of its population is ignorant, poverty-stricken, and the victim of economic discrimination.

Likewise no country, section or community can progress, for unless its progress is based on fair play—fair play upon the part of both the majority and the minority.

It is for these reasons, and speaking as a friend to the negro race, that the Enterprise is unalterably opposed to the bill now before the Congress which is miscalled the Fair Employment Practice Act.

We know of nothing which would do more to cause inter-racial strife, and to retard the progress the negro race has been making for the last 80 years, than this proposed law. Truly it is an abortive brain child, begot by the passionately impractical do-gooders, conceived by politicians avidly seeking the negro vote, and nursed by the totalitarian bureaucrats who never miss an opportunity to increase the power of government over the lives of men.

The effect of this proposed law would be to tell an employer that he must employ a certain number of negroes for whatever type of work the bureaucrats said they were qualified to do, regardless of the situation within the plant or organization, regardless of the attitude of the other workers, regardless of the desires of the management.

Carried to its logical conclusion the passage of this law would mean that a certain percentage—approximately 10 per cent—of the workers in every department of every plant, the conductors on railroad trains, the tellers in banks, the clerks in hotels, the stenographers in offices, the mechanics in garages, and every other type of worker on every other kind of job, would have to be negroes. Just so long as they applied for a job, and the bureaucrats said they were qualified to do the work, the employer would be forced to hire them or close down.

We agree with the statement made by Senator Clyde R. Hoey the other day that this proposed law is contrary to the Constitution which protects the right of an employer to pick the people whom he wants to work for him, just as it protects the worker from being foreced to work where he does not want to work. But there is always the possibility that the courts will interpret the Constitution either way. So let us assume that such a law is passed and is upheld? Then what?

Can you imagine anything which would do more to create strife, strikes, economic chaos, and actual riots?

Can you imagine anything which would do more to retard the advance of the negroes than such strife?

How long will it take us to learn we cannot settle such problems by the mere passing of a law?

We all know that there is a scarcity of certain types of work for negroes. One reason may be racial friction. But a much more important reason is the fact that there is a scarcity of negroes trained for all types of work, a scarcity of negro capital, a scarcity of negro management. And these things take years upon years to work out. First must come education—and we are making great strides in that direction. Second comes the birth of initiative on the part of the rising race—and the negroes are making great strides in that direction. But anyone who has ever read history, anyone who has ever observed his fellowman, should know that this whole racial problem is not to be solved by the mere passing of a law—especially a law which could not be enforced and which would stir up strife throughout the nation. The Detroit riots would be as nothing to what would follow the passage of this bill, in our carefully considered opinion.

We are wholeheartedly in favor of improving the economic status of the American negro. We look forward to the time when capital—far-sighted white capital as well as negro capital—erects plants for colored workers and pays them wages for equal work. We look forward to the time when these plants develop their own management. We look forward to the time when the improved earning power of negroes results in a great increase in negro capital. We look forward to the time when the white and colored races develop an ever-increasing respect for each other—and for each other's rights.

But we will never see such a day as long as the approach to it is attempted by any such fool law as the Fair Employment Practice Act — a law which attempts to increase the opportunity of the minority by depriving members of the majority of their constitutional rights and freedom; a law which would turn the great majority against the 10 per cent minority just at a time when relations were becoming better; a law which would backfire and cause the negroes of America, the greatly outnumbered colored men and women, the greatest setback since they began their wonderful progress upward from slavery, only 80 years ago.—The High Point (N. C.) Enterprise.

SPOKANE, WASH.
CHRONICLE
Cir. D. 54,328
JUL 3 - 1945

GIVE THE NEGRO A CHANCE TO RISE

Many objections have been raised to the fair employment practices move as it affects Negroes, but the most uncalled for attack was by Senator Eastland of Mississippi, who declared last week that the Negro soldier has been "an utter and abysmal failure" in this war.

That statement would be open to contradition no matter who made it, for it is contrary to the experience in other wars. Coming from the gentleman from Mississippi it is particularly flimsy. Millions in the south have lost all sense of proportion on the race question. They have talked so much about the Negro's being a special problem down there that they have come to believe it. Some Negroes are a problem in New York and Chicago and Detroit, too. So are some white folks.

The chief problem of the southern Negro is the fact that it is made all but impossible to improve his status. He can hardly be expected to be a good citizen when he is prevented from voting in national elections unless he can buy the voting privilege with a poll tax. He can't be expected to get up and stay up in the social scale without the housing and educational advantages of the white man. He can't be expected to feel like a self-respecting human being when he is herded into the back end of a street car and told when he offers his life for his country, that he is an "abysmal failure."

Thomas L. Stokes

Detroit Free Press

FEPC Row Proves Dem Split

Detroit Free

WASHINGTON—The half-a-loaf treatment of the Fair Employment Practice Committee by Congress leaves an aftermath of problems disturbing both to the Democratic Party, as regards its political future, and to the country, as it affects the postwar period.

Filibustering tactics of a southern Democratic minority were responsible for slashing in half funds for this agency which was created by the late President Roosevelt to keep down discriminations in employment on account of race, creed, color or religion.

Congress finally voted FEPC $250,000 for its next fiscal year, after a long, bitter fight, and under such conditions that its future status is doubtful and unsettled. The Budget Bureau had recommended $559,000, which was reduced in a first compromise to $446,000, the amount the agency had last year, and then to $250,000.

The fight put up by the southern wing of the Democratic Party accentuates again the schism within its ranks which widens rather than narrows as time passes. President Truman not only had recommended the full amount approved by the Budget Bureau, but he urged creation by Congress of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission to take the place of this war-created agency which has only persuasive powers.

This illustrates the gap between the southerners, on the one hand, and the President and the New Deal and progressive wing of the party, on the other. The increasing political danger to the Democratic Party is that it may find slipping away from it certain necessary components to victory at the polls.

7-16-45

THE SOUTHERN wing of the party has demonstrated that it can operate effectively in Congress to hamstring or block measures, such as FEPC, no matter how loudly the President and New Dealers may shout for them.

In fighting other types of progressive legislation supported by labor and other allies of the Democratic Party, the southerners have been able to draw to their support a substantial number of conservative Republicans.

This is not lost on those progressive forces which went along with the late President Roosevelt, indicated for example by the wait-and-see attitude taken by CIO on President Truman. Words from the top are losing their vitality in view of what happens in Congress.

The stock answer of Democrats when such danger signals are discussed is that labor and other progressive forces which Mr. Roosevelt attracted to the party "have nowhere else to go." This is true if GOP standpatism is predominant in the Republican Party, as it seems to be for the time in Congress.

How persuasive an appeal could be made is shown, for instance, in the eloquent advocacy of FEPC by Senator Wayne Morse (Ore.)

* * *

HE IS one of a nucleus which is becoming more potent in Congress and gaining recognition among Republican progressives outside.

In his speech on FEPC, one of the most effective in Congress this session because of its logic, its moderation and its exemplification of the best liberal democratic tradition, Senator Morse pointed to the pitfalls to true democracy in the postwar period.

This, he explained, will require constant watchfulness. He urged the necessity of FEPC to check on the threat to the democratic tradition in discriminations in employment, saying "you cannot have political democracy without economic democracy."

7-16-45

He spoke from his experience on the War Labor Board, where he made a distinguished record. His experience showed prevalence of a double standard of wages in many cases, depending on the color of the skin.

"We are going to lose the war in a very real sense," he said, "if, as an aftermath, we become engulfed in a wave of bigotry, prejudice and hatred which do violence to those great principles of democratic government which differentiate our Government from others."

Richmond Times Dispatch

Senator Eastland's Insult

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Senator Eastland (D-Miss.) insulted the entire Negro race when he denounced the FEPC via Negro troops.

I am not an authority on military tactics, but I disagree with the Senator. I think the Negroes are doing a great job and deserve much credit. Many of the white citizens don't realize just how much the Negro has contributed to this war (in both military and civil capacities), because the white papers, or should I say most of the white papers, fail to carry accounts of Negro victories. Every day you see articles and pictures of the whites who are doing this and that, but never a word about the Negro. Is it because many of the editors have that old traditional prejudice in their hearts?

I wonder if Senator Eastland has taken time from his filibustering to think what his words will do for the morale of the Negro servicemen, and how will the Negro mothers, wives and sweethearts feel whose loved ones have given their arms, legs, eyes and even their lives in this war in which they have been such "an utter and abysmal failure"?

Many thousands of Negroes have been snatched from their homes and families to take part in this war. It must cost the government a large sum of money to feed, clothe and quarter so many men. If these same men are such a failure as Senator Eastland would have us believe they are, then I suggest that he start filibustering to have all Negro troops discharged and returned to their homes and families, where they are loved and appreciated. I am sure they would appreciate this, and it would rid the government of the expense of taking care of these troops.

As for insulting members of French families, I am sure the guilty ones were properly punished, and surely the whites are guilty of many such crimes. Don't judge the entire race by what a few have done. I have many friends who have given their lives in both the PTO and the ETO, and I feel that Senator Eastland's attack on Negro troops has been a grave insult to their memory. I pray to God that there are not a large number that feel as the Senator feels.

7-17-45

I am sure the Japs must love Senator Eastland and all his kind, because I am wondering where on earth they can find a better secret weapon with which to defeat the United States than in a foul American tongue that cuts down cooperation and morale.

As for racial harmony, I suggest that the Negro be given equal opportunities for education, a right to practice any profession for which they are qualified, fair employment and be treated as human beings instead of as something to be cast aside.

I am proud of the Negro troops and the wonderful job they are doing. We are going to continue to fight for the things due us, and with the help of God we are going to win our full rights—yes, Senator Eastland, even in Mississippi.

MRS. MAMIE KEMP BLEDSOE.

Richmond.

Marcantonio Piloted FEPC to Victory

Daily Worker

By TRAVIS K. HEDRICK

WASHINGTON, July 16 (FP).—At the helm throughout the perilous voyage of FEPC through the House was one of the most respected and yet most hated and feared members of the House, Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY).

MARCANTONIO

Marc, as his friends call him, is the lone member of the American Labor Party in Congress. No newcomer, he is serving his fifth term, and a quick glance at the voting records shows that his votes have been unanimously on the side of labor and progress.

Enemies? Marc has 'em by the dozen. To list them is to name the whole roll of labor baiters in the House—Rankin, Cox, Smith, Colmer to pick the varsity squad, and Gathings, of Arkansas; Rivers, of South Carolina; Hatton Summers and Fritz Lanham, of Texas, who might be regarded as second-stringers.

7-17-45

Rep. William Colmer (D-Miss), in a bitter speech on the floor, made some of the old red-baiting charges against Marcantonio and pointed out that he is "neither Democrat nor Republican," but he has "assumed the leadership of this House and is running the show. If there is any doubt in the mind of any of you about that, then I now point out to you that after the Appropriations Committee brought in its so-called compromise amendment (continuing FEPC with funds to liquidate) that the gentleman from New York (Marcantonio) took the floor and objected to the language of that amendment. Thereupon the Appropriations Committee was immediately called back into session and amended its amendment by including the words 'and until,' which entirely changes the purpose of the amendment from that of liquidation of the FEPC to operation thereof.

"In other words," Colmer told the House, "the whip was cracked again by the distinguished leader from New York, and today the skids are all greased to put the amendment through."

7-17-45

OFFERED AMENDMENT TO LIQUIDATE FEPC

Colmer offered an amendment to provide that FEPC must liquidate, and Rep. E. E. Cox (D-Ga) followed him on the floor, saying "the writing of this language into the resolution was a sorry surrender to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Marcantonio), upon whose single pair of legs stands every extreme leftist in this country feverishly engaged in digging the grave of private enterprise."

Marcantonio? He got up and said: "As for the pseudo-patriots who have sought here to use their pseudo-patriotism to do a subversive job on this American agency, I say to them that we, the proponents of the FEPC, are the real Americans." Marc said the "overwhelming majority of the American people" insist on FEPC. Then he added he could "understand the rage and frustration of the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Cox) and that of the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. Colmer), because for months they have done their utmost to prevent the representatives of the American people from voting on this fundamental American proposition." He said they were enraged because, despite them, the House was voting.

7-17-45

"Who is and what is subversive?" Marc inquired. "To deny equality is not only subversive, but it is practicing Hitlerism in America. Those who here seek to deny equality in employment are not only subversive, but are the adept technicians of the Nazi anti-racial practices."

Soon afterward the House voted down the Colmer amendment and passed the FEPC compromise that went through the Senate a few hours later.

7-17-45

To Marcantonio, more than any other man, must go the credit for saving FEPC.

Senate Moves To Force House Action On FEPC

Chicago Defender 7-14-45

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—In a last ditch stand to force House action on the Senate-passed War Agencies Bill, which contains $250,000 for the FEPC, the Senate adjourned until Thursday without taking any action on the emasculated bill passed to them by the House last week.

Meanwhile House leaders have quietly warned Southern democrats that continuation of the battle against the FEPC, which has tied up the funds of 18 war agencies, might force the thing they fear most—creation of a permanent agency authorized by Congress.

In an effort to side step this possibility there is talk that the House will offer a token proposal of $200,000 for the temporary committee for the next fiscal year. It is believed that FEPC supporters in the Senate will not accept such a proposal.

7-7-45

House leaders have further warned that all of the fuss and dilly dallying over the FEPC appropriation may spur many other representatives to sign the petition which would give permanent FEPC legislation the right of way to the House floor. Approximately 88 of the required 218 signatures are still needed.

The Senate-passed War Agencies bill was tabled by the House Appropriations committee after the House Rules committee refused to grant a rule which would send the bill to conference where representatives of both houses could iron out the differences.

A new War Agencies bill was written and sent to the House, but made no provisions for financing the FEPC.

The bill came to the floor of the House without a rule, thanks to the activities of Rep. Eugene Cox (D., Ga.) and Company on the Rules committee. The failure to grant a rule limiting debate as was generally expected was designed to place the blame on supporters of FEPC for killing other War Agencies blanketed-in under the bill.

The House passed an emasculated version of the bill designed to provide 800 million dollars for the continuance of 17 war agencies. Ten agencies were knocked out of the bill. These were:

The War Labor Board, Office of Economic Stabilization, Office of War Information, War Shipping Administration, Office of Strategic Services, Petroleum Administration for War, War Production Board, Office of Scientific Research and Development, Office of Inter-American Affairs and the Office of Defense Transportation.

These agencies were deprived of funds by House friends of the FEPC.

Southern reactionary Democrats have opposed FEPC on the grounds that it was not authorized by an act of Congress and existed by virtue of an executive order issued by the President.

The same status held for each of the 10 other agencies lopped off from the bill. Supporters of the FEPC refused to see why they should vote funds for these agencies if no money was to be granted to FEPC also. Either FEPC go in, or all the other agencies similarly constituted go out, they said.

Reps. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.), Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.), and Emanuel Cellers (D., N. Y.) took the lead in knocking out all of the other executive order agencies, one by one. This drew the ire of the Southern race-baiters and immediately a verbal battle broke out on the floor.

Marcantonio took the lead in clarifying the issues regarding funds for FEPC and placing the blame where it belonged. His name calling included Reps. John Rankin, (D., Miss.), Eugene Cox, Howard Smith (D. Va.) and William Colmer (D., Miss.), all of whom he accused of voting against the War Agencies bill when it was up for consideration last year. Whereupon Colmer dubbed Marcantonio the "whip-cracker of the House, and a spokesman for the minority group." He then accused Marcantonio of not voting for any war measures until Russia was drawn into the war.

McKellar Proposal Refused

In the Senate Appropriations committee where the new bill now rests, the committee refused to accept a proposal by Committee Chairman Kenneth McKellar (D., Tenn.) that funds be reinstated for the other 10 agencies and only FEPC omitted.

This proposal was promptly rejected by Senator Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.), vigilant and often lone Democratic fighter for the FEPC appropriation in the Senate. In fact Senator Chavez has held out for the total sum of $449,000 as recommended by the Budget Bureau. Chavez won the full backing of Republican members of the committee.

Democratic leaders such as Senators James Mead and Robert Wagner, both of New York, have been notably silent on the whole FEPC issue leaving Republican Senators Wayne Morse of Oregon and Homer Ferguson of Michigan to support Chavez' fight for the continuance of the agency which would outlaw discrimination in employment.

McKellar confirmed the opinion that it would take a two-thirds vote of the Senate to put back the FEPC or the other 10 agencies knocked out by the House.

The membership of the House has not voted on FEPC yet. This is the reason why the Senate has decided to force the House to taking sides for or against before any further action is taken by them.

This means that the Senate in all possibility will take the new version of the War Agencies bill and demand that the House appoint conferees to act on the original bill.

Both supporters and opponents of the FEPC in the House have declared their intentions to fight "until Christmas" if necessary.

Senate leaders say that if they reinsert the FEPC item for the second time in two weeks, they will only be helping to continue the "merry go round" on which the agency finds itself.

House Plans Numerous

If the House refuses to budge, this is the alternative the Senate may find itself having to take. Over in the House a series of plans are cooking.

One is to go along with the McKellar proposal to grant the 10 other agencies money, but not to approve a single cent for FEPC.

The other would give President Truman a lump sum of money with which to operate the 16 war agencies so long as he shuts off every dollar from the FEPC. It is expected that Senate Republicans would oppose this plan as they have been consistently opposed to Congressional handouts to the President.

Still a third plan would resurrect the defeated House proposal to give the FEPC $125,000, less than one-fourth of the money requested for the next twelve months.

It is understood that House leadership realizes that they are to blame for the holding up of the War Agencies bill, and are showing signs of weakening.

Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley (D., Ky.) has shown little real effort to get the bill favorable consideration in that body. It is to be recalled that it was Barkley's compromise proposal which shaved the original amount requested by the FEPC down to $250,000.

In the House, Republican Representative Taber of New York accused the supporters of FEPC of conducting a "political racket" and failing to make sincere efforts to get floor consideration for the FEPC.

Taber's accusation is part of the House's strategy in seeking to maneuver FEPC supporters into a corner, while all along the House Republicans except in a few instances are playing hand-in-hand with the FEPC opposition in the House.

7-14-45

NAACP Asks Record Vote

In an effort to stave off any compromise or legislative trickery, NAACP Secretary Walter White and Leslie Perry, administrative assistant in the Washington Bureau, made an all-out effort to muster every possible support for the FEPC appropriation. Cognizant of the fact that many Congressmen friendly to the agency, would be out of the city over the July 4 holiday, wires were sent to each one advising them that an effort would be made for restoration of funds on the floor of the House, and urged them to be present to support every such move.

Because there is no other way for Negro and liberal groups to know definitely who are the friends of FEPC, the NAACP is attempting to get the legislative proponents of the appropriation to move to secure a record vote so that the agency's enemies will be forced to face their constituents.

On another front, the United Federal Workers union (CIO) is making available to FEPC employes loans to tide them over against checkless pay days should the pending appropriation bill not be passed in time to meet payrolls.

Thomas Richardson, executive vice president of UFWA, headed a committee which met with Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, on Wednesday when the offer was made. On July 3, the UFW members employed at FEPC met and agreed that the union held a responsibility here.

Sen. Theodore Bilbo, filibustering leader of the Senate opposition, recently took a below-the-belt punch at Rep. Charles La Follette (Rep., Ind.), one of the backers of permanent FEPC.

Bilbo read on the floor of the Senate a letter from Atty. Allen K. Swann, Evansville lawyer, deriding LaFollette for his FEPC support. "I think that it should be known that he does not truly speak for his district," Swann wrote.

Swann, reportedly a former Ku Klux Klan member, added that Negroes in his city have become "impudent and aggressive" because of "action of the government."

Maintaining his progressive stand on FEPC, La Follette answered, "If Swann likes Bilbo and Bilbo likes Swann, I feel complimented and I am satisfied with my own company."

PETERSBURG, VA.
PROGRESS-INDEX
Cir. D. 10,004 — S. 10,004
JUL 9 - 1945

AS ugly a statement as any which any American comparably placed has made in a long time was that of Senator Eastland of Mississippi that high-ranking generals told him on a recent overseas trip that Negro soldiers would neither work nor fight and that they were "an utter and abysmal failure". This was said during the debate on the FEPC, although it was difficult to see any connection between the two things. Negro leaders and newspapers immediately challenged the Eastland criticism, as did many others, and they have been able to cite case after case and comment after comment which do not square with that estimate.

It is easily possible to call names to refute the opinion which the senator attributes to unnamed generals with specific tributes to the ability and courage of Negro soldiers. So far the Mississippi senator has not called names, and if high-ranking generals said anything of the kind we are simply reminded that high-ranking generals, as well as high-ranking legislators, may be so blinded by prejudice that they refuse to look at facts they do not want to see. One might suppose that generals or senators, even if they hold such views, would have refrained from voicing them out of respect to those Negro soldiers who are buried on foreign soil and whose courage and sacrifices are no longer a suitable topic of debate.

We trust the discussion will end with the statement of Under-secretary of War Patterson that the Army is proud of its Negro soldiers and that he knows of no high-ranking general who has condemned their performance. Senator Eastland and others may continue to swear by the still anonymous condemnation, but many who have heard the same line in the past should be influenced by the mass of evidence to the contrary which has been brought out. As objectionable as the Eastland outburst was in itself, it could have served a useful purpose by bringing into the open a charge which can be and has been convincingly demolished.

56d-1945 FEPC

The Dictators of House and Senate

Courier Journal

We fancy that more than a few Americans are writhing uncomfortably at the evidence that, for all the principles and traditions of their allegiance (". . . One nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all"), they may be rendered voiceless at any time by a kind of licensed tyranny, the domination of a minority indulged by long custom and protocol. 6-18-45

We have in mind the power of the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives, which is enabled by technical authority to stifle legislation and prevent a free expression in the lower chamber of Congress on matters which do not suit the notions of its generally reactionary membership; and also an equivalent power of obstruction inherent in the filibusters by which Senators—even a single Senator, at times—are able to frustrate the majority will. One might see something fantastic in the situation, if the evidence of its actual existence were not revealed in last week's news.

When the Rules Committee, by a tie vote which was not without signs of collusion, refused to place on the calendar of the House the bill for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, it took the same stand and for the same reasons of reactionary attitude that it assumed in its refusal to report the anti-poll tax bill for action. The essential tyranny and hostility of this position was revealed when the latter, forced from the committee's hands by a majority of the House membership, was passed by vote of 251 to 105. What goes on in this land when a handful of men, aware that the general will is against them, still stands out in opposition and undertakes to carry its point by arbitrary force?

And now that the House has approved the bill to outlaw the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in election of Federal officers, the Southern Senators are making ready once again to defeat the legislation by interminable debate, their right to indulge in which is supported by Senate rule.

In asserting again its belief that the Senate should move once and for all to end the frustration which three times has killed this legislation after the House had approved it—to end it by changing the rule to impose cloture, or restriction of debate, in its connection—this newspaper would be inconsistent if it did not deplore at the same time the obstructionist tactics by which the House tyrants have sought to prevent a vote on the F.E.P.C. bill. It is the principle that disturbs us, and the legislation is incidental.

As a matter of fact, this newspaper's objections to the proposal of a permanent F.E.P.C. on the ground of the plan's unworkability, dangers of abuse and tendency to legislate on attitudes, morals and social customs, have been frequently stated. These objections remain unchanged. But the main point which seems to us now to be involved is something else again. It is the right of minorities to be dictators, and poor sports besides. It is the challenge to democratic action, no matter what the issue.

Kentucky acquires something more than an academic interest in the matter in that a Kentuckian, Representative JOE BATES, made possible the bill's pigeonholing. In siding with the five Southern champions of white supremacy on the committee, Mr. BATES created the tie which withheld the bill from consideration by the House. Incidentally, he rejected the fervent personal appeal by FRED M. VINSON, a neighbor and his predecessor as the district's representative, who, speaking for the administration, asked him not for a vote on the merits of the bill but only to make possible a decision by the only authority with the moral and constitutional right to decide this point.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Peoples Voice 7-14-45

A LETTER FOR BILBO

Editor: Please print these remarks of mine for Bilbo. I am speaking for 13,000,000 Negroes who have been seeking justice that has been due them ever since Crispus Attucks shed his blood on American soil. We are asking no one for sympathy. What we want has never been given to us—equality: an equal chance to live without being harassed by southern hypocracy. We want jobs after this war wherever and whenever we are eligible to meet the requirements.—ELIZABETH SMITH.

Peoples Voice

FEPC MUST WIN

Editor: Between Eastland, Rankin and Bilbo, the Negro is being trampled in the worst way. This filibustering aganist our boys is entirely uncalled for. We can't permit this talk to continue. The FEPC must win and will win. Our boys fought for us and it is now our turn to keep our end up. Now that the war in Europe is over, it seems as if (according to Eastland) the tan Yanks did nothing to help — unless you call giving their lives absolutely nothing. — ALYCE GASKIN, a teen-ager. 7-14-45

* * *

CALLS FOR ACTION 7-14-45

Editor: Echoes from the Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden have reached below the Mason-Dixon Line. Now we can prepare ourselves for a campaign of vilification and lies. To met this threat, I suggest that the Senators responsible for the attacks on Negro troops be made to prove them or answer a suit up to the hilt. Surely we can raise a pool to fight this vicious offspring of the Nazi regime which had its birth here before Germany knew of such things. It is high time that we started cleaning out these bigots that continually menace progress. — BERTRAM ALDRICH.

* * *

NAVY OFFICER SPEAKS

Editor: As a former officer in the Navy who served overseas I wish to definitely register my protest against the cowardly and despicable insults made against the Negro race, especially those men in uniform, by certain crack-pots of the white race. I am a white man and my ancestors were in this country before the revolution and fought under Washington. I am a veteran of bth world wars and I certainly think that the fascist-minded Negro-haters in politics in this country should be either made to speak the truth or shut up. The Negroes whom I saw at the fronts and at liberty in Italy or France weree accepted by everyone as equals without discrimination. — TED COLLINS, former Ensign, U.S. Navy.

* * *

A GI ON BILBO

I was really stunned when I picked up your May 19 issue and read about Senator Bilbo's wanting to return Negroes to Africa. Why not just as well send every race back to their respective "old countries" and give America back to the red men? I would like to see the Negroes who agree with Bilbo. They must be awfully dumb or very much in love with him. We aren't going back to Africa. We're going places in America.—CPL. JOHN L. BALLARD, Nurnberg, Germany.

N. Y. C. NEW REPUBLIC
JULY 16, 1945

People in the Limelight: Dennis Chavez

Senator Dennis Chavez (D., N.M.) has stayed in the fight for a Fair Employment Practice Committee when no other Senator would undertake the leadership of that cause. As a rule, Chavez is among the quiet members of the upper house, seldom joining in Senate fights. But he is aware of the difficulties confronting minority groups in this country from his intimate knowledge of the Spanish-Americans in his home state. In the past, he has consistently struggled to get a fair deal for the Puerto Ricans. The American Negroes will not soon forget what he is now doing for them.

The chief leaders from both parties in the House and Senate have now joined to devise a strategy for putting through the compromise proposal of a $250,000 appropriation which the Senate has already approved. This compromise has a fair chance of being adopted. Since the FEPC needs about $600,000 annually to do any sort of job, this is a case where five-twelfths of a loaf is not much better than nothing. It does, however, keep the name of the FEPC alive and give us a chance to continue the fight in which Senator Chavez has played such an important part.

FEPC Supporters Firm in Face of Senate Filibuster

PM. 6-28-45

Mead and Chavez Seek to Rally Liberals as Leather-Lunged Bilbo Talks

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 28.—Southern Senators who usually get their price for choking a filibuster are today counting their money ahead of time—certain that Administration leaders will abandon their battle to save the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The filibuster—always a source of embarrassment to Senate leaders—already has started.

But late last night two pro-FEPC leaders—Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) and Sen. James M. Mead (D., N. Y.)—refused in a private conference to compromise on legislation extending FEPC for a year.

Both men are expected today to insist that other liberals who support FEPC take an active part in the fight to save the agency which outlaws job discrimination in war time.

6-28-45

Same Old Stuff

The strong-lunged Southerners who have no fear of exposing the Senate to public ridicule are threatening to talk forever, regardless of the vital appropriations bills which must be passed before July 1, and irrespective of the historic peace document which President Truman presents to the Senate on Monday.

Seldom have the Southerners failed in their efforts to throttle legislation by the simple expedient of filibustering when a Senate vacation or a vital bill calls for speedy action. But they did last year on this same FEPC issue—and they may again.

A filibuster exposes the Senate to ridicule. So the Southerners usually win. But the shadowy compromises they extort from their opponents are usually consummated in the backrooms of the Capitol.

Yesterday the compromise on FEPC was hauled into public view where its merits could be examined.

McKellar's Plan

Chairman Kenneth D. McKellar (D., Tenn.) of the Senate Appropriations Committee did the hauling. Although his sympathies are with the Southerners, McKellar, president pro-tem of the Senate, is uncomfortable about the filibuster.

He is responsible for getting the $771,000,000 War Agencies Bill, to which the FEPC issue is attached, through the Senate this week.

He is the author of the FEPC compromise which he proposed primarily to prove, as he said, that he is "a peacemaker who has taken quite a mauling."

6-28-45

McKellar's "compromise" would cut FEPC's appropriation to $250,000 and direct the agency to spend the money within six months.

McKellar's prayerful pleas for both sides to arrive at an agreement were not taken too seriously. They provoked considerable laughter on the floor when Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.), who led the filibuster, bluntly disclosed that McKellar had assured him FEPC would be liquidated after Jan. 1.

McKellar had previously boasted to the Senate that the compromise "contained not a word about liquidation"—that it was merely a peace offer to please all sides and give FEPC enough money for six months instead of a year.

"I agreed to the compromise," Bilbo bellowed, "on grounds that it means FEPC will be liquidated—otherwise it just gets six months to fatten."

The Senate roared. McKellar, somewhat embarrassed, giggled.

Call for Prayer

Sen. Chavez broke in to declare that the War Agencies Bill "could be passed in three minutes if the opposition will agree to continue FEPC for a year," even with the reduced funds.

McKellar finally sent Bilbo and Chavez home and asked them to pray. He requested a recess and the Senate concurred in his request.

At a meeting following the adjournment Chavez and Bilbo failed to come to any agreement. Another meeting is scheduled before the opening of the Senate at noon today.

If and when the FEPC gets to a vote, it will require a majority of two-thirds of the Senate to approve because of the tangled parliamentary situation.

Supporters of FEPC claim they have a slim margin, but the Southerners are counting on the inevitable absentees to put them in the lead.

6-28-45

Hymn of Hate

Bilbo insisted throughout a three-and-a-half hour tirade that he was just "talking"—that the filibuster would really start when a vote on the FEPC becomes more imminent. Surrounded by an eager little group of poll-tax Senators from the South, he subjected the Senate and the gallery listeners to an unbroken chant on race hate and white supremacy.

Some typical observations:

"All that has been done at San Francisco is null and void. We are headed for another war which is going to be a race war."

"The sale of *Black Boy* by Richard Wright should be stopped. It is a damnable lie from beginning to end. His aim to plant the seed of hate against the white men of the South."

Bilbo commenced to read his mail to the Senate. Most of the letters bore out the views of one man who after berating the Negroes and Jews declared "what we need is a million more like Sen. Bilbo."

With McKellar's consent, Bilbo has been assured that no legislation will take away his right to continue talking today. He told McKellar he'd be glad to let Sen. Tom Connally (D., Tex.) speak briefly on the San Francisco Conference—on the condition that Connally hands the floor back to Bilbo.

HARTFORD, CONN.
TIMES
Cir. D. 69,473
JUN 22 1945

FEPC Called Vital To Minority Rights

The Federal Fair Employment Practices Committee is the "only sign of industrial democracy that America ever has seen," Harold A. Lett of the New Jersey Urban League said at the annual meeting of the Hartford Negro City Council at St. Monica's Church Thursday.

"If the Senate, on June 30, refuses to appropriate funds for its continuance, the props of industrial democracy will be pulled out from under not only Negroes, but all minority groups in this country," he added.

The speaker said the two primary rights for which the Negro will have to struggle in the post-war period are unemployment and housing.

Officers elected at the meeting are: President, the Rev. R. A. Moody; vicepresident, Daniel Fletcher; secretary, Anna Langdon; treasurer, Mrs. R. A. Lawson.

F. E. P. C. Saved By 188 to 116 Vote

The Worker Washington Bureau — The Worker

FEPC was saved by the decisive vote of 188 to 116 in the House this week after one of the most stubborn struggles in the history of Congress. With ratification of the action by a House-Senate Conference Committee taken for granted, the non-discrimination committee can plan its work to protect Negroes, Jewish people, Mexican-Americans and other minorities in the year that's ahead.

The victory is a tribute to the determination of the trade unionists, the Negro people and the many millions of foes of un-American discrimination in many walks of life who backed the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

And it is also an inspiring example of the results that can be won by skillful and courageous parliamentary leaders like Representative Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY), who worked out the answers to the tricks of the bloc of Southern polltaxers and Northern reactionaries in both parties, who tried to prevent the measure from coming to a house vote.

7-15-45

Red-baiting failed the anti-FEPC crowd completely when the showdown came on the floor.

The decisive 188 to 116 vote took place against an amendment by Rep. William M. Colmer (D-Miss) to strike out a clause in the FEPC amendment to the war agencies bill which permitted the wartime FEPC to use the $250,000 appropriation for work "until" Congress established a permanent anti-discrimination agency.

This "until" clause, which the committee had put in this week under pressure from the FEPC forces inside and outside of Congress cancelled out an earlier insertion by the committee, which said that the appropriation was to be used to "liquidate" the agency.

Colmer: Eugene Cox (D-Ga); Hatton Summers (D-Tex); John E. Rankin (D-Miss) and other enemies of the FEPC cried that FEPC was a "Communistic" device to overthrow the government, as they argued for the amendment.

Marcantonio himself was the special object of their attack.

Fritz G. Lanham (D-Tex), even took the time to read half of the day's Daily Worker's story of the FEPC to show that Communists were backing the appropriation.

Marcantonio replied sharply to the polltaxers cry that FEPC was subversive:

"The genesis of FEPC is in the Declaration of Independence, which says that all men are created equal," he told the house. "That means the Negro people of Texas and elsewhere."

Then flinging the cry of "subversive" back in the faces of FEPC's foes he concluded: **"To deny equality is not only subversive, it is practicing Hitlerism in America."**

The Republican floor leader, Joe Martin of Massachusetts, played a sorry role in the FEPC fight. Though he had exploited the sabotage of a section of the Democratic Party against FEPC in a statement this week, he didn't take steps to get his followers on the floor when the vote was taken. The Republican attendance was rather thin today. Most voted for the agency, however, when its success was assured.

FEPC still has severe difficulties, however, the $250,000 fund represents an approximately 50 percent cut.

Struggles will be necessary for more funds to supplement this skimpy financial ration, if the committee is to do a real job in the reconversion time coming.

56d-1945

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
PM
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUN 26 1945

of Congress the fascists and pro-fascists are sniping away at our unconditional surrender policy, at vital legislation such as the FEPC, anti-poll tax measures, the Bretton Woods plan and the National Labor Relations Act."

20,000 at Rally Hear Demands to Save FEPC

Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, converses with Rep. Adam Clayton Powell.

More than 20,000 persons jammed Madison Square Garden last night for the third annual Negro Freedom Rally to hear speakers discuss the Federal Fair Employment Practices Committee and its relation to Negroes. This is what some of them said:

Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the FEPC: "Here's the $64 question: will we continue in the change-over period to make good just as democratically as we did during the two-front war against Germany and Japan? We of the Fair Employment Practice Committee . . . know that it requires patience, persuasion, and most of all, a strong determination to overcome race prejudice. But we also know that it can be done. We have seen thousands of Negroes making airplanes in a plant which at first said 'impossible.' . . . In its attempt to uphold the accepted national policy of equal job opportunity, the FEPC has raised up powerful enemies. The fight to establish this right has become more than an attack on a little group of Government people. It has widened to include all the people of these United States."

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D., N. Y.): "We Negroes will not compromise or retreat. We are not neutral, we will not mark time, we are going forward—now . . .

"If FEPC has not been passed when this war ends, I say that in the first week thereafter in Detroit, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York—wherever Negroes are concentrated—Negro people with their white allies should again take to the streets and picket and fight for their rights . . ."

Charles Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee: "The gangup on the FEPC in Washington is most undisguised fascist double-dealing to date. Even before the bodies of Negroes who gave their lives fighting against fascism have had a chance to be buried, and even before the guns have ceased firing, America's fascists are planning to deny returning Negro veterans and others the right to a job."

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. (Com., Man.): "We have made gains as Negroes during the war, but we are not satisfied. We shall not rest until we achieve full, unconditional American citizenship. We want appropriations for the temporary FEPC and we want a permanent FEPC to stay with us forever. We have destroyed Hitler—we must destroy Hitlerism."

Johannes Steel: "The thing that strikes you when you are in Europe is the fact that if the rights of man have been assaulted as never before, it is also true that more people than ever before rose to defend them."

Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, CIO: "We are witnessing an open and reactionary drive to hack Roosevelt's policy to pieces. In and out

Girls cheer speaker at Negro rally in the Garden. *Photo by Wilbert Blanche, PM*

Ruth Hemingway, 1798 Pacific St., Brooklyn, "Miss Negro Victory Worker of 1945," is presented at rally by Judge James S. Watson.

FEPC FUND EXPIRES IN ACT DELAY

Birmingham Age Herald

Financial Transfusion Sought By Backers, Despite Deadlock

SOUTHERNERS KILL HOUSE SUPPLY BILL

7-2-45

Breathing Spell Allowed Other War Agencies, Including OWI

BY WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST

WASHINGTON, July 1—(AP)—The Fair Employment Practice Committee was moneyless and moribund today as its backers sought to bypass the House rules committee and get a financial transfusion for it.

Technically the agency created by the late President Roosevelt and supported by President Truman died financially last midnight when its 1945 fiscal years appropriation ran out.

A last-minute compromise broke a four-day Senate fight over FEPC with an agreement on $250,000 for the year starting today. But that deal hit a stone wall of Southern opposition last night in the House.

So determined were the Southerners that FEPC not be kept alive that their objections blocked final congressional action on a big supply bill financing a score of civilian war agencies.

Other Agencies To Get Break

But all the other agencies, including OWI, were given a breathing spell by a provision in a separate bill authorizing them to spend in anticipation of funos carried by the stalemated war agencies measure.

Two courses lie ahead for the FEPC's backers: They may persuade the rules committee to send the deadlocked measure to the House for a decision, or they may put the heat on the appropriations committee to recommend House acceptance of the Senate compromise.

In no other way can FEPC be voted on by the House so long as a single member objects or 218 members refuse to sign a discharge petition, unless the rules are suspended by a two-thirds vote.

Twice within recent weeks the rules committee has refused to clear FEPC legislation for floor action. And there were no indications that a meeting called for tomorrow would break the deadlock there.

7-2-45

Groups Support In Doubt

It is a toss-up whether, assuming a rules committee rebuff, FEPC backers can persuade the appropriations committee to support them. The committee originally refused to put any FEPC funds into the war agencies measure and later, after a controversy, reluctantly recommended a $125,000 fund specifically to liquidate the agency. The rules group nullified even that action.

Any recommendation of the appropriations committee with respect to the Senate-voted funds will be subject to House debate, and Southern Democrats are ready to debate forever if they can. However, the House rules filibusters, and a majority vote could restrict discussion.

Never before has the FEPC, always a congressional "hot potato," brewed up such a controversy as it has this year. Its backers claim it is necessary to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. Its opponents contend it would accomplish the opposite result and lead to discrimination against white people in some sections.

Is This a Democracy?

Courier-Journal

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

Your editorial July 3, "A Cowardly Injustice to Negro Soldiers," was most timely, encouraging and thought-provoking. I wish hereby to express appreciation for your concern for the proper treatment of all citizens, regardless of race or creed. Your editorials always seem to be on the side of justice for all. On behalf of this principle I earnestly serve in the ranks.

But when I think of the cheapness, smallness and selfishness on the part of some of our Senators and Representatives, who disgrace our national legislature with seeming impunity, I am constrained to doubt their sincerity. I am forced to ask for a restatement of the objectives for which we struggle. I am nauseated when I hear of the verbiage, in Congress mind you, of men like Senators Eastman and Bilbo and Representative Colmer.

Were some of our legislators and executives to earn their ribbons on battlefields and battleships, along with G. I. Joe, perhaps they would thereby understand the meaning of that cherished American principle—democracy. For a Senator to sabotage, by filibustering or using other means of subterfuge, the principles for which we struggle so dearly, seems indeed most contemptible.

7-10-45

Oh, well, in political science there is an axiom which states that a people gets just about the type of government it deserves. If that be true it behooves us all, black and white, Northern and Southern, service man and civilian alike, to bestir ourselves to see that democratic processes are not hampered. At the next election a lot of housecleaning should be in order—that is, if this is truly the land of the free and the home of the brave.

We do need F.E.P.C. We need anti-poll tax legislation. Or is this a democracy?

LYMAN T. JOHNSON, S. 1/c.

Great Lakes, Ill.

FEPC Deadlock Expected End

AFRO-AMERICAN

7-14-45

Solution Sought by Congressional Leaders

18 AGENCIES TIED UP

Increased Support Feared by Dixieites

WASHINGTON

The FEPC was conceded a strong chance for survival this week following week-end meetings of Congressional leaders aimed at solution of the stalemate which has tied up the funds of 18 war agencies.

Leaders of both parties who participated in the informal discussions of the House-Senate deadlock included:

Senators Alben Barkley of Kentucky, majority leader; Lister Hill of Alabama, majority whip; Wallace White of Maine, minority leader, and Kenneth McKeller (Dem., Tennessee), Appropriations Committee chairman.

Reps. Sam Rayburn of Texas, speaker; John McCormack of Massachusetts, majority leader; Joseph W. Martin of Massachusetts, minority leader, and Clarence Cannon (Dem., Miss.), appropriations chairman.

7-14-45

Senate Action Opposed

The present sitaution is the result of the House Rules Committee's refusal to give the green light to the Senate-passed War Agencies Appropriation Bill which allotted $250,000 to the FEPC.

The Senate compromise was agreed upon after a vicious filibuster, led by Senators Bilbo and Eastland was broken as a result of a motion to invoke cloture, offered by Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio. Instead the House Appropriations Committee rewrote and reported a new war agencies bill from which the FEPC funds had again been eliminated.

Senator Taft

Supporters Counterattack

House supporters of the FEPC, headed by Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.), immediately countered with points of order which other war agencies from the measure, which was then passed and resulted in the elimination of 10 sent to the Senate.

REP. VITO MARCANTONIO

The Senate Appropriations Committee in its turn deferred action on the emasculated bill pending the outcome of the week-end conferences between the leaders of both houses.

7-14-45

Sen. Dennis Chavez (Dem., N. Mex.), leader of the Senate fight for FEPC funds, declared earlier that he would insist that the full $599,000 requested by FEPC be restored in the event that the crippled bill comes to the floor of the Senate.

Compromise Preferred

While the results of the conference have not been made public, FEPC supporters predicted that the Southern Representatives, would end the stalemate by permitting enactment of the orginal Senate "compromise" measure.

Their reason, it is said, is fear that a prolonged deadlock might force a vote on the bill setting up a permanent FEPC with full enforcement powers already approved by the House Labor Committee.

Moreover, 130 of the 218 signatures needed to discharge the bill have been procured and many feel that a nation-wide drive during continued delay might push the petition through as one has pushed the antilynch tax bill.

They based this conclusion upon the following and other factors:

Salaries May Be Withheld

1. Unless the $752,000,000 war agencies supply bill is passed by July 21, the next government pay day, hundreds of thousands of workers in the affected agencies wil go payless since the Treasury Department has announced that it has no authority to advance funds for salary payments.

2. Many of the Southerners are convinced that failure to appropriate funds for the present temporary FEPC will result in added Congressional support and public pressure for the enactment of pending permanent FEPC legislation.

7-14-45

3. The determination shown by FEPC supporters has made it quite apparent that the House will have to remain in session throughout the summer or at least until there is a vote on granting FEPC funds.

House Unit Asks $250,000 FEPC Fund

By the Associated Press

The House Appropriations Committee about-faced yesterday and recommended a $250,000 fund for continued and unrestricted operation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

It did so at an afternoon session less than three hours after it had voted FEPC $250,000 to liquidate.

The latest action left both sides in the six-weeks' fight over FEPC somewhat bewildered, and assured a record House vote today that may jar loose the 752 million dollar national war agencies supply bill that has been riding a parliamentary merry-go-round since June 1.

The deadlock has tied up funds for 16 home-front war agencies. All are operating now under special legislation allowing them to incur obligations but spend no actual money.

Marcantonio Is Pleased

The joy of Southern foes of FEPC over the committee's morning action quickly died down after the afternoon results were announced. Conversely, backers of FEPC who condemned the morning proceedings finished the day praising them.

"This is just what we wanted," commented Representative Marcantonio (Armn. Lab., N. Y.) after the final session. "No amendment is necessary now. We have the votes to give effect to the committee's recommendation."

Only a few hours earlier, Marcantonio assailed the committee action as "no compromise at all" and announced he would seek to amend it.

The burden of carrying an amendment now rests with FEPC's opponents. They indicated they would seek to eliminate the Appropriations Committee's final recommendation that the $250,000 fund be made available for normal FEPC functions until such time as Congress enacts specific legislation dealing with that agency. A measure to create a permanent FEPC is pending. Authorization for the present agency, created by executive order by President Roosevelt, expired June 30.

Get Quick Opinion

The wording of the recommendation approved yesterday morning was confusing to some committee members, who sought a quick opinion from the comptroller general. On the basis of that opinion the committee held a second meeting and made it clear that, although the fund was intended "for completely liquidating" the FEPC, it could be used for normal operations until the agency "is continued by an act of Congress."

The $250,000 recommended is the same amount voted by the Senate last month and is less than half the $599,000 in the FEPC's budget estimates for the fiscal year that started July 1. However, supporters of the agency said they were willing to accept the pared fund on the theory they later could obtain an additional allotment in a deficiency bill.

Senate Approves Funds For FEPC for One Year

Richmond Times Dispatch

WASHINGTON, July 12.—(UP)—The Senate tonight by voice vote concurred in a House amendment to give the Fair Employment Practices Committee a fund of $250,000 for one year.

The vote came unexpectedly as Senator Wayne Morse (R-Oreg.) concluded a speech in favor of the FEPC after announcing he was "prepared to speak at length" in an effort to delay the vote until Monday. 7-13-45

There were only about 16 Senators present when the vote was taken.

"Pappy" Tells NAACP He Would Abolish FEPC

The Informer

HOUSTON — "I am in favor of abolishing the whole organization," W. Lee O'Daniel, Texas senator, wrote in answer to a written request for his support in making permanent the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

The request was made by the local Branch of the NAACP, the Rev. A. A. Lucas, president. According to Mrs. White, Mr. O'Daniels' answer was addressed to "Mrs. Lulu White" and the inside greeting was "Madam." 7-14-45

The entire letter follows: "I am in receipt of a communication from yourself and Rev. A. A. Lucas in reference to the Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

"I am unable to see where such a committee is necessary in this nation.

"It not only stirs up strife, and foments hatreds between people of different races and colors, but it incites bitter animosities between people of the same races and colors.

"I am in favor of abolishing the entire organization."

Mrs. White says the letter was signed "W. Lee O'Daniel, United States Senator, Texas." 7-14

FEPC Funds Recommended By Committee

Montgomery Advertiser

Both Sides Bewildered As $250,000 Voted To Liquidate Agency

WASHINGTON, July 11.—(AP)—The House appropriations committee about-faced today and recommended a $250,000 fund for continued and unrestricted operation of the Fair Employment Practice committee. 7-12-45

It did so at an afternoon session less than three hours after it had voted FEPC $250,000 to liquidate.

The latest action left both sides in the six-week fight over FEPC somewhat bewildered, and assured a record House vote tomorrow that may jar loose the $752,000,000 national war agencies supply bill that has been riding a parliamentary merry-go-round since June 1.

Agencies Funds Tied Up

The deadlock has tied up funds for sixteen home-front war agencies, many of them facing payless pay-days until it is broken. All are operating now under special legislation allowing them to incur obligations but spend no actual money.

The joy of southern foes of FEPC over the committee's morning action quickly died down after the afternoon results were announced. Conversely, backers of FEPC who condemned the morning proceedings finished the day praising them.

"This is just what we wanted," commented Representative Marcantonio (Am.-Lab.) New York, after the final session. "No amendment is necessary now. We have the votes to give effect to the committee's recommendation."

Only a few hours earlier, Marcantonio assailed the committee action as "no compromise at all" and announced he would seek to amend it. 7-12-45

Foes Carry Burden

The burden of carrying an amendment now rests with FEPC's opponents. They indicated they would seek to eliminate the appropriations committee's final recommendation that the $250,000 fund be made available for normal FEPC functions until such time as Congress enacts specific legislation dealing with that agency. A measure to create a permanent FEPC is pending. Authorization for the present agency, created by executive order by the late President Roosevelt, expired June 30. 7-12-45

The wording of the recommendation approved this morning was confusing to some committee members, who sought a quick opinion from the comptroller general. On the basis of that opinion the committee held a second meeting and made it clear that, although the fund was intended "for completely liquidating" the FEPC, it could be used for normal operations until the agency "is continued by an act of Congress." 7-12-45

The $250,000 recommended is the same amount voted by the Senate last month and is less than half the $599,000 in the FEPC's budget estimates for the fiscal year that started July 1. However, supporters of the agency said they were willing to accept the pared fund on theory they later could obtain an additional allotment in a deficiency bill.

Senator Wagner Defends Negro Soldiers' Role

Richmond Times Dispatch

WASHINGTON, July 12—(AP)—Senator Wagner (D-N. Y.) today came to the defense of the Negro soldiers. 7-13-45

Attributing to Senator Eastland (D-Miss.) a statement that "Negro soldiers are no good," Wagner suggested in a Senate speech that Eastland should have consulted the War Department.

He said Eastland made this statement during a recent speech on the FEPC appropriation.

Wagner said Under-Secretary of War Patterson told him Eastland's statement did not represent the views of the general staff. He quoted General Eisenhower as saying that the Negro soldier had "made a valuable contribution," in the European area and quoted General Ira Eaker as saying that the Negro fighter pilots "have done well."

Richmond Times

For Continuing the FEPC

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I have just reread your editorial of July 1 on "Misrepresenting the South." I think it is a fine article and expresses the belief of many other Southern boys, like myself, who have served and fought side by side with the Negro troops. 7-14-45

In my opinion, the death of the FEPC would be a great mistake. I cannot see where any man can gain by the abolishment of this committee. It is an injustice not only to the many colored servicemen, but also to the others who have not served.

If these men feel they are better than a Negro serviceman and could do a better job, let them trade places with one for just a few days.

Did we not fight this war for the equality of race, creed and religion? If we did, then, for God's sake, why can't our senatorial leaders abide by the code by which so many of my buddies died?

JAMES F. COVINGTON, JR.
Camp Pickett. Va.

FEPC IS VOTED $250,000 TO STAY IN OPERATION

Chicago Daily Tribune

Southerners Lose Out in House Fight

Washington, D. C., July 12 (AP)—The house voted $250,000 today for continued operation of the fair employment practices committee.

Southerners unsuccessfully sought to limit use of the money—which is less than half the budget estimate—to liquidation activities of the FEPC. But the house voted them down and tied no strings to the fund which may be used until next June.

The FEPC item was the major point of controversy in the $752,000,000 war agencies bill. Other allotments, including funds for the office of war information, were expected to be adjusted quickly by senate-house conferees before the measure is finally approved. The senate earlier had approved $250,000 for FEPC.

The house turned down, by a teller vote of 188 to 116, a southern-backed move to prevent the FEPC from using any of its new funds for normal operations and then moved toward a final vote on a compromise designed to break a deadlock holding up funds for sixteen war agencies.

The bill was expected to be passed by nightfall and sent to the White House tomorrow. Not until it is signed into law will 16 home front war agencies have money with which to operate.

All have been operating "on the cuff," so to speak, since the fiscal year started on July 1, and none can meet a payroll until the measure becomes law.

A Permanent F. E. P. C.

(From The New York Herald Tribune)

Atlanta Daily World

"The Republican party pledged backing for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission in its 1944 platform. The Republican administration in New York led with legislation to combat unfair practices locally. Representative Mary T. Norton, Democrat, introduced in Congress a bill to combat racial and religious discrimination in industry which crosses state boundaries. . . . The Norton bill is a composite of bills sponsored by six Republicans and six Democratic Representatives . . . The bill forbids discrimination in employment because of race, color, creed, national orgin or ancestry by: (1) Agencies of the Federal government; (2) Federal contractors and subcontractors; (3) Employers of six or more persons whose operations affect inter-state commerce. It dictates no social practices, invades no local legislative province. It sets up a commission similar to the one now operating under executive order, to receive and investigate complaints, to conduct full and fair hearings, and, finally, to issue a decision and order. . . . We believe that FEPC should be legitimized and given permanent status by the Congress. . . . We hope that it may be enacted promptly. 7-11-45

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
HERALD
Cir. S. 62,943
JUL 1-1945

All-Time Low

Probably the most despicable thing ever done in public life was the filibuster staged in the U. S. senate this week by Sen. Theo—The Man—Bilbo of Mississippi, against the appropriation for the FEPC.

Of course, such a thing is to be expected from a man of Bilbo's stripe, but it is a sad commentary on the rest of the senate that this fomenter of race-hatred was allowed to continue his rantings and to delay passage of the war agencies' appropriation bill.

Even Sen. McKellar of Tennessee, who usually is one of the most ardent defenders of such anti-democratic practices as the poll-tax, was disgusted with Bilbo.

It was bad enough that Bilbo, who never had to face an electorate consisting of more than five or 10% of the people of his state, should be permitted to stand in the U. S. senate and rave against a bill designed to help any racial group.

But Bilbo reached a level that was even low for him, when he devoted part of his speech to an incredibly vile slur at the widow of Pros. Roosevelt.

On a par with, or perhaps even slightly lower than, Bilbo's excrescenses was the bigoted tirade uttered Friday by Mississippi's other senator, James O. Eastland, who continued the shameful filibuster when Bilbo ran out of breath.

In his part of the typically Nazi attack on the FEPC appropriation, Eastland charged that the Negro troops in the U. S. army were "utter and abysmal failures."

The Associated Press dispatch quoted Eastland as saying he had been told this by "high-ranking generals" in Europe. Whether they were German generals, it did not say.

However, a much more believable report came to us first-hand the day after Eastland's speech, from a Fairfield county GI who returned from Germany last week, and was discharged from the army with 115 points and a flock of ribbons and stars to prove he knew what he was talking about. Eastland's proof, if any, rests behind that all too-dubious and libel-proof "congressional immunity."

Eastland tried to tell the U. S. senate—but only a half-dozen members stayed there to listen to him—that the Negro troops "would neither work nor fight."

This Fairfield county soldier, who fought his way through France and Germany on a half-track and on foot, **said he would refrain from calling Mississippi's junior senator a liar, but he pointed out that his life and the lives of his buddies were saved by the** work of Negro tank destroyer troops, who went in ahead of his own outfit.

"One Negro alone, with a bazooka, wiped out five German tanks, one after the other," the soldier said, "and he saved a lot of lives.

"He got a bronze star for it, but if he had been a white soldier, he'd have gotten a much bigger decoration."

We think this eye-witness testimony from a soldier is much more valuable and much more easily believed than the filibuster-oratory of Sen. Eastland.—J. D.

Congress Ends Bitter Battle On FEPC Fund

Mont. Advertiser

House, Senate Agree On $250,000 For 12 Months Of Operation

WASHINGTON, July 12.—(AP)—The congressional fight over continuing the fair employment practice committee ended tonight with House and Senate agreement on a $250,000 appropriation to run it in the 12 months beginning July 1.

The legislators got together when the Senate accepted by voice vote House language which nullified a previous stipulation that the agency must use the funds to liquidate. 7-13-45

The $250,000 is just half what FEPC had asked.

Morse's Effort Futile

Senator Morse (R), Oregon, made a futile effort to defer a decision until Monday. He said he hoped that if this were done the people at home would make their sentiments known and a larger appropriation would be given the agency.

He launched into what he termed "extended discussion" — sometimes another name for filibuster—in an effort to force delay but gave up the floor after an hour and a half.

During his speech Morse stressed the theme that democracy is on trial in the world and that it will be judged in part on the way it treats minorities.

War Agencies Funds Delayed

By the time the FEPC fight was ended, the hour was so late that leaders delayed final action until tomorrow on a $750,000,000 war agencies appropriation bill which contains the FEPC item.

The House had been standing by, waiting for the Senate to act on FEPC, with expectation that the entire bill could be finally acted on. House leaders decided to let it go until tomorrow.

When Morse gave up the floor, Senator Bilbo (D), Mississippi, bitter foe of FEPC, threw a scare into Senate leaders by demanding a quorum call. There were 16 Senators on the floor at the time and no chance that a quorum could be mustered. 7-13-45

Bilbo, who recently filibustered against FEPC, said he thought a quorum should be present "because this is far-reaching legislation." 7-13-45

Bilbo Withdraws Request

Majority Leader Barkley, Kentucky, and Senator McKellar (D), Tennessee, handling the bill, rushed at Bilbo, arguing vehemently. The Mississippian then withdrew his request.

Principal item remaining in controversy in the big bill is the amount to be given the Office of War Information. The House voted to allow it only $18,000,000. The Senate boosted this to $39,000,000.

A conference committee from the two chambers agreed to compromise at $35,000,000. Their conference report will be submitted to the House tomorrow and if approved there will then go to the Senate.

Earlier in the day, the House had approved $250,000 for FEPC, the same amount the Senate agreed to when Bilbo dropped his filibuster.

The Senate did so, however, with language directing that FEPC must use the fund [illegible] liquidation. The House today changed this language in a manner which Senate Chavez (D), New Mexico, a champion of FEPC, interpreted as meaning the agency does not have to liquidate.

Bilbo Concedes Defeat

McKellar was trying to get Senate approval for this change when Morse launched his fight. Meantime, the House was standing by waiting for the Senate to act and return the bill for its dispatch by the House to a conference committee for compromise of other disputed figures.

In addition to the FEPC funds, the measure carries about $750,000,000 for other war agencies [illegible] put several items are in dispute between House and Senate.

Bilbo announced he would not oppose acceptance of the House's language as to FEPC.

"If I had a chance, if I had a remote chance, to defeat this appropriation I would speak until doomsday," he told the Senate [illegible] ing that he could not beat it. 7-13-45

Morse called the $250,000 an "insufficient fund which makes it certain FEPC can not do the job which should be done." The agency had asked $499,000.

Press for House Vote Tomorrow on FEPC Fund

Daily Worker

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 10. — Congressional leaders in the drive to save FEPC are fighting to give the House the chance to vote on the non-discrimination agency this Thursday. 7-11-45

Chairman Clarence Cannon (D-Mo), of the House Appropriations Committee again delayed action on the Senate War Agencies bill, containing a $250,000 fund item for FEPC, which was to have been considered today. But Cannon has promised to take up the bill tomorrow.

If the committee reports out the bill tomorrow, with or without a favorable recommendation, it should reach the House floor Thursday under a 24-hour agreement made between the Democratic floor leader, John W. McCormack (D-Mass), and the FEPC forces.

A smashing victory is expected when the rollcall vote is taken if the Congressional delegations from New York, New Jersey, New England, Pennsylvania and other nearby states are at their desks.

Gallant Sen. Bilbo Replies To Women With Insults

Daily Worker

Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi, the perfect model of a Southern gentleman, has replied to two letters criticizing his filibuster against the FEPC with outrageous insults against the letter writers, both of whom are American women.

Bilbo called one letter-writer, Miss Josephine Piccolo of 93 Garfield Place. Brooklyn, N. Y. "My dear 'Dago'," and urged her to "keep your dirty proboscis" out of the affairs of the "dear old state of Mississippi."

Another reply—also in the best traditions of the Bourbon South's attitude toward womanhood — was addressed to Miss Josephine Timms, international secretary treasurer of the American Communications Association, CIO. 7-7-45

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Here also Bilbo urged Miss Timms, who had protested the shameful filibuster against the Fair Employment Practices Commission to "please keep your proboscis out of the life and ways of living in the State of Mississippi."

The Daily Worker has copies of both letters. One of them, addressed to Miss Piccolo, is reproduced in the adjoining column.

"What in the h . . . are you griping out about," says the distinguished senator, after the insulting greeting of "Dear Dago."

"You live in New York and today the most vicious FEPC bill ever passed by a lawmaking body goes into effect . . ." a reference to the State FEPC which was inaugurated on July 1st.

. . . "But the question of passing a Federal law and imposing this damnable, un-American, unconstitutional, communistic legislative monstrosity upon the other forty-seven states by an Act of Congress is an entirely different proposition."

ADMITS HE'S "LIBERAL"

In the letter to Miss Timms, Bilbo has the brass to call himself a "liberal," and then says: "your letter indicates that your mind has been poisoned by a lot of rot appearing in **PM**, the **Daily Worker**, and other pink, off-brand, and un-American publications in New York City." 7-7-45

Bilbo then adds: "I suggest that you read the Constitution of the United States."

OK—let's read the Constitution of the United States to Bilbo—such as amendment 14 which says that "no state . . . (shall) deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. . . .

Or amendment 15 which says that **"the right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."**

Where would Bilbo be if these laws were enforced?

THEODORE G. BILBO, MISS., CHAIRMAN
CARTER GLASS, VA. — ARTHUR CAPPER, KANS.
MILLARD E. TYDINGS, MD. — STYLES BRIDGES, N. H.
PAT MC CARRAN, NEV. — HAROLD H. BURTON, OHIO
W. LEE O'DANIEL, TEX. — C. DOUGLASS BUCK, DEL.
ELLEN F. NCNY, N. C. — W. ALEXANDER SMITH, N. J.
M. M. D. JOHNSTON, S. C. — LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, MASS.
FRANK P. BRIGGS, MO. — MILTON R. YOUNG, N. DAK.

J. G. KAY, CLERK
EDWARD P. TERRY, CLERK
MARY M. SLATTY, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 1, 1945

Josephine Piccolo
93 Garfield Place
Brooklyn 15, New York

My dear "Dago":-

(If I am mistaken in this please correct me.)

Your letter of June 28 has been received and I have read it with interest and surprise. What in the H--- are you griping about? You live in New York and today the most vicious FEPC bill ever passed by a lawmaking body goes into effect, so you have the FEPC for the State of New York.

If you like it and want it, then you have my permission to have it and to keep it, but the question of passing a Federal law and imposing this damnable, un-American, unconstitutional communistic legislative monstrosity upon the other forty-seven States by an act of Congress is an entirely different proposition.

So will you, please, keep your dirty proboscis out of the other forty-seven states, especially the dear old State of Mississippi? It is to this State that I am directing my efforts and I have no one to account to except the people of Mississippi. And while passing, let me assure you that from 99 to 100 per cent of the people of my State are bitterly and uncompromisingly against this fool, communistic concept of Government. It would destroy the freedom of the people and it certainly is a violation of the American way of life, for which we are fighting a world war today.

Watch the results of the enforcement of Governor Dewey's FEPC and weep.

Yours truly,

Tho. G. Bilbo

U. S. S.

TGB:mf

Reproduced above is the slurring letter sent to Josephine Piccolo by that paragon of the South, Sen. Bilbo, answering a demand to end his filibuster against the FEPC.

Can He Tell By The Moan of Pain?

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Can Filibuster Bilbo tell the difference between a moan of pain from a bleeding GI's throat of a white skin or black skin?

Can Filibuster Bilbo tell the difference between the smell of blood pouring from a gaping hole in the belly of a GI of white or black skin? Daily Worker

His "Honor" doesn't care if it is the moan from a Negro's throat.

His "Honor" doesn't care if it is the blood of a Negro.

His "Honor' just simply hates the Negro—that is the answer.

His "Honor's" dictionary doesn't have the word freedom in it.

His "Honor," by his action, shows he doesn't intend to carry out the pleadings of the Bible to do unto others as you would have others do unto you "or love they neighbor." 7-7-45

I pray "His Honor" fails in his task of beating down the Negro, because if it works once then you can bet other minorities will be next in line for a beating.

A WHITE BOY
NAMED "FRITZ."

500 Stage FEPC March On Capital

Washington Tribune

Five hundred Negro and white citizens staged a march of protest against the southern reactionary element of Congress, who are blocking the FEPC appropriation, Thursday morning. 7-7-45

The group led by Bob Sherwood, an official in the United Federal Workers of America, was given the grand run-around by the legislators,. Majority Leader John W. McCormack (Dem.) of Massachusetts couldn't be located, while Republican Minority Leader Joseph D. Martin of Massachusetts refused to see a delegation.

However, in spite of the congressional rebuff, to that delegation, FEPC's chances glowed more brightly on Thursday afternoon because Vito Marcantonio, New York congressman, wrote all of the other war agencies from the war agencies appropriation, thus paving the way for the Senate to restore the FEPC bill, when it considers the House appropriations.

FEPC had been written out of the war agencies bill by the House Appropriations Committee last Saturday.

Rankin Objects

The war agency appropriation, as presented to the House on Thursday, saw 10 war agencies, that come under the executive order sliced, by three proponents of the continuance of FEPC legislation.

They were headed by the fiery American Labor Party congressman representing the people of Harlem, Vito Marcantonio.

Marcantonio rose to strike the agencies from the appropriations list on the grounds that any member of congress may report out any expenditures not authorized by Congress.

Rankin attempted to protest, but chairman Cannon upheld Marcantonio. Norton, Democrat of New Jersey and Cellar, Democrat of New York, all joined Marcantonio in reading out the agencies from the appropriations bill which was sent to the Senate.

Agencies Effected

The agencies cut out are: WLB, ODT, OES, Office of Scientific Research and Development, Office of Inter-American Affairs, OWI, WPB, WSA, OSS and PAW.

Extra Policemen on Duty

7-7-45

The huge group of lobbyists who descended on the Capitol hill Thursday afternoon caused the capital authorities to call out extra policemen.

They handled the group of FEPC proponents rather roughly. One officer was overheard to remark "What are these niggers and Jews doing around here?"

Meanwhile as the Senate and House are in a quandry over the FEPC fight, the workers at FEPC have pledged to remain on the job.

The Senate is expected to restore the war agencies appropriations with FEPC. Because of the way that the House is handling the FEPC it is expected that rules will be suspended and the whole FEPC appropriation will be restored.

And to help FEPC further, the Tribune has it from a reliable source that President Harry S. Truman is going to speak for the agency again.

Eastland Given the Lie

Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson gave the lie direct to Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) by saying the War Dept. "is proud of its troops—and that includes the Negroes as well as other groups."

Patterson

Eastland had charged on the floor of the Senate that the Negro soldiers in Europe were "an utter and abysmal failure" and their actions had caused America to lose face in Europe.

Patterson said if any high-ranking general had made such a statement (as Eastland claimed) he would have known about it.

"You already have heard views of our leading commanders—Gen. Eisenhower, Gen. MacArthur, Gen. Eaker, and others—which do not support any such conclusion," Patterson said.

Reporters had asked him if the charges made to the Senate floor—and attributed to unnamed generals—were "representative of the Army's view of performance of Negro troops."

"Emphatically no," said Patterson.

HOUSE UNIT OKEHS FUNDS FOR FEPC

WASHINGTON, July 11-(AP)-The House appropriations committee about-faced today and recommended a $250,000 fund for continued and unrestricted operation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

It did so at an afternoon session less than three hours after it had voted FEPC $250,000 to liquidate.

The latest action left both sides in the fight over FEPC somewhat bewildered, and assured a record House vote tomorrow that may jar loose the $752,000,000 national war agencies supply bill that has taken a parliamentary merry-go-round ride for six weeks.

The joy of Southern foes of FEPC over the committee's morning action quickly died after the afternoon results were announced.

U. S. NEW REPUBLIC
JULY 9, 1945

The FEPC

The treatment of the Fair Employment Practice Committee in Congress was the usual sordid spectacle. All informed persons know that there is very great discrimination against workers on racial grounds, and that this is especially true in regard to Negroes. Everyone knows, also, that the FEPC has performed useful services in combating this situation. The opposition by members of the Southern Tory bloc is based on the lowest grounds of "white supremacy," a doctrine that is on all fours with the Nazi belief in Nordic superiority. For the moment, the Southern reactionaries have won their fight. Meanwhile, however, local action in many parts of the South as well as in the North, which is also guilty, is doing something to improve the plight of those who suffer from economic and social discrimination purely because of the color of their skin. Despite its slowness the world do move.

WATERBURY, CONN.
REPUBLICAN
Cir. D. 15,878 — S. 22,516
JUN 28 1945

Fair Treatment For Negroes

Fair treatment for Negroes or for any segment of our people, as we have observed in the run of American experience, is forwarded by progressive education of all the populace. It cannot be forced by legislation. At least it can not be enforced by legislation in the form that demands that colored people be employed as they may seek for work or that demands that they be given service in hotels, restaurants or other eating places as they may appear there as guests or patrons.

Eagerly the colored people and their friends are pinning their hopes on fair employment practice laws, adopted in some states and now under consideration as a federal law in Washington. They are bound to experience disappointments no matter how much legislation is written on the books. In Connecticut our General Assembly ended its session without enacting a similar law. Those who wish the proposed legislation enacted speak as though all troubles would end for the people they seek to help if only this legislation is adopted.

More employers would employ more colored people on many jobs if the white employes did not bring invisible pressures to bear to prevent it. In these days of over-prevalent strikes, slow-downs, walkouts and labor sabotage in one form or another, the prejudices of fellow employes, or prospective fellow employes, against applying colored workers are given greater attention than they have ever been given before. No laws have yet been devised that would prevent strikes. No laws yet forwarded give promise of forcing prejudiced white workers to work, whether they will or no, with colored people beside them on the job.

For many years there have been laws in force seeking fair treatment for colored people in public eating places. Once again the answer to this troublesome problem rests with the white patrons of these places and not with the proprietors. There, even more than in the places of work, progress must be attained if attained at all by educational removal of prejudices. The practical result of such efforts as we have seen in Waterbury recently to drive eating place proprietors into observance of this law that calls for indiscriminate service of patrons regardless of color would be to put their places out of business. If white patronage quit as a result of compliance, in most cases the eating place would be forced to close. No progress in the difficult effort to iron out these troubles would thus be made.

Such legislation as is enforceable, and sensible as it is enforceable, in behalf of the Negroes we are for. Either laws or activities that rile up the difficulties and make no real social progress toward what is wanted by all fair-minded citizens make the lot of the colored people worse rather than better.

House Body Approves $250,000 for F.E.P.C.

Courier Journal

Washington, July 11 (AP)—The House appropriations Committee about-faced today and recommended a $250,000 fund for continued and unrestricted operation of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

It did so at an afternoon session less than three hours after it had voted F.E.P.C. $250,000 to liquidate.

The latest action left both sides in the six-week fight over F.E.P.C. somewhat bewildered, and assured a record House vote tomorrow that may jar loose the $752,000,000 national war agencies supply bill that has been riding a parliamentary merry-go-round since June 1.

Agencies Funds Tied Up.

The deadlock has tied up funds for 16 home-front war agencies, many of them facing payless paydays until it is broken. All are operating now under special legislation allowing them to incur obligations but spend no actual money.

The joy of Southern foes of F.E.P.C. over the committee's morning action quickly died down after the afternoon results were announced. Conversely, backers of F.E.P.C. who condemned the morning proceedings finished the day praising them.

'We Have the Votes.'

"This is just what we wanted," commented Representative Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.) after the final session. "No amendment is necessary now. We have the votes to give effect to the committee's recommendation."

The burden of carrying an amendment now rests with F.E.P.C.'s opponents. They indicated they would seek to eliminate the Apropriations Committee's final recommendation that the $250,000 fund be made available for normal F.E.P.C. functions until such time as Congress enacts special legislation dealing with the agency. A measure to create a permanent F.E.P.C. is pending. Authorization for the present agency, created by executive order by the late President Roosevelt, expired June 30.

The wording of the recommendation approved this morning was confusing to some committee members, who sought a quick opinion from the controller general. On the basis of that opinion, the committee held a second meeting and made it clear that, although the fund was intended "for completely liquidating" the F.E.P.C., it could be used for normal operations until the agency "is continued by an act of Congress."

The $250,000 recommended is the same amount voted by the Senate last month, and is less than half the $599,000 in the F.E.P.C.'s budget estimates for the fiscal year that started July 1. However, supporters of the agency said they were willing to accept the pared fund on the theory they later could obtain an additional allotment in a deficiency bill.

56d-1945
NORFOLK, VA.
LEDGER-DISPATCH
Cir. D. 60,108

JUN 30 1945

An Inflammatory Outburst

The sweeping denunciation of Negro soldiers which Mississippi's Senator Eastland resorted to in his continuation of the filibuster against the permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee is a depressing example of the animosity which extreme spokesmen from the Deep South can produce when in the anger of a sectional conflict colored with the inter-racial issue they really let themselves go.

As a report on the record of Negro soldiers this is, despite Senator Eastland's reference to the statements of "high ranking generals," remote indeed from a careful, objective and complete survey of the subject. Even if Senator Eastland's report was correct, what does it have to do with the FEPC? The virtues or vices of that program have no relation whatever to the record of the 92nd Division or to any other Negro unit or any individual Negroes—any more than to the heroism of some Negroes in uniform which has been cited by commanders and recognized by awards. Negroes have suffered and died in this war for the United States, including, probably, Negro constituents of Senator Eastland.

Senator Eastland is not arguing justly and he is not arguing to the point. What he is doing is making inflammatory statements designed to condemn a whole people and certain to cause deep bitterness.

We say this with no conviction that a permanent FEPC would aid materially in the South to improve the economic conditions of Negroes and in the belief that it would probably lead to sharp animosities with widely extended unfortunate results. Economic injustice does exist, notably in the efforts to herd Negroes into smaller areas of opportunity; and the South, for its own welfare as well as in fairness, is under the obligation to increase rather than limit these opportunities. But, like some other aspects of the deeply rooted racial problem, this is a difficult question to settle by federal law. We doubt whether a permanent FEPC can do it as well as the intelligence and common sense and good will of members of both races.

The one certainty is that nothing is gained and much is lost by such intemperate charges as Senator Eastland has been guilty of. There is an argument to be made on the question of the permanent FEPC. It is not to be made by such a shameful exhibition.

HARTFORD, CONN.
COURANT
Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138

JUL 6 - 1945

AN AMERICAN "ISM"

With Jim Crowism Here How Can We Educate Germany?

To the Editor of The Courant:

According to a recent issue of The Courant, the filibuster on the F. E. P. C. continues. The Hitlerian efforts and tactics of the United States Senator from Mississippi are as insulting to the Negro race as they are to the United State Army. Senator Eastland states that the Negro sold his vote to the highest bidder in a political campaign of promises.

I wonder whether the Senator was elected on a platform calling for "white supremacy." He seems to be well versed in Hitler's teachings of race hatred. While flailing his arms and perking his tie askew (Hitler style), the Senator said high-ranking generals told him when he was on his tour of horror camps, that Negro troops would neither work nor fight. It seems that the Senator was to report the horrosr of Dachau and Buchenwald, but apparently Negro GIs disturbed him more than the camps.

It has been suggested that Nazi Germany be re-educated to the democratic way of life. That is questionable. On reading different newspapers and magazines, I find that different countries have different "isms." Italy had fascism; Russia, communism; Germany, nazism; and democratic America, the melting pot of the world, has Jim Crowism. As the leading nation today, how can America, with some race-baiting members of Congress, make any attempt at suggesting that Germany be re-educated when our own house is not in order?

How will those nations vote for the United Nations Charter in view of the fact that the United Nations include Ethiopia and other small nations?

WILLIAM BURTON.

Hartford.

WATERBURY, CONN.
REPUBLICAN
Cir. D. 15,878 — S. 22,516

JUL 6 - 1945

Letter Column

EDUCATION NOT ENOUGH

To the Editor of The Republican:

I read with considerable interest, and, I am afraid, with some disappointment, your editorial of Friday, June 29, titled "Fair Treatment For Negroes." Actually, I find it somewhat difficult to reconcile the views expressed in it with an editorial published only a few days before congratulating the Waterbury branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for having obtained 500 members and for the splendid contribution this organization has been making to inter-racial understanding. Can it be that you were not aware at the time of the earlier editorial that the Waterbury branch of the N. A. A. C. P. is one of more than 800 similar branches scattered throughout America that are dedicated to the very principles that you appear to be so violently opposed to? As a national organization, the N. A. A. C. P. has believed that while education is of unquestionable value in removing racial and religious intolerance from our communities, it can never be a substitute for laws that guarantee to every citizen equal privileges and equal protection.

During the 30 years of its existence the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has been convinced just as hundreds of thousands of other loyal Americans have been convinced that there is no room in this country for a first class and a second class citizen, the latter contingent upon the wishes of the former. On the strength of this conviction the association has carried 21 cases to the United States Supreme Court with favorable decisions in 18 of them. Today the principles enunciated in these decisions are firmly established and, for the most part, are in full observance. Would you say, Mr. Editor, that education alone would have done so well?

You say that prejudice cannot be successfully legislated against. Any one with a minimum of intelligence can readily understand this. I am sure we all agree that prejudice is a perfectly natural human trait and as such is readily understandable. Like every other form of ignorance, its only sensible and logical cure is education. Discrimination, on quite the other hand represents a brazen attempt on the part of one group to label another group inferior; it is an expression of the same kind of racist thinking that we have in America have criticized the Nazi Germans so severely for. Discrimination, whether economic or political, is as vicious as it is undemocratic. Today, far too many of us are too apt to wink at the constitutional rights of other people—especially if they happen to be Negroes—while insisting on the fullest possible protection for ourselves. Such diregard for elementary justice is not accidental but is most otfen due to deliberate planning. Should this sort of thing be left to the uncertainties of education? If you were deprived of the opportunity to enjoy your rights as a citizen—**any one** of them — would you be satisfied to follow the advice you dispense so very generously in your editorial? Very frankly, Mr. Editor, I do not think so.

You speak of F. E. P. C. legislation as something that "colored people and their friends" consider a pancea for all their employment ills. Nothing could be further from the truth. Actually, no advocate of this type of legislation feels that it can be a cure-all any more than we believe that the United Nations Charter can be a cure-all for international ills. At best it can be only an intelligent beginning. The fact that it does not, and probably will never have, unanimous support is no valid argument against it. Organized labor would most certainly not have supported an FEPC bill if it were without merit, or, if there were reason for fear it might be a source of trouble. To assume that it will not work even before it is tried is the worst kind of shortsightedness. To assume that strikes and slow-downs and walkouts will follow in the wake of an FEPC law looks a little like witch-hunting. tor, and I am sure you will agree, Our experience has been, Mr. Edi- that when a man, whether white or black, is hired as a "possible problem" he never fails to become one, but when he is employed on precisely the same basis as any other worker the so-called problem seldom materializes.

You speak of colored people who appear as guests in hotels and restaurants. Aside from the extreme bad taste in trying a case in your editorial column while it is in your Waterbury City Court for adjudication, I find your point of view on this matter rather refreshing. I have seen colored people as guests in some of the very best hotels and restaurants in this country and I do not believe I can recall ever seeing any mass exodus because of their presence. Moreover, I do not recall that any of these establishments were forced out of business because their proprietors treated all guests the same. I find it more than a little hard to believe that even in Waterbury there would be a succession of busines failures because the owners refused to accede to the unreasonable demands of their prejudiced patrons. Just as there are employes who are quick to place the blame for discriminatory hiring practices on the workers when in reality it is their own prejudiced thinking, so, too, are there hotel and restaurant owners who have neither the courage nor the strength of character to follow the course they know to be right.

Frankly, Mr. Editor, the principal reason that I cannot bring myself to agree with your suggestions is the facility with which you advise conciliation and compromise where someone else's, not your own, liberties are being violated. When you urge others to exercise caution in asking for simple human justice lest they offend the tender sensibilities of another group you are saying by implication that democracy is not a reality. You know and I know that a double standard of justice is fair to no one. By the same token a given law is either a good law or a bad one; if it is a good law it should be enforced without regard to race or color or religion; if it is a bad law it should be removed from the statute books but until this is accomplished it should be enforced regardless of the cost.

If you have ever been deprived of an opportunity to earn a decent living with plenty of work available; if you have been hungry with restaurants all around; if you have ever been tired and sleepy with hotels on every corner with money adequate to pay for any meal or for any type of accommodation, yet were refused because of one condition over which you had no control, what would you do, Mr. Editor, advise education? **I do not think so.**

(Mrs.) BARBARA JENNINGS
2137 Main St.

Hartford, July 3, 1945.

Voice Of The People

Bridgeport News

THE BLOODY SHIRT AMENDMENT

To the Editor of The News:

In reply to H. C. Keller, of Los Angeles, Calif., in Sunday's Voice of the People on "Southern Sickness," I beg to state:

I think that his object can be realized by an amendment to the Constitution of the United States. This addition to our guiding laws shall be known as the "bloody shirt amendment," and shall read like this:

"In order to promote justice, bind our nation and eliminate sectionalism, this amendment is hereby adopted:

7-11-45

"No person born south of the Mason-Dixon Line shall hold the position of secretary of state, speaker of the House of Representatives or president pro tem. of the Senate."

This I think should satisfy Mr. Keller's desire to unite our nation and cure the Southern sickness.

C. G. ELLIOTT.

1632 Seventh Avenue, West.

* * *

HURTING THE SOUTH

Bridgeport News

To the Editor of The News:

As a white man who was born and reared in the Deep South, and who expects to return there to live after my service in the Army is completed, I think that I should express my disappointment at the part Southern congressmen are playing in trying to discontinue the FEPC.

The fact that the figures show that the FEPC has pressed fewer cases in the South, where two-thirds of the Negroes live, than it has outside indicates strongly that it is being administered in a conciliatory consideration of Southern conditions.

7-11-45

Basically it would be one of the best things that ever happened for the improvement of race relations in the South, and also for the improvement of its economy, if the Negroes who have left it to work in defense industries in other parts of the country are able to continue earning their livelihood there and live happily there, instead of having to come back to the South. The antics of Bilbo and Eastland are piling up a mountain of ill will.

Fort Dix, N. J. S-SGT. T. C. TILLERY.

Southern Bloc Holds Secret FEPC Meeting

Session Reported Barring Compromise On Keeping Agency

Washington Post

By Mary Spargo

A secret battle pow-wow of Southern Democrats in the House to decide further strategy to kill off the Fair Employment Practice Committee was held late yesterday behind the locked doors of the House Ways and Means Committee room.

Meanwhile a meeting of the full House Appropriations Committee has been called for today to attempt to break the month-old FEPC deadlock, which has stymied the 800-million-dollar war agencies supply bill because of inclusion by the Senate of a $250,000 appropriation for the controversial agency. 7-14-45

Those who attended the hush session were sworn to secrecy, but members said that no compromise in the fight against FEPC is in view.

A three man committee, reportedly headed by Representative William M. Colmer (D., Miss.), was said to have been appointed to confer with the leadership of the House.

Members were instructed to report the majority sentiment of the meeting that the southerners would go along on a proposition to give FEPC $125,000 for liquidation purposes only.

The session was called by Representative William M. Whittington (D., Miss.), who presided.

Two or three of the Southerners said only one issue was discussed, whether to allow FEPC enough funds to liquidate it, or whether to attempt to block any funds at all for the agency.

"We're gaining ground in this fight every day," one of the leaders of the Southern bloc declared. "Why should we compromise an inch?"

Taber Shows Impatience

On the other hand, Representative John Taber (R., N. Y.), ranking minority member of the appropriations group, who has previously voted against FEPC, growled his impatience yesterday with the entire legislative snarl and declared the bill should be reported out by the committee today.

Senate Accepts House Change In FEPC Bill

Washington Post

Agency Gets $250,000 To Run Another Year; Move for Delay Fails

By the Associated Press

The congressional fight over continuing the Fair Employment Practice Committee ended last night with House and Senate agreement on a $250,000 appropriation to run it in the 12 months beginning July 1. 7-13-45

The legislators got together when the Senate accepted by voice vote House language which nullified a previous stipulation that the agency must use the funds to liquidate.

The $250,000 is just half what FEPC had asked.

Senator Morse (R., Oreg.) made a futile effort to defer a decision until Monday. He said he hoped that if this were done the people at home would make their sentiments known and a larger appropriation would be given the agency.

Yields After Hour and a Half

He launched into what he termed "extended discussion" sometimes another name for filibuster—in an effort to force delay, but gave up the floor after an hour and a half.

During his speech Morse stressed the theme that democracy is on trial in the world and that it will be judged in part on the way it treats minorities.

By the time the FEPC fight was ended the hour was so late that leaders delayed final action until today on a 750 millio ndollars war agencies appropriation bill, which contains the FEPC item.

The House had ben standing by, waiting for the Senate to act on FEPC, with expectation that the entire bill could be finally acted on. House leaders decided to let it go until today. 7-13-45

When Morse gave up the floor, Senator Bilbo (D., Miss.), bitter foe of FEPC, threw a scare into Senate leaders by demanding a quorum cal. There were 16 Senators on the floor at the time and no chance that a quorum could be mustered.

OWI Allotment Still Waits

Bilbo, who recently filibustered against FEPC, said he thought a quorum should be present "because this is far-reachihng legislation."

Majority Leader Barkley (D., Ky.) and Senator McKellar (D., Tenn.), handling the bill, rushed at Bilbo, arguing vehemently. The Mississippian then withdrew his request.

Principal item remaining in controversy in the big bill is the amount to be given the Office of War Information. The House voted to allow it only 18 million dollars. The Senate boosted this to 39 million.

A conference committee from the two chambers agreed to compromise at 35 million dollars. Their conference report will be submitted to the House today, and if approved, will then go to the Senate.

Negro Soldiers Grateful

Richmond Times Dispatch

Editor of the Times-Dispatch:

We, the overseas veterans here at the hospital at Camp Pickett, wish to extend to you and the correspondents involved our appreciation and gratitude for the articles and facts on the Negro soldier. We feel that the morale of the Negro soldier will rise 100 per cent. Ever since the denunciations of Senators Bilbo and Eastland and Representative Rankin, we have been looking and hoping for such a just and contradictory article as the one which P. Bernard Young, Jr., has written. We are grateful that you are using your powers of the press for the pursuit of democracy as well as news.

Bilbo, Rankin and Eastland are known by every black American here and overseas. We know that these men are allowing their racial hatred to blind them to the extent that they are willing to sacrifice the sacred principles and ideals of our American democracy to keep the black American down. (The filibuster against the FEPC proves this.) When government officials allow such an unjust hate to conquer them, they become a greater threat to democracy than Hitler ever was. We wonder how long the true and more powerful American people will allow such unjust and intolerant men to hold responsible and respected positions in our government. 7-12-45

Denunciations from officials such as Bilbo, Rankin and Eastland against the black man serve as an inciter to explode race riots and racial disunity. When such disunity occurs, Bilbo, Eastland, Rankin and the rest of the racial agitators will sit back and say, "I told you those Negroes were troublemakers," when they are totally responsible. We are grateful to Bilbo, Rankin and Eastland, for through their ignorant racial denunciations, they have awakened the most drowsy of us to the realization of the power of politics. They have given us proof that all Americans must show the best of wisdom in exercising the power of their vote. As long as there are true Americans who are not goaded or blinded into racial disunity and mob violence but are willing to show their disgust over such unjust statements made by these racial agitators, the black Americans feel that the democracy for which we have been working, fighting and living will not be long in coming.

We remain grateful for your facts on the Negro soldier.

PVT. MELVIN LIPSCOMB.
Camp Pickett.

Amendment Sets Up Restricted Area For FEPC

Atlanta Daily World

Marshall Forces To Establish A Permanent FEPC

7-13-45

BY HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Correspondent for Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

The House and Senate Thursday concurred in the House Amendment to the War Agency appropriation bill, giving to the FEPC $250,000 to operate for the next fiscal year. The amendment, carrying a liquidation clause, nevertheless by virtue of a proviso that funds may be used for operating expenses "if and until" the Congress enacts legislation for a permanent FEPC, makes it possible for the FEPC to carry on its work on the curtailed basis that the inadequate amount of money will permit.

After considerable debate in the House, where members were allowed five minutes to express themselves for or against the Appropriation Committee's recommendation, the amendment was passed without a roll call vote in the Senate. Senator Wayne Morris (R) of Oregon talked for two hours against the compromise, contending that the agency needed the full amount recommended by the Budget Bureau. At the conclusion of his arguments, however, the Senate voted, also a record vote to accept the House amendment. 7-13-45

Other items in the war agency bill on which the House and Senate differed—OWI and others — were sent to conference between the two houses and will be disposed of this morning.

When this is done, all the war agencies will be able to meet their incurred obligations and pay salaries which none has been able to do since the bill has been tied up as a result of the FEPC fight.

The National Council for a permanent FEPC is beginning immediately to marshall its forces to continue the fight for a permanent FEPC is order that no similar parlimentary situation may arise again. Neither the proponents or opponents of FEPC were completely satisfied with the amendment, but the victory balance seems to be on the side of FEPC's forces.

Immediate cuts in the staff of the temporary FEPC are expected to be made. It will be necessary probably to cut out some of its regional offices and to cut in half or more the staff of the National office. The Committee will meet in Washington Saturday to consider these problems. 7-13-45

FEPC Hangs in Balance as Delegation Goes to Capital

Daily Worker

A mass protest delegation leaves Pennsylvania Station at 6 o'clock this morning for Washington, where the Senate has tossed the Fair Employment Practice Committee bill back into the lap of the House Rules Committee. 7-2-45

The delegation is led by Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., and members of trade union, civic, church, fraternal and other people's organizations. Councilman Davis, who, with Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., appealed to Harlem organizations to concentrate on Congress, said yesterday that the delegation will:

- **Confer with all Congressional friends of FEPC, including Reps. Mary Norton, William Dawson and Vito Marcantonio, as well as Sens. Robert Wagner and James Mead, as to the people's next step in saving the legislation;**
- **Try to confer at the White House, leaving a statement there for President Truman on FEPC;**
- **Attempt to see the Secretary of War with a view to urging repudiation of Sen. James O. Eastland's "unrestrained and fascist-like" attack last Friday on Negro soldiers in Europe;**
- **Demand that the War Department and the White House name the "high-ranking generals" who Eastland said gave him stories about the "utter and abysmal failure" of Negro soldiers in Europe.**

LYNCH INCITEMENT

"This fascist-minded member of Mississippi's evil triumvirate, Sen. James O. Eastland," Davis said, "in charging that black soldiers raped 5,000, or any other number, of European women, is deliberately inciting to a lynching of Negro Americans, and it is up to the government to repudiate him and prevent bloodshed."

Davis named the other of the Mississippi's "evil triumbirate" as Sen. Theodore Bilbo and Rep. John Rankin.

The FEPC fight, in the meantime, has shifted again to the House, after a three-day filibuster by Bilbo, Eastland, and other friends of reaction, to prevent approval of a $446,000 appropriation for FEPC. The filibuster ended Saturday afternoon when Bilbo and his polltax associates agreed to a compromise providing $250,000 for the agency.

Malcolm Rose, FEPC chairman, told newsmen in Washington that even if the agency got the $250,000 it would be forced to cut its staff in half, thus crippling any effective investigation of most of the 2,600 complaints now awaiting attention.

REJECT COMPROMISE

House polltaxers, however, refused to accept even this compromise, insisting on the immediate liquidation of FEPC. They howled down an attempt by Chairman Clarence Cannon of the House Appropriations Committee to get unanimous consent for a motion to shift the problem of FEPC to a conference between House and Senate on the two versions of the general war agencies' appropriations bill. The House version cut out FEPC altogether. 7-2-45

Backers of the FEPC must now pin their hopes either on getting the House Rules Commitee to agree on a resolution to send the appropriations bill to conference or on the House Appropriations Committee to redraft the entire legislation to include a FEPC appropriation.

The Rules Committee has thus far turned down all efforts to get an FEPC bill through to the floor of the House by a six to six vote. It i. believed possible to crack through the opposition if enought pressure can be applied.

Vote on FEPC Continuance Refused House

Action Ties Up 16 Agencies' Funds and Dooms Early Recess

Washington Dispatch

By Mary Spargo

With the Democratic leadership firmly in the saddle, the two most powerful House committees yesterday refused to permit the House to vote on a Senate proposal to continue the Fair Employment Practices Committee for a year with an appropriation of $250,000, approximately half what the agency sought. Washington Post

Senate supporters of FEPC said they would counter the decisions of the House Rules and Appropriations Committees with an attempt to secure an amendment giving the agency the full $467,000 it asked.

Meanwhile, funds for 16 other agencies are indefinitely held up, and plans for an early recess of the House have gone out the window.

Blocking Procedure 7-3-45

The turns of the legislative merry-go-round on which FEPC is embarked started in this order yesterday.

1 The House Rules Committee met in executive session and by a tie vote refused to allow the War Agencies Appropriation bill, to which the Senate had added the FEPC appropriation, to go to a conference and come back to be voted on in the House.

2. The Appropriations Committee which then received the bill decided in 15 minutes by a 20-to-11 vote to table the Senate bill and report out a new measure giving the 16 other agencies a total of 771 million dollars, without any appropriation for FEPC. The new bill and committee report were all printed and waiting for the committee before the vote was taken.

To Ask Closed-Rule

The Appropriations Committee will ask, and unquestionably received, a closed rule from the Rules Committee so that nothing can be added to or removed from the measure. It will have to be voted up or down just as it stands.

After the House vote, the measure will go to the Senate where the whole battle, which provoked a four-day filibuster earlier, will start anew.

Senator Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio) who fought for the agency in round one, said after the House Appropriations Committee action yesterday.

"I should think we might reasonably insist that the House vote on the proposition."

To Propose Full Amount

Senator Homer Ferguson (R., Mich), who voted against the compromise because he thought the agency should have its full amount, said he would propose that the Senate give FEPC the full $467,000.

Ferguson added that if the same Southern Democrats, led by Senator Theodore G. Bilbo (D., Miss.) started a filibuster he would urge a petition for cloture to shut off debate.

At the height of the filibuster last jwek, 32 Senators signed such a petition, which was not acted upon because the Senate adopted the compromise.

May Renew Same Process

If FEPC supporters succeed in getting an amendment to continue the agency into the new bill, the measure wil lgo back to the House, where the same process may be renewed.

Republican Senators said that the compromise, offered by Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley (D., Ky.) was so weak that it enabled the House CVommittees to decide to kill the bill. The maintained that if the Senate had gone ahead without compromising and secured the necessary two-thirds vote for cloture, the House would have had a better evaluation of Senate determination to keep the agency.

See "Kill-Off Fix"

Authoritative Democratic and Republican sources declared that a "fix" had been put on to kill off the controversial agency.

Some Republicans contended that President Truman is anxious to reconstitute the Fair Employment Practices Committee by putting a businessman at its head who has a thorough knowledge of the industrial problems involved in preventing discrimination by reasons of race, creed and color.

They say, however, that the President is reluctant to remove Malcolm Ross, the man President Roosevelt selected to head FEPC because of possible political repercussions. Therefore, they claim, the word has gone out to let the agency die, and give the President a chance at a later date to create a new committee with more solid business leadership. Congress, and not the President, would assume the onus of killing the agency in this situation.

ALP Wires FEPC Plea To 45 Congressmen

7-3-45 Daily Worker

Immediate passage of the full $466,000 appropriation for the Fair Employment Practice Committee was urged yesterday by state headquarters of the American Labor Party in a wire to all 45 Congressmen from New York State.

The wire, signed by State Executive Secretary Benjamin Fielding, said the appropriation was vital both as a war measure and as "part of the cornerstone of our peacetime full employment program."

"It would be an emphatic answer to those who question the fulfillment of our war aims," Fielding wired the Congressmen.

Ironical Contrasts

Washington Post

The appeals of Senators Connally and Vandenberg for our participation in an international organization designed to preserve fundamental freedoms for the peoples of the world, without regard to racial or religious differences, came as passing interruptions of a prolonged filibuster aimed at wrecking the Fair Employment Practice Committee. Ironically, the leader of the filibuster, Senator Bilbo of Mississippi, energetically assisted by Senator Eastland from the same State, expounded the doctrine of white supremacy with a fervor that would have done credit to the most intolerant Teutonic exponents of the master race theory. To Messrs. Bilbo and Eastland, the Negro is the chief racial menace who must be kept in his foreordained lowly place, although in course of the debate, hatred and contempt for other racial minorities were expressed by implication. 7-3-45

If this particular filibuster could be regarded as a last ditch fight by a few willful men, it would appear annoying rather than serious. There have been filibusters of the one-man type in the past, which have held up important legislation. But on this occasion Messrs. Bilbo and Eastland were evidently buoyed up by words of encouragement from various reactionary groups throughout the country that lose no opportunity to fan the fires of racial hatred for their own selfish purposes. It was also disillusioning, following collapse of the filibuster, to find a large bloc of Southern Senators voting solidly against the compromise proposal to grant FEPC a limited appropriation. The subsequent blocking of even this limited appropriation in the House is further proof that Senators Bilbo and Eastland are not fighting a lone battle against the forces of enlightenment which are striving to make democracy mean a fair deal for every man, regardless of race, color or religion.

Men who achieve the distinction of representing their States and communities in the Congress of the United States are usually keen judges of public opinion. They seldom arrive there, nor do they remain long, if their speeches and their votes fail to reflect the innermost convictions of their constituents. The Senators from Mississippi would hardly dare to voice so unrestrainedly their intolerance of the Negro in public life and to defame Negroes who wear their country's uniform if they did not feel sure that such sentiments would cost them few votes at home and do little to impair their standing among their colleagues. We think the size and markedly regional character of the negative vote on the compromise FEPC measure supports the belief that this country, in the person of its chosen representatives, is sadly tarred with the brush of racial intolerance.

If the representatives of any of those foreign nations now looking to us for leadership in launching an international organization to make the world safe for democracy by chance leaf through the *Congressional Records* of the past week they will find much to puzzle and distress them. As for us, we can only hope that threats to the ideals we profess to believe in will be overcome by the force of an enlightened majority opinion. The fact that the FEPC is being so bitterly opposed is proof that it has made progress in the fight to secure a fair economic deal for Negroes and other racial minority groups. Senator Vandenberg pointed out, in speaking of the United Nations Charter, that the threatened postwar disintegration of ideals of human behavior makes it all the more necessary to try to stem the "evil tides of opinion." That holds true not only in respect of our international relations but as regards our domestic affairs as well.

The Rape and Murder of FEPC

afro-American

A year ago this month, the Democratic party, responding to the leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt, promised favorable action on a Fair Employment Practice Committee and other matters affecting minority groups in the United States. 7-7-45

Since he succeeded to the office of Chief Executive, President Harry Truman has called upon Congress to enact into law legislation creating a permanent FEPC and providing the funds necessary to operate it.

Last week, the Democratic party, in full control of the executive and legislative branches of government, repudiated its paper pledges by legislating FEPC out of business and closing the door, temporarily at least, to the formation of a permanent body. That, in brief, is the tragic story.

And here's how we feel about it. If the Democratic party cannot or will not control its Southern wing, then it should stop making promises which it knows it has no intention of keeping.

There were Republicans, to be sure, who joined in unholy alliance with Dixie's hate-breeders in delivering the death blow to the most democratic agency the U.S. has yet known. In spite of this, however, the Democrats, representing the dominant party, could have given blood and sinew to FEPC. They failed us.

The lesson is obvious. Campaign pledges, without performance, are mere scraps of paper. We hope that the voters will remember in 1948.

Speakers Urge Support Of FEPC And Ives-Quinn Bill At Negro Freedom Rally; 20,000 Persons Present

New York Age.

By GWYNNE DURHAM

Full support of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, outlawing discrimination in the armed forces, enforcement of the Ives-Quinn Bill and total cooperation with our allies abroad now and during the peace, were urged by speakers addressing more than 20,000 persons Monday evening at the third annual Negro Freedom Rally held at Madison Square Garden under joint sponsorship of the People's Committee and the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

Representative Adam Powell, Jr., asserting there was "double dealing on both sides of the aisle" in so far as passage of the FEPC Bill was concerned, advocated drastic action if Congress failed to enact legislation for a permanent FEPC. Powell also urged mass migration of Negroes to the North if the South did not shortly "offer them hope."

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, said that race prejudice "is discredited but not licked" and that there could be "no secure peace in American Industry" until it is. Warning the audience that "FEPC has many and powerful enemies", Ross stressed the fact that it "must not be abandoned."

Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, and chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, likened the policies of Truman to those of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and stressed the need to "close ranks behind President Truman."

Councilman Benjamin Davis, asking that New York City become the first City in America without racial discrimination, called upon New York's FEPC, which becomes effective on July 1st, to first wipe out jim-crow in big league baseball, saying that Negroes "will not be satisfied with less than full and unconditional citizenship," and further, that Negroes having helped to destroy Hitler must now "destroy Hitlerism".

M. Moran Weston, field secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee, read greetings from President Truman. 6-30-45

Other speakers included Oscar Ewing, vice-chairman of The Democratic National Committee; Salvadore Garcia Aquirre, member of the Cuban Senate; and Charles Collins, executive secretary Negro Labor Victory Committee.

Members of the cast of several of Broadway's most outstanding productions brought well-wishes and promises to support the objectives of the rally.

Highlighting the evening's performance was a war bond presentation and citation to Miss Ruth Henning, 24-year-old war worker, of 1798 Pacific street, Brooklyn, who was chosen "Miss Negro Victory Worker of 1945," in open competition. Municipal Court Judge, James S. Watson, made the award.

Entertainment was furnished by Paul Robeson, Hazel Scott, Bill Robinson, Kenneth Spencer, Pearl Primus, Muriel Rahn, Canada Lee, Josh White, Josh White, Jr., and others. 6-30-45

56d-1945 F.E.P.C.

Only Pressure Can Save FEPC Now, Coffee Says

Daily Worker

By EUGENE GORDON

Only pressure by friends of the Fair Employment Practice Committee can save that agency now. That is the considered judgment of Rep. John M. Coffee (D-Wash), as expressed to members of the New York delegation on FEPC to Congress last Monday.

The House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Coffee declared, "is stacked against the people" on FEPC and there is little that a politically progressive member of that House committee can do within that body. 7-4-45

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, in the meantime, has issued a warning to all friends of FEPC to beware of a ruse by its enemies to kill it once and for all tomorrow, Thursday, morning.

Plans are afoot, Marcantonio reveals, to vote on the War Agencies Appropriations bill promptly at 10 a.m. Thursday. The scheme is to get the bill through, without the FEPC appropriation, while most representatives — including professed friends of FPC—are still in bed.

Charles A. Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee and who was, with Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., a leader of the delegation, said on his return here yesterday that Marcantonio had requested all New York representatives to cut short their Independence Day holiday and to be in Washington Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

AMENDMENT READY

The American Labor Party Congressman will introduce an amendment to the War Agencies Appropriations bill when it is slipped on to the floor Thursday morning. This amendment will be for FEPC funds. It will need all the support it can possibly get, Collins said.

He feels that with the exception of "a few representatives, like Marcantonio, and a very few others," administration forces are putting up "less than a half-hearted fight" to save FEPC.

"The enemies of FEPC are riding high, wide and handsome in Washington," Collins said.

The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties explained to the Daily Worker why these enemies of FEPC are able to "get away with murder." Miss Frances Williams, of the Federation, named the following New York representatives as absentees last Monday and as likely to be absentees tomorrow, Thursday, unless their constituents prod them into action:

Joseph Clark Baldwin, Sol Bloom, Charles A. Buckley, Walter Lynch and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., New York City; William Barry, St. Albans; Augustus W. Bennet, Balmville Leo F. Rayfiel, Brooklyn; Dean P. Taylor, Troy, and Bernard W. Kearney, Gloversville.

Additional Representatives who have pledged to support FEPC but who are not doing it are James M. Curley of Boston, Mass.; James P. Geelan, New Haven, Conn., and Margaret Chase Smith, Skowhegan, Me.

Rep. Powell, however, is absent through illness. He slipped and fell in a bathtub following the Negro Freedom Rally several days ago and is said to have been "flat on his back" under a doctor's care since.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee appeals in the meantime, to the 127 labor unions affiliated and cooperating with it to stand by for a possible emergency call for delegations to Washington.

FEPC Asked

TO THE EDITOR: Euthemios, in the June 22 issue, has the right to express his opinion that he, being short-sighted, does not see a favorable outcome for the Fair Employment Practice.

Negroes along with other minority groups are not asking for good will but merely for democracy in the altruistic sense which is a purpose of the FEPC.

Detroit Free Press

Yes, I too say let the FEPC be legalized as a permanent agency . . . with no buts!

7-1-45 MILDRED A. DAY.

Moneyless and Moribund, FEPC Backers Seek an 'Out'

Richmond Times Dispatch

WASHINGTON, July 1—(AP)—The Fair Employment Practice Committee was moneyless and moribund today as its backers sought to bypass the House Rules Committee and get a financial transfusion for it.

7-2-45

Technically the agency created by the late President Roosevelt and supported by President Truman died financially last midnight when its 1945 fiscal year appropriation ran out.

A last-minute compromise broke a four-day Senate fight over FEPC with an agreement on $250,000 for the year starting today. But that deal hit a stone wall of southern opposition last night in the House.

So determined were the Southerners that FEPC not be kept alive that their objections blocked final congressional action on a big supply bill financing a score of civilian war agencies.

But all the other agencies, including OWI, were given a breathing spell by a provision in a separate bill authorizing them to spend in anticipation of funds carried by the stalemated war agencies measure.

Two Courses Open

Two courses lie ahead for the FEPC's backers:

They may persuade the Rules Committee to send the deadlocked measure to the House for a decision, or they may put the heat on the appropriations committee to recommend House acceptance of the Senate compromise.

In no other way can FEPC be voted on by the House so long as a single member objects or 218 members refuse to sign a discharge petition, unless the rules are suspended by a two-thirds vote.

Twice within recent weeks the Rules Committee has refused to clear FEPC legislation for floor action. And there were no indications that a meeting called for tomorrow would break the deadlock there.

It is a tossup whether, assuming a Rules Committee rebuff, FEPC backers can persuade the Appropriations Committee to support them. The committee originally refused to put any FEPC funds into the war agencies measure and later, after a controversy, reluctantly recommend a $125,000 fund specifically to liquidate the agency. The rules group nullified even that action.

Any recommendation of the Appropriation Committee with respect to the Senate-voted funds will be subject to House debate, and Southern Democrats are ready to debate forever if they can. However, the House rules prevent filibusters, and a majority vote could restrict discussion.

Never before has the FEPC, always a congressional "hot potato," brewed up such a controversy as it has this year. Its backers claim it is necessary to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. Its opponents contend it would accomplish the opposite result and lead to discrimination against white people in some sections.

FEPC Funds Stalled Again in the House

Detroit Free Press

7-3-45

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON—In the bitterest Congressional controversy in this session, two committees of the House refused to accept the Senate's appropriation of $250,000 to continue the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The entire War Agencies Appropriation bill thus was indefinitely delayed.

Proponents of the FEPC were beaten in both the House Rules Committee and the House Appropriations committee.

* * *

THE APPROPRIATIONS Committee then reported out an entirely new War Agency bill of $752,000,000.

The bill not only eliminated FEPC but restored a $21,000,000 cut which the House had voted earlier in the appropriation for the Office of War Information.

The Rules Committee sought to give the measure right-of-way, under a "closed" rule by which amendments to it would be impossible, but Chairman Adolph J. Sabath, Illinois Democrat, an FEPC proponent, appeared only long enough to announce that he had called no meeting of the committee but might call one Tuesday.

AT THE END of a day of angry maneuvering, a legislative pileup had been created so serious as to bring into question the House plan to recess soon for the summer.

Those controlling the essential House committees were plainly resolved to defeat FEPC at any cost. The available information indicated that the Senate would not recede from its stand in behalf of that agency.

Friends of FEPC were seeking to recruit signers to a petition to remove the Rules Committee from jurisdiction over a bill to establish a permanent FEPC.

Thus far, the petition was far short of the required 218 names.

Other agencies depending on the War Agencies Bill for funds are operating temporarily through deficiency appropriations.

PATTERSON BACKS U. S. NEGRO GROUPS

Birmingham Herald

WASHINGTON, July 5—(AP)—Undersecretary of War Patterson said today the Army is proud of its Negro soldiers and that he knows of no high-ranking general who has condemned their performance. 7-6-45

Patterson thus took issue with Sen. Eastland (D., Miss.). The latter declared last week during Senate debate on the Fair Employment Practices Committee that high-ranking generals told him on a recent overseas trip the Negro troops "would neither work nor fight." Eastland called them an "utter and abysmal failure."

Asked at a news conference whether Eastland's views represented those of the Army, Patterson replied that he had no knowledge of any high ranking general making such a statement and that the expressed opinions of Gens. Eisenhower, MacArthur and others "do not support any such conclusion."

"The War Department," Patterson added, "is proud of its troops and that includes Negroes as well as other groups."

He added that Gen. Eisenhower had commended volunteer Negro platoons in Europe and that the Army's inspector general had praised the work of the 24th Infantry Regiment, a Negro outfit, in the Marianas.

FEPC Fund Rests on Big House Roll Call Thursday

Two Committees Manage to Block Action

7-3-45 P.M.

By Elizabeth Donahue
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, which has had parliamentarians in both Houses of Congress thumbing the rule book, now needs a full membership of the House on the day after the Fourth of July to win even a reduced appropriation.

The FEPC issue, hitched to the $800,000,000 War Agencies Bill, will become the victim of a prolonged House-Senate battle unless there are enough House members back at work following the holiday to insure a House vote on FEPC. If the House ever gets a chance to vote, it is likely that some money for the FEPC will be approved.

Although the Senate last week gave FEPC $250,000, two House committees yesterday acted in quick succession to deprive FEPC of any funds whatever.

Could Have Helped

Either committee could have made it possible for the War Agencies Bill to go before the House with the FEPC money included and permit the House to vote, for the first time, on its approval or disapproval.

Instead, both the Rules Committee and the House Appropriations Committee discarded the Senate-approved bill which contained the money for FEPC, and started out with a whole new measure containing not a cent for the Fair Employment Practices Agency.

The House Rules Committee, dominated by Southern Democrats, is expected today to send the War Agencies Bill to the House floor under a rule preventing anyone from amending it to include FEPC.

On Thursday, when the House takes up the measure, a move will be made to amend the rule and let FEPC in.

The House rarely supports a motion to amend a rule, and the success of this play will depend entirely on whether FEPC's friends—especially its professed friends in the GOP ranks—are on hand to back the motion.

Rep. Clarence Cannon

Vicious Circle

If the rule is not amended the House will be forced to send the War Agencies Bill back to the Senate minus FEPC. There, with heavy Republican support, FEPC will get some money back. But once again, the Bill will return to the House to face the same committee opposition and the same legislative hazards.

The House authorities predict that this kind of run-around may last for several weeks, despite the fact that the House is anxious for a vacation and even though the Senate should be pre-occupied with Bretton Woods and the San Francisco Charter.

A mystery in the House fight is the attitude of Chairman Clarence Cannon (D., Mo.), of the House Appropriations Committee, who, although he is from President Truman's home state, has been decidedly cool toward funds for FEPC.

Cannon has privately indicated that he favored an appropriation of $250,000 for the agency but he has failed both in his own Committee and as a witness before the House Rules Committee to back his private pledges.

Another Missourian, Rep. Roger Slaughter (D., Mo.), has been equally cocky about defying the President. As a member of the Rules Committee he has consistently opposed any money for the anti-discrimination agency.

Strong Message

Although President Truman has made no special request for temporary FEPC funds, he sent a strong message to the Rules Committee asking that FEPC be made a permanent Government agency.

Meanwhile, although both Houses passed a special resolution permitting the 16 agencies in the War Agencies Bill to keep on going even without a new appropriation, the resolution didn't include FEPC, which technically expired last Saturday at midnight.

Officials at the Fair Employment agency report, however, that they are not disbanding. They believe Congress will eventually give them some money to liquidate—if operating funds are not approved.

Fight Over FEPC Fund Shifts Again to House

Issue May Now Be Forced to a Record Vote

P. M.

By Charles A. Michie
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 2. — The House, which by one means or another, has managed to dodge a vote on the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) probably will be forced to go on record on continuance of the agency this week.

The War Agencies Bill, which contains a compromise fund of $250,000 to continue FEPC for one year, was shuttled back to the House when supporters and opponents of the agency agreed on the niggling quarter-million instead of the full appropriation of $446,000.

In the other wing of the Capitol, Southern Democrats took up where their Senate colleagues left off. They had been filibustering against FEPC for three days. A chorus of shouted objections blocked the unanimous consent which was necessary to send the entire money bill ($771,500,000) to conference. The voice of Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) was among the loudest.

7-2-45

Majority in Favor

Meanwhile, the agencies whose appropriations are included in the bill are getting along all right. Both Houses had written into a second deficiency bill a provision that these agencies could incur obligations in anticipation of their appropriations if not passed by July 1. Whether that covers FEPC is in doubt because the reduced sum has been approved by only one House. Both Houses have voted appropriations for the other agencies with only the final total to be settled.

The Rules Committee of the House, which in its own way, has conducted a tidy little filibuster against FEPC by refusing a rule which would allow creation of a permanent agency, is meeting today to consider a rule to allow the House to vote on continuance. The Committee, which is top-heavy with Southern Democrats, is hostile to FEPC, but there is a chance that House leaders may be able to force a rule and a vote. Otherwise, the legislative and parliamentary cycle will start all over again.

If the Committee, of which Rep. Adolph J. Sabath (D., Ill.) is chairman, refuses a rule, Speaker Sam Rayburn (D., Tex.) can return the bill to the Appropriations Committee. If this Committee reported the bill out with the Senate amendments, including FEPC, it would come to a vote. It is conceded the House has a clear majority in favor of the agency.

Mead Stands Firm

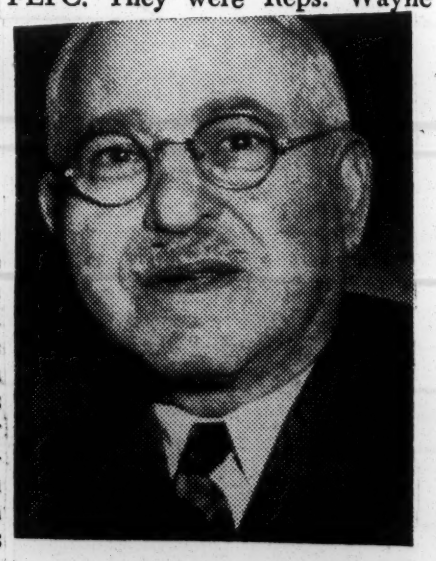
In the event of further stumbling blocks, House leaders may be able to think of some other parliamentary maneuver they can employ to get a decision.

The Senate filibuster wheezed to a stop Saturday when majority leader Alben Barkley (D., Ky.) persuaded the opposing factions to agree on a vote for a reduced fund of $250,000. It was carried on a roll call of 42 to 26. Two Republicans voted against the inadequate compromise as being unfair to the FEPC. They were Reps. Wayne Morse, of Oregon, and Homer Ferguson, of Michigan. They described the reduced amount as the "death blow" of the agency.

Sen. James Mead (D., N. Y.) pointed out that there is nothing to prevent Congress from voting additional funds to FEPC in a deficiency bill at a later date. He teamed with Sen. Dennis Chavez (D. N. M.) in supporting the agency.

7-2-45

FEPC officials said today that reduction in their appropriation from $446,000 to $250,000 would be a serious blow to the agency and would greatly curtail its activities.



Rep. Adolph J. Sabath

Mrs. Roosevelt Fights for Permanent FEPC

Tells AFRO That FEPC Is "Fundamental to Peaceful Return of the Army"

CRITICIZES ARMY—*Former First Lady says that Army muffed chance to train democratic citizens as well as good soldiers. Would like to see more mixed units.*

In first personal interview since the President's death, Mrs. Roosevelt says she will continue to work for democracy and will be more "energetic than ever" now that there is no "question of getting votes." Tells AFRO writer if colored people started a race war in Harlem, they would "be destroyed" but would set in motion the entire colored population of the world. Also warns minority groups against making selfish demands that would damage the country.

AFRO - American

BY MICHAEL CARTER

NEW YORK—If the colored people of Harlem who "are terribly oppressed" should decide to start a race war they would "be destroyed," but they would first bring realization of what colored races can do and set in motion the entire colored population of the world, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt said in an exclusive AFRO interview here last week. Wearing black, even to her stockings and bordered handkerchiefs, Mrs. Roosevelt is as buoyant and as captivating as ever, despite the fact that she has lost considerable weight and suffered an extreme personal loss.

She promised that she would continue to "work for democracy as I see it," and stated positively that she would be more "energetic than ever" now that there is no "question of getting votes."

The quotation from her which opens this interview is typical of her frankness today.

The interview granted to me was the first personal one she has permited since the death of Mr. Roosevelt. It was granted partly because of her interest in colored people and the colored press and partly, it appears, because I had interviewed her in May, 1942.

At that time I submitted questions and received neatly typed responses over her signature. This time we had the feeling of "knowing each other" and the questions and answers were purely conversational. 7-7-45

In "Hide-Away" Apartment

We sat in her "hide-away" apartment overlooking Washington Square park in Greenwich Village. The apartment had an air-conditioning device in a window, but the room was hot.

It was also cluttered with oriental and European art, and much furniture. Significant was a huge chair which sat in a corner of the room, but was not really a part of it. I learned it was the former president's chair.

Her library matched the books in any alert person's home. I saw Lin Yu Tan, Richard Wright, Clifton Fadiman, Thomas Mann, and a full set of the "Public Statements and Papers of President Roosevelt" on the full book shelves.

Misinterpreted in 1942

When, back in 1942, I asked Mrs. Roosevelt whether colored people should take advantage of the war to further their own just ends in America, she answered, in essence, "No." "Not unless their struggles helped America," she said then.

This time she expanded that. "I am afraid you misinterpreted me, in the AFRO," she said. "What I meant was that if you tried to take a situation and use it entirely for your own ends, it would be a selfish, dangerous act.

Warns Against Selfishness

"Let me give you an example—suppose after the war the soldiers return home and form a united group which demands something the country can't afford. They could hurt the entire country.

"The colored race is the largest minority group in America, but the war soldiers will also be an important minority group. No such group should damage the country by making selfish demands."

It was at this point that she described what she thought would happen, for example, if colored people in Harlem rose up against the whites. "It would solidify the race issue and bring chaos and destroy the colored people of America."

Race Relations Unchanged

She thinks that since 1942 race relations have become more dynamic, but have neither improved considerably nor deteriorated. "The race question is not purely southern. It is national. That is why I so firmly favor the Fair Employment Practice Committee," she said.

"FEPC is fundamental to the peaceful return of the Army," she added. "We can't wipe out race prejudice altogether, but we can at least erase it from the area of work. I've written to everybody in Congress asking them to vote for it."

She also wrote to Republican Rankin "but he did not answer my letter, so I shall write him again.

Disappointed in Army

"I feel badly about the slowness of the development of racial equality in America, but there are some very hopeful signs." She cited the case of a southern architect she knew who would hire a colored draftsman and who favored the FEPC.

"I can see signs like that in many ways, although there are many things which disappoint me." Typical of these is the army.

"I don't think the Army has used its full opportunity to develop democracy, but it has trained good fighting soldiers. I think the Army could have trained men to be good soldiers and good democratic citizens too, but they neglected the latter."

She was pleased to know that some mixed units had fought in Europe, and would like to see more.

GI's Bitterness Justified

If colored soldiers should return to America with bitterness—as they probably will if there is no FEPC—then I will be able to understand their bitterness." She paused and said, "I have heard some frightful stories—frightful. I shouldn't blame them for being bitter."

I asked Mrs. Roosevelt this carefully worded question: "You raised the status of the First Lady of the Land from a purely decorative function to a working symbol of democracy. Can any woman—in the White House—do this, or does it depend on personality?"

Background Important

Mrs. Roosevelt's answer was:

"In that capacity you have a great opportunity to help if you believe in certain things. Personality is not as important as background and training. If you know what things are all about and have a background in democratic action, you can do a great deal," she said.

In answer to the question, "Will you continue your activity on the part of racial democracy?" she said,

"I began it a great many years ago. We were in Naples when I was 5, and I went on a pony ride. The Italian boy who was supposed to run alongside of my pony was barefoot and cut his feet.

"When we returned from the ride, he was sitting on the pony and I was running beside them, because I had shoes on. I'm still running." She said with a smile.

To Fight For Ideals

She indicated that she would be even more active: "You can have more influence on party and people if you are not looking for favors and votes. I can come out clearly and fight for my ideals—and I shall."

Unlike many others that I have interviewed, Mrs. Roosevelt sees a similarity between the Nazis' master race myth and the treatment of colored people in America.

"All oppression of race and superior race notions have the germ of fascism," she declared. If our soldiers return to America and continue in certain racial practices, they will have missed the whole purpose of the war."

Throughout our talk she stressed the need for a permanent FEPC and the fear of "bitterness in colored soldiers when they return."

"White soldiers must realize that they are slipping into the same thing they fought against," if they let Georgia racial customs persist after V-E and V-J days are both on the calendar, she asserted. 7-7-45

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS: When I left Mrs. Roosevelt she went to the door, opened it, and rang the elevator bell. She spoke to the elevator man, white, and chatted with me in the car for perhaps ten minutes.

Downstairs a member of the nobility was waiting to come up in that elevator for a luncheon date with her. I think this describes Mrs. Roosevelt.

She spoke highly of the colored press; mentioned Walter White, and Channing Tobias as if they were old friends and again emphasized the fact that she was free to work for democracy without fear of a harshly critical Congress. That's Mrs. Roosevelt.

Letters To The Editor

FEPC Travesty

Washington Post

Please let me thank *The Post* for its valuable help in the struggle to end employment discrimination in our country against fellow Americans of certain races and religions. 7-10-45

I refer especially to the excellent articles of Agnes E. Meyer, in which this is a recurrent theme, to various strong editorials, and to such masterly statements as that of the Rev. Jernagin in today's "Letters to the Editor" on the current FEPC controversy, who in the name of Justice and of Christianity serves a solemn warning which should be repeated over and over until all must give heed; "The moral corruption and final collapse of Germany have shown plainly what can happen to a people intoxicated with the false doctrines of racial superiority and with prejudice and bigotry."

A handful of small-minded men in Congress are bitterly and maliciously opposing a measure for fair practices in employment. In other words they are fighting to maintain unfair practices.

What a deplorable travesty it would be if by their obstructionist tactics they were to prevail against a more enlightened viewpoint and succeed in nullifying all of our recent military victories by showing that our fine professions of democracy are not borne out in practice.

If we have destroyed Hitlerism and Naziism abroad, only to tolerate and uphold these same doctrines at home, then the hideous sufferings and the ghastly deaths of millions of young men have once more been in vain.

MRS. CHARLES E. HUSSELL.
Washington, July 8.

There has been much speculation since VE-Day on whether Hitler is dead or not. If he is living, he must be green with envy, if he can get news where he is. I refer to the debates pro and con that have been going on over the FEPC bill. Never in his wildest dreams did he reach the height of eloquence in his tirades against the Jews that was reached by the Messrs. Bilbo and Eastland, in their righteous crusade to prevent this monstrous act being passed off on the people of this country.

I know if Hitler is living he must be chewing carpets and frothing at the bit, in his impotence to reply to come home to a devastated country, but the Negro soldier who has been told that he is fighting for democracy, and finds when he returns that he has been fighting for peanuts as far as his welfare is concerned, that is the soldier for whom pity is needed.

Hitler, dead or alive, seems to be the winner after all, as he lives on in the spirit of his American counterparts.

A SOLDIER'S MOTHER.
Washington, July 5.

at least to sanction the worthy gentlemen.

One could pity the returning Italian soldier, and even the German who had been told the glories they would receive as victors, only

MISSISSIPPIANS PRESS ANTI-BIAS JOBS FIGHT

Chicago Def. 7-14-45

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)—Jacksonians manifested unusual interest last week in response to a call for a mass meeting in interest of passing the FEPC bill in Washington. It was a remarkable demonstration of the growing interest of the Mississippi Negro in his future economic and social welfare. Speakers included Dr. S. D. Redmond and Percy Greene, the latter a newspaper publisher.

Greene pointed out that it had already been estimated that upwards of 300,000 Negro farm workers and their families would be dislocated and would have to find new jobs in Mississippi and Louisiana alone because of the certain post-war mechanization of the cotton and sugar cane farming. He said a permanent FEPC would make possible a broader base of Negro job opportunity and give legal sanction to the further integration of Negro workers in the predicted post-war industrial development of the state and south.

Donovan Gets His Irish Up Against Racist Poll-Taxer

P.M. 7-8-45

Dan Donovan is spitting mad at Sen. James O. Eastland, the Mississippi hatemonger who, along with Sen. Theo Bilbo, the Mississippi Filibusterer, tried to talk the FEPC out of existence the other day. Donovan, a Massachusetts-born Irish Catholic, has his dander up because Eastland, in the course of a Klux-like diatribe wherein he read off a list of FEPC employes and speculated on their racial and religious origins, paused when he came to the name of Dan Donovan and said:

"He is a white man, God help him in that organization with that association."

When I visited Donovan in the Empire State Building office of the FEPC, he was just polishing off a blistering letter to Sen. Eastland.

"It is an affront to any decent-minded citizen to be mentioned the way the Senator from Mississippi mentioned me," he said. "He took the name of God in vain. And he also misused the name of Dan Donovan. What's wrong with a Catholic being a staff member of the FEPC? Catholics are also frequently discriminated against in jobs.

"The great majority of Americans, whatever their ancestry, creed or color, are devoted to the basic principles of justice and democracy upon which the Executive Order creating the FEPC are founded. Catholic leaders like Archbishop Robert S. Lucey of Texas, Bishop Francis J. Haas of Michigan and Father John LaFarge of New York have been in the forefront of the fight for racial and religious democracy in industry." 7-8-45

Donovan, a sturdy-looking, silver-haired citizen of 64, jovial and loquacious, is a senior field examiner for Region 2 of the FEPC. He was an active member of the International Assn. of Machinists, A. F. of L., for 34 years, and still holds his union card. He was a delegate-at-large to the Massachusetts State Constitutional Convention of 1917-18, and is proud of his two sons and a daughter serving with the armed forces.

Donovan's ire is not directed exclusively at Eastland. He also takes violent exception to the "unvarnished untruth" uttered by Sen. Bilbo when he repeatedly declared, in his anti-FEPC filibuster, that the A. F. of L. was opposed to the continuation of that agency. He points to the telegram sent by President William Green last month to the "Save FEPC" rally, putting the A. F. of L. unequivocally in favor of a permanent FEPC. In his letter to Eastland, Donovan writes:

"You, Sen. Eastland, and the senior Senator from Mississippi, have aroused widespread, deserved condemnation for your intemperate attitude. Your speech, and particularly your insult to Negro soldiers, is menacing to our country's welfare. 7-8-45

"My work with Negroes and whites, Jews, Protestants and Catholics in the FEPC has strengthened a long-held conviction that the FEPC objectives can and must be achieved in our nation and its principles applied to our relationships throughout the world. As to the un-American and hate-inciting tirades expressed by yourself and Sen. Bilbo, I can say fervently as an American (white):

"'God help us!'"

"I don't pretend to be a scholarly expert on race relations," Donovan says. "But I do think I know something about simple American fundamentals. And equal rights to economic opportunities is one of them."

May Force House To Move on FEPC Grant By Upper Chamber

P.M.

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 7. — Although almost anything can happen to the bitterly disputed FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee), it was apparent today that the Senate has decided to lock up the War Agencies Bill until the House decides to vote one way or another on the FEPC.

The FEPC, originally a part of the war agencies measure carrying funds for 17 outfits, has been twice kicked out of the Bill in House committees.

But the membership of the House has not yet voted for or against the FEPC. So the Senate has decided that the House is going to commit itself on this issue before any further action is taken to expedite funds for the 16 other agencies included in the War Agencies Bill.

In the House, it was reported that the leadership is weakening—that Speaker Sam Rayburn (D., Tex.) and other House leaders realize that the House is primarily to blame for holding up the $800,000,000 war agencies measure. 7-8-45

Turned Down

In the Senate Appropriations Committee, where the Bill now rests, the Committee has refused to accept Chairman Kenneth McKellar's suggestion to force Senate approval of the war agencies bill carrying funds for the 16 agencies—but not the FEPC.

On Friday, McKellar attempted to win Committee approval of his compromise. But it was promptly rejected by the FEPC's strongest Senate supporter, Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.). Chavez won the full backing of the Republican members of the Committee.

McKellar confirmed the opinion that it would take a two-thirds vote of the Senate to put back either the FEPC or the 10 other eliminated war agencies which the House knocked out of the Bill last week.

McKellar, during the secret Committee meeting yesterday, tried to get his colleagues to send a bill to the Senate floor under which all the 10 war agencies, excluding the FEPC, would get their money, even under a vote requiring two-thirds of the Senate to approve them. 7-8-45

They Held Out

But FEPC supporters on the Committee held out. They asserted that if the 10 agencies went in the FEPC must go in, too.

So McKeller adjourned the meeting and clearly indicated that he didn't know when he would call another one.

Meanwhile, Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) took the Senate floor to flay PM and declare "Many persons have been led to believe I have denounced Jews, Catholics and Negroes."

Bilbo warned that "if I see fit to filibuster until Christmas I shall be fighting for the majority of the American people."

Bilbo characterized PM as a newspaper which "couldn't tell the truth if it had to."

While foes of the FEPC in House and Senate scraped the bottom on the barrel for a new rule to get the War Agencies Bill through without the FEPC, they could offer only three unacceptable "compromises": 7-8-45

¶ One is the McKellar plan to force Senate approval of the War Agencies Bill minus the FEPC.

¶ The second is a desperate plan, sponsored by Southern Democrats in the House, to give President Truman a lump sum of money to support 16 war agencies as long as he doesn't give anything to the FEPC. This proposal will obviously be rejected by Republicans, in both House and Senate, who have consistently opposed any Congressional handouts to the President.

¶ The third proposal is also sponsored by Southern Democrats. It involves the resurrection of a defeated House proposal to give the FEPC $125,000—less than a fourth of the money it needs and requested for the next 12 months.

Bilbo's Main Point

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

Courier Journal

Senator Bilbo from Mississippi has made a fight to defeat the most needed legislation that has been conceived in the minds of broad-minded and God-fearing men of power and authority so far as concerns the Negro. He is attempting to defeat this bill on the pretense that it is a political scheme to legalize the marriage of Negroes to whites as well as to place the Negro upon the same social plane as the white people.

Mr. Bilbo cannot get the white women's federated clubs of the South to believe that the Negro wants interracial marriage any more than he does. Honestly, I don't believe Mr. Bilbo really means what he is arguing. I would rather believe that social equality and interracial marriage are his strong points to keep drawing that big salary at the Negroes' expense. 7-7-46

So, in behalf of the present worth-while and thinking class of Negroes and those boys who are giving their lives to destroy such ideas as being advanced by Mr. Bilbo, I suggest that the white South quit listening to such tommyrot as Mr. Bilbo's and listen to the words of Jesus, when He said that He came into the world to establish in the hearts of men the highest ideal for a peaceful world, the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Unless we get the love of God shed abroad in our hearts, the great accomplishment at the San Francisco Conference will have lost its true value and honest interpretation if the good white people of the South continue to be influenced by idle words coming from the lips of such a leader as Bilbo.

Paducah, Ky. REV. HUGH HAYES.

HURTING THE SOUTH

To the Editor of The News: Birm. News

As a white man who was born and reared in the Deep South, and who expects to return there to live after my service in the Army is completed, I think that I should express my disappointment at the part Southern congressmen are playing in trying to discontinue the FEPC. 7-11-45

The fact that the figures show that the FEPC has pressed fewer cases in the South, where two-thirds of the Negroes live, than it has outside indicates strongly that it is being administered in a conciliatory consideration of Southern conditions.

Basically it would be one of the best things that ever happened for the improvement of race relations in the South, and also for the improvement of its economy, if the Negroes who have left it to work in defense industries in other parts of the country are able to continue earning their livelihood there and live happily there, instead of having to come back to the South. The antics of Bilbo and Eastland are piling up a mountain of ill will.

Fort Dix, N. J. S-SGT. T. C. TILLERY.

Dr. Goebbels Rides Again

Pittsburg Courier

Dr. Joseph Goebbels, the little club-footed former Nazi Propaganda Minister, reportedly committed suicide under the ruins of Berlin, but apparently the report was greatly exaggerated.

The High Priest of lying may be physically departed, but certainly his spirit is still with us, judging by the antics of Mississippi's Senator Eastland in the Senate last week when he went to the most vicious extremes in lying against Negro soldiers during his and Senator Bilbo's filibuster against the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

7-7-45

Nothing more shamefully false has been uttered in that august body than Eastland's charges that Negro soldiers in Europe were "an utter and abysmal failure." "would neither work nor fight," "criminally assaulted members of the families of French farmers," "some Negro officers deserted their posts; the whole division (the Ninety-second) without cause, rhyme or reason, would quit fighting," and that black French troops raped 5,000 German girls herded into a subway in Stuttgart, Germany.

It was the Nazi propaganda thesis, fostered by Hitler and carried out by Dr. Goebbels, that if a big enough lie were told it would be believed because the average honest person could not conceive that anybody would willfully tell such a falsehood.

7-7-45

Acting on the same principle, Senator Eastland followed in the footsteps of many of his more notorious Southern predecessors in the Senate, and concocted a lie so monstrous that many Americans will doubtless believe it.

It did not matter to Senator Eastland that such distinguished American commanders as General Eisenhower and General Mark Clark highly praised the work and fighting of Negro troops.

It did not matter that General MacArthur and other high military and naval officials have commended Negro troops for their courageous and intelligent contribution to the war effort.

It did not matter that thousands of Negro troops have been decorated for their bravery in this war.

It only mattered that Senator Eastland was intent on defeating a new appropriation for the Fair Employment Practices Committee and killing that progressive agency so that the traditional American economic discrimination against Negro workers might continue in the post-war period.

So Dr. Goebbels' classic thesis is carried forward from the grave by a United States Senator from the most backward and intolerant State in the Union.

A million black soldiers who helped make Allied victory possible will not be blamed if, when reading Eastland's screed, they wonder for what they fought, risked their lives and underwent grueling hardships.

But just as Dr. Goebbels and his tribe who spouted racial venom finally went down to ignominious defeat, so will the Eastlands and Bilbos ultimately be crushed and discredited in the eyes of all fair-minded people in this country and abroad.

No matter what these unreconstructed rebels may do or say to smear and disparage brave men and women who went through the Valley of Death that democracy might live everywhere throughout the world, the colored people are determined to march forward to final freedom and equality.

They know that their enemies in this country, powerful though they may be, are fearful of their determination to be full citizens, else they would not resort to such desperate tactics in a vain effort to hold them back.

Colored Americans are on the march, and all the Goebbels-like lies that the tortured minds of Dixie demagogues can concoct cannot stop them, ever.

Soldiers

Denied Right To March in Pratt Parade

the Call

Negro soldiers, stationed at Pratt, Kas., were ignored and denied the right to march in a parade held at Pratt Monday, June 25, in connection with the 7th War Loan drive, according to a letter received by The Call.

The letter, signed by "Two Hundred Red-blooded American Soldiers" said that all units in the area except Squadron C, which is colored, marched in the parade.

The letter from the soldiers, whose names are withheld, follows:

7-6-45

"Dear Editor:

"On June 25, 1945, we underwent the most humiliating experience that could come to an American soldier. We were denied the right to march on parade in the streets of Pratt, Kansas because we are colored Americans.

"There was a parade of troops and equipment, followed by a block dance. Because of the fear that we might expect to take part in the dance, we were not permitted to participate in the parade under the colors of which we are so proud — the colors for which we may die.

"The men of Squadron C, which is colored, were in the background, ignored, while all the other base units paraded. There were white troops, white WAC's, white Boy and Girl Scouts. The American Legion and the American Women's Voluntary Service were represented—by whites. There was a Lily White float for the USO.

7-6-45

"A two-horse buggy and a dilapidated gas truck, both driven by white civilians, together with a number of miscellaneous vehicles unrelated to the war effort, completed the parade. All these odds and ends . . . and still no room for Squadron C. This parade was held in connection with a War Bond Rally. It is undoubtedly safe to say that many colored citizens, as a result of this discrimination, found another use for money with which they had planned to purchase bonds.

"That, American citizens, is the story of why our morale is so low for this month. We will never live it down, this month or any other time, if such things continue to happen. Have these narrow minded people forgotten so soon the glory of our troops in Europe? Are we to be denied the honor to which we are entitled? Shall we carry on as American soldiers? Shall we throw discipline and training to the winds?

"In spite of incidents like this, we feel that we have a part in America. We Are Americans. We will defend America for the things for which it stands, including civil rights for all its citizens. But must we defend some white man's abuse of the very principles of democracy?

"We know there are American white people who believe in the equality of man, regardless of race, creed or color. Are they to be led by a minority of narrow minds; or will they help us demand our privileges as genuine American citizens, American soldiers, and eventually, returning veterans?

"Two Hundred Red-blooded American Soldiers."

From the Readers

Filibuster

P.M.

Dear Editor:

After reading some excerpts from Sen. Bilbo's remarks in his filibuster against the FEPC bill, I wondered what I could do about it. Writing directly to Sen. Bilbo, I felt, wouldn't make a dent in his shell of cynicism. Instead I wrote this to Sen. H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey:

"How in the name of American principles can we reconcile ourselves with those of Sen. Bilbo? . . .

"How in the name of Christianity can we condone Sen. Bilbo's actions?

"How in the name of humanity can we permit Sen. Bilbo to spew his prejudices on the floor of the American Senate?

7-8-45

"What interests me is your reaction to speeches of this kind . . . When such undemocratic words are uttered on the Senate floor, what do you do about it? We, back home, can only rant and fume with indignation when we read about it in our newspapers.

"I have often wondered what other Senators say about filibusters of this sort. Do they listen passively, and then tolerate it as part of politics? Or does the surge of anger bring some opposing Senator to his feet, defying such practices? . . ."

The filibuster has become a poisonous weapon in the hands of a reactionary group. What can we do about it? The adoption of a permanent cloture rule would help. Also, if the public were permitted to hear broadcasts of important sessions of Congress, it might keep its members more in line with our American principles . . .

MRS. EUGENE PETUCHOV.

Orange, N. J.

* * *

The appalling thing about the Bilbo-Eastland filibuster is not so much the evil they say, but the fact that nobody in Congress or the Administration has condemned them. . .

New York NORMAN BURNSIDE

* * *

Sen. Bilbo has demonstrated his eligibility for investigation by the House "Un-American Activities" Committee.

Bethpage, N. Y. MRS. M. LIVELY

* * *

You record that Sen. James Eastland reports in his attack on the FEPC about an incident supposed to have taken place in the subway of Stuttgart, Germany.

For the information of the public, as well as of Sen. Eastland, There are NO subways in Stuttgart.

New York ERNEST M. KAHN

Refuting Bilbo

P.M.

Dear Editor:

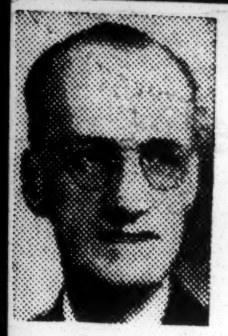
Today you quote Bilbo: "The few in Mississippi are exemplary citizens. They all vote for Bilbo."

His first statement is correct. As to his second, I knew personally nearly every Jew in the state and have yet to discover a single one who would vote for Bilbo.

7-7-45

RABBI STANLEY D. BRAV

Vicksburg, Miss.



RALPH T. JONES

Who Are Privileged And Under-Privileged?

Atlanta Constitution

She really wrote about the problem behind the youthful vandalism in private homes, which has worried and puzzled Atlanta in recent weeks. However, that is not the portion of her letter that proved really interesting. For she seems to have tackled that subject under what is probably a misapprehension. For she takes it for granted the young vandals belong to what we call the "underprivileged" class whereas every indication is that they are children of families which undeniably belong to the group anyone would designate as "privileged." At least financially. 7-10-45

But it is when she starts writing her thoughts on that subject, the comparison between the "underprivileged" and the "privileged" that her letter becomes truly interesting. It is, I believe, an interesting document in that it reveals some of the thinking going on in the mind of an intelligent woman who has spent the 60 years of her life in rural surroundings in Georgia. To glimpse within the thought processes of such a one is always fascinating and informative. It may be that her thoughts are representative of a large group, and it may be they are indicative of a trend which will have much to do with the shaping of that brave and better way of life about which so much is written, nowadays.

"We talk much," she writes, "about our wonderful way of life in America, but when we speak that way we are comparing the privileged few, here, against the underprivileged masses of other countries—forgetting the masses of underprivileged in America."

One of "Privileged"

"Let's try to look this thing square in the eye," she continues, "for America's sake and the rest of the world. Now I am in my 60th year and as for background among farm folks, I was born and have lived as what might be called the privileged few. That is, if you can call living in your own home and carrying a mortgage all my life to keep from living the life of a tenant, a privilege. You and your family, I imagine, would be classed about the same as city folks, struggling all your days to bring up a decent family and send them to the best schools possible. (How right she is!)

"Now let's look at the people just below our standards, both on the farm and in towns and cities. I often say I'd rather be poor in the country than in town.

"First, for I know it best, let's look at the tenant farmer. For example, one living near me now.

Typical Tenant Farmers

"Man and wife in their early thirties and six children. This year the only boy, 16, was kept out of school to make a crop while the father looked after the rest of the farm (a 12-mule farm), for the owner, who is 85 years old. (He has children, too, but none of them will farm. He educated them well and they prefer town life.)

"The five daughters of the tenant farmer all went to school except the baby. Now, with school out, these girls are working hard, out in the hot sun, trying to get the crop finished. They will have to stay out of school for a while this fall to help harvest the peanuts and cotton.

"The mother, besides cooking and doing all her housekeeping and washing, is trying to work a good size garden and to can all the stuff they can't eat. She has high blood pressure and should rest, but she says, How can I?

"These children appreciate their parents and know they are doing the very best they can for them, but they must wonder why the scales of justice are so far out of balance, why they have so hard a life and other children have so many good times.

Crack Under Strain

"They tell us juvenile delinquents usually come from the poorer parts of the city. Well, people who have to live on a low standard want their children to have the best possible, and make untold sacrifices to give them decent clothes—often even at the sacrifice of food. These children appreciate this struggle their parents are making for them. But they also see the other side of life, where their schoolmates live in nice homes, have cars, go off for vacations while they have to stay cooped in some stuffy little apartment with no room of their own and no place to bring their friends. Is it any wonder some of them crack under the strain? If America doesn't wake up and if our capitalistic democracy doesn't straighten out and "fly right" we're all apt to go down together. . . .

"To my mind the south has always practiced FEPC. Take the sharecropper. I may be wrong, but I think the south originated this plan to take care of the Negroes the government set free in a land where they had no means of independent livelihood. Where is there a business which offers the laborer a fairer chance than that of the sharecropper? The farmer furnishes everything, the cropper does the work and they go halves. Is there any other business which offers labor such returns?"

There is more, but space has run out. But, don't you find yourself interested in these ideas from the pen of a 60-year-old Georgia farm woman?

$250,000 Senate Allowance Denied

Agency Begins Fiscal Year Without Funds

FILIBUSTER BROKEN

Bilbo, Eastland Led Senate Hate Harangue

BULLETIN

The House Rules Committee, by a second 5-5 tie vote, failed Monday to grant a rule permitting House consideration of the War Agencies Supply Bill with the Senate's $250,000 compromise appropriation for the FEPC included. Later the House Appropriations Committee voted 20-16 against approval of the Senate version. The measure now must go back to the Senate for elimination of the FEPC allowance, unless an unlikely two-thirds majority vote for suspension of rules can be obtained on the House floor.

7-7-45

WASHINGTON

The Fair Employment Practice Committee was struck a death blow on Saturday when Southern Democrats in the House blocked a Senate-approved compromise appropriation of $250,000 for the agency.

Voting for the compromise in the Senate were 23 Democrats, 18 Republicans and 1 progressive. Voting against it were 19 Democrats and 7 Republicans.

Two of the Republicans who voted against the compromise, Senators Wayne Morse of Oregon and Homer Ferguson of Michigan, said that they did so because they were opposed to the compromise, because it meant "a death blow to FEPC."

Senator James M. Mead, (Dem., N.Y.) promised, however, that the fight for more funds for the agency would be carried on in subsequent deficiency bills.

Even an appropriation of $250,000 would have meant that FEPC would have to close most of its regional offices scattered throughout the country. A total of 446,250 was originally requested. 7-7-45

Action Slated for Monday

While Speaker Sam Rayburn was asking the House for unanimous consent to send the War Agencies Supply Bill to conference, twelve Southern Democrats shouted their objection, which means the measure must go back to the House Rules Committee.

Executive Agencies

Washington Post

The latest attempt of FEPC advocates to insure a House vote on appropriations for that agency is likely to boomerang. For the deletion from the war agencies appropriation bill, on a point of order, of funds for 10 important agencies established by executive order advertises the failure of Congress to discharge its obligations as a law-making body. The existence of a pressing emergency justifying liberal resort to executive orders at the beginning of the war does not warrant indefinite continuation of agencies established without legal basis. Long ago Congress should have enacted legislation regularizing the status of such agencies. That would have afforded Congress an opportunity to review their activities and to decide whether any of them ought to be eliminated or changed in any respect.

Instead, the issue presented by the existence of powerful administrative agencies never authorized by Congress has been dodged. Only now, and for ulterior purposes, it is dragged into the light by legislators who are not in the least disposed to dispute the propriety of voting huge sums to finance these agencies through the medium of a general appropriation bill. The rule invoked by FEPC advocates hoping to force consideration of a measure carrying funds for FEPC is a sound rule. It provides that no appropriation shall be reported in any general appropriation bill or be in order as an amendment for any expenditure not previously authorized by law. When the original war agencies bill came up for consideration a month ago, a special rule prevented the raising of points of order. But this time the Rules Committee refused to grant a special rule that would have protected the executive order agencies. Consequently, the door was left open for the elaborate tactical maneuvering staged last Thursday. 7-9-45

Wholesale appropriation of funds at executive behest to finance projects not specifically authorized by law encourages loose fiscal practices and puts a severe strain upon our democratic system. Hence, regardless of the outcome of the parliamentary battle to decide the fate of FEPC, we conclude that the fight will serve at least one good purpose: it will focus attention upon the anomalous status of numerous useful war agencies and remind Congress of long-neglected duties.

56d-1945
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUL 1 - 1945

FEPC

...FEPC Is Target

ECONOMIC COUNCIL LETTER

Published by
NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL, Inc.
350 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N. Y.
905 First National Bank Bldg., Utica 2, N. Y.
600 Investment Building, Washington 5, D. C.
1559 Continental Illinois Bank Bldg., Chicago 4, Ill.
Council Letter No. 130
February, 1945

The Anti-Race Bias Bills

BECAUSE bills more or less similar to the New York Anti-Discrimination Bill will be pressed in most States and in Congress, and because it is so controversial, we devote this Letter to this pending New York measure.

Soviet America" did not expect to attain this bloody revolution immediately. So they set forth certain "minimum desires of the Negro masses," and these they define as:

"1. A decent and secure livelihood;

Merwin K. Hart, the Franco-loving pamphleteer, went all-out against anti-discrimination bills in his *Economic Council Letter*.

This handbill illustrates the extreme anti-FEPC line. Note the quotation of ex-Sen. Reynolds, head of the American Nationalist Party.

Help Save America for Americans

DEFEAT

ILLINOIS SENATE BILL No. 254 and ILLINOIS HOUSE BILL No. 353

Identified as

"The Fair Employment Practice Act"

and Sponsored by

Jews and Jewish Organizations

WHAT IS THE REAL OBJECT OF THIS LEGISLATION?

It is an attempted LEGALIZED JEWISH CONSPIRACY to force employers to employ JEWS and JEW REFUGEES, under penalty of a $500 fine—a year in the "Klink"—or both. NOTHING MORE—NOTHING LESS.

JEW REFUGEES

JEWS and JEW REFUGEES have taken over many of the jobs and business of our American Boys-while they were in foreign lands fighting *their battles*. When our boys get back they will need their old jobs. Employers will be glad to have them. They will be given a preference. There will be a lot of unemployment. JEWS and JEW REFUGEES will be discharged to make places for these boys. But, SAY THE JEWS, THE JEW REFUGEES and ORGANIZED JEWERY this would be UNFAIR. Hence we must have "THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE ACT" to protect THE JEWS against any intrusion by returning American Soldiers.

United States Senator, Robert R. Reynolds

in a 1943 speech, said--

"While those American heroes carry on over there they expect us here on the home front to keep faith by preserving for them the freedom for which they themselves are fighting. . . . In this connection you will be interested to learn that since the beginning of the present war in Europe more than 480,000 aliens of all classes were admitted to the United States from foreign countries, amongst them were 334,000 who entered this country as temporary visitors. I protest these admissions. I criticize the admission of nearly a half million aliens to this country since the war began, at a time when we are sending our sons to their lands to FIGHT THEIR BATTLES. While our men are on foreign shores in uniform in more than seventy different places throughout the world those for whom they fight leave the battle zones and come to America to bask in the sunshine of Safety and Prosperity."

Also Defeat

SENATE BILL No. 67

Introduced by a Jew State Senator to prohibit the printing and distributing literature such as this protest. It is as much a part of THE JEW CONSPIRACY as Senate Bill No. 254 and House Bill No. 353.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

Write your State Representative and State Senator AT ONCE. Tell him in no uncertain terms you expect him to work and fight to HELP SAVE AMERICA FOR AMERICANS and to DEFEAT THIS LEGISLATION.

Edited by "THE HOOSIER PATRIOT"

***Published by* THE HOOSIER PRESS, P. O. Box 32, Hammond, Ind.**

ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS LITERATURE MAY BE HAD FOR THE ASKING

Federal City

By WASHINGTON ADAMS

VICIOUS "FEPC" PROPOSAL ...

WASHINGTON (Special) Feb. 4, 1945.—One of the most VICIOUS measures ever proposed to a State Legislature or the U. S. Congress is the so-called "FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE" act, to compel EMPLOYERS to employ Negroes, Jews and Orientals, whether they want to or not.

It is a socio-communistic New Deal scheme to destroy private enterprise.

Five years ago I wrote an article entitled

This is from *The Broom*, a viciously anti-Semitic sheet published in California by Leon De Aryan (under indictment for sedition).

Exhibits from Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League

Senator Smears U. S. Negro Troops As Fate of FEPC Hangs in Balance

Eastland Lays Crimes in Europe to Colored Soldiers

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 30.—A malevolent assault on the integrity and fighting ability of American Negro soldiers in Europe made on the floor of the Senate by Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) was not confirmed today by the War Dept.

Eastland charged, during a second installment of Southern Democracy's filibuster against the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee), that Negro soldiers have caused the U. S. A. to lose prestige all over Europe," that although they only "constituted one-twelfth of the American army . . . yet they were guilty of over one-half the crime."

Officials of the War Dept. said flatly they had "no comment whatever on the charges made by Sen. Eastland." The Senator did not in a single instance credit his information to any official source.

Forgets Some Facts

Eastland also declared there were 33 cases of criminal assault in Normandy from D-Day until May of this year "26 by Negroes and seven by Whites." What he didn't say was that almost all the soldiers left in Normandy when our armies plowed through Europe were service troops, most of them Negroes.

Eastland isn't half the freebooting filibusterer that his colleague Sen. Theodore (The Man) Bilbo, a fellow flower of the Old South, is. He talked for only three and three-quarter hours Friday afternoon and seemed glad to quit for a quorum call.

He was noticeably wilted when he slumped into his chair about 5 p.m. He had been talking vicious, irresponsible talk since 1:15.

Eastland began his afternoon chat before an empty House. Well, almost empty. There were two Republicans on hand, Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon and Sen. Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri. Not a Democrat, Southern or otherwise, was within earshot. During the afternoon a few members, who didn't have anything better to do, drifted in, got an earful of the Eastland brand of ortatory and retired in hatse.

Even Bilbo Ran Out

Bilbo, who didn't draw much of an audience himself the day before, scuttled in at 3:45. Five minutes was all even he could stand. He didn't show up again until recess.

Sidney Hillman also felt the featherweight of Eastland wrath. He called him one of the "lowest and commonest communists in America," and demanded that he be deported. As a matter of fact, he said beating his manly breast, the FEPC is all a part of a communist plot to take over America. It involves stirring up the Negro, he added in explanation. He said we have more on Hillman than we ever had on Harry Bridges as grounds for deportation.

Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., Mex.), who is leading the fight for an FEPC appropriation if he ever gets to say anything, walked in one door of the Senate chamber, raised his eyebrows at Eastland's Palm Beach

Sen. James O. Eastland

back and walked out.

"The Negro race is surely a most inferior race," intoned the American Democrat from Mississippi. "I have information that in the city of Stuttgart, Germany, between 2000 and 5000 "Christian, German white girls" were rounded up, herded into a subway station and

there made the playthings of French Senegalese soldiers for four or five days. He didn't give a credit line on that one either.

"We are dealing with an inferior race," Eastland shouted at the empty seats around him and at the tourists in the gallery. "That's why I bring it into this debate. Negroes do not have the creative ability and genius of the white race.

"A man bereft of racial pride is weak," Eastland shouted. "I'm proud of the white race, a superior race, and I'm proud that pure white blood flows in my veins."

Personnel Lists

Then, winding up, Eastland produced the personnel lists of FEPC from cities all over the country. Of course, Bilbo had read them once before, but Eastland figures it isn't really in the record till he reads it. He went over them city by city, making careful note of how many Negroes and how many whites worked in each office.

"The Anglo-Saxon is the forgotten man in America today," he bleated. "This bill is not against discrimination. The whites are being discriminated aganst."

Somehow we missed the way Eastland managed to wangle Thomas E. Dewey into his speech. But he did it.

"The man who betrayed his race," he declared .(Dewey signed an anti-discrimination bill in New York State. Maybe that was it.) "The weakest man who was ever nominated for the Presidency of the United States."

It was at this juicy point that Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.)—just like Eastland except only a Representative—soft-footed into the chamber. He cased the joint, nodded approvingly at Eastland's good, respectable Mississippi sentiments, and plunked himself down on a couch. He was joined by Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.), who has been known to agree with some of the things the Southern gentlemen adhere to.

Barkley's Compromise on Funds Called Error

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The fate of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee—whose sole function is to see that vital war jobs are filled whether the candidate is black, white or whatever race—was being weighed in the Senate today with Negro-hating Southern Democrats resting their elbows on the scales.

Whatever the parliamentary solution of the week-long wrangle, commonly called a filibuster, the Southern Democrats, led by Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) are counting on winning a tactical victory.

Bilbo is having trouble keeping his Southern colleagues in line, but a compromise to cut FEPC's funds in half, offered by Democratic Leader Alben Barkley (D., Ky.) pumped up the Southern wind-bags and gave them new hope.

Funds at Stake

The stakes involve $446,200 – enough money for FEPC to do a decent job for the next 12 months —against a compromise to cut the money, and FEPC's effectiveness in half.

Here's why the Southern Democrats are likely to win and the man or woman, who happens—for purposes of discrimination—to be of the wrong race or religion, is likely to lose:

For a week it has been evident that supporters of FEPC held the necessary two-thirds majority to defeat the Southerners – if and when they ceased filibustering against a vote.

A rare combination of Republicans and a dozen New Deal Democrats, including Sen. Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead, of New York, made the two-thirds possible.

But in a late night session, when Republicans, led by Sen. Robert A. Taft, of Ohio, forced a petition for cloture—the rule limiting debate —bumbling, good-natured Democratic Leader Barkley of Kentucky came through with the fatal compromise.

The Excuse

The compromise slices FEPC in half and Barkley evidently offered it partly because, as he said, he wanted to get the Senate "out of an embarrassing situation" and partly because he was afraid the GOP would get all the credit for forcing cloture.

Some of his closest friends in the Senate privately state Barkley made a major political error.

The debate-limiting rule will be voted on Monday. Then the FEPC can be voted on if the cloture motion is carried by two-thirds.

But the wily Bilbo, if he thinks he lacks the votes to defeat cloture, is ready to snatch the compromise.

On Monday, President Truman walks into the Senate to present the world peace charter. The Senate has consented to suspend the fight on FEPC long enough to let him get in and out.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUN
Circ. D. 277,172

JUN 29 1945

ATTACKS NEGRO RECORD IN WAR

Eastland, Assailing FEPC, Charges Failure.

Washington, June 29 (A. P.).—Senator Eastland (D.-Miss.), renewing the Southerners' fight against the Fair Employment Practice Committee, declared in the Senate today that the Negro soldier has been "an utter and abysmal failure" in this war.

He said this was the view of high ranking generals, imparted to him and other Senators on a recent trip to Europe.

The FEPC would grant "unfair preference" in hiring of the discharged Negro soldiers, he said.

"The Ninety-second Division, the only Negro division, had the best equipment and the best training of any division we had," he told the Senate. "For political reasons, the generals were forced to commission Negro officers. Not one of them could be placed in a responsible position. That division could not be placed in an important position in the line. If all our divisions had been like it, the Germans would have pushed us to the toe of the Italian boot.

"The Negro soldier has been an utter and abysmal failure. I'm not saying that out of prejudice. That is what the responsible generals told us. And we're asked here to set up an unfair preference against a white soldier solely because the Negro minority sells its votes to the highest bidder in a political campaign."

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023

JUN 30 1945

Eastland Assails War Record Of Negroes in Fight on F.E.P.C.

WASHINGTON, June 29 (AP).—Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat, of Mississippi, carrying on today the Southern filibuster against the Fair Employment Practices Committee, injected into the long discussion an assertion that Negro troops are "an utter and abysmal failure."

Flailing his arms and jerking his tie askew, he declared "high-ranking generals" had told him on a recent European trip that the Negro troops would neither work nor fight.

In Normandy, he shouted, they criminally assaulted members of the families of French farmers.

"And we're asked here," he said, "to set up an unfair preference against a white soldier solely because the Negro minority sells its votes to the highest bidder in a political campaign. If it weren't for political considerations, this measure wouldn't get ten votes in the Senate."

The War Department had no immediate comment on Senator Eastland's statements.

The F. E. P. C. was set up by Executive order of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt to police industry against discriminations on account of race, creed, color or national origin.

Pummeling by Southerners as a breeder of racial disorder, the organization is gasping for legislative life against tomorrow's fiscal year-end deadline. Senator Eastland and other Southerners are fighting a move by Senator Dennis Chavez, Democrat, of New Mexico, to appropriate it $446,200—or any part of that amount. They demand an absolute death sentence.

Their filibuster, however, is threatened by a move to limit debate through the parliamentary device of cloture. The decision will come Monday afternoon, unless a compromise is worked out meantime. Two-thirds of the Senators present must favor cloture if the talk is to be cut short.

Only a half dozen Senators were on the floor as Senator Eastland spoke, but the galleries were filled with visitors who had turned out to see how a filibuster works. As the forty-year-old Senator slashed out at Negro soldiers they shifted uneasily in their seats. Some turned covert glances at the Negro men and women among them.

Senator Eastland opened with the same gambit used by his colleague, Theodore G. Bilbo, yesterday. He wasn't filibustering, he said; the whole thing was part of a gigantic plot to Sovietize the United States; the racial purity of the white race must be maintained.

Then he told his fellow Senators what he had heard in Europe. All of it, he said, came from "high-ranking generals," one of them in Paris.

He said the 92d (Negro) Division had the best training and best equipment; it also had Negro officers whom the generals were "forced to commission" for political reasons.

"That division," he said, "could not be placed in an important position in the line. If all our divisions had been like it the Germans would have pushed us to the toe of the Italian boot." . . .

He said it was necessary to disarm "a good many Negro soldiers" in Normandy because they would go to French farmhouses under the pretense of hunting Germans, "call the men out into the yard and hold guns on them while they went in and criminally assaulted members of their family."

Senator Eastland quoted American generals further as authority for a story that French Negro Senegalese troops locked 5,000 German girls in a subway at Stuttgart for five days, "kept them there and criminally assaulted them."

Before the Senate adjourned at 5:14 p. m., Senator Olin Johnston, Democrat, of South Carolina, another F. E. P. C. opponent, obtained a gentleman's agreement to get recognition at the opening of tomorrow's session.

DETROIT, MICH.
NEWS
Circ. D. 387,757 - S. 471,765

JUN 21 1945

Permanent FEPC

To the Editor: Please allow me to thank President Truman for pointing out that Southern politicians were to blame for the failure of the House Appropriations Committee to provide funds for the FEPC. Truman is to congratulated for showing up these Southerners who stoop to any ruse to get their own outmoded way about un-American discrimination instead of practicing real democracy. Mr. Truman is to be admired for demanding a permanent Fair Employment Practice Act to fight Southern discrimination and to improve the status of Negroes and poor whites there.

I certainly hope the President continues showing up the South and teaching them democracy, so that we Southerners will no longer have to leave our backward states and come to the cultured North for the advantages that only the latter provides.

VIRGINIAN.

56d-1945

Cloture Vote Set In Senate For Monday

Montgomery Advertiser

FEPC Filibuster By Dixie Solons Continues Until After Midnight

6-29-45

WASHINGTON, June 29.—(AP)—The Southern filibuster which brought on a 12 hours and 32 minute continuous Senate session was checked early today when an agreement was reached to vote on a petition to limit further debate.

Senator Taft (R), Ohio, introduced the motion to curtail further discussion after Senator Bilbo, Mississippi Democrat, had yielded the floor after a four hour talk against the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

An important appropriation bill was among measures held in abeyance by the filibuster.

The session began at noon, Thursday, and was still underway at midnight. At 12:12 a.m. Eastern War Time, a quorum was finally produced, with the aid of the Sergeant-At-Arms. If it carries by a two-thirds majority, it would restrict each Senator to one hour's oratory.

The Senate adjourned at 12:32 a.m. (Eastern War Time) today until noon (Friday) after reaching an agreement to vote on the cloture petition after President Truman's appearance in the Senate Monday at 1 o'clock.

Bilbo Continues Filibuster

The filibuster, carried on by Senator Bilbo (D), Mississippi, with the aid of some other Southern Senators, was directed against a motion by Senator Chavez (D), New Mexico, to appropriate $446,200 to finance the activities of the Fair Employment Practice Committee for the next fiscal year which begins Sunday.

Bilbo, standing before a desk piled high with reading matter, spoke for four hours before finally yielding the floor. The balding Mississippi Democrat had characterized his address as the funeral sermon of the FEPC.

After Bilbo lost the floor, on a quorum call, Barkley tried ineffectually to arrange a compromise between the opposing factions. He suggested that FEPC be given $250,000 for the next fiscal year, instead of the $446,200 asked by Senator Chavez (D), New Mexico.

'Funeral' Set Monday

Bilbo, who previously had been adamant for a death sentence against the organization, said he was in no position to do any horsetrading tonight but informed Barkley he would discuss the proposition with other lawmakers — apparently including some Southern House members —tomorrow morning.

Bilbo had said FEPC's actual funeral would be held Monday, the first day of the new fiscal year. He proposed originally to hold the floor until the present fiscal year ends at Saturday midnight, to keep Chavez from offering his amendment to the war agencies appropriation bill giving the FEPC the $446,200 to finance another year's policing of industry against racial and religious discrimination.

(On the other side of the capitol, the House rules committee drove nails into FEPC's coffin by tabling legislation to grant it $125,000.)

Anybody who dropped into the Senate gallery for as long as five minutes found out that Bilbo doesn't like FEPC. He doesn't call it this bill or this measure; it's "this damnable piece of legislation" or "this smooth deliberate scheme to integrate the negro race with the white and foster intermarriage and interbreeding."

Bilbo read editorials from negro newspapers. He read a column by Westbrook Pegler, in dialect. He read an extract from the Daily Worker, but explained he wasn't a Communist. He read letters from Southern friends.

"How long does the Senator intend to speak?" a colleague inquired gently.

"Until FEPC is dead," Bilbo replied.

Chavez charged Bilbo was imperiling the life of 16 war agencies by his filibuster. Bilbo said No, it was Chavez who was doing the damage by his insistence on offering his amendment. Its adoption would require suspension of the rules and a two-thirds majority. Chavez challenged Bilbo to let the Senate vote on it. Bilbo said he wasn't taking any chances.

"I assure my friend from Mississippi," Chavez said, "that he can filibuster until doomsday, but that motion will be offered."

Bilbo said:

"If you are so hell-bent on doing so I may not give you an opportunity to offer it."

F.E.P.C.

NEGRO TROOPS FAIL, EASTLAND ASSERTS

N.Y. Times

Mississippi Senator, Carrying On FEPC Filibuster, Quotes 'High Ranking Generals'

6-30-45

WASHINGTON, June 29 (AP)—Senator Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, carrying on today the Southern filibuster against the FEPC, injected into the long discussion an assertion that Negro troops were "an utter and abysmal failure."

Flailing his arms, the Mississippian declared "high ranking generals" had told him on a recent European trip that the Negro troops would neither work nor fight.

In Normandy, he shouted, they criminally assaulted members of the families of French farmers.

"And we're asked here," he said, "to set up an unfair preference against a white soldier solely because the Negro minority sells its votes to the highest bidder in a political campaign. If it weren't for political considerations, this measure wouldn't get 10 votes in the Senate."

The FEPC—Fair Employment Practice Committee is its full name —was set up by executive order of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt to police industry against discriminations on account of race, creed, colo ror national origin.

Pummelled bq oSutherners as a breeder of racial disorder, the organization is striving for legislative life against tomorrow's fiscal year-end deadline. Mr. Eastlander and other Southerners are fighting a move by Senator Chavez, Democrat of New Mexico, to appropriate the sum of $446,200 for the FEPC —or any part of that amount. They demand an absolute death sentence.

6-30-45

Cloture Move Looming

Their filibuster, however, is threatened by a move to limit debate through the parliamentary device of cloture. The decision will come Monday afternoon, unless a compromise is worker out meantime. Two-thirds of the Senator present must favor cloture if the talk is to be cut short.

Only a half dozen Senators were on the floor as Mr. Eastland spoke, but the galleries were filled with visitors who had turned out in a frolicsome mood to see how a filibuster works. As the 40-year-old eSnator slashed out at Negro soldiers, they shifted uneasily in their seats .

Mr. Eastland opened with the same thesis used by his colleague, Theodore G. Bilbo, yesterday. He was not filibustering, he said; the whole thing was part of a gigantic plot to Sovietize the United States; the racial purity of the white race must be maintained.

"We must have racial harmony, we must have racial tolerance in the United States," he said.

Then he told his fellow Senators what he had heard in Europe. All of it, he said, came from "high ranking generals," one of them in Paris.

Assails Negro Division

He said the Ninety-second (Negro) Division, had the best training and best equipment; it also had Negro officers whom the generals were "forced to commission" for political reasons.

"That division," he said, "could not be placed in an important position in the line. If all our divisions had been like it, the Germans would have pushed us to the toe of the Italian boot.

"The Negro soldier has been an utter and abysmal failure. I'm not saying that out of prejudice. That is what the responsible generals told us.

"Some of the Negro officers deserted their posts, the whole division, without cause, rhyme or reason, would quit fighting."

He said it was necessary to disarm "a good many Negro soldiers" in Normandy because they would go to French farmhouses under the pretense of hunting Germans, "call the men out into the yard and hold guns on them while they went in and criminally assaulted members of their family."

6-30-45

Mr. Eastland quoted American generals further as authority for a story that French Negro Senegalese troops locked 5,00 German girls in a subway at Stuttgart for five days, "kept the mthere and criminally assaulted them."

Mr. Eastland said that there were color lines in all parts of the country, "but down in Dixie we are a little more open with it than they are in the North." He said he was convinced that veterans from Pennsylvania and New York would return from the wars with the same attitude toward the Negro as that held in the South.

FEPC Death Likely as Rules Group Blocks Action on Funds by House

New York Times

By The Ass

WASHINGTON, June 28—The Rules Committee blocked today House action on any new funds for the Fair Employment Practice Committee as Senator Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi, prevented consideration of a proposed FEPC appropriation in the Senate.

Ten Rules Committee tabled a measure appropriating $125,000 to wind up the affairs of FEPC within three months, leaving the group no funds with which to operate after Saturday. 6-29-45

The action was taken in executive session without a record vote. The committee had previously refused to clear for House action a bill making the FEPC a permanent satutory agency.

The Rules Committee's determination not to approve any measures dealing with FEPC made it virtually certain that the FEPC would cease to exist at the end of the week.

Representative Colemer, Democrat, of Mississippi, a Rules Committee member, said that, should the Senate vote funds for FEPC in a pending supply bill, House opponents of the agency could block action on the Senate's move.

In the upper chamber, Senator Bilbo's desk was piled high with reading matter, and he announced he was preaching the funeral sermon of the FEPC. He began it yesterday afternoon. 6-29-45

Mr. Bilbo said that FEPC's funeral would be held Monday. That is the first business day of the new fiscal year. He proposes to hold the floor until the present fiscal year ends Saturday night, to Senator Chavez, Democrat, of New Mexico, from offering an amendment to the war agencies appropriation bill giving FEPC $446,200 to finance another year's policing of industry against racial and religious discrimination.

The Mississippian asserted that the proposal was a "smooth deliberate scheme to integrate the Negro race with the white and foster intermarriage and interbreeding."

Mr. Bilbo read editorials from Negro newspapers and an extract from The Daily Worker, but explained he was not a Communist. He read letters from Southern friends. 6-29-45

"How long does the Senator intend to speak?" a colleague asked.

"Until FEPC is dead," Mr. Bilbo replied.

Senator Chavez asserted that he was imperiling the life of sixteen war agencies by his filibuster. Mr. Bilbo said no, adding that it was Mr. Chavez who was doing the damage by his insistence on offering his amendment. Its adoption would require suspension of the rules and a two-thirds majority. Mr. Chavez challenged Senator Bilbo to let the Senate vote on it. The Mississippian said he was not taking any chances.

"I assure my friend from Mississippi," Senator Chavez said, "that he can filibuster until doomsday, but that motion will be offered."

6-29-45

"If you are so hell-bent on doing so I may not give you an opportunity to offer it."

Senator Smears U. S. Negro Troops As Fate of FEPC Hangs in Balance

PM 7-1-45

Eastland Lays Crimes in Europe to Colored Soldiers

By Charles A. Michie
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 30.—A malevolent assault on the integrity and fighting ability of American Negro soldiers in Europe made on the floor of the Senate by Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) was not confirmed today by the War Dept.

Eastland charged, during a second installment of Southern Democracy's filibuster against the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee), that Negro soldiers have caused the U. S. A. to "lose prestige all over Europe," that although they only "constituted one-twelfth of the American army . . . yet they were guilty of over one-half the crime."

Officials of the War Dept. said flatly they had "no comment whatever on the charges made by Sen. Eastland." The Senator did not in a single instance credit his information to any official source.

Forgets Some Facts

Eastland also declared there were 33 cases of criminal assault in Normandy from D-Day until May of this year "26 by Negroes and seven by Whites." What he didn't say was that almost all the soldiers left in Normandy when our armies plowed through Europe were service troops, most of them Negroes.

Eastland isn't half the freebooting filibusterer that his colleague Sen. Theodore (The Man) Bilbo, a fellow flower of the Old South, is. He talked for only three and three-quarter hours Friday afternoon and seemed glad to quit for a quorum call.

He was noticeably wilted when he slumped into his chair about 5 p.m. He had been talking vicious, irresponsible talk since 1:15.

Eastland began his afternoon chat before an empty House. Well, almost empty. There were two Republicans on hand, Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon and Sen. Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri. Not a Democrat, Southern or otherwise, was within earshot. During the afternoon a few members, who didn't

Sen. James O. Eastland

have anything better to do, drifted in, got an earful of the Eastland brand of ortatory and retired in hatse.

Even Bilbo Ran Out

Bilbo, who didn't draw much of an audience himself the day before, scuttled in at 3:45. Five minutes was all even he could stand. He didn't show up again until recess.

Sidney Hillman also felt the featherweight of Eastland wrath. He called him one of the "lowest and commonest communists in America," and demanded that he be deported. As a matter of fact, he said beating his manly breast, the FEPC is all a part of a communist plot to take over America. It involves stirring up the Negro, he added in explanation. He said we have more on Hillman than we ever had on Harry Bridges as grounds for deportation.

Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., Mex.), who is leading the fight for an FEPC appropriation if he ever gets to say anything, walked in one door of the Senate chamber, raised his eyebrows at Eastland's Palm Beach back and walked out.

"The Negro race is surely a most inferior race," intoned the American Democrat from Mississippi. "I have information that in the city of Stuttgart, Germany, between 2000 and 5000 "Christian, German white girls" were rounded up, herded into a subway station and there made the playthings of French Senegalese soldiers for four or five days. He didn't give a credit line on that one either.

"We are dealing with an inferior race," Eastland shouted at the empty seats around him and at the tourists in the gallery. "That's why I bring it into this debate. Negroes do not have the creative ability and genius of the white race.

"A man bereft of racial pride is weak," Eastland shouted. "I'm proud of the white race, a superior race, and I'm proud that pure white blood flows in my veins."

Personnel Lists

Then, winding up, Eastland produced the personnel lists of FEPC from cities all over the country. Of course, Bilbo had read them once before, but Eastland figures it isn't really in the record till he reads it. He went over them city by city, making careful note of how many Negroes and how many whites worked in each office.

"The Anglo-Saxon is the forgotten man in America today," he bleated. "This bill is not against discrimination. The whites are being discriminated aganst."

Somehow we missed the way Eastland managed to wangle Thomas E. Dewey into his speech. But he did it.

"The man who betrayed his race," he declared .(Dewey signed an anti-discrimination bill in New York State. Maybe that was it.) "The weakest man who was ever nominated for the Presidency of the United States."

It was at this juicy point that Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.)—just like Eastland except only a Representative—soft-footed into the chamber. He cased the joint, nodded approvingly at Eastland's good, respectable Mississippi sentiments, and plunked himself down on a couch. He was joined by Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.), who has been known to agree with some of the things the Southern gentlemen adhere to.

FEPC Fight Won By Southerners

Birmingham News July 1-1945

WASHINGTON, June 30—(AP)—Shouted objections from Southern Democrats in the House tonight blocked a Senate-approved compromise which would have financed the embattled Fair Employment Practices Committee for a year.

As a consequence, the $752,000,000 war agencies appropriation bill was sidetracked for the week-end, even though the fiscal year expires at midnight. 7-1-45

A temporary arrangement will finance all the departments—among them the OPA, War Production Board and other emergency agencies—except FEPC which will be without funds at midnight. The others are provided for in a deficiency appropriations but it doesn't include FEPC.

Negro Army Units Called 'Failure' By Senator

Richmond Time Dispatch

Eastman Cites Generals' Words In FEPC Attack

6-30-45

WASHINGTON, June 29—(AP)—Senator Eastland (D-Miss.), carrying on today the Southern filibuster against the FEPC, injected into the long discussion an assertion that Negro troops are "an utter and abysmal failure."

Flailing his arms and jerking his tie askew, the Mississippian declared "high-ranking generals" had told him on a recent European trip that the Negro troops would neither work nor fight.

In Normandy, he shouted, they criminally assaulted members of the families of French farmers.

"And we're asked here," he said, "to set up an unfair preference against a white soldier solely because the Negro minority sells its votes to the highest bidder in a political campaign. If it weren't for political considerations, this measure wouldn't get 10 votes in the Senate."

The FEPC—Fair Employment Practice Committee is its full name—was set up by executive order of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt to police industry against discriminations on account of race, creed, color or national origin.

Death Sentence Asked

Pummelled by Southerners as a breeder of racial disorder, the organization is gasping for legislative life against tomorrow's fiscal year end deadline. Eastland and other Southerners are fighting a move by Senator Chevez (D-N. M.) to appropriate it $446,200—or any part of that amount. They demand an absolute death sentence.

Their filibuster, however, is threatened by a move to limit debate through the parliamentary device of cloture. The decision will come Monday afternoon, unless a compromise is worked out meantime. Two-thirds of the Senators present must favor cloture if the talk is to be cut short.

Only a half-dozen Senators were on the floor as Eastland spoke, but the galleries were filled with visitors who had turned out in a frolicsome mood to see how a filibuster works. As the 40-year-old Senator slashed out at Negro soldiers, they shifted uneasily in their seats. Some turned covert glances at the Negro men and women among them.

Eastland opened with the same gambit used by his colleague Theodore G. Bilbo yesterday. He wasn't filibustering, he said; the whole thing was part of a gigantic plot to sovietize the United States; the racial purity of the white race must be maintained.

6-30-45

"Must Have Harmony"

"We must have racial harmony, we must have racial tolerance in the United States," he said.

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"The Negro soldier has been an utter and abysmal failure. I'm not saying that out of prejudice. That is what the responsible generals told us.

"Some of the Negro officers deserted their posts, the whole division without cause, rhyme or reason would quit fighting."

Assaults Reported

He said it was necessary to disarm "a good many Negro soldiers" in Normandy because they would go to French farmhouses under the pretense of hunting Germans, "call the men out into the yard and hold guns on them while they went in and criminally assaulted members of their family."

Eastland quoted American generals further as authority for a story that French Negro Senegalese troops locked 5,000 German girls in a subway at Stuttgart for five days "kept them there and criminally assaulted them."

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56d-1945

F.E.P.C.

Nationalists Work for Coalition Based on Hate

Try to Unite GOP Tories, Democratic Bigots

P.M. 7-1-45

By Tom O'Connor

The basic political strategy of the Nationalist movement in America—as explicitly stated in editorials of the Newspaper Axis—is to achieve a new coalition of forces opposed to the "internationalist" and "New Deal" policies of the Roosevelt-Truman wing of the Democratic Party and a smaller progressive section of the Republican Party.

The Nationalists believe that by playing upon the respective prejudices, hates, and fears of reactionary Southern Democrats and reactionary Northern and Western Republicans, they can gather enough strength to snow under the liberal, humanitarian wings of both major parties—those Democrats and Republicans who are concerned with securing a permanent peace by genuine international co-operation, and who believe in social progress at home.

Ultimately, the Nationalists hope to formalize this reactionary, isolationist coalition in a Nationalist Party—discarding the name "Republican" because of Southern prejudice against it. Pending the development of the right circumstances for such a move—the right circumstances being postwar economic chaos—they are anxious to develop informal working alliances on particular issues wherever possible.

7-1-45

Pledges Scrapped

The knifing of FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) by a coalition of white-supremacy Southern Democrats and anti-labor Northern and Western Republicans in Congress—each group forswearing its party's pledged word in the last national elections—is an instructive example of the manner in which the basic Nationalist political strategy can work out.

That Man Bilbo has been fronting for the coalition in his Senate filibuster. But the best illustration of the technique by which FEPC was assaulted is to be found in the speeches of two members of the House, a Southern Democrat and a Midwestern Republican—the rabid Nationalist John Rankin (D., Miss.) and Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.).

There were two possible approaches to the mobilization of opposition to FEPC.

One was to play upon race prejudice—principally in respect to the Negro, but also, and importantly, in respect to the Jew.

'Plot' Is Seen

The other was to play upon the dislike of business for any governmental regulation of its affairs, and the belief that continuation of FEPC would place further limits on business's cherished "right to hire and fire" in whatever arbitrary fashion it chose—a "right" already restricted by the upsurge of unionism under the Roosevelt administration.

The common denominator between these two approaches, as is so often the case, was the cry of "Communism." On the one hand, FEPC was represented as a Communist plot to turn the country over to the Jews and Negroes. On the other, it was represented as a Communist plot to extend governmental "regimentation" of business.

Rankin worked one side of the street, Hoffman the other. Each yelled "Communism," but Rankin slanted his remarks to appeal primarily to Jew-baiters and the white supremacy crowd, while Hoffman directed his fire principally to the business man.

The remarks of each on the House floor about FEPC were printed prominently and at length in the Chicago *Tribune*. From there they filtered out to the vermin press, and were printed over and over again in the pro-fascist sheets of small-fry fuehrers the country over—along with suitable original material.

The timing was perfect. Rankin and Hoffman were blowing off at every opportunity on the subject of FEPC during March and April. This gave their speeches time to reach the readers of the vermin press—and don't think there aren't a lot of them—before the issue came up for final disposition.

It's Picked Up

For example, on Apr. 27 Rankin made a speech calling FEPC "Earl Browder's baby," "the most dangerous piece of totalitarian, Communistic legislation ever proposed in the Congress of the United States," which would "stir up race trouble such as this country has never known," and so on. It was reprinted *in toto* in the June 16 issue of *X-Ray*, anti-Semitic sheet published in Muncie, Ind., by Court Asher, one of the group of pro-fascists indicted for sedition.

7-1-45

On Apr. 30 Hoffman made a long and rambling speech on FEPC. He worked up to his climax by saying the bill was needless because the Jews were running the country anyhow, and Negroes had more jobs than they deserved. But the nub of his argument was that a permanent FEPC would be a "snooping" agency with "arbitrary" power to interfere in the affairs of businessmen, and should be rejected for the same reason the Wagner Act should be repealed: "it would penalize employers."

It was this latter part of Hoffman's speech which the Chicago *Tribune* chose to play up in its news columns the next day. The vermin press picked that up, too. For example, the *Gentile News*, a Chicago hate sheet whose name is self-revelatory, printed the *Tribune* story verbatim as the lead article in its May issue (*see cut*).

Omissions

There were certain significant omissions from the list of anti-FEPC propagandists; certain important Nationalists and important Nationalist organs abstained from the fight.

For example, the New York *Daily News*, bellwether of the Nationalist flock most of the time, said nothing against FEPC editorially, did not play up anti-FEPC stories in its news columns. In fact, one of the few creditable editorials appearing in the *News* in recent years was the one favoring passage of the Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination bill in New York. That's right, *favoring*.

The fact that the *News* laid off on FEPC can be rationally explained only by its large Negro circulation. Professor James H. Sheldon of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, which has done an excellent job assembling evidence of the Nationalist fight against FEPC, points out that the *News* has been pretty tender about Negroes ever since its Harlem circulation started dropping off a couple of years ago because it was playing up "muggings."

7-1-45

The *Tribune*, while it did not editorialize against FEPC—Chicago's South Side is the second largest Negro community in the country—did give a big play to anti-FEPC stories when they had a "business regimentation" angle.

Pegler Comes Through

But if some Nationalist propagandists sat this one out, Hearst and his hatchet-boy, Westbrook Pegler, made up for any loss. The great poison pen artist of all time wrote for publication in last Tuesday's Hearst papers one of the great scurrilous columns of his career, with FEPC as his butt.

He was thinking, said Pegler, of going into business. He was going to borrow money from John Hartford, head of A&P, and open a school where a person with a good old American name like Smith or Jones could learn how to join a minority and get a job. He was going to have a supply of burnt cork on hand, and give courses in Negro and Jewish dialect. He gave samples of the dialect; they were so raw that even the New York *Journal-American*, not ordinarily squeamish about Pegler's mouthings, edited them out (but the Washington *Times-Herald* did not).

The appeal to race prejudice probably could not by itself have built up sufficient strength to kill FEPC in Congress. With both major parties pledged to it, with President Truman supporting it, with labor (except for the Jim Crow railroad brotherhoods) for it, and the bulk of the Catholic and Protestant as well, as Jewish clergy behind it, the race-hatelers were faced with a losing battle.

Pressure Helped

It is unquestionably the fact that the racists were able to pull reactionary Northern and Western business groups and their lobbyists into the anti-FEPC alliance which has brought them to the verge of victory.

7-1-45

The success of this coalition of reaction would give the Nationalists increased confidence that their basic political strategy is sound, that the time soon will be ripe to discard the progressive wing of the Republican Party and unite its Tory wing with Southern Bourbon Democrats in a Nationalist Party, dedicated to isolationism and to turning the clock back six or seven decades in domestic affairs.

Bilbo Lashes Fair Job Bill For 3½ Hours

Courier Journal

Disclaims Filibuster; Scores Mrs. Roosevelt

6-28-45

Washington, June 27 (AP)—For three hours and 32 minutes today, Senator Theodore G. Bilbo said he didn't want the F.E.P.C. in any shape or form. And he said if any senators think this is a filibuster, show up tomorrow and really hear one.

From 12:58 until 4:30, Bilbo droned on about the Fair Employment Practices Committee, charged it was trying to fuse white and Negro races and those who were for it only wanted the Negro vote. He as a Mississippi Democrat didn't need it.

Disclaims Filibuster.

He insisted it wasn't a filibuster but it sure looked the part. It had so much the air of one that Senator McKellar (D., Tenn.) and Majority Leader Barkley of Kentucky decided to seek a compromise.

McKellar pleaded that the situation was threatening a war agencies' appropriation bill, night sessions might be necessary and even the [illegible] fiscal year might end wi[illegible] cleaning up the money m[illegible]ures.

Bilbo said he couldn't help it; those who wanted to stick funds for the F.E.P.C. into the war agency bill were to blame.

So McKellar threw up his hands and moved to recess until noon tomorrow. Bilbo will still have the floor then.

6-28-45

Scores Mrs. Roosevelt.

"And like Tennyson's Brook, I can run on forever," Bilbo said.

Bilbo read from clippings, speeches and books, castigating advocates of the F.E.P.C. He let fly at Eleanor Roosevelt, who has backed the committee in her syndicated column. And he said:

"If this good woman had given one-half of the attention to the rearing and directing of the lives and affairs of her brood that she has been giving trying to force recognition and social equality for the Negro in America, she would not today be embarrassed with headline stories about some of her offspring."

Barkley Gives Up, Offers 6-Month FEPC Compromise

Leather-Lunged Bilbo Seen Likely to Drop Filibuster

PM

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Senate Democratic Leader Alben Barkley (D., Ky.), despite strong indications that the President's FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) could win a full year's appropriation, has offered a compromise which cuts the agency's funds in half.

The compromise, already accepted by Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.), probably will be accepted by filibustering Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D., Miss.) today.

Sen. Theodore 'The Man' Bilbo

In offering the compromise, obviously designed to offset a GOP move toward "cloture"—the rule to limit debate—Barkley walked into one of the most embarrassing political traps in his career as Democratic leader. 6-29-45

Hasty Move

Annoyed at the Republican move to get a cloture vote before the Senate and thus steal the credit from the FEPC supporters, Barkley put up his hasty compromise and then took a two-hour pounding from both the Southern filibusterers and the Republicans.

The cloture motion cannot be voted on until tomorrow under Senate rules. And in order to secure a vote on it then it had to be placed before the Senate last night.

Led by Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., O.), the Republicans stood together during a gruelling night session, and supported by 11 liberal Democrats, voted overwhelmingly against Barkley's motion to adjourn the Senate.

Barkley's attempt to end the session was greeted as a political move to try and prevent Taft and the Republicans from getting the cloture petition officially presented.

Admits Defeat

Finally Barkley, acknowledging defeat, yielded. But twice in a two-hour wrangle the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate was sent out to round up enough Senators to transact business.

The snarled parliamentary situation which forced the Senate into a rare session lasting until midnight nearly overshadowed the fact that the Barkley compromise is likely to be accepted.

Bilbo informed the Senate that he will consult "with colleagues in the Senate and House" today and announce his decision when the Senate meets at noon.

"Consulting with House members" means that Bilbo will try to get Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.) to approve the compromise. But Rankin is unlikely to yield. However, with funds for 16 war agencies hanging on the FEPC filibuster, Bilbo is expected to accept Barkley's offer.

Late yesterday the Republicans succeded in getting the necessary 16 Senators to sign a petition favoring the cloture rule.

The petition was started after Barkley failed in a series of backroom conferences to bring Chavez and the Southern Democrats together on a compromise.

Chavez and other supporters of a full appropiration for FEPC still claim they have enough votes to get the agency its money if the Senate will permit a vote directly on that issue. 6-29-45

Chavez and James M. Mead (R., N. Y.) support an appropriation of $446,200 for FEPC. Barkley proposes to cut it to $250,000—an amount which would reduce by almost 50 per cent the effectiveness of the agency which outlaws job discrimination.

Developments late last night followed a four-hour filibuster by Bilbo who yielded only to permit the Senate to pass a $39,000,000,000 War Dept. bill.

Subsequently he permitted other legislation to get consideration late in the evening.

Throughout the Bilbo anti-FEPC tirade, punctuated with insults to Negroes, Catholics and Jews, Republicans and Democrats joined in refusing to allow anyone to interrupt the one-man filibuster. This strategy was designed to prevent any of Bilbo's Southern colleagues from giving the sawed-off Mississippian a rest.

Barkley, who presented his compromise at 11 o'clock last night, stated that he personally favored the $446,200 fund to continue FEPC. He insisted, however, that FEPC, even if it was curtailed, could survive on "contributions."

As soon as Barkley concluded, Taft arose and declared "It is outrageous to filibuster against a general appropriation bill. I don't think the majority leader should do any compromising when two-thirds of the Senate want to vote on FEPC."

Chavez chimed in, "I think the majority leader is more at fault" (than the Southern filibusters).

On the stroke of midnight, the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms had failed to rouse from bed a single Senator needed to make the quorum.

Lacking a quorum Taft was prevented from forcing the cloture petition before the Senate so that it could be voted on tomorrow.

Consequently the petition was delayed another day and cannot now be acted on until Monday at the earliest. It must lie on the desk for two days and then be adopted by two-thirds of the Senate to limit debate to one hour per Senator and thus break the Southern filibuster on the War Agencies bill. 6-29-4

At midnight the Republicans still refused to allow an adjournment.

Despite the fact that the Southerners and Chavez apparently are in a mood for compromise, no authoritative spokesmen would predict that the filibuster is over.

The return of Sens. Richard Russell (D., Ga.) and Burnett Maybank (D., S. C.) from Europe today may signal a resumption of the talkfest by the Dixie Democrats. Russell last year talked for several days against FEPC funds.

At 12:15 a quorum was present and the cloture petition, signed by 23 Senators, was put before the Senate.

The Senate will vote at 1 o'clock Monday on whether to limit debate by cloture if the filibuster is still going at that time.

Earlier the House Rules Committee had tabled action appropriating $125,000 to FEPC to wind up its affairs within three months. This means the agency lacks funds to operate after tomorrow.

IN WASHINGTON

Talkingest Senator Trying to Kill FEPC

Detroit Free Press

Free Press Wire Services

WASHINGTON—Theodore G. (The Voice) Bilbo, of Poplarville, Miss., strengthened his claim Thursday as the talkingest man in the United States Senate.

His tonsils were humming with health and his desk was piled high with reading matter. The balding Mississippi Democrat announced that he was preaching the funeral sermon of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

6-29-45

Bilbo

Bilbo said that FEPC's actual funeral would be held Monday. That's the first business day of the new fiscal year.

He proposes to block action until the fiscal year ends Saturday midnight.

Bilbo began talking Wednesday, continued for four hours Thursday. Then he yielded the floor—for other business.

* * *

BILBO WANTS to keep Senator Dennis Chavez, New Mexico, Democrat, from offering an amendment to the War Agencies Appropriation Bill giving FEPC $446,200 for another year's policing of industry against racial and religious discrimination. 6-29-45

On the other side of the Capitol, the House Rules Committee drove nails into FEPC's coffin by tabling legislation to grant it $125,000.

Bilbo read editorials from Negro newspapers. He read a column by Westbrook Pegler, in dialect. He read an extract from the Daily Worker, but explained he wasn't a Communist. He read letters from southern friends.

56d-1945

One Week Left to Save the FEPC

6-24-45

The Worker

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee has just one more week of life unless Congress provides the funds to carry on the fight against discrimination in industry before the June 30 deadline.

Victory is possible, since the Senate Appropriations Committee voted, 14 to 4, this week, to back an amendment to the War Agencies Appropriations bill, providing $446,000 funds for FEPC. The House Appropriations Committee had deleted an FEPC provision.

Victory is necessary to prevent race riots during reconversion, says Malcolm Ross, FEPC Chairman, who points out that there were 26 such riots in 1919. America had no government protection against job discrimination during that other reconversion period. 6-24-45

Ross will have more to say about this in Madison Square Garden, June 25, when he speaks at the big Negro labor victory rally.

FEPC's road is still rocky, however. Opponents of the bill will be ready to raise points of order to prevent the introduction of a special appropriations amendment in the Senate. A two thirds vote will suspend the Senate rules and prevent such point of order from being raised, and that two thirds vote can't be gotten unless every possible supporter of FEPC is in his seat when the count is taken.

Then after the Senate passes the FEPC amendment the House must act before the June 30 deadline.

Yet the job can be done. The 14 to 4 vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee, shows that Congress is feeling the pressure from the folks back home.

Meanwhile the campaign to get 218 signatures of the House to sign the petition to bring the bill for a permanent FEPC to the floor continues. More than 80 names must still be attached. 6-24-45

The bill won a smashing victory in the House, with a 251 to 105 vote. It will poll a majority in the Senate also if the handful of southern filibusterers can be silenced.

Mostof the Southerners will not take part in the poll tax filibuster. But the Bilbos will still try to talk the bill to death. They can be beaten by the adoption of cloture—the rule to limit debate. The test of the sincerity of every professed anti-polltax Senator will come in the cloture vote.

Citizens writing letters to their Senators or visiting their offices should get them to promise to vote for cloture as well as for the anti-polltax bill.

Republicans Blamed For FEPC Failure

Birmingham News

6-26-45

NEW YORK, June 26 — (AP) — Charging the House with "double-dealing" in refusing to pass legislation calling for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, Rep. Powell (D., N. Y.) says Republican support of the measure would have resulted in legisaltion on the issue.

"I charge," the Negro congressman said at the annual Negro Freedom rally at Madison Square Garden yesterday "that there has been double-dealing on both sides of the aisle as regards FEPC.

"I further charge that if the Republican party had supported the FEPC the same as it supported the abolition of the poll tax legislation today would be enacted on the FEPC."

Declaring the Negro race was not "Beholden to anyone political party," Powell said, "We will not compromise, we refuse to be neutral, and we are not even going to mark time."

He said one of the results of congressional failure to approve the FEPC "should be an immediate mass migration" of the Negre people "in those sections of America where there is no hope" for them, "leaving the land of doom to rot in its own filth." 6-26-45

President Truman, in a message to the rally, extended "hearty greetings to all who gather to reaffirm the faith in the policies and principles of my lamented predecessor, firm in the conviction that the Fair Employment Practice Committee which he brought into being is an instrument to promote national unity."

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, asserted that until race prejudice was "licked there will be no secure place in American industry, for working men and women, for employers, or for the public."

F.E.P.C.

Truman Asks Aides Support FEPC Today

Daily Worker 6-25-45

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, June 24.—President Truman is understood to have sent a strong message from the West Coast to his White House aides, asking them to spare no effort in mobilizing Democratic senators in support of the anti-job discrimination appropriation measure, which comes before the upper house tomorrow (Monday).

CIO President Philip Murray meanwhile is pressing Republican and Democratic leaders to keep their campaign pledges to back the work of the Fair Employment Practises Committee. 6-25-45

Funds to continue the temporary wartime FEPC expire June 30. FEPC will be dead July 1, unless Congress passes the Senate amendment to the War Agencies Appropriation Bill to provide funds.

Murray raised the campaign pledge issue in wires to Herbert Brownell chairman of the Republican National Committee, and to Robert Hannegan, Democratic Committee chairmen.

"Failure to support the continuation of the wartime agency can only be construed as a failure to live up to the party's pledge to press for the creation of a permanent Fair Employment Practises Committee," he told Brownell.

The CIO leader reminded Hannegan that: "The Democratic Party waged its election campaign on the basis of President Roosevelt's program.

"The creation of the Fir Employment Practises Committee," continued Murray, "was one of the late President great contributions to the growth of American democracy in the course of the war, and failure to extend the life of the agency would be a grave departure from his program."

Yet the peril that Murray speaks of is great. The life of FEPC hangs by a thread. Unless the Senate votes two to one (by a two-thirds vote) the FEPC appropriation item will not be acted upon. 6-25-45

The two-thirds vote would suspend the Senate rules, which otherwise would permit opponents to raise points of order against voting on the FEPC item. The point-of-order crowd would argue that the item should have been acted on by the House. But provision for FEPC funds had been kept out of the War Agencies Appropriations bill in the House by a tricky maneuver of the House Appropriations Committee, which in turn was under pressure from a clique of Negro-baitners in the powerful Rules Committee.

FIGHTING CHANCE 6-25-45

A two-thirds vote is hard to get. But the case against job discrimination is very strong. Few northern Senators dare to vote against an FEPC measure. So there's a real, fighting chance to win this decisive battle this week.

Speed is needed with the June 30 deadline just one week off. The House has to ratify the appropriation after the Senate has acted. Yet FEPC's foes want to delay a vote till Sen. Burnet Maybank (DSC) and Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga) return from a tour of Europe, and Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex) is back from San Francisco.

All three are anti-FEPC.

Mass support for the right-to-work masure was reflected in one of the biggest mass meetings that Washington has seen. More than 1,500 Negroes and whites, with the two races almost evenly divided, overflowed the Interior Department Auditorium this weekend and applauded such speakers as Frank Harper, Solicitor General of the Department of the Interior; Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Canda Lee, noted Negro actor; Thomas Richardson, Negro leader and vice-president of the CIO's United Federal Workers union; George G. Higgins, representative of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, Marcus Cohen of the American Jewish Committee; Rev. Francis McPeak chairman of the Social Welfare Committee of the Washington Federation of Churches, and others.

12-Hour Senatorial Talk On FEPC Brings On 'Rationing' Move

Birmingham News

6-29-45

BY FRANCIS J. KELLY

WASHINGTON, June 29—(AP)—A 12-hour, 32-minute session that ended early today brought the Senate face-to-face with a decision whether to ration oratory.

Sen. Taft (R., Ohio) and 31 colleagues representing both major parties presented a rarely-accepted cloture petition to limit senatorial debate.

Most of the free and unlimited conversation which began at noon yesterday centered on a controversial proposal to vote operating funds to the Fair Employment Practice Committee, a division of government which has a minimum of support from Southern senators.

* * *

THERE WERE OTHER MATTERS—Sen. Tom Connally's report on the United Nations Conference, final Senate approval of the long-disputed price control extension bill and a 38½ billion dollar War Department appropriation.

But the great bulk of the wordage was spilled on the FEPC proposition. Sen. Bilbo (D., Miss.) and a potent, talkative bloc of Southerners opposed it on their contention that it spelled trouble between the races, friction in industry and governmental meddling in business. 6-29-45

Sen. Chavez (D., N. M.) fought for it just as vigorously, contending the Southerners were attempting to thwart the will of a majority of the Senate.

The committee, established by executive order of the late President Roosevelt, is designed to prevent discrimination because of race, color, creed or national origin.

* * *

CHAVEZ SEEKS TO WRITE A $446,200 appropriation for FEPC into a $770,000,000 omnibus bill carrying funds to support a score of war agencies such as selective service, the War Production Board and the Office of Defense Transportation.

Theoretically, if the bill isn't passed by midnight tomorrow, the end of the current fiscal year, none of the agencies will have any operating funds. Practically, the situation won't be quite that acute.

The filibuster against FEPC was based on the nearness of that deadline. 6-29-45

Under Senate rules, the cloture petition can't be voted on until Monday. Unless a deal is worked out meanwhile, it will be called up immediately after President Truman gets through asking the chamber in person to ratify the United Nations Charter.

Attempts to apply cloture bob up almost every session. If successful, it means every senator is limited to a total of one hour of talk on the pending question.

MY DAY

Courier-Journal

Georgians think immediate establishment of F.E.P.C. a necessary prelude to peace

By Eleanor Roosevelt

HYDE PARK—I have just received from the State of Georgia a copy of a petition which some citizens of that state have sent to the members of the Congress of the United States, urging the enactment of the Fair Employment Practice Commission bill.

"Establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is supported by some 60-odd national organizations," the petition states. "Both the Republican Party and the Democratic Party are committed to such legislation by their party platforms as well as by the fact that the presidential nominees of both parties promised support to this legislation in the last national campaign. 6-26-45

"We are approaching the end of our military war. Events are moving swiftly. We cannot afford to permit our actions to lag behind the tempo of irresistible forces."

The petition is signed by many of the finest and most progressive white citizens of Georgia, as well as by many highly respected colored citizens. Mass meetings have been held in favor of the enactment of this legislation in both Washington and New York, and, I imagine, in other places.

FROM OUR DOMESTIC point of view, I think it is of great importance to us that we establish once and for all the principle that there shall be no discrimination in economic opportunity among our citizens. It is not only the colored people who are concerned. We have many other minority groups who have felt the pressure of discrimination when it came to the question of employment.

We have fought a war to establish the dignity of the individual—his freedom and his equal rights as a human being. We cannot very well permit at home conditions which would curtail, or make more difficult, that freedom from want which is one of the basic freedoms that must exist side by side with political and religious freedom.

Most of us believe it essential that we accept as a responsibility of government, in conjunction with industry and agriculture, the obligation to provide full employment. We know that only with full employment can everybody have a job. But if jobs are curtailed, we must prevent the bitterness that would come if the curtailment occurred largely among minority groups.

6-26-45

THIS IS IMPORTANT not only as a domestic issue, but as an international issue. The peoples of the world who are looking at the United States are sizing up our attitude toward them in relation to our attitude toward the citizens belonging to minority groups in our own country. These people of foreign nations will lack confidence in their equality of opportunity, where we are concerned, if they see us deny that equality to minority groups at home.

The courage shown by the people of Georgia should be an inspiration to the people in the rest of our country, and I hope that we will overwhelmingly register our wishes with our representatives for economic democracy within our borders.

No Relief To Negroes

Atlanta Journal

Governor Arnall has been thrown into a great quagmire because of the statement ascribed to him at Louisville, Ky. last Tuesday on the Negro question. Quoting from the words of an interview with the governor, a Louisville Times reporter reported Mr. Arnall as saying: "What the hell difference does it make if you sit down and eat with Negroes, visit them in their homes, and talk to them." The governor denies such a statement of his views. And as a consequence, he released to the Associated Press on Wednesday a follow-up statement should be of greater concern to Negroes of Georgia, at least, than the first.

He professes a deep interest in and love for Negroes. He says that he believes in "economic equality" for the Negro but in the next breath, he states his opposition against the FEPC, which is the only agency ever designed to guarantee economic equality for Negroes. He states further, that in his own state, where the colored people constitute better than a third of the population, they have always voted in the general elections, and thus he believed in political justice for them. In brief, Governor Arnall wants economic equality for Negroes but he does not desire a Fair Employment Practices Committee to bring it about; he wants Negroes to vote as a matter of justice and fairness, but he does not want them to be permitted to participate in the established and recognized machinery which will assure them an effective ballot in the local and state government. 6-29-45

Of course, what the governor is saying represents his own personal views, and hence is part of the American pattern of free speech. Nevertheless, as Negroes, we could never hope to enjoy a status of full equality, which is the only reasonable course Negroes should and can pursue. Equality of privilege, equality of economic opportunity political equality, and every other privilege and opportunity guaranteed to every other citizen, is what the Negro wants. Some of these the Negro must have here and now. Among these are political equality and economic equality, in their broadest and most liberal interpretations. These can't wait. Negroes must have an opportunity to vote for the type of government under which he is forced to live and he must have an opportunity to compete in an open and free market for a living.

FEPC Filibuster

The Washington Post

Filibusters are never threatened by men willing to trust to majority rule. The diehard foes of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, for example, know that their colleagues in the Senate, if given an opportunity, would vote funds for continuance of the agency. So they propose to frustrate the will of the majority by a species of legislative blackmail—not scrupling to hold up matters of vital national and international concern which await congressional action. This is the pattern they followed in the House as well as in the Senate. In the House, legislation to establish a statutory Fair Employment Practice Commission was kept bottled up by the Rules Committee, so that members could not vote on it. And now in the Senate, a handful of bankrupt men propose to forbid even an appropriation for the existing FEPC created by executive order four years ago. 6-27-45

With a small staff and limited funds, the FEPC has worked effectively to break down the barriers of bigotry in American industry and to open up job opportunities for the members of disadvantaged minority groups. In doing this, the agency helped significantly toward full mobilization of the Nation's manpower for prosecution of the war. It was intolerable that racial prejudice should have kept men out of mines and mills when men were desperately needed to carry on vital war work. And it remains intolerable today. The war is not ended, and the fullest use of manpower on our production lines is necessary to bring it to its speediest possible conclusion.

In the reconversion problems that will beset us with the war's end, the FEPC will be no less urgently needed. It will be needed if the change-over from war to peace production is to be accomplished with minimum dislocation and with a decent regard for minority rights. It will be needed as a symbol of the Government's concern if we are to preserve the faith of minority groups in the democratic process. It will be needed if the education toward tolerance to which all Americans must subscribe is to be accelerated. It is against all this, against the elementary concepts of fair play, that the filibusterers aim to set themselves. We hope that an outraged Senate will sweep them aside. 6-27-45

56d-1945

F.E.P.C.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD-TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023
JUN 20 1945

F. E. P. C. Rally Protests House Delay on Bill

Truman in Wire to Meeting Here Reiterates Need for an Anti-Bias Commission

Eleven speakers, representing numerous religious and racial minorities, warned last night that discontinuation of the Fair Employment Practices Commission will undermine morale at the front and at home by jeopardizing American war aims, will weaken this country's international prestige at a critical time in history, and will lead, in the post-war era, to intensified friction on the domestic scene.

The speakers, addressing a rally at Town Hall, 123 West Forty-third Street, were unanimous in their denunciations of the Congressmen responsible for thwarting House action on a pending bill to create a permanent F. E. P. C. while simultaneously cutting off further appropriations for the existing temporary agency established by President Roosevelt.

President Harry S. Truman indorsed the protest meeting, sponsored by the Council Against Intolerance in America and forty other organizations, in a telegram reaffirming his belief that it is "unthinkable" to abandon the principles of F. E. P. C.

"I desire now to reiterate to the F. E. P. C. rally and to my countrymen what I said in my message to Chairman (Adolph J.) Sabath (of the House Rules Committee)," President Truman wrote. "The principle and policy of fair employment practice should be established permanently as a part of our national law."

Pearl S. Buck, author, keynoted the meeting in the opening speech by stating: "All I can say is that those of us who are not white, adult, Protestant gentile males must fight this narrow provincialism and this dangerous prejudice with all our might, not so much because it makes us absurd in the eyes of the world—as it does—not because it is giving American prestige in Asia away to Russia—as it is—but simply because our bread depends upon it."

The Rev. John LaFarge, editor of the Roman Catholic journal "America," urged the continuation of F. E. P. C. not as "mere political prudence" but as "a simple proposal of right and wrong."

Canada Lee, Negro actor, took issue with those who believe it impossible to legislate against prejudice. He noted that some existing laws legislate in favor of prejudice, such as the rule banning Negro reporters from the press section in Congress and relegating them to public galleries, where note-taking is prohibited.

Other speakers included Senator Dennis Chavez, of New Mexico; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, president of Federal Council of Churches in America; Rabbi J. X. Cohen, of the Free Synagogue; Walter White, Negro author; John Brophy, labor leader, and Captain J. A. Freeman, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

FEPC OPPONENTS IN SENATE READY FOR FILIBUSTER

Friends Of Agency Hope To Get Appropriation For Continuance

Birmingham Age-Herald

WASHINGTON, June 24—(AP)—Senate foes of the Fair Employment Practices Commission served notice today they will resort to filibuster tactics if the agency's friends insist on funds to keep it alive after July 1. 6-26-45

"Why should we throw away that money?" demanded Sen. Bilbo (D., Miss.). "I will talk till Christmas if necessary to stop funds for a lot of peckerwoods to go around and meddle into other people's business."

Sen. Johnston (D., S. C.) said he would help and that he understood there were a lot of other senators who felt the same way. Asked if that meant a filibuster, both senators said they would prefer to call it "extended explanation."

Friends of FEPC hope to write $446,200 for it into the war agencies appropriation bill which comes up for Senate action tomorrow. The measure carries $771,538,765 to finance a score of war-born agencies in the fiscal year beginning July 1. Among them are the War Labor Board, the Office of Defense Transportation and the Office of War Information.

House Refuses Funds

The House refused any funds for FEPC, but the Senate appropriations committee authorized Sen. Chavez (D., N. M.) to offer from the Senate floor an amendment to provide the $446,200. Under the Senate's rules, a two-thirds vote will be required for its adoption.

Chavez is the author of legislation which would create a permanent FEPC with broader powers than the present agency which President Roosevelt set up by executive order to deal with employment discrimination because of race, creed or color. Sen. Ellender (D., La.) and others have said they would filibuster if that measure ever comes up on the Senate floor. It has been approved by the education and labor committee.

Aside from FEPC, the only point of controversy in the war agencies appropriation bill is the amount to be allotted OWI. 6-25-45

OWI Request Is Cut

The House cut OWI's request of $42,000,000 down to $18,000,000, but the Senate committee raised it back to $39,670,215 after President Truman and high military leaders said the agency's overseas operations would have to be taken over by the Army if the funds were denied.

Sen. Chandler (D., Ky.) has voiced objections to what he termed attempting to "export democracy" to Europe "by propaganda." If this country does that, he said, it cannot object to efforts to "export communism" to it.

OWI, however, has strong bipartisan support, and Senate leaders said they thought there would be no difficulty over the appropriation for it.

FEPC and Jobs

Rich Mond Times Dispatch

A CONSTANT and continuing effort to provide adequate job opportunities for colored persons, especially in the postwar era, when the Negro soldiers and sailors return to civil life, is of great importance. While the sort of permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee that is provided for in the pending NORTON bill impresses us as apt to do our colored citizens more harm than good, it is essential that reasonable protection be given to colored workers in the coming years.

The best solution of this complicated problem remains to be determined. REPRESENTATIVE CLIFTON WOODRUM, of Roanoke, who is opposed to the NORTON bill—like every other Southern legislator of whom we have knowledge—said recently on the floor of the House:

"In my judgment great good could come of a sensible and reasonable racial-relations division in the Department of Labor. A group dedicated to improving race relationships and understanding in the economic field by the application of the principles of reason and justice. I should certainly like to see it honestly tried." 6-23-45

Here is a suggestion that is worth pondering. Incoming LABOR SECRETARY SCHWELLENBACH may have some ideas on the subject. He intends to shake up the department which MISS PERKINS has been administering for the past 12 years, and MR. WOODRUM'S proposal might appeal to him. 6-23-45

Continuation of the FEPC, as now constituted, is desirable, in the absence of anything better. This agency expires June 30, unless appropriations for its further operation are made available by Congress. For a time, it appeared that both the new type of FEPC and the old type would be liquidated in committee, but it seems now that funds to keep the existing agency alive probably will be forthcoming. It functions without the drastic penalties provided in the NORTON bill, and relies more heavily on persuasion to achieve its ends. It can do a good deal after the war to provide job opportunities for minority groups.

At the same time, it would seem definitely worth while for CONGRESSMAN WOODRUM'S proposal to be explored further. He did not go into detail concerning it on the House floor, but perhaps he will do so shortly.

FEPC Must Go On

Daily Worker

TWO weeks ago it seemed almost certain that the temporary FEPC was doomed. The House Appropriations Committee had denied funds to the anti-discrimination agency. And it appeared likely that a powerful group of polltax Senators would be able to block Senate action restoring the appropriation. It was believed by many that the only hope was to get the permanent FEPC bill passed as soon as possible. 6-22-45

Against this background the action of the Senate Appropriations Committee Wednesday in restoring the $599,000 for FEPC cut by the House Committee is all the more significant.

Here is a clear-cut victory for the vigorous campaign on behalf of FEPC waged by Negro, labor and other groups. This pressure is the only explanation for the decision of all but one of the Republicans on the committee, most of them cool to FEPC and anti-polltax legislation, to vote for restoring the appropriation.

As President Truman has put it, it would be "unthinkable" if FEPC were eliminated at this time. It would be a major blow at the national unity still urgently required to beat Japan. It would be a bitter affront to the Negro and to all minorities, a serving of notice that they will be thrown on the industrial ash-heap as soon as the war is over.

It would be "unthinkable"—but it is still not impossible that FEPC will be eliminated. One of the leading Senate polltaxers, Kenneth D. McKellar (D-Tex), is presiding officer of the Senate, and it will probably be necessary to overrule him by a two-thirds vote to get the FEPC appropriation on the floor. Even after passing the Senate, FEPC will still be subjected to tricky parliamentary attacks in the House.

So it will take vigilance plus plenty of pressure on Congress to assure approval of the FEPC appropriation. This is the first step. Then the campaign for the permanent FEPC bill must be intensified and strengthened. FEPC has become an integral part of the democratic American tradition. It cannot be discontinued.

FEPC Can Be Won Now

PM

THE NATION'S first permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, established by New York's Ives-Quinn law, begins to function Monday. 6-24-45

As in the case of most other major advances in social progress made in America, New York State has been the first to respond to the pressure of necessity and popular demand. The elimination of the barbaric practice of discrimination in employment is on the order of the day in the entire nation. There will be no let-up in the fight to gain this until at least the instruments for realizing it have been established and are functioning properly.

The New York law was won because the demand for it was so overwhelming and so insistent that a group of reactionary Republicans that tried to block it at the recent session of the State Legislature were thoroughly routed. This was one law that was literally dictated and spelled out by the people of the state.

Despite the pledge contained in the 1944 GOP election platform on behalf of FEPC, the fact that no such committees are being established in such states as California, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Connecticut and elsewhere must be laid directly at the door of the Republicans. The GOP blocs in the legislatures of those states lined up almost solidly to defeat proposals similar to the New York measure.

But the central fight, of course, is that taking place in Washington today. At this writing, no funds have yet been voted for the continuation of the temporary FEPC. It is an ironical twist of fate that, unless those funds are voted at once, the nation's wartime FEPC will technically go out of existence at the moment the New York State FEPC begins to function. 6-24-45

The battle for an appropriation for the temporary wartime FEPC must be continued until won. At the same time, however, it is essential that the struggle for a permanent FEPC be renewed with all the force popular opinion can muster. At this moment, that requires that congressmen be gotten to sign the discharge petition which will dislodge the permanent FEPC bill from the House Rules Committee and permit it to come to the floor for a vote.

With cutbacks hitting the country at an increasing rate, the problem of Negro employment is becoming ever more acute. We cannot wait much longer for effective action against Jimcrow or discrimination against other groups in jobs.

As for the New York FEPC, it has a special responsibility now in demonstrating its effectiveness. The people, who have won the fight to establish it, now have the additional job of maintaining vigilance to see that it does its work right.

Move to Kill FEPC Hit on House Floor

Daily Worker

6-27-45

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 26. — Rep. George H. Bender (R-O), today accused Chairman Clarence Cannon (D-Mo) of the House Appropriations Committee of subterfuge in regard to FEPC.

Rep. Cannon promptly developed a case of FEPC nerves, with Republicans joining in defensively in an attempt to explain their various positions.

Meanwhile, in the Senate, the motion to restore funds for FEPC, which Sen. Dennis Chavez (D-NM), is to make on behalf of the Senate Appropriations Committee, awaited completion of debate on the War Agencies bill, which may come tomorrow. Southern opponents will attempt to prolong action awaiting Sens. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga), and Burnet R. Maybank (D-SC), who are slated to return from Europe Saturday. But the bill must be on the President's desk Saturday or the war agencies will be without funds.

Rep. Bender, a forthright supporter of FEPC, describing the altercation with Cannon on the floor of the House, said later:

"I said that while he was telling Congress he did right by FEPC, in effect his committee wrung her neck by reporting out funds to liquidate the agency. He claimed that they just voted to extend the agency three months subject to legislative action. I said we weren't operating under legislative action, but an executive order. 6-27-45

"I told him moreover that there was no reason for his committee to fail to include appropriations for the agency."

SOUTHERN EDITORS TAKE CRACKS AT THE FEPC

The Plain Dealer

Atlanta. (ANP)—The position of two Southern newspapers, the Atlanta Constitution and the Birmingham Age-Herald, last week gave moral support to the fight being waged in congress against both appropriations for the war agency and enactment of permanent FEPC legislation. 6-29-45

John Temple Graves, who in years past has posed as a "friend of the Negro" and self styled "states rights liberal," sniping at the present and proposed FEPC, came forth in his Birmingham Age Herald column with a suggestion that the southern states set up little fair employment commissions of their own.

"Nothing parliamentary the south does or can do to stop passage of the proposed permanent federal fair employment practices commission will be too extreme," asserts Mr. Graves. "To defeat the bill will be to serve the Negro as much as the white man in the south, the employed as much as the employer. It is a monstrosity. That President Truman should have endorsed it is a comment only on the total inability of anybody outside the south, no matter how well intentioned, to understand the situation.

"They just don't understand, and we of this part of the country have to fight them with our fingers crossed in the sense of not holding it against them even as we utterly oppose them.

"Meanwhile the south needs fair employment practices commissions of its own. Not the trouble-making monstrosity they have set up in New York, and certainly not the social reform affair the present federal one at Washington has become and the proposed permanent would be. But, rather, state committees devoted in good faith to assisting the Negro here to all the economic opportunity and advancement he can take. It would not deny southern employers the right to employ whom they please and it would certainly make no attempt to eliminate racial preferences by law. 6-29-45

"But with prestige and public backing enhanced by the sympathy it would be known to have for southern institutions and points of view, it could help the Negro towards better economic chances in these peacetimes coming, and to the blessed tune of good will between races."

The Atlanta Constitution, while not quite as caustic as Mr. Graves, appeared peeved over the fact that more than 700 Georgians of both races signed a petition forwarded to congressmen urging them to support FEPC legislation.

"A number of Atlanta's citizens have signet a petition, which is being circulated for other signatures asking congress to support President Harry S. Truman's request that legislation creating a permanent fair employment practices committee be enacted," it said.

"The Constitution, appreciating forthrightness and decision, sincerely regrets it cannot lend its endorsement to the present proposal. None can dispute the principle of the FEPC. Certainly no American citizens should be discriminated against because of religion or race.

"The Constitution wishes to make it clear it withholds support of the FEPC for reasons other than those usually advanced. There are claims the FEPC requires employers to hire Negroes. That is not true. There are charges the FEPC would take over the right of an employer to hire the workers he wishes. That is not true. Those are the claims of ignorance and prejudice and they are unworthy of acceptance. The FEPC legislation as proposed does not make it obligatory to hire any person. It establishes no quota of any race or religion which must be hired. It sets up no percentages. Those charges, often published, are not true.

"Nevertheless, the bill is an attempt to legislate social and economic morals. There is a police or enforcement provision. It is a spiritual relation of the late prohibition legislation. It is at once obvious that a growing enforcement force would follow this attempt at coercion in the field of mortality, just as it did in the unhappy prohibition legislation with its army of shooting marauding enforcement officers. We do not believe there would be this particular phase of it in the enforcement of an FEPC, but there would, of necessity, be a national enforcement department. 6-29-45

"The Constitution does not agree that coercion by police enforcement can bring about the desired result. It believes the principal and objective sought would be farmed and retarded by the bill as introduced. A bill providing for conciliation and application to government contracts is quite different from one which applies generally to all businesses affected by interstate commerce and employing more than six persons, with police provisions for enforcement. It is an attempt to make social and economic morality a matter for the police. We respectfully dissent."

56d-1945

DETROIT, MICH.
FREE PRESS
Circ. D. 322,683 — S. 301,788

JUN 18 1945

Fair and Full Employment

The FEPC

THE six members of the Rules Committee who are keeping from House consideration the bill to create a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission are playing with fire.

All of them are Democrats. All are from Southern and Border States. They constitute half the membership of the committee that decides when and if bills shall be sent to the floor for debate and disposition.

The two Northern Democrats and four Republicans on the Committee voted last week to report the Norton FEPC bill to the House, as President Truman had requested. The six reactionaries voted against doing so. There was a tie. The motion was lost. The bill remains in committee.

* * *

ANY INJURY the Democratic Party may suffer from the schism over poll taxes and FEPC will be slight compared to the injury it is likely to inflict on the Nation as a whole.

The racial problem is bound to be further aggravated by this stifling of legislation designed to secure equality of economic opportunity for the Negroes.

That problem is nothing to trifle with.

The FEPC was created by President Roosevelt by executive order, as a temporary war measure. The purpose was to promote maximum war production.

An advisory body, without statutory authority, the FEPC achieved a reputation that justified the demand that it be made a legal and permanent institution. The Republican Party recognized this demand in its 1944 platform.

Yet, when a bill is introduced in Congress to set up a permanent FEPC, a half-dozen members of the House prevent it from coming to a vote.

* * *

WE CAN'T have full employment until we have fair employment. We can't have maximum production as long as a tenth of our population is discriminated against in getting and holding jobs.

The economic discrimination from which the Negroes suffer is responsible for far more than bitter race feeling.

The excess illiteracy, crime and disease among the Negroes are related to the poverty and overcrowding to which this discrimination leads.

As long as these conditions exist, the Negroes, as a race, are effectually barred from making the contribution to our national economy which, if given the opportunity, they are not only able but anxious to make.

The "Negro question" is no longer a Southern matter. As a result of migration it has become a national concern, affecting the North as well.

The "Negro problem" is neither a Negro nor a white problem, but a problem for which both Negroes and whites are responsible, and which both races must work together to solve.

* * *

THE rise of the Negroes from slavery to their present estate is one of the marvels of history. They could not have achieved as much as they have without white assistance. Their leaders admit this. They admit, too, that further progress requires inter-racial co-operation.

The Negroes have their responsibilities, as well as their rights. They must recognize that by coming into Northern cities in great waves they have created problems of housing and adjustment which it will take time to solve. Those who feel like pushing whites around will do well to get the chips off their shoulders. They can gain nothing by force. A minority, they will always get the worst of a fight. They should be patient.

Yet it is futile to counsel the Negroes to patience unless it is accompanied by tangible evidence that an honest attempt is being made to obtain for them the justice to which they are entitled.

Obstructionism in the House Rules Committee, and the obvious disinclination in our own City Hall in Detroit to come to grips with a delicate and stubborn problem, weaken the influence of moderate Negro leaders and play into the hands of the firebrands.

The tension is bound to increase when nearly a million Negroes in the armed forces are added to other millions seeking to obtain or retain jobs in the reconversion period.

THE creation of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is one of the lesser contributions that can be made to the easing of this tension.

A petition signed by 218 members of the House can discharge the Committee and get the Norton bill out of its pigeonhole.

Already 125 members are said to have agreed to this action. Any member of the House, with a full understanding of the dangerous possibilities inherent in further delaying, or defeating, the FEPC bill should sign the petition to bring it to a vote.

A little group of wilful men in a single committee of one branch of Congress should not be allowed to invite upon the country the consequences of their personal or regional prejudices.

RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS-LEADER
Cir. D. 81,214

JUN 1945

TIME OR LAW IN F. E. P. C.

If there is one sound, unescapable principle in the race relationships of industry, it is that a man should be paid according to the importance, the skill and the volume of work he does, and not according to the color of the hands that do the work. This principle admits of no denial that has reason, justice or morals behind it. The question now is whether law or time will give the better assurance of acceptance of this principle. In those regions where the wages and consequent living standards of Negroes are lowest, the enforcement of the Fair Employment Practices Code will be balked in one way or another. If no other method of circumventing the law will be found, ostracism will be the painful lot of the Negro who attempts to hold a job by force of law. Time undoubtedly will operate in the other direction among those who have shared with Negroes the vigils and the dangers of war. The impasse comes when Negroes say, not unnaturally, "Time is too slow."

NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUN
Circ. D. 277,172

JUN 26 1945

NEGRO RALLY TOLD TO FIGHT RACE BIAS

Mass migrations and picket campaigns were among the strong measures of protest advocated last night for the Negro people in the event that the Congress fails to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. of Harlem addressing the third annual Negro Freedom rally attended by more than 20,000 persons at Madison Square Garden, said:

"In those sections of America where there is no hope for the Negro people there should be an immediate mass migration, leaving the land of doom to rot in its own filth," declared Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. of Harlem, at the third annual Negro Freedom rally, attended by more than 20,000 persons at Madison Square Garden.

"Wherever we are concentrated in the North, West and Far West, we shall—along with the right-thinking whites of our areas—conduct picket campaigns to make sure that there shall be no discrimination. We did it before Pearl Harbor, and we can do it now."

He explains that by migration he means leaving those sections of the country where the people saw no hope for their futures.

President Truman sent a message to the rally reiterating his support of the bill that would make the FEPC a permanent agency of the Federal Government.

Some of the speakers advocated closer collaboration between the United States and Russia and greater autonomy for the peoples of India and the Far East. Speakers included Oscar Ewing, vice-chairman of the Democratic National Committee; Malcolm Ross, chairman of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee; Salvatore Garcia Aguerro, member of the Cuban Senate.

Miss Ruth Henning, 24-year-old war worker of 1798 Pacific street, Brooklyn, was chosen "Miss Negro Victory Worker of 1945" and was given a War Bond.

Break the Filibuster

Daily Worker

ON THURSDAY Negro troops carried out successful landings on six islands in the Marianas.

On the same day Sen. Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi continued his filibuster against FEPC with unspeakable insults against the Negro people.

Of course, other minorities such as the Negroes and the Jews were subjected to abuse by this bigoted Ku Kluxer who is a member of the United States Senate by virtue of the polltax and the votes of less citizens than are required to elect a Congressman in many states.

But the Negroes were as always Bilbo's particular target. Indeed, he is all for preparing to fight them in the next war which he says will be a "race war."

This disgraceful performance has been taken all too lightly by Bilbo's colleagues in the Senate. Bilbo is no clown, and this filibuster against the right of Negroes to work for a living is no laughing matter.

What kind of contribution is this filibuster making to the morale of our armed forces and to the hundreds of thousands of Negroes in our Army, many thousands of them now in the Pacific? 6-30-45

What kind of contribution is this racist raving to the serious task of enlisting the aid of the colonial peoples of Asia in the war against Japanese imperialism?

What kind of contribution is Bilbo making to American democracy when with the aid of a handful of polltax colleagues he paralyzes the effective functioning of the Senate?

And how will it look to all the nations of the world that the great debate in the Senate on a charter dedicated to international peace and justice is preceded by this mockery of everything decent and democratic?

Bilbo and his side-kick from Mississippi, Sen. Eastland, have been talking fascist doctrine on the floor of the United States Senate. This filibuster is a menace to the sort of postwar America to which all Americans, regardless of race, creed or color look forward.

It is a menace because it has not been answered by the Senate. It has not been combatted, let alone defeated.

Instead, Republican and Democratic leaders pledged to support FEPC have been talking compromise, have been discussing the possibility of granting FEPC funds for but half a year. 6-30-45

But there must be no compromise with Bilbo. There must be no concessions in the United States Senate to fascist race doctrines and to the Ku Klux Klan.

Is the conscience of the Senate so atrophied by the tradition that it is an exclusive gentleman's club that not even the most progressive of Senators can get up to speak his mind, that not a single voice has been raised to question the fitness of Bilbo to be a Senator?

If there was ever a time for the people to speak up in anger and indignation, this is it. The filibuster must be broken. FEPC must be continued without restrictions or limitations.

This Evening

Daily Worker

BILBO TO THE RESCUE

By Charles N. Feidelson

Even opponents of the FEPC must find the cavortings of Messrs. Bilbo and Eastland profoundly distasteful. Senator Bilbo has been filibustering against giving this agency any recognition at all. He is not only "agin" having it as a war measure, he is prepared to bring other war and regular agencies to a standstill if only he can accomplish his purpose of throttling the FEPC. So he takes his Bilboesque way, which he himself has compared to Tennyson's brook—"for men may come and men may go, but I go on forever." And he does so to the vast chagrin of even his Southern colleagues who dislike the FEPC as much as he does, but who realize that there are other things in heaven and earth which deserve their attention. He has contrived to make both Democratic and Republican colleagues willing to resort to the painful device of cloture. 7-2-45

Long ago the country learned what Bilboism is. Certainly on the Senate floor it stands for the vulgarest malice and the most unblushing use of congressional immunity. The other day, for example, the senator found it convenient to attack Mrs. Roosevelt for her support of the FEPC. And how does he do so? By saying in effect that if she had been a better mother her children would not have given her so much trouble. Now that is Mississippi gallantry, that is fair play according to the Bilbo lexicon. Because Elliott Roosevelt has figured in headlines recently, and not too creditably, his mother is held responsible. This is the sort of thing we grew accustomed to when her husband was alive. But there was reason to expect, in view of the sad change which has taken place in her life, she would no longer be subjected to unwarranted aspersions upon a noble career.

Not to be outdone by his fellow Mississippian, Senator Eastland enters the fray. What is his objection to the FEPC? Not that, as a permanent enterprise, it would, even as some Southern liberals contend, make matters worse with respect to race relations, but that Negro soldiers have not done well in this war. He quotes "high-ranking generals" as telling him Negroes would neither work nor fight. He describes the Negro contribution to the war as "an utter and abysmal failure." This is far from being in accordance with the testimony already received on the performance of Negroes in this conflict. It would be interesting to have identified these "high-ranking generals" who were so ready to feed Senator Eastland's prejudice. It would be interesting to know what the Negro's record as a soldier abroad has to do with legislation intended to prevent job discrimination at home.

7-2-45

RIDICULOUS BUT TRAGIC

The 1945 Legislature, which has been described by Mr. Hugh Sparrow as "unpredictable," is entitled to another adjective for the registration amendment which will be submitted to the people next year. In the name of "white supremacy," there is seriously proposed as a fresh qualification that would-be voters be able to "understand and explain" the federal constitution. One would imagine such a proposition would have been laughed out of the General Assembly. Instead, it went through both houses as though it were anything except an utterly ridiculous way of trying to meet requirements imposed by recent Supreme Court decisions in behalf of the political equality guaranteed by our fundamental law.

Who in the General Assembly could expect to meet this test to the satisfaction of registrars intent on keeping him from qualifying as a voter? What registrar in Alabama, or elsewhere for that matter, is or can anticipate being an expert on the federal constitution? Ever since that charter was written it has been interpreted and reinterpreted until the Founding Fathers would scarcely recognize the work of their hands. What is the history of our Supreme Court except a constant shifting of emphasis and point of view making the constitution mean new things for new generations? What happened when the court in '37 about-faced on a number of issues? Why, if the constitution is something static and crystallized, does the Supreme Court still have to deal with constitutional problems? Why does the Supreme Court divide so often on constitutional points? Because the justices don't know as much about the federal constitution as an Alabama legislator or registrar?

7-2-45

We must have strict qualifications to protect the privilege of voting. But they should be fair, intelligent and workable qualifications, which can and will be applied to all applicants without regard for race, color or religion. Unless that be the case, we shall have not merely discriminations against Negroes; we are bound to have discriminations against whites who for one reason or another do not strike registrars as desirable voters. The poll tax now makes itself most viciously felt with respect to whites, not Negroes. As our life develops economic tensions and group animosities, how easy it would be to bar from the ballot box men and women, of whatever color, who do not suit the machine in power, on the pretense that they do not "understand" and cannot "explain" the constitution!

FEPC's Life Running Out As Bilbo Talks

Washington Post

By the Associated Press

Theodore G. (The Voice) Bilbo of Poplarville, Miss., yesterday strengthened his claim as the talkingest man in the United States Senate. 6-29-45

His tonsils humming with health, his desk piled high with reading matter, the balding Mississippi Democrat announced he was preaching the funeral sermon of the Fair Employment Practices Committee. He began it Wednesday afternoon.

Bilbo said FEPC's actual funeral would be held Monday. That's the first business day of the new fiscal year. He proposes to hold the floor until the present fiscal year ends tomorrow at midnight, to keep Senator Chavez (D., N. Mex.) from offering an amendment to the war agencies appropriation bill giving FEPC $446,200 to finance another year's policing of industry against racial and religious discrimination.

(On the other side of the Capitol, the House Rules Committee drove nails into FEPC's coffin by tabling legislation to grant it $125,000.)

Anybody who dropped in to the Senate gallery for as long as five minutes found out that Bilbo doesn't like FEPC. He doesn't call it this bill or this measure; it's "this damnable piece of legislation" or "this smooth deliberate scheme to integrate the Negro race with the white and foster intermarriage and interbreeding."

Bilbo read edtiorials from Negro newspapers. He read a column by Westbrook Pegler, in dialect. He read an extract from the Daily Worker, but explained he wasn't a Communist. He read letters from Southern friends.

"How long does the Senator intend to speak?" a colleague inquired gently.

Chavez challenged Bilbo to let the Senate vote on it. Bilbo said he wasn't taking any chances. 7-1-45

"I assure my friend from Mississippi," Chavez said, "that he can filibuster until Doomsday, but that motion will be offered."

Bilbo said:

"If you are so hell-bent on doing so I may not give you an opportunity to offer it."

"Until FEPC is dead," Bilbo replied. 6-29-45

Chavez charged Bilbo was imperiling the life of 16 war agencies by his filibuster. Bilbo said no, it was Chavez who was doing the damage by his insistence on offering his amendment. Its adoption would require suspension of the rules and a two-thirds majority.

HOUSE COMMITTEE VOTES TO KILL FEPC

Okays Burial Fund for Agency

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, June 25. — The House Appropriations Committee today voted to kill the FEPC while granting it funds to wind up its affairs.

Acting on a proposal offered by Rep. Cannon (D-Mo), committee chairman, the Appropriations Committee voted $125,000 to FEPC for three months for the stated purpose of "completely terminating the functions and duties" of FEPC in the next quarter.

The House Appropriations Committee maneuver, relates only to the temporary wartime FEPC.

As to the bill for a permanent FEPC, Rep. Joseph Martin, Republican House leader, declared he was ready to vote for that measure.

"I personally would vote for the billl," Martin declared, "but as Republican leader I couldn't personally lead a drive to bring it to the floor without specific instructions from the House conference (Republican caucus)." Daily Worker

SENATE FIGHT

A decisive fight over the wartime FEPC, whose funds run out June 30, is going on in the Senate, where Sen. Dennis Chavez (D.-NM), is leading the battle.

Chavez has offered an amendment to the War Agencies Appropriations bill to provide $446,000 for FEPC for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1946. His action was taken on the approval of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The showdown on the FEPC amendment did not come up today because the Senate recessed after brief memorial exercises for Sen. Scrugham (R-Nev), who died last week.

The test comes tomorrow—a stiff test indeed. FEPC supporters must win a two thirds vote to suspend the Senate rules to clear the way for action on the FEPC item. If the Rules are not suspended, opponents can raise points of order against introducing new appropriations items in the Senate which has not been approved in the House.

So strong is the FEPC popular tide, however, that supporters hope to cross the two thirds dam.

They can do so only if absentees are kept to a minimum they say. 6-26-45

TELEGRAMS POUR IN

Rep. Martin's statement on voting for a permanent FEPC in the House is tantamount to an invitation to the Republican caucus to so instruct him. It would be difficult after such instructions for Southern Democrats on the Rules Committee to refuse to let the the bill came to the floor.

The six instructing Democrats, who voted against two other Democrats and four Republicans to bog the bill down in the Rules Committee, would hardly dare to let the Republicans run away with such a popular issue.

Some 20 representatives of as many people's organizations put the FEPC issue before Martin today. And letters and telegrams, meanwhile, are pouring in.

FEPC's role in the war against Japan was dealt with today by Boris Shishkin, economist and AFL member on the seven-member Fair Employment Practices Committee, at a press conference today.

The FEPC, said Shishkin, by lessening racial discrimination, has actually saved American lives in the Far East.

U. S. Military Intelligence, he continued, has shown him copies of Japanese leaflets, reproducing white supremacy advertisements in American newspapers, which American troops captured in the Far East.

GREEN'S STATEMENT

An important declaration by William Green, AFL president, in support of FEPC, was disclosed by the committee today. Green's statement, which has not yet been published, was sent to the recent FEPC meeting in Town Hall, New York.

"The right to an equal chance to earn a livelihood without discrimination because of race, color or religion is an inalienable right in a democracy for which Americans have fought and died in this war," declared Green. ". . . The American Federation of Labor calls for prompt and unequivocal congressional action in continuing the FEPC as an essential tool of industrial democracy in the difficult days of readjustment ahead." 6-26-45

A message by President Truman told the same rally he hoped the people will not take defeat meeting "will have the effect of American policy regardless of what arousing the community and the action Congress took on the funds. nation to the vital importance of Negro people will not take defeat saving the Fair Employment Practices Committee." PC lying down.

TO MAP ACTION

The committee will meet again to consider further action later early next month in any eventuality. Congress will actively continue if funds are cut off, he declared.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, told the press conference at which Ross said. The protests will be "dramatic," Shishkin made his statement, that Milton L. Webster, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Cars said, the principles enunciated in the Presidential Executive Order, establishing the committee, remained John Brophy, CIO representative members, told reporters that the NAACP, and other committee members emphasized the necessity for a continued FEPC.

FEPC May Try to Run Regardless of Funds

Filibuster Threat Moves Negro Member To Promise 'Dramatic' Race Demonstration

Washington Post

By the Associated Press

The fight over continuing the Fair Employment Practices Committee hit new intensity yesterday with the agency's head saying it may continue operating on a volunteer basis even if Congress gives it no money.

Chairman Malcolm Ross said the FEPC may go ahead regardless and another member, a Negro, reported plans for a demonstration "more dramatic than a march on Washington."

This member, Milton P. Webster, international president of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, told a news conference he couldn't disclose the nature of the demonstration now but "we are nott going to take it lying down."

Liquidation Fund Approval

He referred to slow action on legislation for a permanent FEPC. The House Appropriation Committee approved yesterday a $125,000 fund earmarked for liquidation of the agency in the three months after July 1.

Southerners in Congress, meanwhile, girded for a filibuster to talk to death any attempt to give FEPC a Congressional appropriation. Senator Bilbo (D., Miss.) threatened to "talk 'till Christmas if neessary, to stop funds for a lot of peckerwoods to go around and meddle into other people's business."

There were still two faint chances that FEPC may get operating funds: (1) a Senate Appropriations Committee amendment to the War Agencies bill to give FEPC $446,200 for the 1946 fiscal year, and (2) the House Appropriations Committee resolution to give FEPC $125,000 to liquidate itself, which FEPC supporters undoubtedly will try to convert into a regular operating fund if it ever gets to the floor.

The Senate amendment, which may come up today, requires a two thirds approving vote since the rider would provide funds for an agency lacking statutory authority. FEPC exists now only through an executive order of the late President Roosevelt establishing it to prevent employment discriminations during the war period because of race, color or creed.

Tied Tightly in House

The House resolution would have to be okayed by the House Rules Committee, which in the past has refused to approve legislation to make FEPC permanent. In this connection, the House minority leader, Representative Martin (R., Mass.) told a FEPC group that while he personally favored such a measure, he was "not in a position" to direct the House minority members in a "fight for it" unless the Republican conference authorizes that action. 6-26-45

Boris Shishkin, FEPC member and AFL economist, said the Army has discovered widespread use by the Japanese of racial prejudices in this country in an attempt to persuade Asiatic peoples that "this is a white man's war."

Ross said regardless of whether Congress votes FEPC any money the committee will hold its regular meeting July 7 and decide then on its future. He said that the committee, without funds, could not operate generally in industry but could continue to insist on non-discrimination by Government and contractors doing business with the Government. 6-26-45

Webster said the move to abolish FEPC leaves Negroes feeling "like we're being double-crossed—that this thing called democracy doesn't mean us at all."

"There probably will be the greatest upsurge of Negro opinion in history if the committee (FEPC) is knocked down," he declared.

Bilbo Filibusters FEPC Second Day

Daily Worker

6-29-45

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, June 28. — Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D-Miss), arch filibusterer against the FEPC lost the floor temporarily early this evening after yielding the floor for a quorum call. Before he could get it back the chair had recognized Sen. Robert F. Wagner (D-NY), who got recognition on the OPA bill, which had come out of the House-Senate conference.

Bilbo will try to get the floor back.

Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D-SC), has said that he will join in the filibuster too when the OPA bill has been dealt with.

Recklessly sabotaging the war effort, Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D-Miss), blocked passage of 39 billion dollars in military appropriations for nearly two days, while he filibustered against an FEPC fund item of only $446 00.

EXPIRES SATURDAY

Bilbo boasted that he would "dance on the grave of FEPC next Monday," after present funds expire June 30.

The 39 billion dollar military appropriations finally went through late this afternoon when Bilbo yielded the floor to Sen. Elmer Thomas (D-Okla), on the understanding that he could resume his filibuster again.

Bilbo, however, is still blocking passage of some five billion dollars in other needed appropriations, including nearly one billion dollars for government war agencies; more than three billions in the deficiency appropriations bill, and more than a billion dollars in other must bills.

The show-down may come tomorrow, when Senators, such as Dennis Chavez (D-NM), the author of the FEPC appropriation amendment, which Bilbo hasn't given him a chance to introduce, and James Mead, New York Democrat, are talking of taking some special action.

That action may be a demand for cloture—that is the limiting of discussion. 6-29-45

Bilbo again talked of a coming "revolution" to "wipe out" the friends of FEPC.

Just before the session opened he bared his fascist heart to reporters, as he told the story of a Negro lynching, with chuckles of laughter.

When he took the floor at 2:24 p.m., after Sen. Tom Connally had finished making a speech in support of the United Nations charter, he began shouting race hatred at once.

"Negro discrimination," he bawled, "will continue for the next 500 years."

The usual Bilbo Jew-baiting cropped out in his speech again and aagin. Thus Eugene Meyer, publisher of the **Washington Post,** and his wife, were assailed as "Jews."

Sen. Chavez rebuked Bilbo at one point, deminding him that Jews had given their lives for the United States at Okinawa Island and elsewhere in the war. But no other senator joined in the rebuke.

Chavez cracked down on Bilbo again when the Mississippi ku kluxer denounced Catholic priests for joining with Jews in some protests on FEPC's behalf.

Chavez is a Catholic.

In the House, meanwhile the Rules Committee tabled a House appropriations bill, authorizing $125,000 for FEPC for three months, to be followed by liquidation. Eugene Cox (D-Ga), chief anti-Negro member of the committee, however, feared that the bill could be amended on the floor so he had it killed. 6-29-45

Misrepresenting the South

Richmond Times-Dispatch

IF MISSISSIPPI wants to send to the United States Senate such men as THEODORE BILBO and JAMES EASTLAND, there is little the rest of the country can do about it, but the people of the other Southern States certainly do not have to remain silent under the possible imputation that these spreaders of interracial hate speak for anyone but themselves.

7-1-45

The tirades which BILBO and EASTLAND have loosed on the Senate floor of late against the whole colored race are n t approved or condoned by the rank and file of Southern whites. The average Southerner is fairminded and tolerant, and he believes in giving credit where credit is due. The blanket denunciations of all Negro soldiers which SENATOR EASTLAND has just issued do not appeal to the Southern people as either accurate or just. Furthermore, they stir up strife at the very time when the efforts of responsible people are in the opposite direction.

The fact that the Mississippian quotes unnamed "generals" as having said this or that, means little. High-ranking American commanders have said exactly the opposite, and with their names signed. GENERAL EISENHOWER is one who has praised Negro troops. Admittedly the Ninety-second Negro Division did not acquit itself well in Italy, but this does not justify the sweeping generalizations of SENATOR EASTLAND.

There have been individual Negro heroes in this war. DORIE MILLER, the colored mess boy who grabbed a machine gun at Pearl Harbor and won the Navy Cross, was the first. Others have won the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and so on. When GENERAL JOHN LEE called in March for Negro volunteers for front line service against the Germans, the quota of 2,300 was quickly exceeded. They acquitted themselves well in the drive of the First and Seventh Armies into and across Germany. Many were killed, many others maimed.

The permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee, against which SENATORS EASTLAND and BILBO have been filibustering, should be discussed on its merits. The record made in the war by colored troops has nothing whatever to do with the case. It is humiliating to the South for two Mississippi demagogues to misrepresent the Southern people with their unfair diatribes.

56d-1945

LUBBOCK, TEXAS
AVALANCHE
Cir. D. 12,967
JUN 9 - 1945

A Law Not The Answer

Legislation Vs. Human Nature

THE man who sits behind the big desk at 1600 Pennsylvania avenue in Washington, D. C., no matter what his name or his political connections, is the President of all the people. This was true of George Washington. Is is true of Harry Truman. It has been true of every President we've had all along the line.

Therefore, the President of the United States frequently takes positions which to him, personally or politically, may not be pleasant, or practicable. But as the President of all the people, it is incumbent upon him to take such stands.

In our opinion, Mr. Truman's stand on the hotly debated and mis-named "Fair Employment Practices committee" is an example of a President's taking a stand as a purely technical and theoretical thing. Mr. Truman is an individual blessed with much common sense and as a man of such talents he is bound to know in his own mind that "you can't legislate human nature." But he has called for Congressional action guaranteeing by law certain practices upon the part of individuals, regardless of their personal choice in the matter. Mr. Truman is bound to know that such a law won't work, any more than national prohibition worked. But he undoubtedly feels it is his duty to espouse such a law and therefore he is espousing it.

No matter how promising any so-called "anti-discrimination" law may appear on paper, what it will do in practice is something else, altogether. The "FEPC," as the forerunner to proposed Congressional action is called, was brought into being not by law, but by a presidential directive possible under the War Emergencies act which gives the President broad powers during wartime. Mr. Roosevelt set up FEPC at a time when there was a shortage of labor and when it was necessary that the nation make use of every bit of labor it had; and also at a time when his political fortunes stood to gain by reawakened support on the part of the leftwingers of the country. Now, the leftwingers and spokesmen of the minority groups—in many cases they are identical individuals—seek to raise FEPC from the doubtful status of a directive-supported proposition to one

FEPC

supported by law. Mr. Truman has called for such a law, but powerful interests in Congress have announced they shall fight it to the last ditch.

* * *

THE basis for the fight against trying to force, by law, any national obedience to FEPC centers largely in the South. The white majority in the South simply does not want negro teachers in white schools; negro clerks in white stores; negro reporters in white newspaper offices, or negro doctors and nurses in white hospitals. No one objects to negro teachers in negro schools; negro clerks in negro stores; negro reporters and editors in negro papers; negro doctors and nurses in negro hospitals. As a matter of fact, the thinking whites not only approve negro leadership for negroes, but they go out of their way to aid and foster such negro leadership. And, by the same token, the best Southern negroes agree with the whites that both races will be better off and will be happier by adhering to the "color line." The Editor of The Morning Avalanche knows this to be true by virtue of numerous civic contacts with Lubbock's leading negroes.

The negroes of the South—and the negroes of Lubbock—do want better living conditions, and they should have them. This newspaper believes in a fair, square deal for the negroes; always has and always will. But we do not believe in a federal law attempting to force a merger of the races and neither do the wiser citizens among the negroes.

Of course, there are other angles to the FEPC than that which covers relations between whites and negroes. In the North, especially, the Gentile-Jewish friction plays a part. In other areas of the country, competition between persons of Anglo ancestry and Latin, and/or Slavic ancestory furnishes a background. But the fact remains that while a citizen—whatever his racial or religious background — has certain inaleinable rights in this country, it also is a fact that among those rights are the right to employ, or to mix with commercially, professionally or socially, whichever of his fellow citizens he so chooses.

A federal law, in our opinion, is no answer to racial and/or religious differences in the land today. Nor will a federal law ever be an answer to those differences. Tolerance, complete or partial, can come only with better understanding and broader vision—not with a statute enforced by courts, jails and police clubs.

HARTFORD, CONN.
COURANT
Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138
JUN 9 - 1945

FEPC PROPOSALS

The bill to establish a Fair Employment Practices Commission in Connecticut died in the Labor Committee after the House of Representatives had recommitted it. As a former Speaker of the House, Samuel A. Eddy, once remarked, the General Assembly should be credited at times with things it has refused to do as well as with measures it has passed. This proposal to enter the field of employer-employee relations, resting as it did on the unquestionably dubious presumption of what might be the intent of the accused employer or employee was wisely postponed. It will probably be resurrected for the 1947 General Assembly, especially if New York and Massachusetts demonstrate that the principle is workable. Meanwhile Connecticut has an Interracial Relations Committee that has done much in the past two years to promote the objectives of the broader measure buried by the Labor Committee.

Congress is having a tussle with a similar bill, drafted to make permanent the FEPC established through an executive order by the late President Roosevelt. President Truman, in character with his position while he was Senator, has urged the adoption of this measure, whose chief sponsor is Representative Marcantonio of New York's American Labor Party.

The battle in Congress has two phases. Congress has hitherto announced a policy of denying funds to temporary agencies of questionable legal authority. Relying upon that policy, the House Committee on Rules refused to report a special rule under which the House might have amended an appropriation bill by including a fund for the FEPC. But the Rules Committee has had to meet head on the bill to make the FEPC permanent. So far no rule to bring the measure to the floor has been reported to the House. Chairman Sabath of the Committee stated Thursday that action would be taken next Tuesday when one member now absent will be present. But his statement indicates a heavy majority against giving the bill the green light.

President Truman's demand for immediate action on the bill has made of it an Administrative "must" measure. If it fails to clear with the Rules Committee, on which the Democrats have eight members to the Republicans' four, Mr. Truman must look to his own party for the cause of his embarrassment. It is highly improbable that the four Democratic members from the South will give their consent to this legislation. The temporary FEPC stirred up the Negro question in the Southern Railway fireman's case. Congressmen from that section of the country are as bitterly opposed to the FEPC as they are to anti-lynching and poll tax legislation.

In opposing this type of legislation at the Federal level we would not join hands with the extreme sectionalists. The arguments that have been stated against the bill in Connecticut apply with equal force to the Federal proposal. Neither morals nor tolerance can be legislated into human beings. To attempt to do so now may cancel the progress made through the slower but certain process of education.

RICHMOND, VA.
TIMES-DISPATCH
Circ. D. 96,538 - S. 126,193

JUN 1 4 1945

The Dangers of a Permanent FEPC

THERE are many sincere and public-spirited advocates of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, and the philosophy behind the proposal to establish such an agency in Washington is precisely in the American tradition. But although these things are true, this bill which is designed to help minorities probably would have precisely the opposite result, at least insofar as the Negro minority in the South is concerned.

Legislation rests on public opinion. No law which is strongly opposed by the overwhelming majority will ever be effective, or will ever achieve the results which it seeks to achieve. This is especially true of legislation such as that which seeks to establish a permanent FEPC. Here is a bill which involves some of the most emotionally felt issues in our public life, but which ignores those emotions in providing for enforcement. Such a law is often worse than no law at all. After much study of the issues involved here, we are convinced that if a permanent FEPC is established in Washington over the virtually unanimous, if not completely unanimous, opposition of the entire Southern bloc in Congress, the consequences can only be harmful.

REPRESENTATIVE MARY T. NORTON, of New Jersey, chief proponent of the bill in the House, has prepared a series of questions and answers about this piece of legislation. She says that the types of discrimination forbidden in the bill on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, or ancestry are those "in employment or union membership, i. e., hiring, discharging, wages, seniority, transfers, demotions, upgrading, union auxiliaries, etc." Answering her own question, "Does the bill require an employer to hire Negroes, Jews, Mexicans, or other minorities?," she says: "No. An employer may hire or reject anyone he pleases, on any basis and for any reason, so long as a needed and qualified person is not rejected because of his race, color, creed, national origin, or ancestry." This answer, when analyzed, is really meaningless, for the second half of the sentence partially nullifies the first half. The important fact is that this law would make possible the imposition of heavy penalties upon employers for failure to hire colored persons.

This is not the way to broaden opportunities for the colored people of the South. This is the road to a vast amount of bitterness and strife. The lessons of the past should teach Congress that the entry of the Federal authorities into this delicate relationship of employer and employee, and the emphasis which would be placed in the law upon the race issue, would simply fan the flames of interracial antagonism, instead of quenching them.

Such a lifelong friend of the Negro race as OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD, whose greatest pride is that he is the grandson of WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, the Abolitionist, is opposed to this type of legislation. He feels that it is more harmful than otherwise, and that it tends to accentuate race differences, instead of eliminating them. He and half-a-dozen eminent New Yorkers of liberal inclinations signed a statement in opposition to the IVES Bill, which is of a similar character, and which was passed in New York State a short time ago.

So liberal a man as SENATOR CLAUDE PEPPER, of Florida, is against the establishment of a permanent FEPC, and so is the militantly liberal Louisville *Courier-Journal*. Both have fought many battles for the Negroes of the South, but they can see that the sort of statute which is being advocated would, in all likelihood, increase existing tensions, instead of lessening them.

REPRESENTATIVE BROOKS HAYS, of Arkansas, one of the most enlightened and progressive members of the House, always a friend of the disadvantaged, made a long address on the House floor recently in opposition to this bill. "It is unity of purpose we seek," he declared, "not enforced relationships." He pointed out that the bill would not only cover the hiring of workers, but also their discharge, and he stated that where an employee was discharged and he complained to the FEPC that body could order the employer to reinstate the worker, and the employer would go to jail, if he declined. Similar penalties can be imposed for refusal to hire, if the law is violated.

It is only right, of course, that colored workmen who have made good on merit during the war, should not be laid off when there is a slump, simply because they are colored. But while this is true, it is also true that Federal decrees against individual employers, especially in the Southern States, are sure to be deeply resented. The desired results as to both hiring and firing should be sought by other means.

Some absurd and even hysterical things have been said by Southerners against this FEPC bill, and we consider them so much rodomontade. On the other hand, there is no use blinking the facts concerning this legislation, and the real dangers which it contains.

It may be argued that while far-reaching powers are conferred by the bill, they would not be exercised. What guarantee is there of that? None whatever. On the contrary, given the zeal and unquestioned integrity of many of the bill's advocates, they might well consider that the South ought to be singled out first for attention, since it contains by far the bulk of the country's Negroes. Should that occur, the fat would be in the fire, and irreparable harm would be done.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH has frequently championed the cause of better employment opportunities for our Negro citizens. We shall continue to do so, especially in the years immediately ahead, when it is so important that returning Negro soldiers and sailors be made to feel that they are being fairly treated. But this newspaper cannot support legislation to that end which could arouse great interracial hostility, and create almost interminable friction. If such consequences flowed from the establishment of a permanent FEPC—and they probably would—the Negroes would be the chief sufferers, and interracial progress would be set back for decades.

WATERBURY, CONN.
DEMOCRAT
Cir. D. 10,143

JUN 13 1945

"The Battle Of The F.E.P.C."

Local Writer Assails Prejudices Underlying Opposition to Adoption of Proposed FEPC Bill in Congress — Success of Measure as Important as Winning "Battle of Berlin".

By DOROTHY M. THOMAS

America is striving to beat the Japs, now that Germany has been conquered, and bring peace and justice to the world. But will justice reign in the United States?

From the looks of things now we will have to fight here too, for equality for all men because the Southern Democrats are opposing the FEPC bill in Congress with all the force they can muster. But perhaps many of you do not fully understand just what 'FEPC" means and stands for.

The FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee is a bill which abolishes discrimination in the matter of employment to persons regardless of race, color or creed.

This means that persons belonging to minority groups, namely Negroes and Jews, will have a chance to better themselves economically because they will not be barred from certain jobs for which they are qualified. Of course, the Negroes in the United States will profit by the passage of this bill more so than the Jewish people, because they are discriminated against more than the latter.

Thousands of colored boys will return to the States after war is over and to what are they returning? If this FEPC bill is ousted the condition they left will be here for them to face. These boys have fought loyally for their country. They have done their job well even though they have been segregated since the day they went to their first Army camp.

Is it fair that a young Negro veteran be refused a decent job because of his color regardless of his education and ability. No, it certainly is not! Yet that is the situation he will have on his hands unless Southerners in House Rules Committee will let the FEPC bill go to the House to be considered. They don't want to see the bill go into action because of prejudice towards minority groups. This prejudice is directed almost totally to Negroes. The South, for the most part, feels that the Negro is inferior and should be kept in a certain class. Thus if the bill were passed the colored peoples of this country would elevate their status, economically and socially. Hence, the "thumbs down" attitude of our brothers from below the Mason-Dixon line.

Are they overlooking the fact that the Allies were fighting against such an idea—Hitler and his race-hatred fanaticism?

"Free the world," we said "free the oppressed races." Our boys did just that, they freed the unfortunate and imprisoned of Europe. Now it is up to us, every true American, to free the Negro. Of course, we realize that the Negro is not held prisoners in a concentration camp but he is a prisoner of prejudice, segregation and discrimination. In this land of freedom all men are to be treated equally. There is no better time ot start than now and our Southern politicians must realize this fact and act accordingly if we are to have a sound America in the years to come. The "battle of the FEPC" should be just as important to every American as was the "Battle of Berlin."

56d-1945

5 Southern Newspapers Cited in Favor of FEPC

Daily Worker 6-16-45

A review of editorial comment on FEPC inserted in the Congressional Record by Rep. Frank Hook (D-Mich) shows that at least five prominent southern newspapers have indicated a sympathetic attitude towards the anti-discrimination agency.

The Knoxville (Tenn) News-Sentinel said that "the ideal of equal economic opportunity is something more than an objective for a remote peace" but "bespeaks something we need here and now to produce with maximum efficiency for war."

The Durham (NC) Herald said that "it seems vitally essential to set up a permanent and broader FEPC immediately."

From the Birmingham (Ala) Age-Herald came the comment that "discrimination obviously can make the nation's acute wartime manpower problem more difficult. That the Federal Government should strive to mitigate such problems is an entirely understandable, if not imperative, undertaking. Not always has the FEPC acted wisely.

According to the Miami (Fla.) Miami-Record, the charge of Senator Walter George (D-Ga) that FEPC would lead to "communistic or national socialistic system" was "only a measure of the Georgian's capacity for reckless statement.

The Salisbury (NC) Post said:

"No question of social mingling of the races is involved. The issue is solely one of equal opportunity. We may hope that both employers and white workers will realize this simple truth, and that they will also realize that if opportunity can be denied to any group, for reasons of color, religion, or national origin, no minority group's rights are safe."

Sen. Bilbo Calls Atlanta 'Center Of Offbrands'

Atlanta Constitution

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Sen. Bilbo, Democrat, Mississippi, termed Atlanta a center of "offbrands of American citizenship" yesterday and a prominent Atlanta clergyman replied "any criticism from Bilbo is a compliment."

The exchange of words was brought on by a petition of Georgians asking congress to support legislation to create a permanent fair employment practices act.

Bilbo's comment, printed in yesterday's Congressional Record, described the Georgia capital as "the hotbed of southern Negro intelligentsia, Communists, Pinks, Reds and other offbrands of American citizenship."

The statements of the Mississippi legislator were contained in a letter addressed to the Rev. William Holmes Borders, Dr. M. Ashby Jones and Armand May, all of Atlanta. 6-22-1945

DR. JONES' STATEMENT

"The very fact that Sen. Bilbo made these statements is comment enough," said Dr. Jones, a retired Baptist minister. "Any criticism from Sen. Bilbo is really a compliment, and the fact that he is opposed to anything a group of liberals would do is not news."

Commented May:

"We are not advocating anything revolutionary, only evolutionary, and doing it in the normal American way by an appeal to reason instead of prejudice, which is outdated in the south."

Dr. Jones, May and the Rev. William Holmes Borders, pastor of the Wheat Street Baptist church here, make up the committee which drew up the petition.

PETITION'S SIGNERS

The petition, May said, was reproduced and sent all over the state. It has, he said, been signed by more than 1,000 Georgians, a great majority of them white persons. 6-22-1945

The signers, he said, include Methodist, Baptist, Episcopalian, Catholic, Congregational, Jewish and Unitarian ministers; businessmen, college presidents, newspaper editors and columnists, labor leaders, farmers, physicians, lawyers, social workers and "a spectacular number" of members of the armed forces. The signers, he said, represent every part of the state.

When the petition was sent to every senator and representative in Washington last Monday it contained 736 signatures, May said. Since then, he added, signatures have continued to come in.

BILBO "MYSTIFIED"

Bilbo, in his comment, said:

~~FEPC~~ FEPC

"I notice you state that your petition was circulated for a period of only four days, but it is strange and mystifying that you did not give the address of any petitioners.

"So it is natural to assume that the great majority of these petitioners, representing Negroes, Quislings of the white race and other racial minorities, hail from Atlanta.

"The intelligentsia of the Negro race believes that through the FEPC they will hasten the day of destroying the color line and bring about social equality between the white man and the black man.

"I will leave nothing undone this side of heaven or hell to defeat this damnable legislative scheme."

The South and the FEPC

Richmond Times Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I read with interest your editorial, "The Dangers of a Permanent FEPC" (June 11). For more than nine years I have been a constant subscriber to this paper, and in recent years have read with appreciation some of your fair and liberal editorials. With the one in question, however, I fail to see with you as much danger in enacting the bills now before Congress to establish a permanent FEPC or an antipoll-tax law. 6-21-45

You say that "the philosophy behind the proposal to establish such an agency in Washington is precisely in the American tradition. But although these things are true, this bill, which is designed to help the minorities, probably would have precisely the opposite result, at least insofar as the Negro minority in the South is concerned." 6-21-45

If your indication is correct, it constitutes a terrible indictment against the fairness and even the honesty of Southern whites; at least some of them who employ colored workers. Why should any honest man, be he white or colored, object to a law guaranteeing fairness to any group of American citizens irrespective of color, creed or national origin? Thousands of colored soldiers fought and died on the battlefields of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and in 1863, and again in 1898. More than 400,000 colored Americans wore the uniform and thousands shed their blood and died for our country in 1917-18. To date, in this war, almost 1,000,000 have donned uniforms, and thousands have made the supreme sacrifice. Millions of dollars of the colored people's money has gone into War Bonds, while millions of them are working on the home front.

Full rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are justly due our colored people. The philisophy of States' rights may be alright, but to practice the evil of States' wrongs is an ugly habit.

The FEPC bill is not aimed at the South alone, but at unfair labor practices anywhere in the United States. No fear need be had about colored people suffering from the passage of the FEPC. The colored, especially the Southern colored people, know more about suffering than any other people in America.

I am Southern born and Southern reared, and am not young any more. Colored and white people in the South need to get together, and make friends as never before. We are losing valuable time and prestige. Candidates from every other section in the country can land in the White House, but our Southern men can hardly get the nomination by a major political party. Why? Because of the fights our Southern Representatives in Congress make against legislation fair to colored people. Southern candidates would lose approximately 3,000,000 colored votes, and no party wants a losing candidate. It's time for a change of Southern attitude toward colored people.

THOMAS A. ROBINSON.
Petersburg.

Threat of Filibuster Hangs Over FEPC Bill

Atlanta Constitution 6-22-45

WASHINGTON, June 21.—(AP)—Rep. Colmer, Democrat, Mississippi, called today for a senate filibuster to "deal the final, knockout blow" to the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC).

The Mississippian, said both an appropriation to continue the agency after June 30 and a bill to make it permanent have been "stymied" in the house.

Declaring "the battle has now shifted to the senate," Colmer said in a statement:

"This action (filibuster tactics) is most imperative . . . because if either FEPC measure comes to a vote in either body, it would likely pass because of its political significance."

If a $500,000 appropriation for FEPC is placed in a war agencies appropriation bill by the senate, Colmer said southern opponents hope to defeat it in the house by parliamentary tactics.

The strategy, he said, would be to object to a house-senate conference on the bill, thereby forcing the appropriations committee to request a formal rule for a conference.

"The rules committee has held the line for more than four months," declared Colmer. "I don't think it will waver now."

682 Georgia Citizens in Plea To Truman Urge Permanent FEPC

Daily Worker

WASHINGTON, June 19 (UP).—Strong endorsement of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission was sent to Congress today by a group of Georgia Citizens.

A petition signed by 682 persons, said to represent every section of the state, urged Congress "to fulfill the pledges of their parties" by enacting pending legislation to establish a permanent FEPC. 6-20-45

"Here in the South we have experienced the unwholesome consequences of discrimination in employment," the petition said. "Such discrimination has no place in American life; by its very nature it is Fascistic."

The petition, a copy of which was sent to President Truman, came from Atlanta. An accompanying letter signed by Armand May, William H. Borders and M. Ashby Jones, said the signatures were obtained in four days.

Fair Employment Budget Still Has a Slim Chance

P.M.

By Elizabeth Donahue
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 20.—A Government guarantee of the right of everyone, regardless of race, creed or color, to work for a living, was being seriously challenged today in the Senate. 6-20-45

The signal victory which working people won when President Roosevelt established the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) guaranteeing all minorities the right to a wartime job has received another vital blow at the hands of a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee following a total defeat in the House of Representatives.

The Subcommittee on a tie vote—with half the members absent—yesterday decided that the FEPC should expire June 30.

Little Prospect

Today the full Appropriations Committee will cast another vote on the issue, but there was little prospect that funds for continuance of FEPC will be restored.

The sixth and perhaps last chance for Congress to give legislative backing to the rights of minority citizens to secure a job will come when the Senate votes later in the week on the issue.

But the final vote in the Senate will be cast under a parliamentary rule requiring two-thirds of the members to vote first on the question of whether FEPC is even entitled to any discussion or consideration on the Senate floor.

Unless two-thirds of the Senators vote in the affirmative, the temporary, wartime agency outlawing discrimination in the hiring of workers, must be closed down ten days from today.

How They Voted

Thirteen of the 16 members of the Appropriations Subcommittee were on hand yesterday to vote a substantial increase in funds for the Office of War Information which was awarded $39,750,000—an increase of $21,750,000 above the amount approved by the House.

But when the vote on FEPC was counted only eight members of the Committee were present. The eight were equally divided on the vote which spelled defeat for the fair employment agency. 6-20-45

The four Senators who voted against giving FEPC any money were: Kenneth McKellar (D., Tenn.), Millard Tydings (D., Md.), Pat McCarran (D., Nev.), and Chan Gurney (R., S. D.).

Those who favored continuance of FEPC were: Elmer Thomas (D., Okla.), Carl Hayden (D., Ariz.), Homer Ferguson (R., Mich.), and Joseph Ball (R., Minn.).

Eight members of the Subcommittee, including three Republicans, and five Democrats were absent.

While the Subcommittee followed the House in severing FEPC's financial lifeline, the same Subcommittee more than doubled the funds which the House provided the Office of War Information.

The OWI's appropriation which has suffered a series of sharp cuts and increases since the budget was presented to Congress will be cleared by the full Senate Appropriation Committee today before it goes to the Senate floor.

When the President submitted the budget request for OWI he asked for $42,000,000 to finance the information agency's activities in Europe and the Far East. The fund included money for current OWI European operations now almost exclusively devoted to counteracting the effective Nazi propaganda which seeped into the minds of European peoples during the German occupation.

The Senate Committee brought it back to $39,750,000 in the hope that the House and Senate can eventually agree on a sum only slightly below that figure.

Among the propagandists who attacked OWI was the bush-league fascist Joseph Kamp, already under indictment for defying a House Committee. Kamp distributed elaborate booklets to each member of the Senate proclaiming that the OWI is controlled by Communists.

A letter from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower indorsing OWI's European activities was held largely responsible for the shift in the Subcommittee which voted the agency the substantial increase.

Ickes Stresses Need For Permanent FEPC

P.M.

6-12-45

Makes Appeal In Support of Town Hall Rally Tuesday

Declaring it would be a "national disaster and humiliation" to end anti-discrimination policies in this country, Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes, yesterday called for a permanent FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Commission) as insurance against "reconverting to racial prejudice, national bigotry and religious discrimination."

Ickes' appeal was made in a statement supporting the "Save the FEPC" rally in Town Hall, Tuesday evening, sponsored by the Council Against Intolerance in America. Representatives from more than 40 civic, educational, political, religious and labor organizations are expected to attend.

New Barbarism

"Millions of men of every race, color and creed," Ickes' message to the council declared, "are fighting to vindicate the principles of democracy and to preserve the freedom and dignity of the individual against the challenge of a new barbarism based on race hatred and intolerance.

"Thousands have already died in this struggle. It would be a national disaster and humiliation if those who fought valiantly abroad to defend the freedom and dignity of the individual against racial barbarism should come home to find that the bringing of peace meant a termination of the anti-discrimination policy that we have achieved in wartime.

"Today we stand embarked upon the task of reconversion for peace. Without a permanent FEPC we stand a good chance of reconverting to racial prejudice, national bigotry and religious discrimination. With it we shall reconvert to full peacetime employment based on the American principle of equality."

6-17-45

Supporters

Other statements supporting the rally have been received from Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace, Senator James M. Mead (D., N. Y.), Bishop Francis J. Haas, of the Michigan diocese of the Roman Catholic Church; Rep. Mary T. Norton (D., N. J.); Rep. Joseph Baldwin, (R. Man.); R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers Union; Philip Murray, president of the CIO and William Green, president of the AFL.

Speakers at the rally will include Pearl S. Buck, Rev. John LaFarge, S.J.; Rabbi J. X. Cohen, James Waterman Wise, Anna Arnold Hedgeman, Walter White, Sen. Dennis Chavez, John Brophy, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam and Canada Lee.

A dramatic revue, *Carry On, America!*, written by Howard Fast, Norman Corwin and Langston Hughes, will be presented.

DALLAS, TEX.
NEWS
Circ. D. 128,637 - S. 150,592
JUN 8 - 1945

Failure of the FEPC.

To the News:

Mr. W. King calls attention to the fact that the FEPC was endorsed by both the Democratic and Republican parties and suggests that it be passed on trial and later repealed if it proves to be unsatisfactory. This sounds like a fair suggestion, but there are several reasons why it should not be done. One is that the FEPC has already been tried and proved to be unsatisfactory. Another is that it is always easier to get even a bad law passed than it is to get it repealed after it once becomes a law. We have some bad ones in effect now and they are often complained of but nothing is ever done toward repealing them.

Another thing that should be taken into consideration is that the motives which led to the endorsement of the FEPC by both parties during the heat of the presidential campaign were mostly political. It was done more to try to win or hold the vote of certain factions than for any good they thought was in the law itself.

If it has been a good policy to avoid criticisms and actions that were likely to cause friction among the Allies and to pursue an appeasement policy toward labor to keep down trouble on the home front during the war, it certainly should be a good policy to refrain from passing such laws as the FEPC that will be a permanent source of friction in peacetime.

Sometimes the public safety demands that action be taken regardless of friction, but I don't think the FEPC is a question of such urgency. Nor do I think the question of Negroes voting in the Democratic primary is one involving such righteousness so far as Negro voting is concerned as to merit court approval in the face of the irritation it may cause in the future.

Our purpose should be not to try to force Negroes and whites to mix, but to give to each group its natural and inherent right to have its own affairs to itself with just enough government supervision to insure protection and safety.

The war has brought upon us the realization that there is much wrong among the peoples of the world. Especially it has brought to our attention the fact that Negroes have often been misused and mistreated. In our efforts to correct these wrongs we should avoid the tendency to swing to the other extreme and try to embrace the Negro or any other people or system too closely.

H. D. MULLIKIN.
Route 2, Overton, Texas.

56d-1945

FEPC

Senate Committee Votes For FEPC Appropriation

Daily Worker

6-21-45

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, June 20.—FEPC prospects brightened today as the Senate Appropriations Committee, by 14 to 4, voted for an amendment to the War Agencies Appropriation Bill, furnishing $446,000 to carry on the committee's fight against job discrimination after June 30.

Today's action reverses the negative stand of the appropriation sub-committee, which yesterday stood off the issue by a 4 to 4 vote.

FEPC is still in serious danger, however. Opponents of the measure insist that a two-thirds vote will be necessary to suspend the Senate rules on additional appropriations to be put into a bill without danger of points of order. Getting a two-thirds vote requires a full Senate. Absenteeism can defeat it. 6-21-45

Sen. Dennis Chavez (D-NM) will offer the amendment.

The House Appropriation Committee struck the FEPC funds out. If the Senate passes the FEPC item the House is expected to accept it.

Strong statements were made in support of FEPC by CIO president Philip Murray and by FEPC chief Malcolm Ross before the appropriations committee acted.

"FEPC," said Ross, "is especially needed in the great cities of the east, the north and the Pacific, where the war industries brought in many Negroes, Mexicans and persons liable to discrimination on account of religion." 6-21-45

Negroes, he added, were the last to be hired and would be the first to be laid off in the industries where war contracts are being cancelled fastest.

Murray, speaking in the name of six million CIO members, said in part:

"The Fair Employment Practices Committee has made an outstanding contribution to the war effort and to our American democracy, by eliminating discrimination in employment in our war plants. Its continued contribution is vital not only to the speedy prosecution of the war against Japan but also to the preservation in our own country of the democratic ideals for which this war is being fought.

"Restoration of this appropriation will also be an evidence of our good faith to our Allies in this war whose own peoples have suffered the full measure of fascist discrimination."

Washington Calling

By Marquis Childs

Washington Post

U. S. Needs FEPC

PRESIDENT TRUMAN has said as emphatically as possible that he wants the Fair Employment Practices Committee set up as a continuing Government agency. He said he staked not a little of his political prestige on this issue.

Unless it happened to touch them directly, most people have been unaware of the work of the committee during the war. It has been a kind of cushion to offset some of the tension growing out of the vast migration of peoples of every race and color into America's great centers of war production.

Above all it was an outlet for the victims of racial discrimination or for those who felt they had been discriminated against. They could make a complaint to one of the regional offices of the FEPC, and that complaint was carefully investigated.

If the complaint was a real one, then FEPC went to the employer to point out that under the terms of his war contract he had no right to discriminate against anyone in giving employment. In all but a very few cases this was sufficient to correct the situation. 6-21-45

THE COMMITTEE had only limited authority. As a last resort it could cite a case to the White House, and presumably the President, under his war powers, could compel the employer to comply.

Although both AFL and CIO have indorsed the work of FEPC, the committee has had complaints involving unions. The most conspicuous case of this type concerned the Boilermakers Union in West Coast shipyards. Negroes were admitted to what was, in effect, only second-class membership in the union and denied full status.

From many sources has come testimony as to the value of FEPC. Instances of serious racial strife have been few, in spite of the fact that this country has never seen anything like the mingling of peoples in work and in living that came with the war. FEPC has been there as a kind of lightning rod to help settle the grievances that could grow into violence.

Now, both in the House and the Senate, enemies of FEPC are trying to kill it by cutting off the appropriation. They are doing this in closed session, because they know that if it ever came to a vote on the floor FEPC would undoubtedly get a majority in both houses.

No one could argue that the need for the committee is ended. In fact, the biggest test is still to come.

Thousands of Negro workers have migrated to West Coast cities. Portland, Oreg., is an example. More than 25,000 Negroes are employed in shipyards there.

Vancouver, Wash., is another example. Before the war not more than a dozen Negroes lived in Vancouver. When I was there last fall they told me the Negro population was over 5000. The fact is, of course, that shipbuilding records could never have been set without these new workers.

POLLS TAKEN among the newcomers on the Pacific Coast show that a majority would like to stay where they are. And the West Coast is not the only area affected, by any means.

Testifying before a House Appropriations Committee, Chairman Malcolmn Ross of FEPC reported that during the five years from 1940 to 1945, the South had had a net loss of a half million Negroes who had gone to the industrial centers in the North and the West.

"Experience in World War I," Ross said, "shows that most of these people will stay. After World War I their cousins, sisters and aunts kept coming. There were a million Negroes, net, coming into the North during the '20s and even during the depression years. If the Government had never lifted a finger in this matter, those situations would exist."

As shipyards are shut down and industrial production is cut back, the fight for jobs will be intense. In 1919 there were 26 race riots. They grew, directly or indirectly, out of a similar struggle for jobs. FEPC can't establish peace and harmony by fiat, but it can help a lot.

A Fair Employment Practices Commission would not end racial strife in this country. That cannot be done by law. It can only come through education. But such a commission would be part of our education.

FEPC expires June 30 unless committee bottlenecks in House and Senate are broken. If they are broken, then a record vote will show FEPC approved.

Southerners Vote Down FEPC Bill

Black Dispatch

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON.—(By Telegraph) — The FEPC went down under a count of six to six today when the Rules committee "slaughtered" it in two rounds. 6-23-45

The first round, at 10:30 this morning left FEPC groggy from foul punches below the belt delivered by a Republican-Southern Democrat coalition.

Eleven members were present. A commitment to vote at 10:30 had been made. But, Representative Slaughter (D. of Mo.) was delayed by a grounded plane and was not in his corner. 6-23-45

Chairman Sabbath (D. of Ill.), the referee, called on the gladiators to come out and fight—get to the voting. He pointed out that Slaughter knew of their intentions and should have arranged to be present.

But two Republicans, reported to have been Brown of Ohio, and Allen of Illinois, supported the Southern Democrats who insisted on delay and postponement until 1:15 in the afternoon in order to give Slaughter a chance to arrive.

Slaughter came to the afternoon meeting—Round Two — accompanied by his "second," Colmer of Mississippi. They were in high spirits. It was the tip-off as to the style of fighting Slaughter would use.

Expressing genuine disgust about the bout, Sabbath said there was no "white hope" in view who might win a favorable rule for FEPC under present conditions. The only avenues open now, he stated, are by discharge petition or a two-third vote to suspend the rules. He told reporters that he will shortly go on the floor of the House and make an appeal for members to sign discharge petition No. 4 (which now has 128 signatures of a required 218). He said he will sign the petition himself despite the fact he is chairman of the Rules committee—an unusual precedent.

The Republican members of the Rules committee and other Republican congressmen already are pointing to the fact their party voted 100 per cent for the rule, and they are claiming the championship on a foul.

It is little less than subterfuge and chicanery that they should seek to make such political capital out of this very serious and needed legislation, ringside observers here are saying. On no less than five occasions they had the opportunity of landing a knock-out blow by insisting on a vote and getting a favorable rule for FEPC. Enough of them, however, lined up with the Southern Democrats in holding back their "Sunday punch" and forcing postponements and adjournments until a six-six tie vote was certain.

BY MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON.—President Truman has said as emphatically as possible that he wants the fair employment practices committee set up as a continuing government agency. He said he staked not a little of his political prestige on this issue.

Unless it happened to touch them directly, most people have been unaware of the work of the committee during the war. It has been a kind of cushion to offset some of the tension growing out of the vast migration of peoples of every race and color into America's great centers of war production. 6-21-45

Above all, it was an outlet for the victims of racial discrimination or for those who felt they had been discriminated against. They could make a complaint to one of the regional offices of the FEPC, and that complaint was carefully investigated. Montgomery Advertiser

If the complaint was a real one, then FEPC went to the employer to point out that under the terms of his war contract he had no right to discriminate against anyone in giving employment. In all but a very few cases, this was sufficient to correct the situation.

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NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD-TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023
JUN 21 1945

F. E. P. C. Finds U. S. Successful In Fight on Bias

But Report to Truman Calls Victory Margin Narrow; Won 1,723 Adjustments

WASHINGTON, June 20 (AP).—The Fair Employment Practice Committee reported to President Truman today that "successful use of minority group workers in war industry has been achieved," with the guiding hand of government.

It also asserted that the Nazi hope that "religious hatred" would infect this country "has been forestalled," but added: "The margin of our victory over religious intolerance has been narrow. Hoodlums have attacked Jews in some of our war-time cities. The dangerous undercurrent is there.

"In war industries and government service citizens of the Jewish faith have been denied opportunity to serve their country.

"Yet it may still be said that such cases, however symptomatic, have been relatively few in number. The spread of religious intolerance has so far been kept in check by the force of the contrary opinion of the American public."

The report was the first the committee had made since it was created by Executive order May 27, 1943, to check discrimination in employment because of "race, creed, color or national origin." It covered the eighteen months' period from July, 1943, to December, 1944. The committee now is battling for its life in Congress.

The committee declared that the 13,000,000 American Negroes compose the minority group against whom "discrimination is practiced most frequently." Eighty-one per cent of the cases docketed in the last fiscal year involved complaints from non-whites; Jews, with a scattering of other creeds, filed nearly 9 per cent. The other 10 per cent concerned persons of foreign origin, with Mexican-Americans comprising the majority.

But it asserted that at critical points in the war-production program minority-group Americans "have played an essential role," adding: "Every twelfth American in prime war industries is a Negro. In Federal government service every eighth worker is a Negro. Mexican-American citizens by the scores of thousands have been keyed into the aircraft, shipbuilding and mining industries. Citizens of recent foreign extraction, under handicaps of different language and manners, have been accepted freely on our production lines."

The report of the committee, headed by Malcolm Ross, consisted of 152 pages.

5,803 Cases Docketed

The committee said it had refused to docket 1,442 complaints, largely for lack of jurisdiction. Of the 5,803 cases docketed, 64 per cent were dismissed for "lack of merit, insufficient evidence or other causes."

"Thus," it said, "F. E. P. C. has disposed of many controversies that would have been inimicable to the war effort. The other 36 per cent of cases were accepted, processed and brought to successful conclusion."

The committee said that in this sifting process there were 800 employers who never knew they had been charged with discrimination, because the F. E. P. C., without notice to the parties charged, persuaded the complainants that they did not have valid cases.

"The 1,723 satisfactory adjustments cover a wide range of territory and varying patterns of discrimination," it continued. . . . "Southern ship yards were persuaded to use Negro welders, aircraft plants to up-grade Mexican-Americans, white workers to cooperate with colored workers on the same production lines.

Work Schedules Shifted

"Reluctant Eastern manufacturers of highly involved war mechanisms through experience discarded their belief that Negro workers could not acquire the requisite skills. Government agencies accepted in new positions qualified minority workers referred by civil service. Trade unions policed their own non-discrimination policy in the cases of recalcitrant locals.

"Employers rearranged work schedules to permit Sabbatarians and orthodox Jews opportunity to observe religious customs. In some forty war plants where racial disputes led to work stoppages, the strikers were persuaded to go back to work and, having done so, paved the way for the removal of the causes of racial friction."

The committee said 69.4 per cent of its cases involved complaints against private industry, 24.5 per cent against Federal agencies and 6.1 per cent against labor unions. Cases from the industrial East formed 32.5 per cent of the docket; the Mid-West and Far West together came second and the South last.

"Yet compliance in Southern war industries does not lag notably behind the rest of the country," it said. "It is higher than in the Far West, although figures from that section reflect a large number of unsolved cases in one industry."

GOP, Southerners Run Out on Truman's FEPC Plea

P.M. 6-7-45

Gang Up, Prevent Vote By Bolting Committee Room

By Elizabeth Donahue
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 7.—President Truman's sharp reminder that it is "unthinkable" to abandon the FEPC fell on the deaf ears of a Republican-Southern Democratic coalition in the House Rules Committee which twice in 12 hours stampeded for the door when a vote on FEPC was imminent.

Hamstrung by a secret agreement under which both the GOP and Southerners have agreed not to vote the Bill out unless all members are present, Chairman Adolph Sabath of the Rules group was unable yesterday to hold a quorum together long enough to get a vote even though only one member of the Committee was actually absent from the Capitol Building.

Ignoring the President's message expressing urgent need for the Committee to report the Bill out to the floor without further delay, Rep. Howard Smith (D., Va.), yanked out his watch and looked shocked at the time and started the exodus yesterday morning when Sabath moved an executive session and brought the FEPC bill up.

Surprising

6-7-45

Although no one expected Smith and his three fellow polltaxers on the Committee to support FEPC, there was genuine surprise that the four Republican members of the Committee blocked action on the measure making the Fair Employment Practice Commission a permanent Government agency.

In view of GOP Leader Joseph Martin's persistent assurances that the Republicans would not violate their party platform—that they would support FEPC at the first opportunity—the four Republicans were expected to abide by their party's pledge.

But they did not. The purpose of their agreement with the Southerners to duck a vote until a full Committee membership is on hand, is a device to prevent the bill from reaching the floor.

With the full membership present and the Southern Democrats in control, the vote would be 6-6, thus preventing any action on FEPC. Yesterday, with one Southerner missing, FEPC could have been favorably reported if the Republicans had stood by their promise to support the measure.

After the unexpected collapse of the morning meeting, Sabath called the Committee together for an afternoon session.

GOPs' Turn

The somewhat comical effort of the Republicans to prevent a vote at this session confirmed reliable reports that it was their turn to carry the ball for the Southern Democrats.

One Republican—Rep. Charles Halleck of Indiana appeared. Another Republican, Rep. Leo Allen of Illinois, rushed in and out and said he had to attend another meeting.

6-7-45

The two remaining Republicans, Rep. Clarence Brown of Ohio and Rep. Earl C. Michner of Michigan never showed up, although their offices both reported that they were on the way to the Rules Committee at 2 p.m., the time the meeting was scheduled.

Rep. Brown

Brown was sitting on the floor of the House and so was Michner. The latter protested that "he didn't stay away on purpose," but admitted he knew the meeting was scheduled.

Six Present

So the afternoon meeting started off with Sabath, Halleck, Rep. Bayard Clark (D., N. C.), Rep. Eugene Cox (D., Ga.), Rep. Joe Bates (D., Ky.) and Rep. John J. Delaney present.

Judge Smith wandered in, observed that his presence gave the Committee a quorum, again looked at his watch and rushed out.

Rep. William Colmer (D., Miss.) arrived and stayed exactly 35 seconds. He took the situation in at a glance and also disappeared.

Rep. Howard W. Smith

Chairman Sabath adjourned the meeting for lack of a quorum, and scheduled another session for this morning when the farce will undoubtedly be re-enacted.

6-7-45

The only Committee member absent from Washington is Rep. Roger C. Slaughter (D., Mo.).

Although Slaughter is from the President's home state, he has so far been unalterably opposed to FEPC. He will not be back in town until next week.

Chance Is There

In his absence, the four Republicans along with Sabath and Delaney who both favor FEPC have every opportunity to beat the Southern Democrats—Cox, Smith, Colmer, Clark and Bates.

Meanwhile the temporary wartime FEPC, set up by President Roosevelt to eliminate racial and religious discrimination in industry, is in grave danger of going out of existence this month.

The only alternative is for the Rules Committee and both houses to act promptly on President Truman's strong recommendation that a permanent FEPC be approved "as quickly as possible."

House Group Acts to Starve FEPC to Death

P.M. 6-3-45

Fails to Provide Funds for Committee After July 1

WASHINGTON, June 2.—A slick scheme to kill off FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) came into view when the House Appropriations Committee reported out the War Agencies Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year beginning July 1 without a cent for the FEPC.

6-3-45

Three other agencies likewise were omitted, but one of them (Office of Civilian Defense) previously had been slated for the scrap heap at the end of the present fiscal year, and the other two (OPA and FEA) are almost certain to be provided for.

The reasons given for all four sounded plausible enough, but there was a trick behind it.

Regarding both OPA and FEPC, the Committee explained that since bills affecting both agencies now are before Congress, it was thought wise to await their outcome before appropriating funds. (FEA was held up pending completion of estimates for lend-lease.)

6-3-45

Have Statutory Base

That may be all right for OPA, since the Senate is due to take up extension of the Price Control Act on Tuesday, and the House Banking and Currency Committee is slated to begin consideration of the same matter next week. Passage before expiration of the present Act at midnight June 30 is expected, and since OPA has statutory authority, a Congressional appropriation naturally would follow.

The same is not true of FEPC. In the first place, the bill before Congress pertains not to the existing FEPC, but provides for creation of a permanent FEPC and its enactment is very unlikely.

Southerners in the House have the bill blocked in Committee and a petition for its discharge is way short of the needed signatures. Certainly not even the most optimistic friends of the measure expect final passage by the end of this month, when funds and authority for the existing FEPC run out.

6-3-45

Time Short

Since the existing organization lacks statutory authority—it was created by President Roosevelt by Executive Order—it will die at midnight June 30, when the present fiscal year ends, unless a new appropriation is made before then.

A fight will be made on the House floor to amend the Committee bill to provide funds for FEPC. Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.), has served notice that he will make a point of order. If sustained, that would end it, except that the fight to save FEPC could be renewed in the Senate. Last year an appropriation for FEPC barely squeezed by in the House, by a vote of 121 to 119. It again will have an uphill fight.

Marcantonio Hits Stall On FEPC as 'Double-Cross'

Daily Worker 6-9-45

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 8.—Republicans in the House were filling the Record with pious words, trying to get out from under responsibility in the maneuvers which to date have kept House members from voting on FEPC, when Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY), called their bluff.

Unless the Senate upholds democratic traditions by restoring FEPC funds to the War Agencies appropriations bill, he pointed out, the House Appropriations Committee must bear the responsibility for preventing the members from acting on FEPC.

"And now," he said, "we come to the grand mystery, the greatest detective story of the year—who did the killing? Who used the dagger?"

He alluded to the previous day's horsing around by the Rules Committee when in the face of President Truman's urgent request for a rule, a quorum failed to appear for a scheduled vote on the Permanent FEPC bill. 6-9-45

READY TO VOTE

Earlier Rep. Earl C. Michiner (R-Mich), influential Republican on the committee, had said innocently, "Some of us were ready to voet for it. Now the chairman announces that rain or shine we will vote Tuesday. I hope so." When Rep. Mary Norton (D-NJ), author of the bill, retorted that "unfortunately" most of the Democrats on the committee "are from one part of the country," Michener replied:

"Don't blame that on the Republicans. We've been accused of enough, God knows."

Marcantonio talked of the "Alphonse and Gaston act" which ran: "I didn't do it. You did. We Republicans didn't do it. You did." Actually the committee lined up six to five last week for the bill, he said.

But he said, "there was an agreement not to have a vote until the gentleman from Missouri (Roger C. Slaughter) returned. If on Tuesday the vote is six to six, the rule will not be adopted."

This he called "playing a sly game behind closed doors," and a "case of double crossing and double dealing from beginning to end." 6-9-45

Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas (D-Cal), told the House that the action blocking FEPC from the appropriations bill "raises questions among all the colonial people of the earth whether we are their friends and whether we ever will understand their longing for self-determination."

Among the most vociferous Republicans was the isolationist, Rep. Frank B. Keefe (R-Wis), who spoke of "these so-called minority groups" of whom the New Deal has made "political capital."

Chairman A. J. Sabath (D-Ill), of the Rules Committee dramatically told of the late President Roosevelt's "last message."

"President Roosevelt's secretary called on me at 3 o'clock on the day the President died, urging I do all I could to get the FEPC out for a vote."

Not all the piousness was on the side of the Republicans, of course. Rep. E. E. (Goober) Cox (D-Ga), declared that he would not vote to "write Marxism into our legislation." It was "class legislation" and the "class struggle" was not "Americanism."

Benson Denounces Sabotage on FEPC

Elmer Benson, acting chairman of National Citizens Political Action Committee, charged that behavior of Republicans on the House Rules Committee in handling FEPC legislation gives weight to the charge that the Southern Democrats are "sabotaging this bill."

In a wire to Rep. Joseph W. Martin (R-Mass), GOP House leader, Benson demanded that Republicans make good on their 1944 campaign platform pledge to support a permanent FEPC

North, South Arrayed In New House Battle Over Poll Tax Issue

Birmingham News 6-11-45

Federal Votes Involved; FEPC, Price Control Up; Hopkins' Return Waited

WASHINGTON, June 11— (AP) — Capitol Hill faces a busy week over such controversies as poll taxes, the Fair Employment Practices Committee and price control.

A Senate test of whether the price control program will be continued without major change is expected today or tomorrow. Two administration-opposed amendments are up for a vote.

In the House, the North lines up against the South again in two old struggles over poll taxes and FEPC. The tax squabble comes up on the floor today while the FEPC clash is first scheduled tomorrow in the rules committee with perhaps a later joust on the floor.

At issue is legislation to outlaw payment of poll taxes as a voting requirement in elections with federal offices at stake and to set up a permanent FEPC patterned after the agency President Roosevelt created by executive order.

Also on Capitol Hill, Claude R. Wickard's nomination as Rural Electrification Administration will be taken up by the Senate agriculture committee today.

RALPH McGILL

The Honeymoon Is Drawing to a Close

Atlanta Constitution

That well-known political bride, Harry S. Truman, has baked the first pan of political biscuits not unanimously acclaimed by congress as just the kind mother used to bake . . . and the honeymoon is about over . . . as everyone knew it would be when Harry S. Truman met his first domestic issue.

He met it like a man—sending a strong note to the house on the FEPC measure. 6-7-45

It is not my purpose here to discuss that measure, except incidentally. I have not read the bill. I do have grave doubts about the present measures. But I do want to talk a little about President Truman.

He is not, we may all be thankful, another Careful Cal Coolidge. That was the label some of his critics tried to pin on him when destiny called him to the presidency of one of the great world powers.

He is a man. And he stands up like one.

The first domestic decision to cause some wincing was his demand upon congress for enactment of immediate legislation to increase unemployment insurance so that the nation might not suffer a depression and, more important, discontent, during the transition from war work to peacetime work. It is estimated there will be an increase in unemployment from 800,000 as of today to about 2,000,000 within two more months.

No Dole

There are those who believe we should suffer it out, letting the economic chips fall where they may. They are almost inevitably the same persons who are greatly agitated about Socialism and Communism. In their stupidity they do not see that if this nation acquires several millions of unemployed persons in a period when prices of all commodities are high and when congress is having pressure put on it to remove controls so that prices may go twice as high, great damage will be done to the fabric of our way of life, about which we have heard so much.

Nothing could, or would, push this country toward socialization of more of its activities than a period of depression and accompanying unemployment at a time when the cost of living is as high as it is. 6-7-45

Yet the same forces which seek to remove controls by abolishing OPA, so that prices may double and triple on every item of food and consumer goods, are those who oppose the covering of those legitimately unemployed by the shutting down of war plants and the lagging employment opportunities in peacetime plants by unemployment insurance. They are, ironically enough, as I already have said, those who lead the chorus which loudly deplores the so-called drift toward Socialism. They, and their kind, have created whatever drift we have.

The FEPC

No more controversial domestic measure has come before the country than the FEPC, the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Instituted early in the war, it had as its primary purpose the obtaining of a sufficient amount of manpower in war plants and the ending of discrimination preventing that.

It should be recorded that the first cases before the FEPC were not those involving Negroes, but native-born, loyal Japanese and Chinese on the west coast, and, secondly, discriminations on the basis of religion. Some firms were advertising for "Protestant only," "Gentile only."

The FEPC inevitably became, however, almost entirely a Negro issue, the Negro being our largest minority group. It is worth recording, however, that before it became such an issue on a national basis, a great advance was made in voluntary compliances. It also must be recorded that until this day much of the objection to it has come from unions as well as from employers. Many of those now opposing, including Sen. Richard B. Russell, of Georgia, say they approved the original intent of the measure.

The FEPC obtained the support of almost all the political figures of the east, where large Negro populations in cities made it politically expedient to be for it.

So, inevitably and unfortunately, it drifted on until it became what it is today, a measure in which the south has been isolated as its chief regional opposition.

Blame for this must, in part, be laid at the doors of some of the administrators of the committee's regulations. They were, too often, not administrators, but reformers who tried to bring about of this was stupid and properly aroused anger and resentment. great social reforms in their work. Too often they lacked the slightest amount of diplomacy or understanding of human nature and But, my purpose is not to discuss the bill pro or con, but to point out that Harry S. Truman has met his first domestic issue blundered their way into emotional situations which need not have and without any equivocation. Whether you think him occurred. squarely and wrong or not is not so much the point. He made it. 6-7-45

Part of the blame also must be laid at the doors of those who He had a "hard" decision attempted to make far-fetched applications of the regulations in a manner not contemplated by the original executive decree. Much

56-d 1945

FEPC

NAACP Opposes Continuation of Smith Committee, Foe of FEPC

Washington Tribune D.C. 1-27-45

In an effort to defeat House Resolution 88, introduced by Rep. Howard W. Smith (D., Va.) favorably reported to the House on January 18, by the Committee on Rules, the NAACP has urged leaders of the House to vote against the measure.

The resolution would extend for another two years the select committee to investigate executive agencies, popularly known as the Smith Committee. In a telegram to House leaders opposing the continuation of the committee, Leslie Perry, administrative assistant of the Washington Bureau, said in part:

1-27-45

KKK Passed Over

"The major difference between the Dies Committee and the Smith Committee is that the former has received more publicity. Like the Dies Committee, which spent most of its time looking for Reds, while ignoring the KKK and other Fascist groups, the Smith Committee has wholly failed to investigate agencies like the Federal Housing Administration which encourages the use of restrictive covenants to keep Negroes out of the homes they so sorely need.

1-27-45

"Like the Dies Committee, the Smith Committee has been used by its chairman and other reactionaly committee members to assail New Deal agencies and liberals in Government who are doing their jobs well."

The Fair Employment Practice Committee has been the chief target of the Smith Committee. During December, 1943, the Smith Committee ransacked FEPC's files because the Boilermakers' Union complained that the FEPC was fighting jim-crow unions. Jim-crow auxiliary unions were recently condemned by the California Supreme Court.

1-27-45

It also held hearings in January of 1944 on the complaint of the Philadelphia Transit Company after it had been ordered by the FEPC to employ Negroes as street car and bus drivers.

At least one liberal Federal official is believed to have been fired after he had been brought before the Smith Committee on the charge that he was construing the executive order creating FEPC as prohibitive to segregation of Negro seamen recruited through the War Shipping Ad-

Let's Face It

Daily Worker

V-E DAY has brought with it a host of national problems that will require that we turn some of our attention back to Washington.

Take the case of the Fair Employment Practice Committee. It was established on the basis of a wartime emergency order by FDR. As such, its work is necessarily confined to war industry. No one except Congress has the authority to change that.

5-9-45

FEPC has achieved some excellent results. Partly as a result of its activities, the number of Negro workers engaged in war industry has been estimated at a million and a half.

But now that the war in Europe is over, some of this industry will be, or is already being, dismantled. Reconversion offers no protection to the Negro workers who are laid off from these industries. The presidential order and the activities of FEPC as now constituted no longer apply to them.

Many firms, where unions are either nonexistent or not particularly sensitive to the problem, are automatically laying off all Negro workers as soon as they reconvert to peace industry. As an example of what is happening there is the letter received by the National Urban League from a Baltimore firm, in which the head of the firm says he would be glad to answer the League's inquiry about Negroes employed but since the firm is no longer engaged in war work it no longer has Negro workers.

Some trade unions are grappling with the problem from the point of view of seniority and protection of Negro rights. But even if this is solved successfully, it is only part of the story.

WITH hundreds of thousands of Negro workers in the armed forces, some of whom will be released in the next several months, and more hundreds of thousands facing layoffs from war industry, what is needed is a basic national policy as embodied in the permanent FEPC measure now before the House of Representatives.

5-9-45

Despite the urgency of the situation and the difficulties that will result if the measure does not become law soon, it has been getting an awful kicking around in the House. Approved by the Labor Committee, it is now being held up by the arch-reactionary Rules Committee, which refuses to let it out on the floor. To get it by that committee, Rep. Mary Norton, Labor Committee chairman, has been compelled to resort to a discharge petition.

Up until late last week, there were only 102 signatures on the petition of the 218 required. Backers of the bill have appealed to the people to get after their Congressmen to sign it so as to give the House a chance to vote. They are confident that should it come to a vote it will pass the House. After that, the difficulty will come in the Senate, where the polltaxers will try to filibuster it.

5-9-45

* * *

IT IS well for us, at this point, to recall the campaign platform and pledges of the GOP on the issue. In order to overcome the unfavorable consequences of his ditching a New York State FEPC measure in 1944, Gov. Dewey put special emphasis on it in his presidential campaign. The Republican platform declared itself emphatically for a permanent FEPC.

Yet Republican members of the House Rules Committee were not helpful, to say the least, in getting the bill on to the floor. Nor has the House GOP leadership aided in its passage.

5-9-45

If you want to know the real GOP attitude, examine the results in the struggles for state FEPCs. Yes, Dewey's state did pass a good bill following irresistible intervention by the people. But in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Minnesota, California, and other states, GOP blocs have been almost solid against such legislation while Democrats have been almost uniformly solid for it.

Clearly, if FEPC legislation is to be passed in Congress, the GOP will have to be "persuaded" to live up to its campaign pledges. And though Dewey's state has passed such a measure, he is still the titular head of his party and bears considerable responsibility for the position it takes in Congress and in other states.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUN 7 - 1945

Negro Leaders Laud Truman

Walter White, secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, today called President Truman's statement on the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) "magnificent."

In a message to the President, White said:

"Your statement to Congress denouncing action of the House Appropriation Committee in refusing funds to the FEPC is magnificent. Not only members of minorities are grateful but all Americans who are concerned about winning the war and making democracy real."

Dr. Channing Tobias, Negro leader who consulted frequently with President Roosevelt on FEPC matters, said he had written President Truman praising him on his action to save FEPC.

"The President's letter to Rep. Adolph J. Sabath,' Tobias said, "leaves no one in doubt as to his position on FEPC. Mr. Truman has faced the issue fully and the entire Nation of right-thinking people of all colors and creeds applauds his resolute stand."

FEPC Told of Union Abuses

AFL Local Insists on White Drivers

4 FORCED TO QUIT

Companies Willing to Hire Colored Men

By ART CARTER
Staff Correspondent

DETROIT — Colored employees of a trucking company handling essential war work were fired and replaced by eight white parolees, the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee was told Saturday as complaints against an AFL Teamsters' local and ten companies were aired here.

The companies charged with discriminatory employment practices were:

The Mannion Express Co., Shippers' Dispatch, Inc., the McFarren Cartage Co., Opland Trucking Co., the Detroit Delivery Co., Dealers' Transport Co., Associated Truck Lines, Inc., Fourteenth Avenue Cartage Co., U.S. Truck Co., Inc., and the Douglass Trucking Lines, all located within the Detroit area.

An eleventh company, the White Star Trucking Co., was originally cited for the hearings, but charges against the firm were dismissed late Saturday when it developed that the company had made efforts to hire colored workers as truck drivers, but had been blocked in every attempt by the union.

Charges Against Union

The union, Local 299, whose representatives refused to appear as witnesses because the FEPC had no power to subpoena them, was cited on four counts.

1. For negotiating collecive bargaining agreements with trucking companies requiring over-the-road drivers to be union members;

2. Refusal to admit colored to its membership unless it was clear that they did not intend to obtain truck driver employment, thus automatically barring them from work in this occupation;

Companies Threatened

3. Stating publicly in the press and privately to the companies that colored should not be hired as truck drivers, then using its bargaining rights as authority to dictate to the companies, and

4. Threatening to pull its truck drivers off company trucks when firms, in dire need of drivers, hired colored drivers, unless the latter were discharged.

Companies Oppose Bar

Each of the companies, via letters and conversations with investigating officials, insisted that they would be willing to hire colored workers but were blocked by union opposition of the Local 299.

The parolees from Michigan's Jackson Prison, were hired by the McFarren Cartage Co., because of an acute shortage of available men, and presumably were given union membership although four colored men had been forced out of work at the same company by union opposition and union refusal to admit them to membership.

The story of the employment of the parolees was revealed by Mrs. Lethia Clore, FEPC area examiner, who interviewed Victor H. Marsh, white, superintendent of the company.

Forced to Fire Five

Marsh told Mrs. Clore, she testified, that he hired William Blackburn and George Flagg, as drivers; Willie Woodward and Hardy Harrison, as helpers, and the four were unloading and hauling meat when the union complained to the company and threatened to pull all drivers off the firm's trucks unless the men were dismissed.

This happened February 8, 1945, according to Mrs. Clore's testimony.

Last August 15, L. D. Wallace, a driver with seven years' experience, was hired at McFarren Co., but on August 21 (six days later) released and told by Mr. Marsh that the union (Local 299) objected to his employment because they did not employ colored.

Houston, Horn Absent

Five members of the committee were present for the hearings in the Federal Building, with Malcolm Ross, chairman. Others were John Brophy, Boris Shishkin, Milton P. Webster and Mrs. Sara Southall. Charles H. Houston, Washington, and Charles L. Horn were unable to attend.

George W. Johnson, vice chairman of the committee, was present, with Manuel Block of the committee's legal staff, serving as hearing examiner, and Frank D. Reeves, Washington, and Simon Stickgold, Chicago, attorneys for the committee.

Union Bias Told at FEPC Hearings

Color Bars Revealed by Detroit Drivers

NO DEFENSE MADE

Trucking Companies Blame Closed Shops

DETROIT — Detailed descriptions of how the AFL Teamsters' Local 299 succeeded in creating and maintaining a pattern of discrimination in a large segment of the trucking industry in the Detriot area were outlined by witnesses at the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings, recently.

Testimony by a dozen experienced drivers and government officials showed clearly that the discriminatory practices not only circumscribed job opportunities for qualified drivers, solely because of their race, but had seriously impaired the effective flow of war materials.

No representative of the union appeared, each hiding behind the lack of subpoena power by the FEPC.

USES Admits Compliants

Officials of the United States Employment Service, however, told of scores of complaints from colored men who had been referred to jobs through USES, and FEPC investigating agents described how they had tried in vain to get the union to alter its policy.

Bias on the part of the Associated Truck Lines, Inc., was revealed by Henry Thomas, who testified that in April, 1944, company officials told him the union would not allow them to hire colored.

Similarly, Zuett Jefferson, who has had 16 years driving experience, was denied a job at the Douglas Truckling Lines.

Janitor Accepted

J. E. Douglas, president, he declared told him, "We have no policy against colored. We have a colored janitor, but the union refuses to issue cards to non-whites and we have a closed shop agreement."

The refusal of Local 299 to accept his transfer from Local 247 was cited by Oscar L. Purvey, as the reason for his rejection by the U.S. Trucking Co., Inc., which required membership in Local 299.

Joseph Smith, bus driver for the Detroit Street Railway, said he was hired by the Detroit Delivery Co., but fired before he worked because white drivers threatened to walk off the job.

The company sent his referral card back to USES, however, marked "did not hire."

Had Driven in 36 States

Stennis E. Lloyd, who has had interstate driving experience in 36 States, said he was sent to the Dealers Transport Co., for a job by USES, but sent away with the explanation, "We don't hire colored drivers here. We hire 'em in Chicago."

A driver with 28 years' experience, George E. Johnson declared that he was hired by the Mannion Express Co., but later discharged because Local 299 objected to his working without a union card.

Johnson, member of Local 337, sought transfer to Local 299, but the transfer was refused unless he paid a $200 fee.

Experience Ignored

Despite his 25 years' experience, Charles Jones who sought work at the Opland Trucking Co., was flatly refused because of his color, it was revealed.

Three others, Joseph H. Smith, Edward Calloway and K. C. Bills, each with over five years experience, sought work at the Detroit Delivery Co., but were also refused because they were colored.

Calloway said that the manager told him he could not hire colored now, although he retorted, "There is no better time than now," but still he did not get the job.

Local Secretary Blamed

Similar evidences of discrimination by the trucking companies because of the union's anti-colored policy was revealed by all the drivers who testified.

Cyrenius Newcomb, USES director, admitted that the "uncompromising stand of James Hoffa, (Local 299 secretary) prevented the hiring of colored men" by the trucking companies.

Edward M. Swann, examiner in charge of the Detroit FEPC office, said further that a Local 299 business agent told him that if he "put colored to work as drivers, the rest of the drivers would quit."

Refused to Set Precedent

Owners of Shippers Dispatch, Inc., told the FEPC that a union agent told them "not to hire colored, but to tell them there were no jobs open."

When FEPC examiners suggested that the company hire colored drivers anyway, inasmuch as there was a tremendous need for experienced drivers, the firm's agent declared, "I'll be darn if we're going to be the guinea pigs."

The detailed testimony dealt with an alleged ban on experienced Negro truck drivers by Local 299, Teamsters Union (AFL).

USES AND FEPC officials testified managers of trucking firms usually said they were willing to hire Negroes as drivers, but were prevented by union regulations.

Union representatives were not present at the hearings.

DETROIT, MICH.
FREE PRESS
Circ. D. 322,683 — S. 301,788
JUN 4 - 1945

FEPC Sees Delay in Rule on Truck Row

Two months are expected to lapse before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices will be ready to act on complaints against the trucking companies charged with discrimination against Negroes.

Evidence presented to the Committee must now be prepared for study.

* * *

FINAL HEARINGS took place Saturday night before Malcolm Ross, chairman, and five members of the committee.

56d-1945

Taft Silent on 'Broken Pledge'

AFRO-AMERICAN 2-24-45 Md.

WASHINGTON — Senator Robert A. Taft (Rep., Ohio) refused this week to reply to charges of double-crossing colored constituents, made by Carl Murphy, editor-in-chief of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, following the introduction of what the latter called his emasculated FEPC bill.

In refusing to answer the letter, Senator Taft declared:

"I do not care to answer all of the intolerant letters sent me by colored citizens [Indicating that he had many.] I explanied my position fully in a statement to the press when the measure was introduced and have no further comment to make." 2-24-45

Reminded of GOP Pledge

In his letter, Mr. Murphy inquired whether Senator Taft thought that he knew more about the problem of colored people than the party leaders like Governor Dewey and others who supported the Chavez Bill, which called punitive action against those who discriminated against colored persons in employment, and whether his weak measure was not a violation of the pledge given in the party platform which he (Senator Taft) helped to frame.

Senator Taft declared that, when the plank was drawn, no question of the powers of enforcement was either discussed or considered.

"Surprised" at Implications

"It was a surprise," he said, "when I saw to what extent employers would be regimented in this measure, and I had no such idea in mind when I pledged to work for the establishment of a permanent FEPC.

"The Chavez measure is based on a section of the labor relations act which I considered abortive, in that it permits those injured to bring suit against an employer without observing the rules of legal evidence.

"It is my belief that it will be possible for any person to build up a case of race prejudice against any employer regardless of what the other extenuating circumstances for failure to promote might be.

Favors Persuasion

"It is my belief that more can be accomplished and that colored people themselves will be better off if we use methods of persuasion instead of rigid enforcement. My bill calls for the establishment of regional commissions to work in the various communities along this line.

"It may be possible that some institution may take on a certain per cent of colored and others would be better off with all colored employees, as some are with all white employees. These matters should be worked out by consultation.

Fears Filibuster

"I believe that, by pressing for passage of the Chavez measure, we will just run into a filibuster from the South, which will get nothing done.

"I cannot guarantee that my bill will not also be filibustered, but I believe it will face less opposition than the other bill. Then, if we find later that this method is not producing results, we can come back later and ask the Congress to payy another type of bill.

"Cold Amend Bill"

"I am not opposed to amendments which will strengthen my bill where the concern involved affects the whole community, like in the case of the Capital Transit Company and other public utilities, but I am against the regimentation af all private employers."

Taft Attempt To Frighten Negro Railroad Workers

Miami Whip 7-62-

The "white" bugaboo was waved to Negro railroad workers last week when Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio introduced his toothless FEPC bil. Taft tried to frighten Negro support away from a compulsory FEPC bill by picturing the possibilitoy of black-white competition for Pullman porter and dining car waiter jobs. 2-24-45

Taft pleaded the case of the employer. He said that compulsory provisions of the FEPC bill "heretofore introduced in the senate will hinder progress towards solving the problem rather than achieve it." He added that "the act goes much further than the National Labor Relations act in providing an almost complete regimentation of employers." 2-24-45

Race and religion will enter into every decision, Taft said. The Methodist Book concern will have to employ Catholics and Catholic institutions will nave to employ Protestants. Then he added:

"White waiters and porters could insist upon most of the work in the Pullman sleepers and

FEPC

dining cars."

The Ohioan followed the anti-white scare he intended to throw into Negro FEPC backers by saying that "in the long run this board (permanent FEPCO would tell every employer how he must make up his labor force."

The NAACP reminded Taft of the trick to set up an investigating commission with no compulsory powers. 2-24-45

"You can not help but realize this proposal of yours, for a commission to investigate and find out whether there is discrimination and its extent, is a move that deceives no one," the NAACP said. "What is needed is action to correct the discriminatory practices known to exist. 2-24-45

After denouncing the Ohio Republican leader as the perpetrater of "a political trick unworthy of a senator and party leader of your prominence," the NAACP assured him that its "advice to our members over the country and to other citizens is that until your action is repudiated by the Republican party and its congressional leaders, the party must be held responsible and must be viewed as being opposed to any effective measures to guarantee Negro Americans a chance at employment without discrimination. For aside from stating your views, the plain purpose of the bill you have introduced is to divide and alienate support for the effective legislation (S101) now before the senate."

Social Advance Calls Bill Great

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

Passage Essential to Economic Freedom

HEARING TUESDAY

2-24-45

Stand May Curve GOP Rift in Assembly

ALBANY, N.Y.—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey told an interracial delegation Friday that he is "very definitely" in favor of the Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination bill which provides a permanent State Fair Employment Practice Committee. 2-24-45

"This bill is one of the great social advances of our time," the Governor told the group which was headed by Charles Evans Hughes, Jr., chairman of Mayor LaGuardia's New York City Committee on Unity.

Seen as Move to Curb Rift

Observers here feel that the Governor's clear statement of position my prevent a further split among Republican legislators, a minority of whom are supporting opposition groups and individuals including biased railroad brotherhoods and industrial and commercial employers.

Because of opposition pressure, a public hearing on the bills has been set for Tuesday afternoon in the Assembly chamber although the Assembly was due to take final action on the main bill the same day. 2-24-45

The main bill, outlawing employment discrimination because of race, color, creed or national origin was reported favorably by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee last week.

Following the two-hour conference with the Governor, Mr. Hughes, with other members of the delegation representing the New York City-wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, issued a prepared statement saying the Ives-Quinn bill had been discuseed.

Would Promote Harmony

"The Governor told us," he said, "that he believed that this bill is one of the great social advances of our time. It would serve, he (the Governor) said, to assure aquality of opportunity for all elements of our citizenship regardless of race, creed, color or national origin and would be a lasting forward step in promoting harmony among the people of the State.

"The Governor told us that he believed this bill would make the rights guaranteed by our constitution a living reality and that its passage was an essential step in the process of preserving economic freedom which is fundamental to human liberty.

Endorsed by Major Groups

"We told the Governor of our gratitude for his active sponsorship of the fight against discrimination and offered all possible assitance in bringing the merts of the bill to further attenton of the public and of members of the Legislature.

"We assured him of our belief that the bill soundly carries out the intention of the act passed last year creating the commission and of the forthright statement in the Governor's annual message in which he said, 'I cannot urge too strongly that, after the commission has rendered its report, action should be taken to place our State in the forefront of the nation in the handling of this vital issue.'"

The statement pointed out that the bill "has the active endorsement of major groups throughtout the State, including the outstanding Protestants, Catholic, Jewish, labor, patriotic welfare, civc and veterans' organizations, as well as outstandng spokesmen in every walk of life, and of every racial and national origin."

Members of Delegation

Members of the delegation in addition to Mr. Hughes were:

Dr. Wilbur T. Clemens, genereal secretary, New York State Council of Churches; Charles A. Collier, Jr. executive secretary of the City-Wide Citizens' Committee of Harlem; Stephen S. Jackson, former Domestic Relations Court Justice;

Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the NACCP; Justice Nathan D. Perlman, of the Court of Special Sessions, member of Mayor LaGuardia's Committee on Unity and chairman of the legislative committee of the American Jewish Congress; City Court Judge Francis E. River, member of the board of directors of the New York State Citizens' Council;

Professor James H. Sheldon, adminstrative chairman of the Anti-Nazi League and chairman of the New York Metropolitan Council on Fair Employment Practices, and C. D. Williams, chairman of legislative committee of the United Neighborhod Houses.

White Writers Charge Taft Double-Crossed Minorities

Afro-American Md: 2-17-45

WASHINGTON

Under the heading, "How Senator Taft Double-Crossed the Country's Minority Groups," Charles Van Devander and William O. Player, in their syndicated column, Washington Memo, had this to say last Wednesday:

The story of how Senator Taft (R., Ohio) had double-crossed not only the colored people of the nation—whose votes the Republican party so desperately sought in the last election—but also the members of all other minority groups in the country is best told chronologically. It goes like this:

Pre-election

June 27, 1944—The Republican party adopted a platform, drafted by a committee headed by Senator Taft, containing the following plank: 2-17-45

"We pledge the establishment by Federal legislation of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission."

Sept. 20, 1944—The Senate Committee on Education and Labor, of which Senator Taft was (and is) the ranking Republican member, voted out unanimously a favorable report on a bill by Senator Chavez (D., N.M.) to create a permanent FEPC with full enforcement powers.

Nov. 1, 1944—Governor Dewey, in Buffalo, declared on behalf of himself and his fellow Republicans that, if victorious, "we shall establish the FEPC as a permanent agency with full legal authority."

Post-election

Feb. 2, 1945—An Ohio delegation, seeking Taft's support of permanent FEPC legislation scheduled for early consideration, was astounded to hear, from the Senator's own lips, that:

(a) He had never really favored the original bill. 2-17-45

(b) He had joined in the favorable vote during the last Congress only because he knew the legislation would have to be carried over for action by the new Congress.

(c) He was against any bill giving the FEPC enforcement powers.

Feb. 5, 1945—Taft introduced a bill of his own, to set up a "permanent" FEPC—with authority to "make comprehensive studies," "to call witnesses and inquire into specific cases of discrimination," "to make recommendations," and to "take every step to secure community interest and co-operation and voluntary compliance by employers and labor unions."

But to enforce anything? No!

In describing his bill to the Senate, Taft added: 2-17-45

"In my opinion, any . . . compulsory measure will create more bad racial and religious feeling than any other method which can be pursued. I think it will do the colored race much more harm than good. Progress against discrimination must be made gradually and must be made by voluntary co-operation and education. . . ."

F. E. P. C. To Make Complete Study Of Capital Transit Co. Testimony Before Deciding Future Action

New York Age 1-27-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Charges of discrimination in violation of Executive Order 9346 against the Capital Transit Company were examined in public hearing before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice January 15 and 16, in the Court of Appeals courtroom. 1-27-45

In accordance with regular procedure, Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the committee, announced that a full study of the record will be made prior to issuance of a decision.

The complaints alleged that the company, despite a serious need of workers in "platform jobs," refused to hire qualified Negro applicants. Some of the complaints date back to 1942.

Edmund L. Jones, counsel for the company, declared the company was willing to hire Negroes in operating jobs, but was convinced from past attempts that such a move would precipitate a walkout of its white workers. He cited a report prepared by Paul Lunt, author-sociologist, which indicated "a distinct possibility of a complete stoppage of transportation if Negroes are hired in platform jobs" by the company. 1-27-45

Louis Wirth, sociologist of the University of Chicago, also testified, and challenged the accuracy of Mr. Lunt's report and contended that no substantial support for the fear of a walkout had been offered.

Five complainants testifed they were turned down upon applying for jobs, and several officials of the company testified in its behalf, including E. D. Merrill, president of the company. Mr. Merrill admitted the company's failure to hire qualified Negro applicants in operating jobs and expressed regret that the "situation exists," but insisted that the company "has no prejudice whatsoever against hiring Negroes for platform service." The situation, he maintained, is beyond the control of the company.

The Dangers of a Permanent FEPC

Richmond Times 6-11-45

THERE are many sincere and public-spirited advocates of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, and the philosophy behind the proposal to establish such an agency in Washington is precisely in the American tradition. But although these things are true, this bill which is designed to help minorities probably would have precisely the opposite result, at least insofar as the Negro minority in the South is concerned.

Legislation rests on public opinion. No law which is strongly opposed by the overwhelming majority will ever be effective, or will ever achieve the results which it seeks to achieve. This is especially true of legislation such as that which seeks to establish a permanent FEPC. Here is a bill which involves some of the most emotionally felt issues in our public life, but which ignores those emotions in providing for enforcement. Such a law is often worse than no law at all. After much study of the issues involved here, we are convinced that if a permanent FEPC is established in Washington over the virtually unanimous, if not completely unanimous, opposition of the entire Southern bloc in Congress, the consequences can only be harmful.

REPRESENTATIVE MARY T. NORTON, of New Jersey, chief proponent of the bill in the House, has prepared a series of questions and answers about this piece of legislation. She says that the types of discrimination forbidden in the bill on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, or ancestry are those "in employment or union membership, i. e., hiring, discharging, wages, seniority, transfers, demotions, upgrading, union auxiliaries, etc." Answering her own question, "Does the bill require an employer to hire Negroes, Jews, Mexicans, or other minorities?," she says: "No. An employer may hire or reject anyone he pleases, on any basis and for any reason, so long as a needed and qualified person is not rejected because of his race, color, creed, national origin, or ancestry." This answer, when analyzed, is really meaningless, for the second half of the sentence partially nullifies the first half. The important fact is that this law would make possible the imposition of heavy penalties upon employers for failure to hire colored persons.

This is not the way to broaden opportunities for the colored people of the South. This is the road to a vast amount of bitterness and strife. The lessons of the past should teach Congress that the entry of the Federal authorities into this delicate relationship of employer and employee, and the emphasis which would be placed in the law upon the race issue, would simply fan the flames of interracial antagonism, instead of quenching them.

Such a lifelong friend of the Negro race as OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD, whose greatest pride is that he is the grandson of WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, the Abolitionist, is opposed to this type of legislation. He feels that it is more harmful than otherwise, and that it tends to accentuate race differences, instead of eliminating them. He and half-a-dozen eminent New Yorkers of liberal inclinations signed a statement in opposition to the IVES Bill, which is of a similar character, and which was passed in New York State a short time ago.

So liberal a man as SENATOR CLAUDE PEPPER, of Florida, is against the establishment of a permanent FEPC, and so is the militantly liberal Louisville *Courier-Journal*. Both have fought many battles for the Negroes of the South, but they can see that the sort of statute which is being advocated would, in all likelihood, increase existing tensions, instead of lessening them.

REPRESENTATIVE BROOKS HAYS, of Arkansas, one of the most enlightened and progressive members of the House, always a friend of the disadvantaged, made a long address on the House floor recently in opposition to this bill. "It is unity of purpose we seek," he declared, "not enforced relationships." He pointed out that the bill would not only cover the hiring of workers, but also their discharge, and he stated that where an employee was discharged, and he complained to the FEPC, that body could order the employer to reinstate the worker, and the employer would go to jail, if he declined. Similar penalties can be imposed for refusal to hire, if the law is violated.

It is only right, of course, that colored workmen who have made good on merit during the war, should not be laid off when there is a slump, simply because they are colored. But while this is true, it is also true that Federal decrees against individual employers, especially in the Southern States, are sure to be deeply resented. The desired results as to both hiring and firing should be sought by other means. 6-11-45

Some absurd and even hysterical things have been said by Southerners against this FEPC bill, and we consider them so much rodomontade. On the other hand, there is no use blinking the facts concerning this legislation, and the real dangers which it contains.

It may be argued that while far-reaching powers are conferred by the bill, they would not be exercised. What guarantee is there of that? None whatever. On the contrary, given the zeal and unquestioned integrity of many of the bill's advocates, they might well consider that the South ought to be singled out first for attention, since it contains by far the bulk of the country's Negroes. Should that occur, the fat would be in the fire, and irreparable harm would be done.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH has frequently championed the cause of better employment opportunities for our Negro citizens. We shall continue to do so, especially in the years immediately ahead, when it is so important that returning Negro soldiers and sailors be made to feel that they are being fairly treated. But this newspaper cannot support legislation to that end which could arouse great interracial hostility, and create almost interminable friction. If such consequences flowed from the establishment of a permanent FEPC—and they probably would—the Negroes would be the chief sufferers, and interracial progress would be set back for decades.

56d-1945

FEPC Reports Dixie Opposes Equal Chance

Atlanta World 2-4-45 G2.

Recalcitrant In Attitude Toward Negro

WASHINGTON —(ANP) — The south is still proving recalcitrant in its attitude toward utilization of Negro Labor, a report of the FEPC discloses. During the year 1944 3,835 cases were docked while 3,721 were closed. Of the cases closed 1,324 or 35.7 per cent resulted in satisfactory adjustment.

2-4-45

The smallest total of satisfactory adjustments among the regions in which there are field offices was that of Region VII where 368 cases were docketed during the year, 214 closed with 25 satisfactory adjustments. The region embraces Georgia, South Carolina, Tenn. Florida and Miss.

The pending load of 2,054 cases as of January 1, 1945 showed an increase of 123 over the figure as of the preceding January 1.

An additional sub-office will be set up by the committee in Cincinnati, it was said to help in handling an increased number of cases originating in that area.

BOILERMAKERS REBUFF FEPC

Chicago Defender 3-3-45

TAMPA.—Florida Boilermakers this week showed the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee "where to get off."

Willie Joe Ray, business agent for Local 433, A.F. of L. Boilermaker's Union refused point blank to discuss the organization of auxiliaries for Negro workers with Dr. Witherspoon Dodge of Atlanta, regional FEPC director.

The local here which will not admit Negroes to membership also refuses to set up "jim crow" auxiliaries and thus prevents colored workers from obtaining skilled jobs in Tampa shipyards with which the union holds contracts.

Dr. Dodge said while here this week that he would ask FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross to call an immediate hearing on the matter. Following a two-day investigation of hiring policies in the shipyards, Dodge declared: 3-3-45

"It is perfectly clear that the Boilermakers here will not do as other locals in the South have done—form auxiliaries so that Negroes can work at skilled trades to help the war effort."

Although he wrote Ray from Atlanta saying that he would like to confer with the business agent while in Tampa, Dodge was told both days while here that Ray was "out of town" and that Ray's secretary had no authority to discuss the matter with the FEPC director.

FEPC Seen As War Aid

P.M. 1-5-45

Two Bills Introduced To Make Agency Permanent

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. – Rep. William L. Dawson (D., Ill.), said in a statement that establishment of a permanent FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) would aid in utilizing "every American citizen in all our efforts to bring this war to a speedy close."

Dawson is one of the two Negro members of the newly convened 79th Congress. The other is Rep. Adam C. Powell (D., N. Y.).

Dawson

1-5-45

A permanent FEPC, he said, would assure the use of every citizen, "according to his knowledge and skill, regardless of race, religion or national origin."

Rep. Charles M. LaFollette (R., Ind.) has introduced a bill to establish a permanent, five-man FEPC.

Meanwhile, Rep. Joseph C. Baldwin (R., N. Y.), introduced another bill for creation of a permanent FEPC. Baldwin said that his bill differed from other FEPC measures in that all rules and regulations of the proposed commission would have to be approved by Congress before it's effective.

FEPC and Navy Sign Agreement

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

PHILADELPHIA

A new procedure for handling cases of alleged discrimination in civilian employment because of race or religion has been worked out between the Navy Department and the Fair Employment Practice Committee, G. James Fleming, FEPC regional director, announced Tuesday.

In cases involving employees of naval shore establishments, a marked improvement in adjusting complaints on the local level is provided for in the new agreement, Fleming pointed out at the FEPC office in the Stephen Girard Building. 1-6-45

FEPC Can Represent Worker

In such cases, he said, FEPC representatives may not only discuss the charges, but where a case goes through the navy's grievance procedure, an FEPC examiner may represent employees at certain points in this procedure.

If a complainant is still dissatisfied after his grievance is decided and appeals to the FEPC for further assistance, regional directors may appeal to the Navy Department through the Washington office of FEPC, according to the new plan.

Provision is also made to facilitate conferences between navy representatives in plants and naval shore establishments "to discuss policies, procedures and practices of general interest concerning matters of discrimination."

Conferences Helpful

Easy means of conference on the local level is one of the most constructive ways to correct complaints of alleged discrimination in employment, Mr. Fleming pointed out.

"In this manner," he said, "complaints which are not valid can be immediately dismissed, allowing the time needed for those cases which must go through several steps of negotiation. Local contacts also mean greater understanding of each other's problems on the part of the FEPC and navy officials."

Fleming also made known that Army-FEPC relations now provide for the fifreest relations "with a view toward adjusting as many charges of discrimination as possible on the local level."

FEPC Directive to Munitions Plant

Afro-American 1-6-45

WASHINGTON

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has directed the United States Cartridge Company, St. Louis to accept available and needed workers in its munitions plants without discrimination because of race or color, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced December 29.

The committee also directed the company not to lay off or discharge workers through a dual seniority system that is not applicable equally to colored and white workers, and not to maintain any racial quota system of employment.

Four Complaints Dismissed

The decision follows public hearings held on complaints against the company last summer in St. Louis. Of the seven specific complainants. who had been rehired and two others reinstated. Four complaints were dismissed.

An official of the plant which has seven buildings with only white workers and one with only colored, had testified that the company tried to follow the population ratio by employing 90 per cent white and 10 per cent colored.

The use of dual seniority systems, it was revealed, resulted on one occasion in more colored being discharged than would have been under the single seniority system and a disproportionate number of whites discharged during two subsequent cutbacks.

FEPC Order

U. S. Cartridge Company Told To End Jim Crowism

1-5-45

WASHINGTON. — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has directed the United States Cartridge company, St. Louis, Mo., to accept available and needed workers in its munitions plants without discrimination because of race or color, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, announced Friday, Dec. 29.

The committee also directed the company not to lay off or discharge workers through a dual seniority system that is not applicable equally to Negro and white workers, and not to main-

FEPC Cites Capital Transit Company For Employment Bias; Public Hearings Start Jan. 15th

New York Age 1-13-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Capital Transit Company, of Washington, D. C., by refusing to hire qualified Negro workers has failed to utilize available manpower on its trolley and bus lines, according to a complaint served Tuesday on the company by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. Restrictive racial hiring on transit lines serving Federal war workers is cited by FEPC as a violation of Executive Order 9346, which forbids discrimination in war industries or government service because of race, creed, color or national origin. 1-13-45

Hearing in the case will be held before the seven members of FEPC January 15 and 16 in the courtroom of the Court of Appeals, Malcolm Ross, Committee chairman, said The company has been requested to appear and present its testimony.

Specific charges that fourteen Negro men and women applicants were refused employment by the company are cited in the committee's complaint. In reviewing the hiring policies of Capital Transit over the last two years, FEPC said that an original discriminatory order for "white only," placed with the United States Employment Service, of the War Manpower Commission, was later modified by an expressed company willingness to accept referrals without regard to race While this brought 105 applicants from Negroes for positions as bus operators, motormen, conductors and checkers, the committee charges that the company nevertheless refused to hire the applicants and that discrimination because of race still continues.

The FEPC complaint asserts that the company's refusal fully to utilize available manpower has resulted in inadequate transportation service to Government and District war workers "to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the morale and national workers' unity."

In addition to Chairman Ross, the following FEPC members will sit in the case: Miss Sara Southall, vice president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; and John Brophy, War Labor Board member and director of industrial union councils for the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

St. Louis Firm Gets

Kansas City (Mo.) 3/12

any racial quota system of employment which, the committee finds, results in refusal to hire in violation of Executive Order 9346. 1-5-45

Four Complaints Dropped

The decision of the committee follows public hearings held on complaints against the Cartridge company last summer in St. Louis. Of the seven specific complainants who alleged discrimination, the committee, on the findings, directed the company to hire one Negro worker who had been refused employment, and to reinstate two other Negro workers. The committee dismissed four complaints that they found were not supported by the evidence.

The United States Cartridge company's plant is composed of eight buildings or units in the St. Louis area, seven of them having only white production workers and one having only Negro workers. 1-5-45

A company official testified at the St. Louis hearings that, in setting up these units for the production of ammunition under War and Navy contracts, the company had attempted to follow the St. Louis population ratio by employing 90 per cent white workers and 10 per cent Negro.

Suffer Under Dual Plan

Examination of cutbacks occurring last spring showed that the use of different seniority systems, one for Negro and one for white workers, resulted on one occasion in more Negroes being discharged than would have been under the single seniority system provided in the labor-management contract with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO. and that during two subsequent cutbacks the white workers suffered a disproportionate number of discharges under the dual seniority system.

It was admitted by a company witness that it would have been easier to solve the cutback problem had the Negro workers originally been fully integrated instead of placed separately in one of the units. William Sentner, general vice president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO testified that it was impossible to apply equitably the principle of seniority when there are segregated units within a plant. 1-5-45

Quota System Mishievous

In its decision the committee found that a racial quota system "is equally as mischievous when used to select employees for layoffs as when applied with regard to their hire.

Executive Order 9346 does not provide that Negroes or other minority groups shall be hired or retained in employment in accordance with population ratios. The order, on the contrary, forbids the use of extraneous considerations of race, creed, color, or national origin in hiring or in laying off employees.

It is no defense to argue, as the respondent has done, that its quota system on certain occasions operated to the advantage of Negro employees and to the prejudice of white workers. The executive order forbids discrimination against white as well as against colored employees."

Two more Coast plants agree to bypass unions

Los Angeles Tribune 4-9-45

WASHINGTON — Two more West Coast shipyards have notified the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices that they will comply with FEPC directives to bypass jim crowing unions in the hiring of Negroes, it was announced this week.

Notifications were received from the Oregon Shipbuilding Corp. and the Kaiser Co., Inc., both of Portland, Ore. Previously, word of compliance had been received by the FEPC from Western Pipe and Steel Co. and Consolidated Steel Corp., both of Los Angeles, the four companies employing a total of 90,000 workers in the construction of ships for the government.

The FEPC has yet to hear from the California Shipbuilding Corp. of Los Angeles, Chairman Malcolm Ross said.

All five companies had been involved, along with the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, in negotiations with the FEPC since 1943.

The FEPC then found that the closed shop contract with the union and the refusal of the union to admit Negroes to full membership discriminated against Negroes. Unless the union agreed to scuttle its jim crow auxiliaries, the plants should bypass the union in hiring Negroes, the FEPC ruled. 4-9-45

The union, which was ordered to grant Negroes full membership rights, has not yet complied.

Cincinnati War Plant Discrimination To Be Examined By FEPC

New York Age 3-17-45

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Complaints of discrimination in employment because of race or color against eight war plants will be examined in public here March 15, 16 and 17.

The firms named in the complaints are the Crosley Corp., F. H. Lawson Co, Baldwin Co., Victor Electric Products, Inc., Kirk and Blum Manufacturing Co., Cambridge Tile Manufacturing Co., Streitman Biscuit Co. Division of the United Biscuit Co. of America, and the Schaible Co. All are engaged in essential war work. 3-17-45

Sixty-three complaints have been listed by the committee against the firms, alleging refusal to employ or train qualified Negro men and women in other than menial capacities despite a need for workers and accusing three of the compaines of refusing to hire Negroes at all

The full FEPC committee will sit at the hearing.

Asserts Rights Involved

Courier-Journal Ky

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

In your editorials on the Fair Employment Practices Commission, you say very aptly that it is more of an educational question than a matter of legislation. But it seems to me that you overlook a very pertinent point. That point is the question of inate human rights.

A few years ago I was acquainted with a business executive who, by reason of some personal distaste, would not have a blonde in his office. Crude, perhaps, but was it not his right? 3-17-45

Let us picture the hypothetical case of a woman who had two children, a son and a daughter. The son mistreated and killed in a prison camp, the daughter, a nurse perhaps on Corregidor, mistreated by the Japs. After the war the woman advertises for a housemaid. The ad is answered by a Japanese woman. On first sight this bereaved mother says, "No, I can't use you. I don't want a Jap around me." Would that mother be outside her human rights? Yet it would be a violation of the F.E.P.C. 3-17-45

The Negroes themselves should be able to see that this F.E.P.C., although embodying an undeniable principle, and although supported by many sincere people, is at heart merely another politicians' vote catcher.

Let us not be so quick to let hysteria run away with plain common sense.

Dawson Springs, Ky. PAUL R. BRUNER.

FEPC WINS FAVOR IN GEORGIA

1-27-45 Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

ATLANTA—"Conditions of the Negro worker would have been far worse if FEPC had not come to this region," declared Dr. Witherspoon Dodge, new regional director of the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Dr. Dodge pointed out that there had been no violence in connection with the work of FEPC in this region and said that the agency had been "a real help in improving the rights of the Negro worker and a better relationship between Negro and white workers." 1-27-45

Dr. Dodge recalled that in the beginning there was great protest over the setting up of FEPC offices in this region and in Atlanta. As evidence of the improved thinking of the people of this region on the merits of FEPC, he pointed out that this fight against FEPC had greatly diminished.

He said that the present change of attitude on the part of unions towards the Negro is most encouraging. He explained that there was a certain manufacturing plant in Georgia that the CIO had been trying to organize for some time without success. When the employer hired Negroes in skilled work the white workers of that plant came to the Textile Workers of America, CIO, and said that if the union would get the Negroes but the white workers would allow the union to come in and organize the plant. Although the union had spent great effort to organize this plant, they refused the offer on this biased basis, Dr. Dodge said

Dr. Dodge long has been a public figure of national repute. For many years he was pastor of one of Atlanta's leading churches After serving for some time with the CIO he came back to Atlanta in his present appointment. John Hope II is field representative in the same office.

FIRMS ORDERED TO CEASE BAN ON NEGRO WOMEN

Washington Tribune D.C. 1-27-45

The President's Fair Employment Practice Committee on Wednesday ordered the Carter Carburetor Corporation and the Wagner Electric Corporation of St. Louis to cease refusing jobs to qualified Negro women on racial grounds.

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC said fulfillment of President Roosevelt's executive order against discrimination in hiring for war plants could not wait "upon inertia of the exhaustion of the supply of white labor." 1-27-45

"It requires the complete cessation of discriminatory employment practices at once, particularly at this time when a drastic shortage of manpower in our war industries is delaying the production of war material for our armed forces overseas," the chairman stated.

Scandal and panics can unite more women than money can men.

56d-1945

Fair Employment Laws Pending in 14 States

People's Voice 3-24-45

By AUGUSTA STRONG

Action in 14 states outside of New York is being speeded up at the instigation of Negro, civic, and labor organizations for the enactment of legislation to prevent discrimination in employment against racial and religious minorities. In four neighboring states—New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts, hearings on proposed bills are set for this week, with every evidence of wide popular support favoring the laws. 3-24-45

PV has queried the governors of the states where anti-bias laws are pending as to their stand on the local FEPC bills. Most of those who replied gave a pretty fair example of fence-sitting. Briefly the situation in the various states is as follows:

PENNSYLVANIA

Popular strength is centered around the Brown Bill, similar to New York's, which has been endorsed by the Harrisburg and Philadelphia Central Labor Unions, the state CIO, and the Political Action Committee. Hearings are at Harrisburg March 27. Gov. Edward Martin wired PV on the bill: "I have taken the position that I have no 'must' legislation, but I think my desires have been very well expressed in the press."

MASSACHUSETTS 3-24-45

Public hearings are still proceeding on FEPC legislation, with the Catholic Church, which is highly influential here, the American Federation of Labor, CIO, American Jewish Congress, and a large coalition of organizations supporting such a law. At this week's hearings the opposition, hitherto silent, is expected to open fire. Gov. Maurice J. Tobin refused to commit himself either for or against the bill to PV.

NEW JERSEY

Republican Gov. Walter E. Edge is backing a bill, introduced by Assemblyman James O. Hill, lone Negro legislator, which provides for a fair employment commission under the Dep't of Education, with penalties of $500 or 90 days in jail for violators of the law. Another bill has been introduced by Democrats, and Hill has come in for some criticism from Negro organizations for introducing a bill without sufficient consultation with minority groups and their leaders. Hearings take place March 20th in Trenton.

CONNECTICUT

Five bills have been introduced, the chief point of difference being the question of enforcement provisions. Representative Harold Conroy's bill is reported to come closest to New York's law and is the one which unions and many civic groups are supporting. Public hearings take place March 20th in Hartford.

ILLINOIS 3-24-45

Gov. Dwight H. Green told PV: "Illinois law now guarantees fair employment practices by employers holding war contracts. A bill is now pending to establish a fair employment practices commission. I favor principle of legislation to protect racial minorities in employment."

WISCONSIN

A joint House and Assembly bill has been introduced making appropriations for a fair employment practice committee and setting up penalties for violation. The bill is sponsored by Senator Tehan and Assemblyman Simmons.

OHIO

Gov. Frank J. Lausche wired PV: "Several bills have been introduced in the Legislature having to do with fair employment practice. May I assure you they will be given careful consideration."

KANSAS 3-24-45

The Republican controlled judiciary committee of the state legislature killed the FEPC bill, introduced by Rep. William H. Towers, veteran Negro legislator from Kansas City.

Although FEPC bills are pending in the states of Michigan, Colorado, Washington, Illinois, New Mexico and no progress has been reported this week. Indiana passed a weak FEPC law without "teeth" on Feb. 20.

FEPC

Hiring and Laying Off By Dual System Disapproved

St. Louis Argus 1-5-45

The Segregation Of Employes In Separate Buildings Stamped As Drawback

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has directed the United States Cartridge Company, St. Louis, Mo., to accept available and needed workers in its munitions plants without discrimination because of race or color, Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, announced today. The committee also directed the company not to lay off or discharge workers through a dual seniority system that is not applicable equally to Negro and white workers, and not to maintain any racial quota system of employment which, the committee finds, results in refusal to hire in violation of Executive Order 9346. 1-5-45

The United States Cartridge Company's plant is composed of eight buildings or units in the St. Louis area, seven of them having only white production workers and one having only Negro workers. A company official testified at the St. Louis hearings that in setting up these units for the production of ammunition under War and Navy contracts, the company had attempted to follow the St. Louis population ratio by employing 90 per cent white workers and 10 per cent Negro. Examination of cutbacks occurring last spring showed that the use of different seniority systems, one for Negro and one for white workers, resulted on one occasion in more Negroes being discharged than would have been under the single seniority system provided in the labor-management contract with the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO, and that during two subsequent cutbacks the white workers suffered a disproportionate number of discharges under the dual seniority system. 1-5-45

Segregation Condemned

It was admitted by a company witness that it would have been easier to solve the cutback problems had the Negro workers originally been fully integrated instead of placed separately in one of the units. William Sentner, general vice-president of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO, testified that it was impossible to apply equitably the principle of seniority when there are segregated units within a plant.

In its decision the committee found that a racial quota system "is equally as mischievous when used to select employees for layoffs as when applied with regard to their hire. Executive Order 9346 does not provide that Negroes or other minority groups shall be hired or retained in employment in accordance with population ratios. The order, on the contrary, forbids the use of extraneous onsiderations of race, creed, color, or national origin in hiring or in laying off employees. The executive order forbids discrimination against white as well as against colored employees."

Taft Opposes FEPC With Teeth

Afro-American Balt., Md.

Tells Ohio Group He Favors 'Voluntary' Plan

PRESENTS OWN BILL

2-10-45

Position Conflicts with GOP Platform Pledge

WASHINGTON

Senator Robert A. Taft (Rep., Ohio), last week bluntly informed an interracial delegation of civic, political, church and labor leaders from his State of his opposition to the establishment of a permanent FEPC with enforcement powers. 2-10-45

The Senator told the group that he is in favor of and has introduced a permanent FEPC measuse based upon voluntary compliance.

During the last session of Congress, however, Senator Taft cast a favorable vote for FEPC legislation then before the Senate Labor and Education Committee.

Denies Conflict with Platform

When it was pointed out that the pre-election FEPC bill and those with enforcement powers now being studied by the House Labor Committee are virtually identical, Senator Taft said that he had voted favorably for the former because he knew no Senate action could be taken before the Seventy-eighth Congress adjourned.

When his attention was called to the pre-election commitments of the Republican party in favor of a permanent FEPC, he said that this commitment had not been necessarily for an FEPC with enforcement powers.

"Pushing Too Fast"

"I think you are pushing too fast," the Senator told the predominately colored group. "The colored people are much better off than they were ten years ago."

According to Taft's bill, the duties of the proposed commission, which would seek "removal of discrimination in regard to hire, or tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed or color," would be:

Has No Enforcement Power

To make comprehensive studies of such discrimination, receive and investigate complaints, recomment ways and means for the elimination of the discrimination; confer, co-operate with, and furnish technical assistance to employers, labor unions, and other private and public agencies in formulating and executing policies and programs for the elimination of such discrimination;

Formulate, in co-operation with other agencies, comprehensive plans for the elimination of such discrimination as rapidly as possible, in regions or areas where it is prevalent, and publish and disseminate reports and other information relating to such discrimination and to ways and means of eliminating it."

The bill calls for a five-man commission, one of whom shall be named by the President as chairman, all at a salary of $10,000 a year each.

The bill does not include discrimination because of national origin. Senator Taft said he felt this unnecessary and foolish because when people come to America, they want to be just Americans.

Delegates Listed

Members of the Ohio delegation included:

CINCINNATI

Jesse Locker, Cincinnati City Council; Joseph Fulton, attorney; the Rev. Wallace M. Wright, Ministerial Alliance; the Rev. Frank Veal, AME Church; Mrs. Mattie Jackson, AKA Sorority; Mrs. John Weiz, white, Council of Churches; Mrs. Mayme Johnson, AKA Sorority; Jerry Maxey, CIO; Theodore Berry, NAACP; Mrs. Ethel Smith, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Miss Elsie Austin, Progressive Citizens' Committee and Delta Sorority; Myron Bush, Richard Bluestine, white; Mrs. Jerome Jelin, white, Progressive Citizens' Committee; Mrs. Clara Hough, Negro Women's Citizens' League; the Rev. C. Baker Pearle.

CLEVELAND

W. O. Walker, editor, Cleveland Call-Post; Lawrence O. Payne, Harold O. Payne, Harold Gassaway, Cleveland City Council.

DAYTON

Mrs. Marion Smith Williams, Frontiers' Club; Charles Frances, NAACP.

COLUMBUS

Cecil Thomas, white, University, YMCA; the Rev. C. F. Jenkins, Second Baptist Church.

Ohio State

for Negro in Letter

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—In a form letter sent out by Senator Robert Taft concerning his attitude on the FEPC, the word "Negro" is spelled with a small "n."

The letter which has come to light following the conference of the Senator with an interracial delegation from Ohio, says: "I have your recent communication. I am in facor of a permanent FEPC to promote the removal of discrimination in employment against negroes and others."

Taft Uses Small "n"

Defeat Handed Proposed FEPC Bill On Coast

N.Y. Amsterdam News

First Major Drive In California Blocked; But FEPC Backers Press Fight

4-2-45

SACRAMENTO, (Negro Press Bureau).—The State of California, Augustus H. Hawkins (D.), of Los Angeles, an almost exact replica of the famed FEPC bill recently en-

its governing body, the Assembly, last week took the stand, at least temporary, that it would not follow the lead of New York in establishing a state Fair Employment Practice Committee, with enforceable teeth in it.

A bill introduced by the lone Ne-

acted and signed by New York's Governor Thomas E. Dewey, was voted down in committee.

Backers of Bill

Assemblyman Don Fields (R.), of Glendale, chairman of the Government and Efficiency Committee, which considered the proposed measure, reported the vote of the committee to a vast and interested audience, the defeat of the measure by a 10 to 8 margin. The vote revealed that the 10 Republican members had voted nay, while 8 Democrats favored sending the measure to the floor. Scores of prominent speakers had addressed the committee favoring passage of the bill.

Prominent leaders of numerous organizations and representatives of several racial and minority groups made fervent pleas for enactment of the measure. Notably were representatives of Jewish people, Mexican, NAACP, Church Federation, Interracial groups, CIO and Catholic leaders. Every county in the state was represented by some person or group so interested are the people in this type of legislation. From Los Angeles were speakers, Leon H. Washington, Jr., publisher of the L. A. Sentinel, Dr. H. Claude Hudson, Fredrick M. Roberts and Nina Blackwell, of the local branch NAACP. 4-7-45

Would Be "Pressured"

Assemblyman Hawkins was stunned at the failure of the committee to authorize the measure to reach the floor where formal debate could take place. So great was the crowd present for the hearings, that it was necessary to switch from the room where committee hearings are generally held, to the larger quarters of the Assembly chambers. Hawkins told newsmen he has hopes of being able to get the necessary 41 votes among the Assemblymen to lift the bill out of committee and bring it on the floor.

A similar bill is slated to be aired before the upper branch of the California legislation, the Senate soon. That bill which has the blessings of the state's Republican Governor Earl Warren, was introduced by Republican senators. No reason could be found for the Republican members of the committee turning back the state FEPC bill, other than the presence of a too vociferous number of left wing persons on the side of the bill. It is believed, the GOP members didn't want to feel they were being "pressured."

Transit company submits

Los Angeles, Calif. Tribune 4-2-45

OAKLAND — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices this week was assured by the Key System that the company "intends to carry out any directions" that the committee may issue on the hiring of Negroes as platform personnel.

The announcement, made by Robert Littler, Key System attorney, came at the end of a week-long FEPC hearing during which the Key System and the AFL Carmen's Division 192 were charged with discrimination against Negro workers.

Withdrawing its original protest against the hearings on the grounds that the FEPC was without jurisdiction or authority, the company admitted that it had refused to hire Negroes as platform workers and inserted a statement that "The company has not hired Negroes by reason of its belief that they would not be accepted or cleared by the union."

In his final arguments, A. Bruce Hunt, FEPC attorney, charged that the union, which walked out of the hearings last Tuesday on the grounds tnat they were "unconstitutional and un-American," discriminates by failing to give the same clearance to Negroes as is accorded to white workers, and by failing to admit Negroes to union membership. 4-2-45

COMPANY'S DUTY

In final charges against the Key System, Hunt contended that the company had backed up the union's anti-Negro stand and stated that it is "the duty of the Key System to locate these people (who had previously been rejected,) seek them out and rectify the wrong which has been done. The failure to do so makes it a violation of the executive order. It is a continuing violation."

Harry L. Kingman, FEPC regional director, took the stand to state that "The eyes of the whole world are going to be on San Francisco when world leaders meet here. It is important that we here practice democracy and give equal opportunity to Negroes and other minorities."

Firms to obey U.S. edict

Los Angeles - Calif. Tribune 4-2-45

Two Los Angeles shipbuilding companies, Western Pipe and Steel and Consolidated Steel corp., have notified the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices that they will comply with its directives and will ignore the union clearance system as long as the union continues to discriminate against Negroes. 4-2-45

Directed by the FEPC to cease discharging Negroes who refused to accept inferior union status in the Boilermakers' Auxiliary, the two corporations said this week they will do so. Three other Coast companies were so ordered, but they have not been heard from. They are Oregon Shipbuilding Corp., Kaiser Co., Inc., both of Portland, Ore., and the California Shipbuilding Corp. of Los Angeles.

The union, the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, were ordered to grant Negroes full membership rights without discrimination, but they have not yet complied. 4-2-45

All five of the companies and the union have been involved in negotiations with the FEPC since hearings were held here in 1943.

The closed shop contract with the union and the refusal of the union to admit Negroes to full membership discriminated against Negroes, the FEPC found.

N. Y.'s FEPC Will Go Into Effect July 1

Amsterdam News 3-17-45

State Leads Nation; Is First To Enact Law To Outlaw Job Jim Crow

By JULIUS J. ADAMS
(Staff Correspondent)

ALBANY.—In a solemn and impressive ceremony in the executive chamber here Monday afternoon, Governor Thomas E. Dewey signed the Ives-Quinn (FEPC) Bill. And thus, sent to the New York State law book an act designed to eliminate discrimination in employment on account of race, creed, color or national origin. 3-17-45

The new law goes into effect July 1, and will be administered by a commission of five members, each to receive $10,000 a year, and to be appointed by the Governor. The commission will seek to eliminate discrimination in employment by conciliation, persuasion and mediation where possible, but will have authority to issue "cease and desist" orders when other means fail. Violators of these orders will be subject to a fine of $500 or imprisonment for one year or both. Findings of the commission are subject to court review. 3-17-45

Dewey's Statement

In signing the bill, Governor Dewey, who had been highly praised for his distinguished leadership in securing passage of the measure, declared: "Our success in achieving the objectives of this measure, will, of course, depend greatly upon the wisdom, tolerance and understanding of the members of the commission. The law must be administered with intolerance and generosity of spirit on all sides. By its work the commission will meet from day to day the hidden irritants which if cumulated would fester discontent among many groups of our citizenry. It is far better that these evils receive open consideration an effective treatment than that they be suppressed to become the weapons of whispering malcontents. 3-17-45

"It must not be understood that the State is here attempting to impose itself as arbiter of social or personal likes or dislikes. By this act the State declares the simple principle that in employment there shall be no discrimination by reason of race, creed, color or national origin. It expresses the rule that must be fundamental in any free society—that no man shall be deprived of the chance to earn his bread by reason of the circumstances of his birth."

Governor Dewey, who earlier, had described the law as a reaffirmation by the people of New York of their faith in "the simple principles of our free republic," and one that gives reality to the principles on which the nation was founded, was presented by Lieut. Gov. Joe R. Hanley, who presided at the ceremony. 3-17-45

First to be introduced by the Lieutenant Governor was former U. S. Attorney Charles H. Tuttle, who served as counsel for the commission against discrimination.

Lauds Dewey

Mr. Tuttle said: addressing the Governor, "Your Excellency, in the annals of American democracy this day will be noted and honored for its proclamation of economic justice. Today, New York true to its leadership in social justice, lays the corner-stone on which other states and even the National Congress are already eager to build and on which the future can rear an enlargement of the abode, of the Ark, of liberty.

"No Governor of this or any other state has ever by his signature given legal life to a nobler charter of freedom. No Governor has done more by vision and leadership to achieve so historic an advance in the interpretation and application of democracy," Mr. Tuttle declared. 3-17-45

"To those members of the legislature", Mr. Tuttle continued, "who for this enactment laid aside partisanship and to the dedicated members of the temporary commission this moment is one of deep joy.

"We are grateful to you, sir", Mr. Tuttle said, "for permitting us to share with you in it fond satisfaction.

Ives, Quinn Praised

"The Mr. Ives (Irving M.), the chairman of the temporary commission, whose wide and genial guidance and whose miraculous gift for harmony kept its members in essential unity, and to Senator Quinn, who in the Senate led the cause of this bill in the name of both political parties, the thanks of the people of this State is gratefully due. 3-17-45

"Custom dictates", he added, "that when a great piece of social legislation has been enacted it shall be baptized with the names of its legislative sponsors. I hope, sir, that this ceremony which your leadership has made possible will be christened the newly born law, the Ives-Quinn Act, for all time.

"Concluding, Mr. Tuttle said, "again we thank you for giving us this opportunity to share with you this truly historic event."

Others who spoke were Frank M. Weil, a member of the temporary commission; Dr. Alvin Johnson, director of the new School of Social Research, chairman of the War Council Committee on Discrimination, and vice chairman of the temporary commission; John F. Brosnan, a member of the temporary commission, the Rev. George H. Sims, pastor Union Baptist Church, New York City, and a member of the temporary commission, and Assemblyman Ives and Senator Quinn.

FEPC "Damn Foolishness"

Philadelphia Tribune 3-20-45

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Governor Chauncey Sparks of Alabama described the proposed FEPC legislation as "damn foolishness" and said that an employer should be free to hire whom he pleased without "interference."

"They have no right to say whom a man shall hire or whether his face should be black or green or any color," he added.

56d-1945
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
REPUBLICAN
Circ. D. 12,360

JUN 7 - 1945

Mr Truman Leads

President Truman's sharply worded letter to Chairman Sabath of the rules committee of the House of Representatives demanding continuation of the FPEC, or Fair Practices Employment committee, has an importance beyond that of the immediate issue. It is the most significant action, in its broader implications, which Mr Truman has taken since becoming President.

For nearly eight weeks, following his succession, emphasis has been placed in Washington dispatches on the strength of Mr Truman's belief in government by party and, at the same time, on his effort to achieve maximum national unity by welcoming Republican leaders, both past and present, in consultation. But his letter to Mr Sabath makes it clear that the kind of party government Mr Truman believes in is party government under leadership from the White House.

Most students are agreed that with its elaborate checks and balances our American system of government works efficiently only when there is such leadership. That was Woodrow Wilson's view long before he became President. But after writing his book, "Congressional Government," and before entering the White House himself, he saw the principle successfully applied by Theodore Roosevelt.

It would be folly to attempt to forecast, either on the strength of a single letter to the chairman of a House committee, or upon all of his acts during eight weeks in office, exactly how much of a leader Mr Truman will finally prove. But it seems increasingly probable that he will at least prove more of a leader than either Coolidge or Harding.

Harding's essential philosophy of government, if he can be said to have had one, was that as a coordinate branch of the government Congress should function pretty much as it saw fit, although the inevitable demands which his office as President forced upon him did, in time, oblige him to attempt a minimum leadership. That attitude earned for him the comment from a satisfied senator that he was "a bed of roses," a comment which had originally been applied to McKinley years before.

While he was governor of Massachusetts, Coolidge once admitted to a visitor who had urged him to revive a measure which he was ready to sign if passed by the Legislature, but which the Legislature had beaten by a narrow margin, that he "did not like to ask the Legislature to change its mind." There were times, after he got in the White House, when Coolidge quite definitely wished that Congress would change its mind, as when the Senate rejected his nomination of Charles Beecher Warren as attorney-general.

Yet Coolidge's basic attitude as President was not very different from what it had been as governor. It is to be doubted that he would have written to the chairman of a powerful congressional committee telling him and the committee that it was wrong for the committee to prevent a certain bill from coming before the House of Representatives so that the members of the whole body could vote upon it and pass it, as they ought to pass it.

Such a letter is not suggestive of the theory that, as a coordinate branch of the government, Congress should be allowed to function as it sees fit, free from White House interference. The letter even deals unhesitatingly with what may be called the internal machinery of Congress. With all his desire for unity and party cooperation, Mr Truman is not a "bed of roses" for congressional connoisseurs to enjoy.

As for the immediate issue, which has especially to do with the relief of Negroes from discrimination in employment, numerous southern members of both houses are not going to like Mr Truman's course any better than Senator McKellar and Senator Stewart of Tennessee liked his reappointment of David E. Lilienthal as head of the TVA. But with the encouragement of Mr Truman's stand it seems clear that, if the rules committee fails to respond to his letter to Mr Sabath, who is personally in sympathy, a majority of the House will force action and abruptly take the matter out of the committee's hands through a petition. Such a petition will become mandatory and effective as soon as it has the names of 218 out of the 435 members.

FEPC

When the issue is transferred to the Senate, after action by the House, a situation of extraordinary interest may develop. A bill similar to that pigeon-holed by the House rules committee has already been reported out of committee in the Senate and is on the Senate calendar. If there is a disposition on the part of southern senators to resort to filibustering tactics, as on anti-lynching bills and anti-poll tax bills, what will Mr Truman do about it?

Mr Truman has now intervened in the affairs of the House of Representatives to protest against the abuse of its rules by its rules committee. Will he be prepared to protest against the abuse of the Senate's rules by southern members of his own party who may take advantage of those rules either to talk a measure to death or to force a revision of an appropriation bill as the only means of securing its passage.

If that situation should arise and Mr Truman should meet it in that way, summoning public opinion to his support against the filibustering tactics of the Senate, he would be well launched on a career of very assertive leadership. And he would have the country behind him.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912

JUN 12 1945

30 Civic Groups Support Save-FEPC Rally Next Week

Thirty civic groups, representing labor, the Negro, the three major religious faiths, and various professions are supporting a "Save the FEPC" rally at Town Hall next Tuesday night under sponsorship of the Council Against Intolerance in America.

The Council and the Negro Labor Victory Committee, which is one of the sponsors of the Negro Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden June 25, have separately sent President Truman messages praising him for his demand that Congress appropriate funds for the wartime Fair Employment Practices Committee and pass the bill providing for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission.

James Waterman Wise, director of the council, said: "The work of FEPC has been and will continue to be of utmost importance if we are to play fair not only with returning veterans, but with every American's right to employment."

The Negro Labor Victory Committee, representing 107 CIO and AFL unions, wired Truman: "The hundreds of thousands of Negro and white workers affiliated through their unions with this committee join the millions of progressive Americans, both North and South, in praise of your action."

The Garden rally June 25 will feature a dramatic revue, *Carry On, America!*, written by Norman Corwin, Howard Fast and Langston Hughes. Also on the program are Paul Robeson, Fredric March, Canada Lee, Libby Holman and Josh White, Hazel Scott, Hilda Simms, Mary McLeod Bethune, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., and Dr. Channing H. Tobias.

Ready to Meet the Issue

For the passage by congress of a bill perpetuating the FEPC, at least one argument can be advanced. It would make the issue plain. Were the bill to become law and attempt to enforce it were made, it would and it should be disobeyed and resisted in the South. The South should put those who would enforce it on notice that they would needs send an army of coercion to occupy the South—even as armies are this day occupying Germany.

The proponents of the measure would as well understand that the right of a textile corporation, of a newspaper corporation, a bank or any other corporation or employer, to discriminate between races will be upheld by force, in the South, if necessary, that nothing short of military coercion will prevent the South from nullifying an FEPC bill if it shall become a law.

The FECP bill is a preliminary step toward compelled racial amalgamation, and The News and Courier is convinced that the overwhelming majority of Northern white people are opposed to it. It is convinced that the rational leaders of colored people in the South are also opposed to it.

If another "Reconstruction" is to be attempted in the South, the sooner that the issue shall be understood, the better for the American people. Passage of the FEPC bill by congress would uncover the designs of the politicians who would sell out the white race for the negro vote in a dozen great American cities.

Poll Tax And FEPC

WASHINGTON POST
6-19-45

The spectacle of a certain group of Senators filibustering against the antipoll tax and FEPC bills must be very encouraging to Nazi and Fascist elements throughout the underground. It will give them hope and proof that some Democrats do not really believe in democracy, justice, fair play, and the orderly procedure of constitutional government. While arrogating to themselves certain immunities and so-called "State rights" they deny to other States the privilege of passing on vital questions which affect their (the other States,) interests. For instance, the innate sense of justice of a majority of real Americans would recognize the "equality of all men before the law"—"the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Again the poll tax States are represented out of proportion in the Federal Government to their voting strength and keep, by reason of an indefensible seniority rule, a number of obstructionist diehards and race baiters in key positions to the injury of the whole commonwealth. Let us hope that a new sense of patriotism and a willingness to submit disputed laws to the Supreme Court may actuate would-be filibusterers when the two aforementioned bills come before the United States Senate.

DIOGENES MODERN.

Norfolk, Va., June 17.

NORMAN, OKLA. DEMO CHIEF
JUNE 1, 1945

We Can't Legislate Tolerance

Bills are now pending in both the House of Representatives and the Senate with approval of the labor committees of both houses which would convert the Fair Employment Practices commission into a permanent government bureau with tremendous legislative and judicial powers over the hiring and firing of employes of all firms and individuals with as many as five on their payrolls.

The FEPC was established by the late President Roosevelt as a war emergency measure to promote production of war materials. The bills would extend the controls of the commission to peace time, with all the autocratic powers of a war agency.

The objective of the bills is commendable, to improve the economic status of the Negro and other racial minorities, but the acts as drawn are unsound, unworkable and smack so strongly of the totalitarianism we are now fighting to destroy that they should be rejected or at least amended by Congress.

The acts are unsound and unworkable in that they attempt to legislate racial tolerance and good will into the hearts and minds of not only all employers but also all workers. We cannot force upon people personal relationships to which they have strong personal objections, and to attempt to do so would do more harm than good. Instead of helping the Negro cause, it would tend to promote still more racial intolerance and encourage strikes, violence, and possibly race riots. We have had race riots during the war in such large industrial centers as Detroit and Los Angeles, and other cities have been and still are potential danger spots. The causes of such conditions cannot be eliminated by law; they must be gradually erased through educational movements promoting racial tolerance and good will and the application to personal living of the Golden Rule.

The best place to start, insofar as the Negro is concerned, is in the schools. The federal government would get farther by seeing that every Negro child is given a good education or vocational training fitting him for a better position in life than it will by forcing Negroes into employment side by side with others in all fields of business and industry.

It also is unsound to extend into peace time the type of dictatorial powers given the OPA and other wartime agencies, which have permitted them in many instances to use gestapo methods against individuals with practically no appeal to the courts from their actions.

Under the FEPC proposals individual employers would no longer have full freedom to surround themselves with loyal and capable employes of their own choice. Instead they would be subject to court action every time they happened to choose a white applicant for a job in preference to one of some other color or race.

These proposals, if enacted into legislation, would set the stage for an era of racketeering damage suits filed by troublemakers and professional agitators, with the disappointed jobseeker furnished trained legal help by the government to prosecute his case. The whole setup would impose still more beaureauracy on the people.

It would be regimentation of the first order to give a Washington bureau final authority over the choice of a firm's employes. The committees which prepared these bills should back up and start over, working out measures designed to attain the desired objectives through methods which are in keeping with American principles and a system of free enterprise.—Norman Transcript.

Petition for Permanent FEPC Signed by Atlanta Citizens

The Atlanta Constitution

A number of Atlantans, both white and colored, have signed a petition urging congress to enact a permanent fair employment practices law.

Headed "A Petition From Citizens of the State of Georgia," the document urges that congress pass the law as requested by President Truman. 6-15-45

The text of the petition is:

"To Members of the Congress of the United States:

"With far-sighted vision the founders of our republic laid for its foundation stone the divine principle of human dignity. In a shrine in the library of congress, revered by the people of the United States, rests that document which enunciates the basic philosophy of this nation: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' In support of that declaration is pledged 'our sacred honor.'

TWO WARS FOUGHT

"Within a generation, two devastating wars fought in defense of democracy have impressed its meaning and implications upon the people of the world.

"Today ,two schools of thought are in conflict: democracy with its philosophy of individual rights and dignity; Fascism with its ideology of force, built on discrimination against racial and religious minorities.

"Such discrimination has no place in American life; by its very nature it is fascistic. Yet such discrimination exists in our country, and mocks our words before the world. It has handicapped in matters of employment the practice of discrimination against properly qualified persons because of race and creed 'forces large segments of the population permanently into substandard conditions of living, thereby creating a drain upon the resources of the nation.' Passage of the act would be in line with other federal legislation, for in the past 10 years congress has enacted 23 laws which forbid discrimination in their administration, and the supreme court of the United States has repeatedly condemned discriminatory employment practices. Furthermore, the administrative procedure of the proposed commission is not new, since it would be like that of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and a number of other administrative agencies, with orders enforceable only by the courts. 6-15-45

BOTH PARTIES PLEDGED

"Establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission is supported by some sixty-odd national organizations. Both the Republican party and the Democratic party are committed to such legislation by their party platforms, as well as by the fact that the presidential nominees of both parties promised support to this legislation in the last national campaign.

"We are approaching the end of our military war. Events are moving swiftly. We cannot afford to permit our actions to lag behind the tempo of irresistible forces.

"We join with President Truman in calling upon the congress to fulfill the pledges of their parties by enacting S. 101-H. R. 2232, setting up a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission to prevent economic discrimination based on race, creed, national origin or ancestry." 6-15-45

PETITION'S SIGNERS

Signatures by Atlantans were:

Armand May, Rev. William Holmes Borders, Father Samuel Chew Williams Fleming, Dr. M. Ashby Jones, Kendall Weisiger, C. F. Palmer, Dean B. R. Brazeal, Bishop W. A. Fountain Sr., Dr. Rufus E. Clement, Dean Raimundo de Ovies, L. D. Milton, Rabbi David Marx, Julian V. Boehm.

Dr. Edward G. Mackay, C. A. Scott, Rev. M. L. King, Professor Glenn W. Rainey, Lucy Randolph Mason, Dr. H. B. Trimble, Delkin Jones, Dr. Nat G. Long, Dr. Roger D. Bosworth, Mrs. Herman Heyman, Dr. Thomas A. Anderson, Dr. Forrester B. Washington, Dr. Lester Rumble, Dr. R. L. Russell, J. W. Dobbs, Dr. William H. Gardner, Dr. Leroy E. Loemker, C. R. Yates, J. P. Jones and Waights G. Henry Jr.

A document accompanying the petition claims that the following organizations are backing the law:

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, American Association of University Women, American Civil Liberties Union, American Friends Service Committee, American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, American Unitarian Association, American Unitarian Youth, B'nai B'rith, Catholic Interracial Council, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Common Council for American Unity, Congregational Christian Churches (Council for Social Action).

Congress of Industrial Organizations, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Evangelical and Reformed Church, General Synod; Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in America, Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL), International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of America (AFL).

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans of the United States, League of United Latin-American Citizens, March on Washington Movement; Methodist Church, General Conference; Methodist Ministers' Union, Military Workers, Joint Board (AFL), National Alliance of Postal Employes, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

National Bar Association, National Community Relations' Advisory Council, National Conference of Christians and Jews, National Consumers' League, National Council of Catholic Women, National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Negro Women, National Council of Student Christian Associations, National Council for a Permanent FEPC, National Farmers' Union.

National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, National League of Women Shoppers, National Negro Insurance Association, National Urban League, National Women's Trade Union League of America, Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, Postwar World Council, Presbyterian General Assembly, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, Study Conference on Just and Durable Peace, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union for Democratic Action, United Council of Church Women.

Upholsterers' International Union of North America (AFL); Women's Division of Christian Service, Methodist Church; Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Workers' Defense League, Young Men's Christian Association, National Board; Young Women's Christian Association, National Board

in making maximum use of our manpower for war production. It has been used effectively in the propaganda of our enemies. If continued it will weaken our leadership in the council of nations; it will lessen the chances for a durable peace. 6-15-45

DISCRIMINATION

"Here in the south we have experienced the unwholesome consequences of discrimination in employment. A large segment of our people held at a low wage level has depressed the income of all and has stunted the progress of the area.

"In 1941, the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, in order to make full use of the nation's manpower and to demonstrate on the home front the principles of democracy for which we are fighting abroad, created by executive order, under the war powers granted him by the congress, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice as a temporary war agency. It is a significant fact that in his last campaign for office, Mr. Roosevelt singled out by name the Committee on Fair Employment Practice, from among all the war agencies, and advocated its continuance in peace.

56d-1945

Save the FEPC!

The Nation - 6-16-45

UNLESS decisive pressure is brought to bear upon Congress during the next few weeks in support of the President's appeal, the Fair Employment Practices Committee will pass out of existence on June 30. It will cease to exist just at the moment when reconversion will create the gravest danger of wholesale employment discrimination against Negro war workers. This critical situation has arisen as a result of a typical underhanded maneuver by Representative Rankin and his diehard Southern tory associates. Having overruled President Roosevelt's request for a $599,000 grant for the 1945-46 fiscal year, the House Appropriations Committee has withheld all funds for the agency on the ground that there is a bill before Congress to establish the FEPC on a permanent basis. And the appropriation measure is to be brought before the House under a rule that would make it possible for Rankin, by raising a point of order, to block any motion to provide for the FEPC. He has served notice that he will do this.

Meanwhile Rankin has seen to it that the bill for a permanent FEPC is bottled up in the Rules Committee, where it has been held for weeks. The bill continues to be kept there despite President Truman's vigorous appeal that it be brought up for action because of the urgency of the reconversion problem. In view of Mr. Truman's close association with many of the Southern Democrats who have been leading the fight against the bill, many observers doubted that he would take the lead in pushing the measure. The President not only demonstrated real political courage in defying the White Supremacy bloc, but showed once more his capacity for striking at the root of an issue when he declared that "discrimination in the matter of employment . . . because of race, creed, or color is not only un-American in nature but will lead eventually to industrial strife and unrest." 6-16-45

As a result of the President's leadership the Rules Committee may yet be compelled to report out the measure. If the committee continues to sabotage it, it may still be forced out on the floor by petition. This, however, can be achieved only if the voters back home begin to flood their Congressmen with messages requesting prompt action. If the bill is brought to a vote in the House, most observers believe that it can be passed. 6-16-45

In the Senate the situation is equally difficult, if less complicated. A bill similar to the House measure has been reported out of committee and is expected to be taken up within the next week. But the opposition has served warning that it will resort to a filibuster if necessary to prevent the bill from being passed. The chances of favorable action before June 30 are slight. Here, too, the one hope that a permanent FEPC may be set up in time for the reconversion period lies in intensive pressure from the voters. It is also possible for the Senate to force restoration of funds for

FEPC

the FEPC in the current war-agencies appropriation bill and thus repair the damage wrought by legislative trickery in the House. The outcome of this struggle will go a long way toward deciding whether we shall have less or more racial conflict in the post-war years.

House Rules Body Blocks Action on Permanent FEPC

Daily Worker

Daily Worker

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 12.—The Rules Committee today completed its job of sabotaging the Permanent FEPC bill, voting six to six on the bill. While a petition to discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill is being circulated by its author, Mrs. Mary Norton (D-NJ), labor and progressive forces are concentrating too for the more immediate "must" legislation, appropriations for the present FEPC. 6-13-45

The House Appropriations Committee's action in killing the appropriation from the War Agencies Appropriations bill may be reversed in the Senate with enough pressure.

PLANE GROUNDED

The Republicans on the Rules Committee, while voting for the bill, actually worked for the polltax Democrats on the committee to bottle it up. Chairman A. J. Sabath, recently arisen from a hospital bed, told reporters with some chagrin that he had tried to get a rule for the bill.

"We had agreed definitely to vote this morning at 10:30," he said. "But the members came in waving telegrams that Slaughter's plane was grounded, and they insisted we wait until he arrive this afternoon." 6-13-45

By waiting for Slaughter to arrive a tie vote was ensured. Sabath and John J. Delaney of New York voted for the bill, with Republicans Leo Allen (Ill), Earl C. Michener (Mich), Charles A. Halleck (Ind) and Clarence J. Brown (O), it was learned.

Voting against it were Slaughter and the Southerners, A. E. Cox (Ga), Howard W. Smith (Va), J. Bayard Clark (NC), William M. Colrem (Tex) and Joe B. Bates (Ky). Bates voted for the Marcantonio anti-polltax bill later.

Asked about the charge that a "deal" had been made in the committee to delay the vote until Slaughter's return, a deal in which Republicans figured prominently, Sabath said weakly: "There was no agreement. But when I saw that the people who I expected would vote for the bill were insisting with the others that it was only 'fair' to wait for Slaughter's return I saw we couldn't get a rule."

He said he expected to sign the petition.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Chicago Defender

WASHINGTON — Here is the full text of President Harry S. Truman's letter to House Rules Committee Chairman A. J. Sabath on the Fair Employment Practices Committee:

"I understand that the House Appropriations committee has deleted from the war agencies appropriation bill for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1945, all appropriations for the Fair Employment Practices Committee. This action will have the effect of abolishing the committee and terminating its work without giving the members of the House of Representatives an opportunity to vote on the question.

"The Fair Employment Practices Committee was originally established before the attack upon U. S. at Pearl Harbor and was an integral part of our defense production program. It has continued since then in one form or another and has grown steadily in importance. Its work has been based on the principle that the successful prosecution of the war demands the participation of all available workers regardless of race, creed or color, and that the policy of the United States was to encourage all such persons to full participation in the war effort.

"The war is not over. In fact a bitter and deadly conflict lies ahead of us. To abandon at this time the fundamental principle upon which the Fair Employment Practices Committee was established is unthinkable. 6-16-45

"Even if the war were over, or nearly over, the question of Fair Employment Practices during the reconversion period and thereafter would be of paramount importance. Discrimination in the matter of employment against properly qualified persons because of their race, creed or color is not only unAmerican in nature, but will lead eventually to industrial strife and unrest. It has a tendency to create substandard conditions of living for a large part of our population.

"The principle and policy of Fair Employment Practices should be established permanently as a part of our national law.

"I understand that one reason assigned for omitting an appropriation for the present committee is that a proposal is now before Congress to establish a permanent and statutory Fair Employment Practices Committee. The legislation providing for this committee is now in the Rules Committee. Unless it is sent to the floor, the members of the House will have no opportunity to vote on it. The result will be that on July 1 next the principle of Fair Employment Practices will have been abandoned by the House of Representatives. I, therefore, urge the Rules Committee to adopt a rule permitting this legislation to be voted upon by the members of the House as quickly as possible."

The South and FEPC

Richmond Times-Dispatch

THE CRUX of the South's opposition to the NORTON bill establishing a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee—a bill which seems to be at least temporarily dead—lies in the penalties which are provided in the measure for enforcement by Federal courts against Southern employers. Fines or jail sentences, or both, are to be imposed upon such employers, if they do not employ, discharge, promote, demote, upgrade and transfer employees in accordance with the rulings of this Federal body, with headquarters in Washington.

Richmond Times Dispatch

One of the most distinguished Negroes in America, P. B. YOUNG, SR., president and publisher of the Norfolk *Journal and Guide*, the well-known colored weekly newspaper, writes a temperate dissent in today's Voice of the People from our editorial of Monday in opposition to the proposed permanent FEPC.

He takes the view that whereas we declared that "legislation rests upon public opinion," and "no law which is opposed by the overwhelming majority will ever be effective," none of the legislation now on the statute books for the protection of the Negro is favored by the majority of Southerners. Hence, says MR. YOUNG, why draw the line at a permanent FEPC?

6-14-45

It is a fair question, and it deserves an answer. But we doubt if public opinion in the South is as antagonistic to legislation for the protection of Negroes as MR. YOUNG deems it to be. For instance, we should say that a majority of white people in Virginia approve the appropriation of public funds for the education of Negroes along the same lines that are provided for whites from the same funds. Furthermore, we believe that a majority of Virginians approve equal facilities for Negroes, not only in the public schools, but also in such spheres as publicly provided health facilities, and in waiting-room accommodations and on transportation lines. True, such facilities are not always available, but this is due to various factors. We are frank to say that we believe public acceptance of these things is a recent phenomenon. Will not that acceptance be damaged, if not destroyed, if too drastic methods are invoked now?

Our correspondent makes the point that "Southerners would certainly administer" the FEPC law, if it was placed on the books. True, regional representatives of a permanent FEPC would probably be Southerners. But that alone would not guarantee their good judgment, since there are stupid and prejudiced Southerners. In the second place, the penalties would all be imposed by the Federal courts. As we understand it, those courts would have no alternative but to hold in contempt any employer who did not comply with the orders of the FEPC. The courts, it appears, would have to impose either fines or jail sentences, or both, upon offending employers.

6-14-45

Here, it would seem, is a proposed piece of legislation which goes considerably further in attempting to force Southern whites into line on interracial matters than any of the other earlier legislation which MR. YOUNG mentions. It is precisely here that most of the trouble with the projected FEPC will arise. Some Southerners deserve to be sent to jail for their antisocial and unfair practices, but the great majority are trying to be decent citizens. Some of the latter have not been brought to realize the importance of fair treatment for colored citizens, and if they were thrown into jail, the ensuing uproar can only be imagined.

6-14-45

What we are trying to say is that persuasion, conciliation and education will be more effective in the long run as a means of achieving better relations than the coercive power of the Federal government. The existing FEPC has accomplished a good deal without such power. To endow a new agency with the sweeping authority which is proposed would be the surest means of provoking a drastic reaction against the Southern Negro on many fronts.

For a Permanent FEPC

Richmond Times

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

In reference to your editorial June 11, "The Dangers of a Permanent FEPC," I wish to comment upon your statement, "Legislation rests upon public opinion. No law which is strongly opposed by the overwhelming majority will ever be effective, or will ever achieve the results which it seeks to achieve."

6-14-45

Historically, that is true. But for the protection of minorities should we enact only laws that are approved by the majority? Literally, that is all that can be done, but if that is sound, a majority of the voters in Virginia would not approve an income tax. Can you name a single law now on our statute books that provides protection to the Negro in the enjoyment of earned benefits as a citizen that has the approval of a majority of Southern people? How were these laws enacted, you may ask. The answer is that the State laws were enacted with the tacit understanding that they were not to be enforced with equal effect upon both races. For a classic example, see proceedings of the Virginia Constitutional Convention, 1901-1902.

Take education, for example. Do you believe that a majority of the white people in Virginia approve the appropriation of public funds for the education of Negroes along the same lines that whites are provided for from the same funds? Examine the record.

Do you believe that the criminal statutes, civil statutes, or any statutes now on the books are administered without prejudice to the Negro where a white person is involved?

6-14-45

Do you believe that any law now on the statute books, that provides equal protection of the law for Negroes; any law that provides equal public facilities for Negroes; any law that provides anything for Negroes in the same manner that it provides for white people has the approval of a majority of public opinion?

I don't think you can cite a single case. Then why stop making laws or trying to enforce laws? Why give up and say that we will do nothing to halt the economic extermination of Negroes because such action will not meet the approval of a majority?

A majority of the white people in the South do not approve the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States and would repeal them if they could. I think you are as much aware of that as any man in touch with Southern public opinion.

6-14-45

We do not get full benefit of the letter of existing laws, but we do get something. The South would not approve an FEPC, but its establishment would have a tremendously persuasive effect on this region, without causing any new trouble, because Southerners would certainly administer it.

I think that you are also aware of the precarious conditions that brought about the original presidential executive wartime FEPC.

You, Mr. Mark Ethridge and Senator Pepper, among others, oppose FEPC. But you do not offer anything as an alternative remedy for the Negroes' precarious economic plight, brought on by one segment of organized labor which in the South particularly is pushing them completely out of all but manual labor jobs; industrialists who are terribly frightened by organized labor; and politicians who are able to remain in Congress and in power in other places by instilling in the hearts of white people the fear that if the Negro rises to the level of a decent livelihood there will be intermarriages—a fictitious claim.

You have overlooked one important thing. The Congress would vote on FEPC, and a law would be enacted by the elected representatives of a majority of the people in the United States, but for the fact that Southern members of Congress, by employing delaying and obstructing parliamentary tactics, prevent such a vote. More than one-third of the Negroes now in the United States live outside the South. Why not give them a chance?

Norfolk. P. B. YOUNG, SR.

[Editor's Note: The foregoing is commented on editorially today, under the heading, "The South and FEPC."]

"If Not FEPC, Then What?"

Richmond Times

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

In spite of the reputation for a liberal point of view which The Times-Dispatch enjoys, I confess that I was not disappointed in your editorial of June 11 apropos "The Dangers of a Permanent FEPC." As a citizen of Virginia who was born and reared in this State, I am disturbed by the Virginia brand of liberalism which professes adherence to the principles of educational, legal and occupational equality but does nothing toward implementing these professions. As a case in point, these same so-called liberals of the State on one hand agreed that salaries of teachers should be liberalized, but on the other hand opposed measures initiated by the NAACP to secure equalization, and made no effective effort toward equalization themselves.

Now it appears this same pattern is up for repetition in the matter of occupational opportunity. Certainly the basic ideal of the FEPC is professed by interracial bodies and the liberal press of the South. Yet these same agencies can see nothing good in a measure designed to put into practice their profession, and have at the same time no alternative to offer.

6-16-45

If not an FEPC, then what? You say, "This is not the way," but you do not suggest what is the way. While I appreciate the fact that "The Times-Dispatch has frequently championed the cause of better employment opportunities for our Negro citizens," this is not exactly my idea of an adequate substitute for an FEPC.

A young Negro war veteran of my acquintance, a graduate of a college and of an army special service school, sought to use the local (Petersburg) office of the United States Employment Service. The best employment that it could offer him was a job as a porter in one of the local stores. Other Negro veterans will return with all of the hundred and one skills acquired in the army. It is only reasonable and fair that ex-servicemen, regardless of color or creed, have access to jobs which will utilize these skills. How do you propose to secure to these Negroes just opportunities without recourse to legislation?

6-16-45

It seems to me that all persons who profess to be liberals should first of all formulate consciously their philosophy. Any liberal credo would certainly include the principle of equality of occupational opportunity for all citizens. If you believe in equal occupational opportunity, then you are not consistent when you oppose a move in that direction, unless you have something better to propose.

Fitting subjects for editorial sequels to "The Dangers of a Permanent FEPC" might be "The Dangers of No FEPC" or "The Times-Dispatch's Alternative to FEPC." MRS. P. H. BAKER.

Ettrick.

Critical of FEPC Editorial

Richmond Times Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

The recent editorial opposing a permanent FEPC was an example of the mental and logical contortions necessary to defend the indefensible. The writer had an object in view—that of defending the status quo, by any means available. If one could visualize the movement of his thought, it would resemble a broken field runner on the gridiron, meeting obstacles and twisting and squirming to circumvent them.

His idea seemed to be that the Negro is due justice, but we must not apply pressure to Southern whites to enforce it, lest they resent it. But that would be to undermine all law, because every one at odds with the law resents the teeth in the law; yet we do not suspend law because of the resentment of the criminal element. If I seem to be classing as "criminal" that class of whites who stand athwart the progress of justice, I do mean just that, for there is a moral law, whether the nation has one or not, and the damnable practices of the South are at variance with that moral order. Certainly the editor did not intend to oppose law in general, but we generally get tangled up when dealing in mental gymnastics.

6-17-45

CLINTON MARSH.

Chase City.

56d-1945

Pressure Needed to Pass Forceful FEPC Measure

AFRO-AMERICAN

md

Norton Bill Faces Senate Opposition After Anticipated Favorable Action in House

3-3-45

(Special Correspondence)

WASHINGTON

Enactment, during this Congress, of the Norton bill to create a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission will require even greater pressure than was exerted on behalf of similar bills in the last Congress.

The House will pass it by a majority vote which will cut across party and sectional lines, but a filibuster looms against it whenever it reaches the Senate and a motion is made for its consideration by that body. 3-3-45

Whether the Taft bill, which lacks compulsory features, would be allowed to be brought to a vote in the Senate is conjectural.

Die-Hards Unreasoning

There has been so much hysterical speech, instead of dispassionate discussion, of the activities of the FEPC that it is doubtful that Southern Senators like Theodore (The Man) Bilbo, of Mississippi, and Richard B. Russell, of Georgia, would permit even the Taft bill to come to a vote without a filibuster, even in wartime.

The Norton bill was favorably reported from the House Committee on Labor last Tuesday. It embodies the best features of bills to establish a permanent FEPC introduced by Reps. Charles M. LaFollette (Rep., Ind.), Joseph C. Baldwin (Rep., N.Y.), William L. Dawson (Dem., Illinois), Frank E. Hook (Dem., Mich.), Everett Dirksen (Rep., Ill.), Adam C. Powell, (Dem., N.Y.), Helen G. Douglas (Dem., Calif.), George H. Bender (Rep., Ohio), Charles R. Clason (Rep., Mass.), Clyde Doyle (Dem., Calif.)

War Objectives Cited

"One of the principal objectives of the tragic war in which we are now engaged is to establish the principle that all men, no matter what their religion, color, or national origin, are born with the right to freedom to worship and work to safeguard their spiritual and economic welfare," the report states.

"The men and women of America hold this belied so dear that the yare fighting and dying on the battlefields of the world to uphold it. 3-3-45

"Equal Opportunity Essential"

"When the war comes to a victorious end, and our men and women return to peace-time occupations from the battlefields and from the production of war materials, there must be equal opportunity for all. 3-3-45

"The men who have fought for economic freedom for peoples throughout the world will not, and should not, be satisfied with anything less in our own country.

No Social Equality Issue

"Let it be clearly understood this bill has for its purpose economic opportunity. The opponents of the bill are attempting to confuse the issue by bringing up the question of social equality. We repeat, there is nothing in the bill concerned with anything other than economic equality."

Rep. Clare E. Hoffman (Rep., Mich.), whose views often coincide with those of Rep. John E. Rankin (Dem., Miss.), leader of the "white trash" bloc in Congress, submitted a minority report opposing the bill on the ground that "moral and social inhibitions and inborn race prejudices cannot be wiped out by legislation."

Issues Confused

A baiter of organized labor, Mr. Hoffman criticized the bill because it contains no provision against the closed shop. The bill, he said, ignores the "obvious fact that individuals have the right to work without discrimination because of membership or nonmembership in a labor union."

The purpose of the measure, he contended, "is to bring about, through Federal legislation, a social intermingling (and some advocate intermarriage) among the races." 3-3-45

Needs Summarized

As the basis for the legislation, the bill sets forth that Congress finds discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry

1. Leads to interracial tension and conflict;
2. Forces large segments of the population permanently into substandard conditions of living;
3. Creates a drain upon the resources of the nation;
4. Causes a diminution of employment and wages which disrupts the market for goods in commerce, resulting in commerce being burdened and obstructed.

Constitutional Foundation

The bill declares that the

FEPC Bill

right to work free from discrimination is an "immunity" of citizens of the United States, which shall not be abridged by any Federal or State agency.

Under its terms, the bill outlaws discriminatory practices by private employers, labor unions, and Federal agencies. It makes unlawful a discriminatory refusal to hire, refer, upgrade, promote, or classify properly.

It also forbids wage differentials based upon race, discriminatory transfers or assignments, discriminatory discharges, and discrimination in the application of seniority rules. 3-3-45

Union Abuses Checked

The bill also forbids an employer to confine his hiring to any source that discriminates, and makes it an unfair labor practice for any labor union to deny membership because of race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry or to discriminate among members because of such factors.

Discrimination is forbidden against employees who oppose discrimination or assist their fellow employees who belong to a minority group.

5 Would Get $10,000 Each

The FEPC would be quasi-judicial agency consisting of five members appointed by the President for 5-year terms, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Commissioners would receive $10,000 a year. Upon appointment of the new FEPC, the present FEPC created by executive order would pass out of existence, but its records, employees, and unexpended appropriation would be transferred to the new FEPC.

The bill would empower the FEPC to prevent race or religious discrimination by the issuance of cease-and-desist orders. The issuance of such orders would follow the filing of charges with the commission, the holding of hearings before it, and the making of findings of fact. 3-3-45

Same Support as NLRB

Orders of the commission would be subject to judicial enforcement and judicial review in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same provisions of law, as in the case of orders of the National Labor Relations Board.

This means that any party aggrieved by a final order of the commission may obtain a review of such order in the Federal circuit courts.

No penalty is provided for a violation of an order of the commission, but if a court commands obedience to such an order, violation of the decree would be punishable as a contempt of court.

FEPC Bill Action Rushed by House

AFRO-AMERICAN md.

2-3-45

WASHINGTON

In what was viewed as an attempt to eliminate one controversial aspect of the May Manpower Draft Bill, the House Labor Committee voted on Tuesday to rush action on permanent FEPC legislation now before the committee.

Mrs. Mary T. Norton, House Labor Committee chairman, appointed a seven-man sub-committee headed by Congressman Jennings Randolph (Dem., W.Va.) to draft a report which will be returned to the full committee on Thursday.

Action by the full committee and a report to the House is expected immediately thereafter.

Will Speed Manpower Bill

If immediate action is taken by the House on the FEPC measure, it was pointed out, one of the major obstacles to agreement on the May Bill will have been eliminated.

Meanwhile, on the floor of the House a stalemate has developed between a Southern Democrat-Northern Republican alliance and labor members of Congress.

The debates over the inclusion of an anti-closed shop and FEPC amendment in the manpower draft measure makes it apear unlikely that a vote will be reached on the measure this week.

FEPC Backslide

NEW MASSES

IF WE don't watch out, we Americans will wake up on June 30 to discover that we have no agency for fair employment practices at all and that the great gains we made in the 1944 election campaign, when popular pressure forced even the GOP to pledge support of a permanent FEPC, are wiped out by the simple fact that there will be no money for such an agency. After the shameful business of turning up a War Agencies Appropriations Bill with no provisions at all for the temporary FEPC, and in the face of the fact that a bill establishing a permanent FEPC would have to be passed before the present agency expires on June 30, a vicious little bloc of Southern poll-tax Democrats and their familiar Republican allies have maneuvered three times in twenty-four hours to keep the bill for the permanent committee bottled up in the Rules Committee, where it has already lain for two months. President Truman made a powerful direct plea for the bill, calling any abandonment of "the fundamental principle upon which the Fair Employment Practice Committee was established 6-19-45 "unthinkable." Neither this forthright action on the part of the President nor the delegation of progressive Congressmen, led by Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.), who descended on the Rules Committee's session has budged the brazen reactionaries who are holding up the measure. It is evident that the Rules Committee intends to postpone the permanent measure fatally by continuing its deadlock.

Only the most overwhelming popular pressure can guarantee that the democracy we voted for in 1944 will not be legally strangled. The necessary $500,000 appropriation for the temporary FEPC can be restored in the Senate, and all Senators should get such a flood of mail and wires and delegations as to leave no doubt where the people stand. President Truman should be backed to the limit in the administration fight for the measure, and urged if necessary to issue an executive order under his war powers. For the consequences of losing FEPC to winning the war and effecting a proper reconversion would be very serious indeed.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
INQUIRER
Circ. D. 477,754 - S. 1,320,796

MAY 27 1945

Politics Imperils FEPC Support

By JOSEPH V. BAKER

Republican Congressional support for the establishment of a permanent Commission on Fair Employment Practices may be endangered, leaders of that party here fear, by the insistence of Negro Democratic committeemen in Philadelphia that the setup's patronage be distributed "on a political basis." A statement opposing that view will be issued early this week, by the Republican State Negro Council, according to executives of the unit.

The local movement, which has had repercussions throughout the country, has grown out of a demand by Negro Democratic committeemen in Philadelphia that G. James Fleming, Regional Director of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, with offices here, be removed due to the fact that he is a registered Republican. The removal demand was made publicly by William Johnson, president of the Democratic Committeemen's Organization.

AN F. D. R. SUPPORTER

Never active in Republican political circles and admittedly a supporter of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mr. Fleming is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, holding the Phi Beta Kappa key; a former editor of a local Negro newspaper and for a number of years editor of a national fraternal journal. In rating from Washington headquarters of the FEPC, Mr. Fleming has had unusually high recognition, according to sources closely allied with the unit.

In seeking the removal of the Philadelphia Regional executive of the agency's work, the Democratic Committeemen's head said that the $5600 post was a Democratic job and pushed vigorously for immediate action despite the fact that members of the unit "admitted for the record that Fleming is competent."

The Negro political executive said that the appointment of a Democrat of that race to the post was necessary so that committeemen of that party could "have some say concerning patronage that they have had such a large share in winning."

ATTEMPT CONDEMNED

Vigorously condemning any attempt to "reduce the national effort for a Fair Employment Practices measure to the level of politics." Theodore Spaulding, well-known Negro attorney and president of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has branded the attempted political grab as "outrageous."

The N. A. A. C. P. executive said that the 14,000 members of his organization would, in his opinion, resent this unfortunate political play" with the FEPC setup in this area.

Distaste for the open political move has also been expressed by Arthur Huff Fauset, chairman of the United Peoples Action Committee. A staunch supporter of the Democratic Administrator and leader of a number of left-wing movements here, Fauset said that the commendable job done by Mr. Fleming stood above whether he "chooses to ride an elephant rather than a donkey."

CIVIC LEAGUE SUPPORT

Organization support for the Regional executive has come, also, from the strong North Philadelphia Civic League, whose president, Dr. John K. Rice, has been forwarded by local Democrats as a "stalking horse" candidate for the Fleming post. Condemning the move, Dr. Rice told G. James Fleming that he had "done a good job and I see no reason for your removal regardless of politics." Dr. Rice said that he would refuse the position were it offered to him.

In the meantime, Negro Republican leaders, many of whom have been active in the movement for both State and Federal legislation which would regulate employment practices and labor union discriminations, are taking the position that if the Philadelphia political attitude is to become the national pattern, they can "see little need of adding still another political wing to the Democratic Party."

'POLITICAL' IN INTEREST

A spokesman for the Republican State Negro Council said that his organization would seek "either an immediate denunciation of the Philadelphia Democratic Committeemen's Organization by that party's National Committee, or an open admission that the party's interest in fair employment practices is outright political."

The taking of such a stand on the part of the Democratic National Committee as well as local Democratic leaders, also will be sought, it is thought, by church and civic units in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, which comprise the region which Mr. Fleming administers.

This move will be taken, it is believed, despite the fact that sources close to the national offices of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices have assured Pennsylvania residents that the unit's leaders "are ashamed" of the Philadelphia attempt to make its work partisan.

We Can't Back Truman On FEPC, Cox Says

Atlanta Constitution

WASHINGTON, June 9.—(AP)—With Democratic ranks sharply split and southern congressmen defying the administration, the showdown is due next week on two controversial issues—FEPC and the poll tax.

Legislation against the poll tax required in seven southern states will be considered Monday in the house. 6-10-45

The proposal to create a permanent fair employment practices committee will be voted on Tuesday in the House Rules Committee, where it has been stalled for months.

Southerners in general said today they will stick by their opposition to the proposals, even though it may result in a major break with President Truman.

"We just can't go along with the President this time," declared Rep. Cox, Democrat, Georgia, in a typical comment.

Of several questioned, nearly all predicted to a reporter that the anti-poll tax measure will succeed —temporarily—but the FEPC bill will be blocked. Here's their general idea of what will happen.

The house will approve the anti-poll tax legislation, as it has done in two past congresses. But then, as also has happened twice before, southern senators will talk it to death in the upper chamber. It was dragged out of committee for floor action, by a discharge petition signed by 218 house members.

The rules committee is expected to vote against the FEPC plan, despite a letter from Mr. Truman to Chairman Sabath, Democrat, Illinois, urging favorable action. Four committee members are from the "solid south" and two others, Reps. Slaughter, of Missouri, and Bates, of Kentucky, from so-called border states.

The southerners concede that if the FEPC bill should get to the house floor it would pass in that branch of congress.

On the poll tax issue, supporters argue the levy should be banned in order to allow freedom of voting. Opponents contend such a move would invade rights of the states to determine voting qualifications. 6-10-45

On FEPC, proponents declare such an agency is needed to insure fair play among job seekers, regardless of their race, color or creed. Those opposed assert, however, that FEPC officials promote social equality among races and thereby incite ill feeling.

Fair Employment Practices

6-18-45

As this is written, there is real danger that we may lose much of the ground we have gained under the New Deal in assuring fair employment practices for minority groups. A sneak attack by some members of the House Appropriations Committee resulted in no recommendation of funds for the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. The omission was explained as simply a delay "to await legislative developments" on a permanent anti-discrimination program. At the same time, the House Rules Committee was blocking consideration of such permanent legislation by refusing to give the pending Norton bill a rule. New Republic 6-18-45

Those who want federal guarantees against job discrimination are temporarily boxed in. Some parliamentary experts fear that even if the original appropriation request were restored by the Senate committee, it might be stricken out from the floor on a simple point of order. In that case, a fight would be made to include the FEPC in a deficiency-appropriation bill or to rush through the bill for a permanent committee. Lacking a rule, this would have to be done by means of a discharge petition signed by two-thirds of the House.

This fight has again revealed the blatantly undemocratic nature of House procedure and the need for its reform. Meanwhile, we too still have to resort to parliamentary tricks to find a way to preserve what tools against discrimination we now have.

56d-1945

FEPC Bill

Anti-Discrimination Bills

Atlanta World

In the current issue of the Nation's magazine, Will Maslow holds forth encouraging prospects for the enactment of some form of legislation insuring fair employment practice state by state. He points out that some 12 northern states are now seriously considering bills for state Fair Employment Practice Commissions; that the chances for the enactment of strong, comprehensive measures seem excellent in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and that the chances are good in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Wisconsin and Michigan. "Not since the Civil War," declares the writer, "has there been so much local interest in preventing racial or religious discrimination in employment: forty-nine different bills have been introduced in 20 states during the current year." 4-20-45

Although there is no central organizing force behind these bills, it is reported that the CIO, American Jewish Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are circulating and pushing the model bills. In every state where such bills are under consideration the impetus appears to have been generated by the pioneering example of the New York State Legislature. And in almost every state these bills have been endorsed by Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Negro leaders, by state A. F. of L. and C. I. O. unions and by influential civic organizations.

Amid this rather widespread effort and interest in fair employment practice legislation, it is strangely interesting to note that the National Association of State Chambers of Commerce has initiated a move to block such state legislation as well as federal enactment of a Fair Employment bill. "It is quite evident, "declares the Association, "that all of this hue and cry for legislation covering fair employment is the result of a concerted effort by certain radical elements to sow the seeds of discord into our economic and political system, so that they may turn this discord to their own benefit." 4-20-45

The National Association of State Chambers of Commerce has a convenient and ready definition for radical elements. They make a mockery of fairplay and social justice when they contend that the seeds of discord are being sown when citizens organize to give all workers an equal chance to work at wages based on skill and experience instead of color and race. We hope no one will become too seriously impressed with the earnestness of the State Chambers of Commerce to keep down the seeds of discord by dealing cards against fair employment in the states or by the federal government. You cannot make happy people by starving them to death.

House Jimcrowers Hit Permanent FEPC

Daily Worker N.Y.

4-20-45

By Federated Press

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Stubborn southern tories ganged up in the House Rules Committee today in a determined fight against the Norton bill creating a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission and finally drew a tart comment from Chairman Mary Norton of the House Labor Committee that the rules group "is determined not to let us bring out any bill."

Mrs. Norton opened discussion on the bill by recalling that it was reported out by her labor committee Feb. 20, that a request for a rule was made Feb. 23 and a hearing was granted March 8.

"We now again request a rule to give the House an opportunity to vote on this bill. The subject was widely discussed in the last campaign and both Pres. Roosevelt and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey were for it," she said.

As Mrs. Norton finished, Rep. E. E. Cox (D-Ga), asked why the legislation was necessary. She replied that "the reasons are obvious. We are telling the world we believe in democracy and in economic opportunity." 4-20-45

JUST LANGUAGE

"But," Cox interposed, that's just language. What are the facts?"

Mrs. Norton answered that "minority groups are being discriminated against now. I don't think you are serious in asking that question." When Cox insisted he was, Mrs. Norton said "Negroes are being discriminated against. They always have been."

She also added that she was satisfied that the legislation would not aggravate the situation.

After getting an affirmative answer when he asked if the bill was offered in the name of democracy, Cox asked if "you think it right to deprive an employer of free choice in selecting employes?" He then went into a speech about his fear that long hearings and decisions of the FEPC based on "the unsupported testimony of a single complaining witness" would not be democratic. 4-20-45

Mrs. Norton assured Cox that the bill was aimed at "the color line," but denied it would touch state laws prohibiting inter-marriage. At one point, Mrs. Norton said, "I'm an American. I don't believe in Jim-crow.

Rep. Clyde Doyle (D-Cal), was offered by Mrs. Norton as an attorney to answer legal questions. He proved a weak witness, permitting Rep. Charles A. Halleck (R-Ind), to lead him into conceding that both the FEPC bill and the Wagner Labor Relations Act should include provision for the use of "rules of evidence," something the successive administrators of the NLRB have fought constantly as destructive of the basic U. S. labor law. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

Polltaxers Threaten Violence Against FEPC

Daily Worker

By Federated Press 4-26-45

WASHINGTON, April 25.—In an ugly demonstration polltax Democrats riddled the permanent Fair Employment Practice bill before the House Rules Committee today after one Congressman warned that the opponent of the FEPC, followed FEPC bill would result in "strife Rivers before the committee. and possibly bloodshed."

Having already broken its own record for delay by keeping the FEPC bill (HR 2232) tied up for two months, the Rules Committee ordered further hearings with no indication as to when it may be expected to vote on sending it to the floor. 4-26-45

Appearing first was Rep. L. Mendel Rivers (D-SC), who advised the Rules Committee that the FEPC bill "is in most violent conflict with American principles." He charged it violates the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution (due process of law) and the right of trial by a jury.

After repeating several times that the law could not be enforced, Rivers was asked by Rep. E. E. Cox (D-Ga) if he "meant that the spirit of resistance to government is not dead?" 4-26-45

Rivers answered that the "American people have tolerated regimentation because of the war effort, but under no pretext will they tolerate this bill. There would be strife and possibly bloodshed if it is passed."

Later on Rivers branded the bill as "a fraud" and charged "you can't do what this bill says without the Army, Navy and Marine Corps and perpetrating the horror camps of Europe." 4-26-45

In the midst of the testimony Chairman Adolph J. Sabath read a letter from Chairman Mary T. Norton of the House Labor Committee saying that it had overwhelmingly voted to insist on the bill being sent to the floor as written and without the crippling amendments suggested within the Rules Committee.

Rep. O. C. Fisher (D-Tex), a member of the Labor Committee and

HOUSE RULES BODY, MRS. NORTON CLASH

N. Y. Times

She Accuses the Committee of 'Unfairness' in Not Sending FEPC Bill to Floor

4-20-45

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, April 19—A smoldering Congressional controversy, one of the bitterest with which the new Administration is faced, flared anew today as Chairman Norton of the House Labor Committee accused the Rules Committee of systematic "unfairness" in not sending the fair employment practices bill to the floor.

As the committee sat in momentary silence, she said:

"I say from the bottom of my heart that this committee has been most unfair to the Labor Committee. I have a feeling of intense bitterness."

Later she said that if the Rules Committee did not act by the middle of next week she would file a petition asking that the bill be taken from that gorup and brought directly to the floor. The petition would require 218 signatures.

Chairman Sabath of the Rules Committee, who is a proponent of the bill, expressed belief that the group could make its decision by Tuesday or Wednesday. He held a "cautious hope" that he could marshal enough votes to recommend it to the floor.

Bill Approved Feb. 20

The bill was approved Feb. 20 by the Labor Committee, but has since been pending in the rules group. 4-20-45

The verbal fireworks were set off by Mrs. Norton's appearance before the Rules Committee in behalf of the bill, which would make unlawful racial discrimination in the employment of workers and would create a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission to succeed the temporary agency set up by executive order of the late President Roosevelt.

Her chief opponent was Representative Cox, Democrat of Georgia, but he received support from Colmer of Mississippi and Smith of Virginia, Democrats.

When Mr. Cox asked, "Is this bill aimed at the color line?" Mrs. Norton replied:

"Most assuredly, the Negroes are the great victims of discrimination."

Mr. Cox and other members argued that the bill, modeled in part on the Wagner Act, would make the proposed commission "prosecutor and judge all in one" in appeals from its decisions of fact would be determined by the commission and the courts.

Would Permit Amendments

Mrs. Norton asserted that she would not b ythe committee was willing to consider "any amendment offered in good faith," but adde that denying to Congress the right to discuss this thing on the floor."

"As one who really feels kindly those people. A big proportion of the whites in my State feel kindly toward the Negroes."

"But what have you ever done

for them?" Mrs. Norton asked and added: 4-20-45

"We want to bring the people in the South up to the same standard as the rest of the country."

"What people of the South?" Mr. Colmer inquired.

"The large majority," Mrs. Norton replied. "We would like to bring them up to a standard of living that is decent."

"The South," Mr. Colmer said, "is perfectly able to take care of itself. This bill would bring the greatest disunity this country has ever seen." 4-20-45

Mr. Cox asserted that Mr. Norton "doesn't believe in home rule," and she answered, "That's silly. Are you going to ask me now if I believe in my grandmother?"

In concluding, she said, "I hope you won't feel too bad about what I have said about this committee."

"We are accustomed to it," Mr. Cox replied. "It is like water off a duck's back."

ANTI-BIAS BILL PASSES STATE SENATE; NEW YORK WILL BE FIRST STATE TO HAVE OWN FEPC WHEN GOV. DEWEY SIGNS BILL

New York Post 3-10-45

ALBANY N. Y. — By a vote of 49 to 6, the New York State Senate on Monday night passed the Ives-Quinn Anti-Discrimination bill establishig the nation's first official commission to fight racial and religious discrimination in industry. The bill will be signed either late this week or early next week by Governor Dewey.

The end of the final roll call on the bill, which came at 10:10 p. m. after 85 minutes of debate, found the only opposition coming from Republicans. Just as in the Assembly, when the bill was passed last week, the entire Democratic minority voted for the bill, 21 Democratic Senators voting with 28 Republican Senators for the measure while 6 Republican Senators voted against it. Of these, only one negative vote came from New York City and that was cast by Senator Robert Bainbridge, of Staten Island.

On completion of the voting, Gov. Dewey hailed the action in the following statement: 3-10-45

"Passage of the Ives-Quinn bill to combat racial and religious discrimination in employment is a historic step. I am happy indeed that our State has led the entire Nation in this great social advance which will assure equality of opportunity for all our people, regardless of race, color, creed or natonal origin.

"I congratulate the leaders of the Legislature and its members on the passage of New York State's employment bill of rights."

Senator Frederic H. Bontecou, Poughkeepsie Republican, made the only attempt to amend the bill when it was called up for final passage before a packed Senate chamber that included several hundred forced to stand, for lack of seats. Senator Bontecou's amendment to make the bill inoperative unless approved by a majority in a state-wide referendum, was beaten 38 to 16 with all 16 votes being cast by Republicans, among them being Senator Frederic R. Coudert, jr., of Manhattan's Silk Stocking District. 3-10-45

Senator Walter J. Mahoney, Buffalo Republican, and member of the 23-man commission which drafted the legislation, delivered the closing argument for the bill.

"I think that the great thing that can be said of this bill," Senator Mahoney told his colleagues, "is that it is the epitome of the idea that all men are created equal and that the basic opportunity to earn a living shall not be denied because of race, color or religion....It is a milestone in our progress as a democracy....There is in this bill the greatest possibility of either good or evil of any bill ever put on our statute books." 3-10-45

But, said the Senator, the key to the sensible administration of the law is the make-up of the five-man commission which Gov. Dewey wil lappoint. The bill be- Dewey will appoint. The bill be- a five-man commission charged with fighting racial and religious discrimination in employment as the opening gun in a long-range and broader program aimed against all types of discrimination. To prepare the way for the long-range goal, the bill provides that the commission may begin immediately to administer educational and persuasive anti-discrimination programs all over the state.

In the field of employment, the bill carries maximum penalties for offenders convicted of discrimination of a year in jail or $500 fine or both.

Action and Education Both

Courier-Journal 3-17-45 Ky.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

I am interested in the discussion in your editorial columns and The Point of View of the proposed Permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission. In general, I think your editorial position, maintaining that legislative fiat will not in itself bring about social change is reasonable and I agree with you on general principles. Social reform will not be accomplished by legislative action alone. 3-17-45

However, having agreed thus far, I cannot swing with you over to opposition to F.E.P.C. My observation has been that social reform has nearly always been the result of many different forces and influences being brought to bear on the problem and one of the more important of these influences is legislative action—in the present connection, an F.E.P.C. measure with teeth. It is not a case of either legislative direct action or gradual education of public opinion, but both. 3-17-45

Furthermore, as I see the collective bargaining principle in labor-employer relations being strengthened by the Wagner Labor Relations Act, I am encouraged to feel that a permanent F.E.P.C. will be similarly workable. OSBORNE FISCHBACH.

Louisville

We Still Dissent 6-30-45

Editor Constitution: As six of the signers of the petition for a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission, now being circulated throughout Georgia, we take this means of thanking you for your editorial of June 15.

Atlanta Constitution

We were particularly gratified by your statement: "None can dispute the principle of the FEPC. Certainly no American citizen should be discriminated against because of religion or race."

There has been considerable misunderstanding about some of the provisions of the proposed legislation. The Atlanta Constitution has rendered the public a very real service by clarifying certain aspects of the bill and by pointing out that a number of the charges against it grow out of "ignorance and prejudice."

As to your statement that the bill contains police provisions for enforcement, may we call your attention to Sections 8 and 9. You will note that, to the contrary, the authority of the proposed commission would be limited to investigating complaints and issuing directives. You will note further that its directives could be enforced only by the courts. This procedure is the same as that of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

We agree with you that society cannot legislate morals. We cannot by law control a man's attitude toward another, but we can by law prevent him from interfering with the rights of another. Our statutes are full of such protective legislation. For instance, when we repealed the prohibition amendment, to which you made reference in your editorial, we still retained laws protecting society against those under the influence of intoxicants.

The FEPC would have no jurisdiction over moral attitudes. The legislation would, however, confirm and seek to make effective our national policy that attitudes on race and creed shall not be translated into practices which interfere with the rights of others to economic opportunity. 6-30-45

JOSEPHINE WILKINS,
M. ASHBY JONES,
REBECCA M. GERSHON,
JOHN A. GRIFFIN,
MARGARET FISHER,
ARMAND MAY.

(Editor's Note—The Constitution cannot agree. Employing a person involves many factors other than records of education, recommendations, etc. Yet these are all a court may consider—the tangible things. As proposed the bill is an attempt to regulate morality in the economic field. The Constitution still must dissent.)

NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292
JUN 21 1945

FEPC Reports Only Slim Victory Over Religious, Racial Hatreds

Washington, June 21 (AP)—While reporting that minority groups have been succesfully used in war ndustry and "religious hatred" has been forestalled, FEPC says Negroes and Mexican-Americans constitute a "known economic problem."

In a report to President Truman last night covering the first 18 months of its existence through December, 1944, the Fair Employment Practice Committee said the immediate problem is to guard against discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin in the syphoning of workers from cutback plants into new war work and civilian goods production.

Nazi Hopes Forestalled

It further asserted that over 400,000 minority group workers still are available for war industries or for other essential work.

The seven-man committee was created by President Roosevelt May 27, 1943. It is about to pass out of existence June 30 unless Congress gives it more money or makes it a permanent body.

While asserting Nazi hopes to infect this country with religious hatred has been forestalled, the report said:

"The margin of our victory over religious intolerance has been narrow. Hooduums have attacked Jews in some of our wartime cities. The dangerous undercurrent is there. In war industries and government service citizens of the Jewish faith have been denied opportunity to serve their country.

"Yet it may still be said that such cases, however symtomatic, have been relatively few in number."

The committee said the 13,000,000 Negroes in this country comprise the minority group discriminated against most, adding that 81 per cent of the cases docketed by it in the last fiscal year involved complaints from whites. Jewish complaints, with a scattering of other creeds, constituted about 9 per cent. The remaining 10 per cent concerned foreign origins, with Mexican-Americans comprising the majority.

"Private industry was charged with discrimination in 69.4 per cent of the cases, federal agencies in 24.5 per cent and labor unions in 6.1 per cent," the report continued.

"The discriminatory practices faced by minority group workers have importance in this order: Refusal to hire, unwarranted dismissal, refusal to upgrade, discriminatory working conditions and refusal to refer qualified workers for employment."

The committee said the "best barometer" of the progress of minority groups is to be found in the measure of gains by Negro workers. Non-whites, of whom 96 per cent are Negroes, constituted 8.3 per cent of all workers in war industries in November, 1944, as against only 2.5 to 3 per cent three months after Pearl Harbor.

N.Y. FEPC to End Metropolian Bias

Afro-American 6-23-45

Job Policy Reversed Under Ives-Quinn Act

WILL ABIDE BY LAW

New Policy Effective July 1, Officials Say

All indications point to a reversal in the lily-white employment policy of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in order to comply with the provisions of the Ives-Quinn Anti-Discrimination Act which becomes effective on July 1, the AFRO learned this week.

Personnel officials of the company, which has not hired one colored employee in the last 25 years and which includes not even one colored worker among its 15,000 at its main office at 1 Madison Ave., have given assurance that they will abide by the law and hire people of all races, creeds and colors.

They have also stated clearly that they will not indulge in token employment in order to get around the law, and that everyone hired will receive equal rights and privileges in all types of jobs and for upgrading.

Confined to N.Y. State

However, they went on to say that this policy applies only to New York State where the bill will be in effect and not to other States where many other of their offices are maintained.

Miss Layle Lane of the March-on-Washington Movement told the AFRO that her organization has already sent out letters to people telling them to apply for jobs with the company.

In the letters was included a statement the personnel manager of the Metropolitan had made to them, saying they would abide by the law, and that this was being done because of the law and not by previous pressure applied.

Reached at his office, Charles A. Collier Jr., executive secretary of the City-Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, said the question of employment of colored people was raised when his committee met with Mr. Ecker, chairman of Metropolitan's board of directors, last fall.

Mr. Ecker then said that he would think it over, but nothing further developed.

"Couldn't Get to First Base"

"We couldn't get to first base in our conference with him," Mr. Collier explained. "It is possible that the Metropolitan is going ahead and will act in compliance with the FEPC law."

Mr. DeMar of the N.Y. Urban League expressed great hope for the success of the law.

"I do know that the Metropolitan is exploring the possibilities of employing colored people as clerks, stenographers, agents and as managers and that those points are under consideration now," he said. "An effort is being made to do something about it.

"When I talked with Mr. Ecker and with C. W. Taylor, vice-president in charge, they stated that up until the bill was passed nobody had proposed any suitable plans for the employment of colored workers. Mr. Taylor went on to say that he didn't believe legislation was the proper way."

Job Field Revolutionized

Mr. DeMar pointed out that the FEPC law has changed the entire posibilities for employment of colored in the entire New York area.

"It will take some time before things take effect," he warned, "but the bigger concerns are making an honest effort to integrate colored workers into jobs they never held before.

"Take the firm of Johns-Manville which has recently hired several colored employees, a thing they never did before."

He said there will be an industrial committee discussion next Monday in which a representative of the employees of the Metropolitan will meet with the N.Y. Urban League to confer on employment policies. He was not free to reveal her name at this time.

Truman Again Asks F. E. P. C. Consideration

Memphis World 6-19-45

Rep. Norton Asks Republicans To Sign Petition

BY HARRY S. McALPIN

(Washington Bureau of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON — President Truman said again Wednesday that he is sincerely hopeful that the House Rules Committee will give the Congress a chance to vote on the F. E. P. C. bill.

He made this statement to his news conference in answer to this correspondent's question.

The President expressed also the hope that Congress will undertake to restore the $17,000,000 cut from the appropriation of the Office of War Information by House action. He said that in his judgment the things being done by OWI need to be done in the interest of the nation still fighting a war which is far from over and which the people need to know is far from over.

"DRASTIC" CUT 6-19-45

The OWI budget was cut from $35,000,000 to $18,000,000 by vote of the House of Representatives.

Senator Kenneth McKellar, Democrat of Tennessee, acting chairman of the Senate Appropriation Committee, stated Wednesday that he believed the Senate will restore at least a part of the cut, which he termed "too drastic."

The President's expressed hopefulness concerning the FEPC has aroused speculation as to whether he was merely stating a wish or whether he meant by being sincerely hopeful that he has sought further consideration by Rules Committee which turned down the F. E. P. C. with a 6-6 vote, with some assurance that at least one of the opposition votes will be changed.

Rep. Norton, Democrat of New Jersey and author of the FEPC bill said in an interview that she was relying on Republican representatives "to live up to their party pledge" and sign a petition to take the measure away from the committee. Rules Committee Chairman Sabath, Democrat of Illinois, announced he would sign the discharge petition, and, like Mrs. Norton, called on Republicans to do likewise. Both said the Republicans should "prove their sincerity" in view of this party's convention endorsement last year of FEPC legislation. The Democratic convention adopted a similar plank.

113 NAMES NEEDED

The discharge petition has about 125 signatures; it needs 218 to take the FEPC bill away from the Rules Committee. Mrs. Norton said only about 10 Republicans have signed thus far. 6-19-45

No funds for continuation of the temporary FEPC beyond June 30 were provided in the war agencies appropriation bill passed by the House last week, but Mrs. Norton predicted the Senate would insert the requested $599,000 and that the House would agree.

Southern Democrats banked on a Senate filibuster threat to smother House-approved legislation to abolish poll taxes. Southern senators promised lengthy filibusters, such as have prevented passage of previously House-approved poll tax bills.

FEPC ENDANGERED AS DEADLINE NEARS

Popular Action Can Save It

By ART SHIELDS

WASHINGTON, June 27.—With only four days to go before FEPC funds expire, Sen. Theodore Bilbo (D-Miss), opened his filibuster against the proposed Fair Employment Practices appropriation at 1 p.m., with a violent attack on Negroes, Jews, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, the American Newspaper Guild, etc.

He was still on the floor when the Senate adjourned four hours later, and will get the floor when it opens at noon tomorrow.

He will yield the floor shortly afterwards to Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, just back from San Francisco, who will speak in behalf of the United Nations charter.

Then Bilbo gets the floor for his filibuster again.

Bilbo's filibuster held up nearly one billion dollars in appropriations for the National War Labor Board, the War Shipping Administration, the Offices of the Alien Property Custodian, of Defense Transportation, of Economic Stabilization, of War Information, of Inter-American Affairs, of Censorship and other war agencies.

The FEPC amendment, appropriating $446,000 for the non-discrimination committee, had not yet been introduced by Sen. Dennis Chavez (D-NM), when the Ku Klux Mississippian began his hate marathon.

FEPC, in fact, wasn't yet the order of business when the Senate recessed for the day. Bilbo wouldn't give Chavez a chance to present the amendment, which the Senate Appropriations Committee, by a vote of 14 to 4, had instructed him to offer.

Bilbo was talking against time. The FEPC forces today apparently had the two-thirds majority needed to suspend the Senate rules and permit an appropriation item, not yet approved by the House, to come on the floor without danger from points of order.

Sen. Kenneth McKellar (D-Tenn), presiding officer of the Senate, a bitter foe of FEPC, conceded that the two-thirds vote might win when he got the floor in late afternoon to offer what he called a "compromise" to bring "peace."

McKellar's "peace" offer, however, had a suggestion of death to FEPC. He had been negotiating with both sides, he said, to get them to agree to appropriate $250,000 for FEPC for six months.

FEPC could die at the end of six months, it had been said in negotiations, but McKellar wouldn't say that on the floor, where he just talked of "friendship," "compromise" and "peace," and let's stop fighting and get on with the war agencies bill.

Sen. Alben Barkley (D-Ky), majority leader, who came in at this time, said he hoped an agreement could be made.

Chavez, the FEPC spokesman, could have rejected the compromise offer completely and held out for the full 12-months appropriation called for in the amendment. His position was strong. Protests were pouring in on Congress from all parts of the country.

Instead the New Mexican said he would accept the $250,000 for six months offer on one definite condition—that no liquidation of FEPC was implied at the end of that period.

But Bilbo said no. He rejected McKellar's offer, he said, unless the liquidation of FEPC were guaranteed after six months.

Otherwise he would continue the filibuster.

McKellar, who saw the weakness of the anti-FEPC crowd, wanted Chavez to give up his no-liquidation proviso. He tried to tempt the New Mexican with the idea that he might put through a permanent FEPC bill in the six months ahead.

But Chavez wouldn't compromise any further.

ATTACKS NEWS GUILD

Early in the filibuster Bilbo interrupted the reading of a wire that he had received from John Ryan, organizer of the New York Newspaper Guild, by bawling at the men in the Press Gallery overhead: "I hope none of you boys are organized," he shouted.

Ryan's wire had denounced his filibuster plans as an attack on American democracy. And Bilbo, in a reply, which he read to the Senate, tiraded against the Guild wire as "rotten" and "Communist," etc.

At one point Bilbo threatened a "revolution" if the fight for Negro rights continued. He's threatened that often before.

Phrases like "N . . . r lovers" abounded in his long distance diatribe. He abused Mrs. Roosevelt for, he said, "trying to teach social equality to the American N . . r." He jeered at Negro and white bishops who had protested the plans to kill FEPC in messages from the South, and Jew-baiting ran rampant.

Dr. Franz Boaz, the famous anthropologist, was assailed as a "Jew." FEPC, said Bilbo, would tell employers to hire "Jews" and Negroes. There was constant reference to the employment of Jews and Negroes in FEPC offices.

"Julius Streicher could hardly have done worse," said one reporter.

Polltax Repeal and FEPC

Daily Worker 6-15-45

by Doxey Wilkerson

IT IS important to understand the basis of bitter congressional opposition to FEPC and to polltax repeal. If we know the nature and the motives of our enemy, we are better armed for the struggle.

This week saw House passage of the polltax repeal bill at the conclusion of two days of debate involving some of the most vicious Jew-baiting, Negro-baiting and red-baiting ever heard in the halls of Congress. This week also saw the reactionary Rules Committee reject President Truman's courageous plea for permanent fair employment practice legislation and refuse to allow the FEPC bill to come up for House consideration. Now the main struggle for both measures shifts to the Senate, where filibusters, further name-calling and trickery will be resorted to in an effort to prevent this passage. New York

These two bills propose nothing more "revolutionary" than to implement two elementary principles of democracy—(1) the right to vote, and (2) the right to employment without racial or religious discrimination. Why, then, are they so violently opposed? Who would gain by their defeat?

Wild and irresponsible charges of "states rights," "Communist plot," "Negro domination," "stab-in-the-back for white Gentiles," and the like, are, of course, pure hog-wash. These are poisonous smoke-screens behind congressional representatives of reaction proceed to do the work of their masters.

Real Stakes At Issue 6-15-45

But the real stakes at issue are not hard to discern. To keep 10,000,000 white and Negro southerners disfranchised and to relegate Negro workers to an inferior occupational caste is worth billions of dollars annually to certain powerful groups of exploiters in our country.

Just suppose the federal polltax repeal bill is finally passed and enforced, thereby giving the vote to millions of Southern citizens who never had a chance to vote before. Just suppose these millions of new voters begin to clamor for decent schools, health services, justice in the courts, unemployment insurance and other forms of social security, and especially for decent wages and the right to organize into unions. And suppose they voted for local, state and national representatives who pledge to work for these things, and against those who oppose them?

Is it not clear that any such democratic development would shatter the oligarchic controls and super-exploitation by which a handful of big planters and financiers (many of the latter on Wall Street) now rule and get rich off the labors of the southern masses? And is it not also clear that Rankin and Bilbo and their ilk would quickly lose their jobs as congressional supporters of Bourbon reaction? **This is why the anti-polltax bill is so bitterly fought.**

If FEPC Becomes Permanent Daily Worker

Just suppose the Fair Employment Practice Committee is made permanent, and becomes increasingly effective in breaking down racial and religious discriminations in employment. And suppose, with these artifical barriers gone, millions of white and Negro workers begin to work together on a basis of equality, to form many new personal friendships and closer bonds of unity and comradeship in their union organizations. 6-15-45

Is it not clear that the profits now made from Negro-white wage differentials would disappear? Is it not clear that the power of the labor movement to protect workers from exploitation would be greatly enhanced? Is it not clear that the big-money boys who now dominate our government in their own selfish interests would have to yield more and more to the demands of people's organizations in their growing struggles for democracy and security? **This is why FEPC legislation is so bitterly fought.**

The **main** power of the opposition comes from the main class forces of reaction—semi-feudalistic landlords who hold great plantations and control the lives of millions of white and Negro workers in the South, northern financiers who hold mortgages on the southern plantations, and powerful businessmen and industrialists in both the North and South who define their profit-seeking interests in anti-labor and anti-democratic terms. **These are the main forces we are fighting.**

Political Reaction

It is evident that the main opponents of FEPC and poll-tax repeal are also the most powerful enemies of Anglo-Soviet-American cooperation for enduring peace, of effective OPA measures to protect the wartime living standards of the people, of wage increases commensurate with living-cost increases, of decent standards of unemployment and health insurance, of federal planning for full employment—indeed of all major programs to strengthen democracy and security for the people of America.

The root sources of political reaction are much the same, whether the immediate issue be FEPC or Dumbarton Oaks. And the triumph of reaction on any one of these issues increases the peril of them all.

Thus, the struggle for polltax repeal and FEPC is a struggle to consolidate and strengthen precisely those democratic forces of national unity upon whom we all must depend for peace, security and enlarging freedom. Moreover, it is a struggle we can win. **It is a struggle we have simply got to win.** 6-15-45

We can break the threatened filibuster and pass the polltax repeal bill, restore the temporary FEPC appropriation, and pass the permanent FEPC bill in the Senate; and we can guarantee House approval of both FEPC measures. We can do these things—**if the organization of the people get quickly into the fight and bring their overwhelming democratic pressure to bear upon Congress.**

We really can win these FEPC and polltax fights—and we've simply got to do it!

Battle for Democracy

Daily Worker

ALL OF US had better begin thinking hard about the racial and religious discrimination which was a mainstay of Hitler fascism and which is still deeply rooted in the economic and political institutions of our country.

Democracy in the United States will not be secure as long as fascist demagogues are free to play on prejudice and bigotry. It will not be secure as long as 13,000,000 Negro Americans are treated as second class citizens.

This is the challenge which confronts Congress in the FEPC and anti-polltax bill. This is the challenge which Congress has so far failed to meet. 6-14-45

Polltax Congressmen rant that an anti-polltax bill and a permanent FEPC would "sovietize" America. But wasn't it the Declaration of Independence which proclaimed the truth that "all men are created equal"? And is there any more fundamental way in which democracy can be asserted than in giving Negroes and other minorities a chance to work without discrimination? Is there any democratic right more essential than the right to vote?

These bills are now in danger because the South is still misrepresented by Senators and Congressmen elected on the basis of the undemocratic polltax system and because the Republicans have consistently failed to make good on their campaign pledges to the Negro people.

It is true that the House by better than two to one has again voted for the anti-polltax bill. But this has happened twice before. And each time the Senate action has been stopped by parliamentary skulduggery and filibustering.

President Truman has repeatedly demanded action on FEPC, and he is on record against the polltax. But there is no evidence that either Republican or Democratic leaders in Congress take this legislation seriously.

And they will not take it seriously until there is a more determined and more vocal movement demanding the passage of these bills. This is the responsibility of every labor union and of every progressive organization.

Fight Looms

Call St. Louis FEPO 'Illegal'

Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Alderman Caston's Fair Employment Practice Ordinance Friday was held illegal by Associate City Counselor Charles J. Dolan. The latter claimed the bill conflicts with the City Charter, interferes with private business and would invade its rights by regulating terms of private contracts. The stand taken by Dolan is merely his own opinion.

Tom Gates, FEPO chairman, told The Courier "The St. Louis Committee for an FEPO denounces Dolan's opinion as a cheap trick to deny thousands the right to earn an honest living regardless of race, color, religion or national origin. We pledge ourselves to redouble our efforts; in behalf of this basic right we have just begun to fight." 12-29-45

Americans Out-Nazi Nazis in Germany, Writer Finds

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 9-1-45

BERLIN (ANP) — Tan Yanks feel the whip lash of racial prejudice more from bigoted members of their own Army than they do from the Germans.

That is the conclusion reached by Allan Morrison in a special article about colored soldiers in Germany, which appeared in the Aug. 12 issue of Stars and Stripes.

"Germans, who once were exhorted to think of themselves as the master race, now gladly wash the clothes of American colored soldiers, whom the Nazis had taught them to despise," Morrison writes.

Feeling Not Deep

Concerning the intense propaganda campaign Hitler and his Nazis had waged against colored people, Morrison writes:

"Nazi created anti-colored feeling is not a deep, living thing. The most serious source of racial propaganda against colored people originates with certain bigoted members of the American Army."

Detailing how Germans have reacted to the presence of thousands of colored troops in their midst, he reports:

Too Busy to Hate

"In Nuremburg, the seat of Nazi racism, American colored troops speak of friendly relations with civilians, who are far too busy reconstructing their shattered lives to revive the Hitlerian theories that brought their country to ruin.

"In Munich, Schweinfurt, Frankfort and Augsburg, colored soldiers say that civilians attach more importance to the problems of food and shelter than to hating and fearing dark-skinned Americans.

"In one town, the daughter of a colonel in the German Army, stoutly contended that she could not associate with colored men.

9-1-45

Forget Contention

"But personality proved stronger than propaganda, and by the time the non-fraternization policy was relaxed, she was holding nightly 'conversations' with a colored soldier."

Food is the big factor, Morrison reports he was told by S/Sgt. George Handy of Washington, D. C., who pointed out that the Germans are a hungry people and were glad to get it from any source.

"Colored soldiers point out that Germans who never saw colored people before the arrival of the Americans, have adjusted themselves to the sensitive feelings of Tan Yanks towards racial insult.

Avoid Use of "Neger"

"For example, the German word for a black man is 'Neger' which sounds like an offensive word, so many Germans studiously refrain from using the word, replacing it with such expressions as 'brown man.'"

Some Tan GI's, however, according to Morrison, report having heard Germans mutter "schwartzer teufel" which means "black devil," another Hitlerian carryover.

"'When we first arrived here 7 weeks ago, many of the people seemed afraid of us,' said Cpl. Sidney Dickerson of Beckley, W. Va., a member of a tank battalion. 'But we soon showed these people the falseness of Hitler's racial propaganda.'"

Doctor Tells Story

Capt. William Bruce of Winston-Salem, N.C., Army physician, told his attempts to assist a German woman in the throes of childbirth.

"She wouldn't let me touch her," Bruce said, "But things have changed in this community. Now there's a constant stream of Germans coming into my dispensary for medical treatment."

The real harm has come from certain prejudiced white Americans, who have carried their ideas into Germany, Morrison reports.

"The colored soldiers condemn this as 'fascism in another form.' It is no new experience for them. Similar campaigns were conducted in England, France, Belgium and Italy by the same minority of Americans."

9-1-45

Nazism Not Dead

"Remarking on the similarity between Nazi anti-colored propaganda and anti-colored stories circulated by American race baiters, one sergeant said bitterly:

"'You ask about relations between us and German civilians. Well ,as far as we can see, they are normally good. But there are a few members of our own Army who still are playing the Nazi game of hate-your-fellow-man-because he's black. Sometimes I wonder if we have really defeated Nazism."

White Soldiers Grow Weary Of Color Prejudice

The Memphis World

Write Article Protesting Our Evil Practice

Memphis, Tennessee 9-21-45

BERLIN, Germany (ANP) — Two white GIs, members of America's occupation force here, lodged a complaint against color barriers affecting Negro soldiers in a recent issue of Yank magazine.

T/Sgt. Willie Jones, a Mississippian, backed the right of Negroes to have the democracy they fought for. His letter to Yank, a service magazine, read:

"I received a copy of your magazine and read that the AMG (Allied Military Government) is letting the Germans go back to school. After that I read in Mail Call about the jim crow treatment of colored American soldiers.

FROM MISSISSIPPI

"Now I am from Mississippi. Until I came into the army I hated Negroes. It wasn't anything they did to me. I just didn't like them. Since I have been in the ETO I have fought from D-day to VE-day with Negro soldiers. I was wounded twice in one foxhole and a Negro saved my life by using his first-aid kit on me. Then he carried me to where a doctor could work on me. This was under heavy fire. Later he died. He was from New York and he knew I was from the south where he had no freedom.

"Many Negro soldiers have died on the front for American soldiers who thought jim crow was right. So if Germans can have freedom after they have caused so much suffering and destructions, why not let the Negro race have what they fought for? I feel that they should and a lot of southern GIs feel the same way.

PROTESTS ORDER

Pvt. David Icheson, whose background was not revealed, loudly protested a military order that forbade white troops from associating with Negro soldiers.

"The other night we had a jam session with some colored boys from a quartermaster trucking out fit quartered near us," he wrote. "This morning we were read an order which prohibits us to associate with the colored troops 'except on business.

"'A colored tank outfit fought side by side with this regiment clear to Steyr, Austria, and we were never ordered not to fight alongside of American troops of the colored race, so why should we be forbidden to associate with other American soldiers because of color?'

ILD to Push Defense of Negro Soldier

Daily Worker N. Y. N. Y. 10-30-45

Despite commutation of his death sentence to confinement at hard labor, the defense of Pvt. Robert H. Johnson, Negro soldier from Mississippi, convicted of "raping" a German woman, will go on unabated, the International Labor Defense announced here yesterday.

Pvt. Johnson, who has also been dishonorably discharged, is the victim of a frame-up by "white-supremacy-minded" Military Police, the ILD contends. Vito Marcantonio, president of the ILD, said yesterday that the organization will continue efforts to obtain further review of the case.

The evidence which the ILD is seeking to include in a new review by Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, apparently not on the official record, indicates that Pvt. Johnson was asleep in his army barrack at the time the alleged offense was committed.

Milton Becker, GI Rights Bureau director, has been asked to transmit the ILD appeal to Gen. Eisenhower.

"A thorough examination of the record, together with other evidence, will be made," Mr. Becker said. "The pattern of this case follows too closely that of so many others, in which Negro soldiers have been made victims of 'white supremacy' tactics by military police, not to invite suspicion that this is another example of the same thing.

"Gen. Eisenhower's commutation of the death sentence will be followed automatically by a legal examination of the record by the European Branch of the Judge Advocate General's Office, and a further decision by Gen. Eisenhower as to execution of the commuted sentence."

Say Court Martials Of Negro Soldiers In Liberia Highest

New York Amsterdam News 11-17-45

Roberts Field Said To Resemble Convict Camp In 1620 Georgia

MONROVIA, (ANP)—The court martial record of Negro soldiers stationed at Roberts Field is perhaps the highest in the army. Hardly a week passes without three or four general or special courts martial and the excuse of being caught "off limit" is used to give men six months or more.

Native villages are raided in spite of law, and their people beaten up by fierce MPs, GIs declare. This camp, the only Negro headquarters in the army, resembles a convict camp such as was Georgia during the days of Queen Elizabeth, soldiers say. 11-17-45

"The Negro public snould beam its interest on Liberia, whose sovereignty is now in the balance, while we have become ambushed into a scheme of criticism of Liberia, even though the enemies of her freedom are now closing in on her," said one soldier. The scheme apparently is to make the Afro-American here hateful (by repression) toward the country, thus cutting off our sympathy for this struggling nation in our desire to get away from one of the worst run army camps anywhere overseas. 11-17-45

It is expected that the situation in Liberia will be given a full investigation and publicity since men in the military have no way of receiving aid excepting through Negro organizations in the U. S. who are not adequately informed of the real truth of conditions prevailing here.

PEACE! IT'S TRULY FASCIST

The Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

U. S. Army Installs Jim Crow In Manila

10-13-45

By ENOC P. WATERS JR.
(Defender War Correspondent)

MANILA—The men who helped liberate the Philippines will be completely segregated from the social and recreational life of the islands, it was revealed here this week.

Negro troops in Manila have been banned from any bi-racial activities in the city following the surrender of Japan.

Lt. Gen. W. D. Styer, commanding general of the American forces in the Western Pacific, approved the order which has caused racial tension to mount here to a dangerous peak.

This archaic policy, which makes a mockery of the high democratic principles which this war was fought to preserve, is reflected in Manila by the introduction of Jim Crow, which was unknown here before the war.

USO Jim-Crow

Most flaring manifestation of this fascistic policy is to be found at the USO club occupying the walled-city YMCA building which serves thousands of troops.

Here dances brazenly advertised as for "white" and for "colored" are held twice weekly. According to a notice posted on the second floor of the building, the swimming pool is reserved on Wednesdays and Thursdays for colored. On Fridays it is drained and cleaned before being turned over to whites for their exclusive use Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays.

This same plan is also to be followed by another USO club scheduled to be opened soon at Rizal stadium.

According to Justin Morrell, white director of the club now operating, the Jim-Crow policy conforms to a directive drawn up by Maj. Gen. R. B. Reynoldes, assistant chief of staff, approved by General Styer and passed on to Maj. Gen. E. G. Plank, commanding general of the Philippines base section, for execution.

However, the USO is not blameless. Tom Hinton, white aide sent here to open the clubs, disclosed during a conversation that he is a firm believer in racial segregation and defended the army policy in effect here.

American Red Cross installations in the area are also required to conform to this pattern of racial segregation in their social programs.

The Red Cross, however, has been unable to avoid the use of Negroes on such regional staffs. Indeed, in many regions, former managers of Jim Crow veterans facilities are being stepped up to the job.

Another facet in the picture is the fact that present veterans administration personnel seem to know what the score is going to be. Spelled out, it is interpreted to mean that the new administrator does not expect to change basically the policy of former administrator Frank Hines. Although VA has advertised all over the country the availability of jobs in the agency, we are reliably informed that no Negroes above the grade of CAF-3 are considered for appointment.

During the past week rumors of the appointment of a Negro to a top position in the administration have grown. Col. Howard D. Queen, former commanding officer of the 366th Infantry division who was in Washington recently, is reported in line for the spot, although Col. Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to the director of selective service, whose record of sound administration has kept him head and shoulders above most of these mentioned for the post, still seems to have the inside track.

However, with the growing feeling that an "advisor" is about all that Gen. Bradley expects to approve. It is believed that Col. Johnson would not be interested in filling such a role. A hard-hitting worker, Col. Johnson made an enviable record for himself in seeing that the non-discrimination provisions of the Selective Service Act of 1940 was adhered to fully. Vested with full administrative authority, he was able to step in and reccommend a change in policy and procedure where he felt the role of the Negro inductee could be improved.

To the argument that the Negro assistant in VA should be one with combat experience comes back the ready answer—Gen. Patton had combat experience, but failed as an administrator. It is argued that what the position needs the light of other developments within the veterans administration and is being interpreted as a feeler. There are those who say that it is an attempt to find a respectable out for doing a thing which the administration wants to do—continue Jim Crow veterans facilities.

Negroes have adopted a wait-and-see attitude with regard to the future policy of the administration, and remember that Gen. Bradley is still an army officer attached to VA whom they had vaguely hoped would be removed from the pale of political intimidation. It remains to be proved.

is a man with administrative experience who is fundamentally interested in getting a job done. Should such a man be available who is also blessed with combat experience, it is believed that he would be ideally suited for the post.

Finally, Gen. Bradley's statement that some Negro physicians have requested Jim Crow hospital facilities be established, which statement was refuted by National Medical association president Dr. E. I. Robinson who said, "I cannot envision any member of our national organization making such a request," is now being viewed in

"Japan's First Lesson in Democracy"

Religious Louisiana Weekly 11-17-45

56d-1945

Discrimination- Foreign

Can't Take Theory of Race Superiority

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 1-20-45

Army's Hard Workers Seek Transfer to Units Having Colored Officers

By OLLIE STEWART

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WITH U.S. TROOPS IN FRANCE—By Cable—Many port battalion soldiers I visited recently in the Rouen area were complaining about being under white officers and are constantly seeking transfers to units with colored officers which keeps the pot boiling at all times.

There are only a few outfits with colored officers, and these men are laboring desperately to keep the situation under control. All seemed to realize the situation is bad because the soldiers are forced to live abnormal lives.

White Officers Avoid Basic Issues

Although many white officers I talked to make an effort to be fair with their command, they invariably shy away from fundamental issues involved. Most obvious is the fact that they do not realize the deep-seated resentment of colored soldiers under a white command.

Although port battalions or work troops are not generally regarded on a par with front-line combat troops by casual newspaper readers at home, and even by many persons over here, it is a matter of record that no group of soldiers in this theatre has done more to make possible Allied victory.

It was part of the German strategy to deny us use of French ports by destroying harbor facilities, for without a constant stream of supplies our armies would wtiher on the vine. But despite this demolition and sunken ships blocking the harbors, the flow of materials continues even in the winter, thanks to men who work twelve-hour shifts to keep boats coming and going at Antwerp, Le Havre, Rouen and Cherbourg.

1-20-45

Life a Perpetual Grind

These men have a perpetual grind working and sleeping. They ride to work in trucks, get their meals served on the docks, then go back to Nissen huts to sleep. Except for the occasional glimpse of a Red Cross Club, they see nothing but their bunks and their warehouse.

They liberate no towns, see no flags, drink no champagne nor kiss happy girls. Yet, when things become critical, the first cry of the high command is, "Give us more supplies."

They set records only to break them when more speed is required. Everybody sneers at them for being stevedores, which does not help their peace of mind, yet when additional tons of vital supplies are needed, they pitch in and deliver without complaining.

1-20-45

Anti-Tank Unit Made Port Outfit

Capt. Penrose Goodall of Chicago, former anti-tank officer, commands one of few port companies with colored officers at Rouen. Jovial in manner and fair with men, but severe when necessary, Goodall has on his staff 1st Lt. Cleo Hancock, of Kansas City, Mo., a regular Army man; 1st Lt. Evie Fields of New Orleans, graduate of Southern University; 2nd Lt. William Davis of Philadelphia, 2nd Lt. Lilburn Williams of Kansas City, Mo., and 1st Lt. John Hopkins of Chicago.

Most of the men in the company were in the former tank destroyer outfit and are not yet pacified with being transferred to a port unit, though they work as hard as any.

Other Port Unit Officers

Among other port unit officers who deserve great credit are:

Lt. William Phinezy of Tacoma, Wash., Ordnance officer who landed D plus 8 after a time in the Pacific and now has a silver star and purple heart; Lt. C. A. Holliday of Marshall, Tex., chaplain from Bishop College; Lt. Leopold Hall of Boston, Mass.;

Lt. Ted Lawson of Chicago; Lt. Richard Cooper, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Lt. L. D. Polk, 144 N. Fifty-seventh Street, Philadelphia; W/O Foche Dooley, Kansas City, Kans.;

Near Cherbourg I met W/O M. Henry Pitts of Chicago, candidate for the doctorate at Chicago University and former teacher at Clark University. His wife, Mrs. Posie Pitts, dances in "Carmen Jones."

Marine Attack On Negroes At Pacific Isle Base Told

Louisville, Kentucky, Courier Journal 7-9-45

Cincinnati, July 7 (AP)—Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said today a group of Marines on an important Pacific island for weeks threw bricks, empty beer bottles and on occasion hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by Negro Navy men in a series of incidents.

White, who returned recently from a four-month tour of the Pacific theater, told a radio audience that he accepted an invitation from the island commander to serve as defense counsel before a Navy board of inquiry appointed to investigate the clash.

"When no attempt was made by the authorities to stop the attacks or punish the attackers," White said, "the colored men in despair determined to defend themselves when next attacked.

Negro Sailors Are Fired On.

"The next assault took place a few days later on Christmas Eve," White said. "A group of white servicemen fired upon colored sailors and ran them out of the main town on the island."

"On Christmas Day one Negro serviceman was shot and killed and another shot by white servicemen. These and other assaults infuriated the men who had been attacked to the point that twice they attempted to go into town to take vengeance. On one occasion they were turned back; on the second they were arrested, charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage."

Says Incidents Aid Japs.

White did not disclose the outcome of the investigation.

He said that in telling of the clash he was not emphasizing such happenings, declaring that the Japanese eagerly capitalize instances of friction between white and Negro personnel and give wide publicity among the Pacific's colored peoples to "the anti-Negro rantings of congressmen like Rankin and senators like Bilbo in filibustering a proposal to establish a Fair Employment Practices Committee."

Vet Writes Wife Saying Hospital In France Is Hellhole

Okla. City, Okla. Black Dispatch

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (ANP) —Pvt. Marion Alexander, an overseas veteran, wrote his wife here recently that the army hospital where he is confined in France is a "hell hole."

Here is Pvt. Alexander's letter:

"Just a few more lines to give you some more of the details of this goddamn hospital.

"Since I have been here I haven't been asked once how I felt by the ward surgeon. He comes in and passes my bed, go to the white patients bed and ask them how you feel son? And when he get to me, he just look at me and walk out. Is that the way to treat a patient? Of course I don't give a damn. It is just the principle of the situation.

One day a colored fellow went to another doctor and told him his eye was giving him trouble. This is what he said, "It is suppose to hurt, it is out, what you expect? And he made a vow to do everything he could and in his power for humanity.

It hurts me, Lee, like hell. So if you don't see me anymore you will know I have up and did something. This damn place is a madhouse. I will try and take it just to come home some day. But I am not sure. The number of this mad house is 43rd General hospital near Marseelle.

I want you to write to every large colored newspaper or send a cablegram any way to let them know how the colored men are being treated here. I am not the only one. Thousands of us are catching hell and I mean hell.

"They have taken my Z-1 from me and I guess they will send me to the Pacific. But I will not work or do anything, because I am no good. I will just be in the damn army and no more.

"You can forget everything else and concentrate on what I am telling you about this Hell hole I am in with this staff of crakers —Georgia at that.

"Kiss mom for me."

Whites Escape Punishment In Court-Martial

Walter White Claims Group Made Desperate

Atlanta Daily World 7-28-45

GUAM—(A NP)—Forty-three Negro sailors have been convicted by courtmartial in the Christmas night uprisings between them and white troops according to announcement here last week by Maj. General Henry Larsen, island commander.

Larsen did not involve white troops in his announcement although Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, reported in a radio address from the states that whites were involved. The commander confirmed the sentences against the Negro sailors, varying from four months to four years, as final. 7-15-45

CLAIMS TRUCK STOLEN

Between 25 and 30 Negro navy men, attached to the navy supply base compaines here, took two trucks without leave from the naval supply depot and drove toward Agana, court-martial testimony established. White said that they had previously been chased from there by white marines.

These men, court records show apprehended in the truck by white military police and Negro masters-at-arms assigned to the depot law enforcement detail. Maj. General Larsen did not reveal that any test mony had been introduced to involve the whites in the uprisings.

The NAACP secretary, who served as war correspondent for a New York newspaper, reported the reason the Negro sailors were in the trucks in serving as a defense counsel for the accused men. Testimony revealed that 14 .45 calibre pistols, a .38 calibre revolver and 18 loaded clips of .45 caliber bullets were found in the trucks.

REPORT HARASSMENT

White reported that the white marines harassed the Negro sailors into a state of desperation. A group of them threw hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps of Negro navy men in a series of incidents that resulted in a clash, he said. These attacks went on for weeks, he disclosed, and when no attempt was made by the authorities to stop them or punish the attackers, the colored men "in despair determined to defend themselves."

The slaying of one Negro sailor on Christmas day is said to be the final torch that infuriated the men to action. They attempted to go into town to seek vengeance. White disclosed Maj. General Larsen, however did not reveal whether the court-martial had admitted this evidence in sentencing the men or whether any efforts had been made to arest the white marines

ONE SAILOR KILLED

Beside the dead Negro sailor White reported that one was wounded by the marines in the fracas. A white MP was also wounded in the leg during an exchange of shots between them and the angry Negro sailors.

Further evidence submitted at court-martal hearings revealed that the men had hidden a store of weapons in anticipation of trouble with the white marines. The accused men were charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage. White said.

Maj. General Larsen reported that the sentences were final but did not say that any efforts will be made to bring the white marines to justice.

Georgians convicted in the court-martial included:

James Rufus Norris, Sr., S 1/c, 364 N. Mitchell St. Atlanta twenty-four months confinement with bad conduct discharge from Navy for rioting and applying his own use property of the U. S.

John Redding S 1/c, Griffin, Ga., same charge and sentence as Norris. 7-15-45

Jas. Stewart, Jr. S 1/c Brunswick, Ga., 24 months confinement with dishonorabel discharge from the Navy for stealing arms violation of a lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy and conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline.

GI's in India Given Skilled Jobs But Denied Ratings

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

BURMA-INDIA (Delayed)—Although performing skilled duties of motor maintenance in open sheds along the Stilwell Road, colored soldiers are restricted to their general service classification which calls for the performing of unskilled labor only. 7-28-45

Under the Army's four-shop echelon maintenance system, colored troops handle first and second echelon maintenance—the routine work of auto mechanics—while whites in the other two do the heavy skilled work such as motor and transmission repair.

However, because of the manpower shortage, many colored mechanics are doing skilled work under the 20-hour operational basis which is designed to return a vehicle to its organization on the same day it enters the shop.

Can't Be Stumped

One of the ace mechanics working under the system is T/5 Perry Ballard of Newark, N.J., who worked in a Ford Motor plant there and of whom two transportation officers said that he had never been stumped by a motor maintenance problem.

Two others are T/4 Lloyd Cephas of 632 E. 28th St., Baltimore, a carburetor specialist, who owned a repair shop in Delaware, and Sgt. Wylie C. Lemonze of Brooklyn, N.Y. 7-28-45

3 Philadelphians in Unit

Among the members of their outfit are T/4 Preston Hill and Cpl. Maynard Duvall, both of Baltimore; T/5 William Penn, Pvt. Umphretus Rayford and Cpl. Samuel Chocrane, all of Philadelphia, and T/5 Lloyd Walker of New York City.

Before working with the motor maintenance section, they served in the early days of the Burma campaign as truck drivers, mechanics and engineers and also pulled guard duty in the jungle area.

Would Like to See Home

Courier Journal Louisville, Ky.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

I would like to bring to your attention the unfairness concerning the point system that Negro soldiers are receiving in the E.T.O. Little consideration was given the Negro in regard to the point system. The critical score was set at 85 and most of us are way below par. The majority of the Negro soldiers in this company have from three to four years' time, mostly in the States as cadre men. When the Army felt the quota of combat troops was complete they broke up most training centers, and we wound up activating a battalion of quartermaster truck companies. 7-26-45

We were shipped overseas late in 1944 and immediately given an assignment of hauling supplies for the United States Seventh Army and remained with it until after V-E Day. The Army has decided that only combat troops will come home for a rest before going to the South Pacific. We don't mind going, but why not let us come home for a few days?

We are service troops but after all, you can't win a war without supplies and this company has been twice cited for efficient service.

CPL. CLARENCE W. MOORE.

In Europe.

It Is Same Old Story-- Jim Crowism

Reporter Finds All-Negro, All-White Clubs In Marseilles, France

By GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

MARSEILLES, France (ANP) — One of the two American Red Cross Clubs in Marseilles is all-white It means precisely that.

The latter is all-Negro, though no one, least of all this correspondent, seems to understand exactly what the designation means.

The "All-Negro" Unit"

Director of Club Canebiere the "all-Negro" staffed club is Mrs. Henrine Banks, nee Henrine Ward of Chicago. Her colored British husband from the West Indies, is assistant director and except for girl attaches from the states all other co-workers are likewise white, French civilians. (Mr. and Mrs. Ward are now on furlough.)

Clubs Canebiere, situated in the center of the famous promenade of the same name, is well appointed, with roof garden, dining hall, gymnasium, library and lounge, barber shop, tailor shop and photograph studio.

Democracy in Action

It is also a laboratory in democracy. Over 50 per cent of its visitors are white Americans, Negro, Mexican, Filipino, Chinese and other colored Americans make up the habitues.

There has never been even a hint of an "incident" or strained relations between whites and Negroes according to Miss Bert Jackson, hostess of Atlanta and New York. Provost Marshal and MP's give the estabishment a clean bill of health.

The "Jim Crow" Unit

At Times Square ARC Club on a a quiet afternoon off La Canebiere there is a dearth of anything but white GIs. We were curious and being around its parlors for three hours one day seeking answers. None was forthcoming from Negroes for not one tan Yank entered the premises, though innumerable passed its open doorway.

When we approached the doughnut counter for service, the French waitresses hesitated for a moment as if in a quandary over procedure. Finally after we refused to retreat with some confusion the allied girls waited upon us. Upon entrance to the dining room suddenlly all eyes were focused on us.

A Verbal Slur

On the second floor in the library our presence created a stir but in a chat with a pretty French girl operator of the record machine the protest was audible.

Still doubting what seemed fairly apparent we sought out Times Square Director Maurice J. Siegal of Los Angeles. Quite suavely but pointedly he referred us to the Club Canebiere "where I'm sure you will find some colored people."

56d-1945

Foreign

Japanese Propaganda Seen as Effective in Stirring Asiatics Against White Rule

the Afro American Baltimore, MD.

By VINCENT TUBBS

TOKYO (Via Air Mail)—Japanese use of anti-white wartime propaganda laid a maze of "intellectual landmines" that are the basic cause for the Indonesian war for independence and will be causing trouble for nations seeking to establish the pre-war status quo in the Far East for many years, GHQ Counter Intelligence revealed recently.

In a solid admission that the Japanese even today are reaping some fruits of conquest, GHQ has declared that efforts of foreigners to gain the hold they had on Orientals before the war will be a long and hard process.

From other sources it has been learned that Japanese troops as yet not repatriated from Indonesia have been unresistingly allowing Java Nationalists to take their guns and war machines to press their fight against Dutch, British and mercenary Indian troops seeking to put down the independence revolution.

Significantly, Indonesia's war is drawing sympathy from India because of a religious affinity souls. In India some 80,000,000 Moslems are watching very closely the reported British indiscriminate shelling that must inadvertently slay some of the Batavia's 20,000,000 Moslems.

Britain's difficulties in India will almost certainly be aggravated by the participation of United Kingdom troops in the Indonesian conflict. 12-8-45

Also, in still another former Jap sphere of influence, the intellectual drive among Annamites in French Indo-China is traceable to Japanese anti-Occidental propaganda.

Except for the fact that the power of conqueror proved too great for the Japanese mentality and Nippon's troops indulged in rape, looting and torture in conquered countries of the Far East, the "Asia for the Asiatics" slogan they sold at the outset had won them the war.

Tired of Dutch

A Java youth told this correspondent in New Guinea in 1943 that Japanese conquest of the Netherlands East Indies was welcomed because the people were tired of Dutch colonialism.

It was the madmen's conduct of Japanese soldiers that turned Indonesia against Nippon.

However, current release of war weapons to Nationlists by Japanese is generally considered a last effront to Occidentals who will not only have to put down armed uprisings throughout the Far East but must deal with a new intellectual drive based on color nationalism. 12-8-45

White supremacy is undergoing a terrific trial throughout Asia and correspondents are being more philosophical than academic when referring to the Far East as the "white man's burden."

A point that should be of interest to colored Americans is the similarity between the basic facts involved in Indonesia's claim that America is responsible for the present state of affairs because she fails to take a firm stand on tenets of the Atlantic Charter which she alone is in a position to enforce on others of the United Nations. 12-8-45

A TRAGIC STORY

New York Age N.Y., N.Y.

FROM New Delhi, India, came a tragic story last week of an Anglo-Indian girl who wrote the newspaper Statesman that she was committing suicide because the U. S. Army refused to permit the American soldier who fathered her unborn child to marry her. 1-20-45

Signing her name as Marlyn Jones, she said she wondered if the authorities responsible for the ban on marriages between Amrican soldiers and Indian girls "ever looked at the other side of the question, at the evils and disasters which fall alongside forbidden love."

"I loved an American," she said. "He sailed as to bring it forth. Perhaps it is not his fault, but I shall see that I never commit such a sin back to the United States, his 'Shangri-La.' Within a few months I am to have a baby. He wanted to marry me, but his people made the order . . . We were going to be friends. We were going to wait till the end of the war. But when you're in love, many things can't wait, especially an American—he never waits."

The letter said that the soldier went to his superior officer with a request for permission to marry the girl, but was refused despite her condition. She protested that she was as white as the American and had blue eyes.

"Farewell, India and Calcutta," her letter to the paper concluded.

Our comment is entirely unnecessary. The tragic story speaks for itself.

State Department Confirms Courier Expose'

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

By SIDNEY WALKER, Special Correspondent

12-8-45

Negro soldiers were good enough to fight and die in the Pacific and Europe, but they were not good enough to serve in Panama and the British Islands in the Caribbean. Sunny, steaming Panama is like an orchidaceous flower, beautiful to look at but evil and smelly inside. The Panama Canal, built and supported by American funds, has poured millions of dollars into this tiny country that spreads out only a few miles on either side of the "Big Ditch." From this money the rulers of Panama live well. They have created fortunes and built beautiful homes. Soldiers and sailors passing through the Canal Zone have brought in additional money which they have thrown around in clubs and night spots with abandon. However, beneath all these evidences of good living and gaity is the ugly spectre of race prejudice. The Pittsburgh Courier has already presented a first-hand account of the plight of the citizens of Banana-land who happen to have been born with dark skins. You know from these articles that these citizens, called "silver," are kept away from those who happen to be white and who are called "gold." By whatever name, the flower of jim crow smells equally bad. The tragedy of what happened there transcends the boundaries of that little country. The evil effects of prejudice were not localized. From this little country, that cancerous growth has rapidly spread through the Caribbean. 12-8-45

RULERS DID NOT WANT ISLANDERS 'AROUSED'

For some time this newspaper has known that soldiers with colored complexions were not wanted in Panama during the war, nor were they wanted in the British colonies in the Caribbean. The rulers of millions of black folk didn't want the "simple islanders" aroused by seeing other black men who had been trained as soldiers and who carried guns. These overlords deluded themselves with the pleasant hope that things would be the same after the war if they sheltered their natives from too much contact with the world and particularly from black soldiers.

The American Army adopted a policy of not sending their colored troops to Panama and to British Islands early in the war. As for Panama, this action was requested by that government. The President and his minister in Washington vehemently deny that any such request originated in their country.

In answer to a cable from The Pittsburgh Courier, the president of the Republic of Panama through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs replied as follows:

"The president of the Republic has sent to this ministry the cablegram which you sent him the 24th of November.

"In reply, may I inform you that there does not exist any treaty which denies entrance to the country of Negro soldiers. In this ministry there is the knowledge that in the course of the year 1942, a Negro regiment from the United States was loaned for service in this country and used especially for the establishment of telegram communications in defense sites which the Republic of Panama placed at the disposition of the United States during the battle for the defense of democracy. 12-8-45

Signed:
Mario de Diego, Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs."

Also the Panamanian embassy in Washington, in reply to a telegram from The Courier, stated as follows:

"In reply to your telegram may I inform you that there does not exist in the Republic of Panama any treaty which excludes Negro soldiers from our country. Panama, sir, is a free country in which there is no racial nor religious discrimination. Colored individuals living in the Republic of Panama enjoy equally the same privileges as Panamanians and other inhabitants of this republic. Information contrary to this declaration from our ambassador are contrary to the existing reality in Panama."

Signed: Embassy of Panama.

The ambassador's denial of racial discrimination belies the facts as reported in the just concluded series of four articles in The Courier on the Republic of Panama and its "gold" and "silver" designations for whites and Negroes.

It was left to our State Department to prove the correctness of The Pittsburgh Courier information. In reply to a telegram, Secretary of State James F. Byrnes stated: 12-8-45

"At the request of the Panamanian government in 1942 and in consideration of its views regarding presence of Negro soldiers in its territory, this Government has endeavored to avoid the detail of Negro contingents to Panama for permanent station. Negro personnel has on occasions been sent there on specific mission. No treaty relating to this matter exists between the United States and Panama."

Signed:
JAMES F. BYRNES,
Secretary of State.

Here is the record, however—and it is not pretty. It has not been made public earlier because to have done so would have imperiled the safety and security of American soldiers and placed our own shores in jeopardy. It begins in Puerto Rica.

FORCED PUERTO RICAN TO ADOPT JIM CROW

In the Puerto Rican National Guard before the war there was little thought of race in the American sense. Certainly, there were few attempts at segregation in the National Guard. There was generally very little on the Island. When bars were drawn, socially, they usually emphasized class rather than racial lines. A man was considered "white" usually if he said he was. About thirty per cent of the population has been officially classified as Negro with the rest being considered white. The "white" group ranges in color from deep brown to white. Reversing our process, one drop of white blood permitted the official registration of blanco or white.

Then came our Army. All of this was changed—and fast. Puerto Rican units were needed to replace continental units in the Caribbean area for service overseas. In the midst of this need and in the rush to get ready to fight, a jarring note entered. Panama and our powerful British ally said "no blacks." 12-8-45

HASTIE EXPOSED LUDICROUS RESULTS

The effect of this ukase was partially indicated by Judge William H. Hastie in his speech accepting the Spingarn award two years ago at Detroit. Selective Service feverishly, though reluctantly, started in classifying inductees as "white" and "colored" at the request of the Army which had decided to accede to the requests that Negroes not be assigned in the Caribbean. There were separate Selective Service calls thereafter for "white" and "colored" registrants. The results were devastating on the little island where no serious thought had previously been given to the question of race. Often times the results were ludicrous, with one brother in a family being classified as "white" and another as "colored." Many families were driven apart by this highly artificial and hitherto foreign process.

The Army pressed on. Islanders remember the supposedly confidential and hush-hush transfer of around 700 men out of the Sixty-fifth Puerto Rican Infantry just before it sailed two years ago. They "wondered" at the time why all who were removed were brown to black in color. They didn't really wonder because most of them knew by then what was happening. Too much else was going on around them to let this knowledge escape them. The color bar was being drawn in public places for the first time and to such an extent that a civil rights law was passed by the legislature for the first time in history. The New York Times on Sunday, September 19, 1943, carried an account of the first unit under this law which had been filed by two "Negro" officers of a Puerto Rican unit after they had been refused service in a restaurant.

COLORED UNIT SENT TO FORT DIX 12-8-45

As always with jim-crow outfits, the problem immediately arose as to where the "Negro" Puerto Rican troops would be stationed. They could not go in the Caribbean because of their color. This was the only place where other Puerto Rican troops had been assigned at that time. A jurist from the Caribbean area caught the dilemma of the Army when he discussed the matter with War Department officials in 1943. This judge was shocked to learn that plans were under way to shift the "colored" Puerto Rican units to the Virgin Islands on the theory that there would be such an affinity of blood that everybody would be happy. Of course it didn't matter to the "brass hat" planners that this was about the worse move that could possibly be made.

The judge pointed out the difference in language, customs, and attitudes that made the two groups, if not openly hostile to each other, at least not over friendly. He shortly convinced the Army that it would be a mistake to station large numbers of Puerto Ricans in the Virgin Islands. He thereby averted what would undoubtedly have been a very embarrassing situation for the Government of the United States.

Eventually one of the "Negro" Puerto Rican units, a quartermaster battalion, wound up at Fort Dix with most of the men in it miserable and bewildered. They were not accepted by white soldiers because they were an obviously segregated organization. The Negro soldiers on the other hand could not jump the barrier of language and regarded the Puerto Ricans as stuck up foreigners. The shock of segregation was real and present to every man of this organization. 12-8-45

U. S. GETS HEADACHE

Despite the protestations of the Panamanian officials, it is an apparent fact that somebody asked that only white troops be sent to that country, and Secretary of State Byrnes has admitted as much. Further, it is equally a fact that only one small Negro unit, a Signal Construction Battalion was in Panama at any time and this unit went there early in the war and was withdrawn after its special assignment was completed. It is an additional fact, and one that certainly cannot be disputed, that what was started in Panama and by our British friends has given the United States a man-size headache in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. 12-8-45

The events that occurred in Panama during the war ominously forecast the shape of things to come.

The United States and Great Britain, in this sorry mess up to their necks, are anxiously awaiting the inevitable explosion in the "peaceful Caribbean." The hard realities of life have been driven home forcefully to natives who are dropping back to pre-war wages, inadequate diets and miserable hovels. The rub now is that these people are different. They made real money for the first time in their lives during the war period. They had enough food—and of a kind—that built muscles and strength. They have been hopelessly infected with the virus of freedom. They will not be satisfied to slip back where they were before the building of the great defense bases started. 12-8-45

It is little wonder that the President of Panama reassures The Pittsburgh Courier of his fine attitude towards Negroes. From all accounts our neighbors in the Caribbean are going to want more than the reassurances. Maybe eventually there won't be any "gold" in Panama.

56d-1945

Foreign

Navy Overrules Army

123 Tan GIs Denied Passage on Carrier

Pittsburg Courier - Pa. 12-15-45

In answer to a wire from The Pittsburgh Courier, the Navy Secretary replied: "An effort has been made to secure by radio an authoritative account of the incident which occurred at Le Havre when the USS Croatan was loading troops for the return to the United States. We have found, however, that it is impossible to conduct an inquiry in this long range fashion. Accordingly, I am delaying a definite answer to your inquiry until the vessel has completed its present trip and until we have had an opportunity to talk direct to the officers involved. Sincerely yours, James Forrestal."

WASHINGTON, D. C.—One hundred and twenty-three homebound Negro soldiers last week were denied passage from LeHavre on the aircraft carrier SS. Croatan by Capt. Charles D. Griffin, the vessel's commanding officer and Comdr. Francis R. Jones, executive officer.

The Negro soldiers, members of a Quartermaster Truck Company, were listed to sail on the ship, but Captain Griffin refused to allow them to come aboard. He explained his action by insisting that there were no segregation facilities on the tiny flat-top. He further insisted that it was general Navy policy not to mix races. Captain Griffin is said to have been upheld in this action by Commander Jones. These two are said to have vigorously opposed the insistence of Army officers that the men be allowed to travel.

ARMY WINS ONE POINT

Prior to sailing, it was discovered that six Negro soldiers from another unit were on the ship. Captain Griffin is said to have demanded that these men be removed by the Army officers. The Army officers are reported to have refused and informed Captain Griffin that if he wanted the six men removed they would have to be removed by Navy force. These six men remained on the ship and are on their way home.

Negro soldiers denied passage were routed to a slow transport. Aboard this vessel they will arrive here several days later than the SS. Croatan.

NAVY DEPARTMENT SILENT

The Courier immediately called upon Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal to make his position clear in the case and advise on what action was to be taken. No answer to The Courier telegram has been received but a spokesman for the Navy said that an answer would be forthcoming as soon as possible.

The Navy Department has released a statement covering the incident as follows:

"Until full facts are ascertained the Navy Department cannot comment on this story. Navy policy, however, is one of no segregation. Ships of the 'Magic Carpet' including carriers have brought home Negro and white officers and Negro and white enlisted men, quartered together and messed together.

REFERS TO MIXED CREWS

"This is in line with the Navy's policy of non-discrimination under which Negroes are currently trained and assigned as other personnel without reference to race. Negro officers and enlisted men are serving aboard Navy ships in mixed crews.

"The story is being investigated and appropriate action will be taken."

Army officers who bowed after vigorous protests to the Navy said they refused to remove six high point colored casuals who were already on board the ship when the Navy raised its protest.

They added that difficulties over redeployment of colored veterans began as soon as naval vessels were pressed into service as troop transports.

Col. Conrad H. Pederson of Hoboken, N. J., director of movement for the port of LeHavre, was quoted as saying he would ask the headquarters of the United States forces in Europe for clarification on what to do if a similar case arose.

56d-1945 Foreign

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD

Dixie Officers Take Tips From Ancient Egyptians to Work Tan Yanks in Desert

The afro american Baltimore, md.

[EDITOR'S NOTE—This is one of the stories that AFRO War Correspondent Francis Yancey, recently returned from the Far East, couldn't get U.S. Army censors to pass for publication.]

CAIRO, Egypt.—(Air Mail. Delayed by Censor)—"We don't mind being messed over and treated like slaves of convicts sometimes. Being colored, you kind of get used to that sort of thing in this Army when all your officers are white and from below that damned line." 11-17-45

"But it really gripes when you have to take the short end of the stick day after day for months on end.

Only Tan Yanks in Egypt

This familiar speech by a bitter Tan Yank introduced me to the 4247th Composite Service Company, formerly the 208th and 388th Port Companies, the only colored U.S. Army unit left in Egypt.

Practically all of these indentured GI's have been overseas here in the Middle East and North African desert for more than 38 months, working under near plantation conditions of pre-Civil War days. 11-17-45

Here, almost in the shadows of the Pyramids, these Tan Yanks with the 4247th have suffered just about every indignity ind injustice that any human being fighting for the cause of democracy could endure. Another member of the outfit said:

Learned From Ruins

"It seemed that whenever our officers went out to view the ruins of the ancient Egyptians and saw how they used their slaves, they came back to camp and tried the same methods out on us."

Now stationed at Camp Huckstep, these soldiers for the lack of any other work to do were put to work side by side with Italian prisoners of war, whom these Tan Yanks formerly supervised. With them they did camp labor—cleaning streets and camp areas, working garbage details, mess hall cleaning, making beds, cleaning and acting as general flunkies in the rooms of the unattached officers' quarters here. 11-17-45

No Better Than POW's

When one complained about this type of work (all of which was formerly done by Italian POW's) he was told by his commanding officer:

"What makes you n——rs think that you are any better than POW'S. Plenty of work will keep you out of trouble."

The Italian POW's ever alert to propagandize at the slightest offering continually laughed at our Tan Yanks doing the same work as they, making numerous jibes as to colored soldiers value to the U.S. Army.

You Lost the War

Their favorite rib was ,"Looks like you colored boys lost the war." While other white soldiers sit around camp idly passing away the time until they are to be shipped home, some sort of work, no matter how low, is always found for this forgotten colored unit to do.

One of the latest was to use them as relief for white soldiers who, although they had lower point score totals than the colored soldiers were being sent back to the states. 11-17-45

Overcame Propaganda

Overcoming white Southern GI's anti-colored propaganda in the nearby city of Cairo, these Tan Yanks by their behavior in town on leave promptly showed the native populace the truth and were welcomed to most of the amusement sectors.

However, the overwhelming white majority and a non-co-operative Red Cross setup tends to keep them segregated to the slum sectors of the city.

As a result of two near riots and numerous interracial brawls with white American soldiers who protested colored soldiers escorting Egyptian and native girls unit members were restricted to camp area twice, one for a two-month period.

Passes to Cairo and rest camp furloughs were few and far between.

White Wacs 'Protected'

Up until about a year ago, colored soldiers had full use of all of the camp recreational facilities. At that time a detachment of Wacs was attached to the base, and an order was issued barring colored soldiers from all activities where the Wacs would come in contact with them, virtually restricting them from all of the base recreational setups.

The outfit was even lined up and given a verbal briefing by one of its officers informing them that they were not to mingle with or speak to the white Wacs.

Originally Supervised

When these GI's landed at Suez in November of 1942, the unit immediately went to work supervising native laborers unloading Army cargoes for the big push that drove Rommel back from Cairo. 11-17-45

Following the "Big Push," units of the outfit were attached to the Ninth Bomber Command as supply units and took over the work of unloading supplies at the newly won but heavily bombed ports of Benghazi and Tripoli.

However, instead of supervising, the outfit did the unloading and has been doing this and other types of heavy labor since.

Promoted for Bigotry

A company officer, irked by seeing colored soldiers in supervisory roles, was promoted for suggesting that the Army could save money and time by using them as stevedores since they "understood the work better."

Some of the men I met from this outfit were:

Pvt Irvin Murray, Cambridge, Md.; Pvt. Johnny Jackson, Philadelphia, a former boxer; Pvt. Charles Armstead, Norfolk, Va.; Pfc. Edward Crawford, Pfc. Leon Harris, T/Sgt. Sulton Pierson and Pfc. James Rhymes, all of New York City;

Sgt. John Heard, Atlanta; Pfc. Edward MacCrae, Augusta, Ga.; Sgt. Fred Nelson, Danville, Ill.; Sgt. Robert Williams, Galesburg, Ill.; Sgt. Richard Adams, Chicago; Pvt. James Gordon, Columbus, Ohio; S/Sgt. Butler Washington, Chicago; Pfc. Earnest Hall, Dawson, Ga.; 11-17-45

Sgt. Ardell Stone, Fayetteville, Tenn.; Cpl. Frank Thomas, Monroe, La.; Sgt. Thomas Mayo, Houston, Texas; Sgt. Richard Gary, Auburn, Ala.; Pfc. Glover Harris, Birmingham; Cpl. John Eutsey, Louisville, Ala.; T/4 Oscar Harris, Miami.

American Soldiers Carry J.C. Into Geisha Houses

The afro american Baltimore, md.

By PEYTON GRAY
(AFRO Foreign Correspondent)

TOKYO—Close on the heels of the occupation by American troops has come the undemocratic policy of discrimination—and in the Red Light Districts, Japan's present-day geisha houses.

Although interviews with hundreds of troops and personal observations attest to the practice, high Army officials deny knowledge of any such practice and of issuance of any order barring soldiers because of their color.

It was admitted, however, that all such houses were temporarily placed off limits pending an investigation by health authorities, and the usual sterotyped promise was made that reports will be thoroughly investigated.

Whites Slip by MP's

In the Tokyo-Yokohama area, colored troops upon approaching geisha houses are told by white soldiers, assumed to be MP's, "This area is off limits," while white soldiers are seen slipping in side doors. 11-17-45

Seated in the cab of a truck, appearing as just another soldier, I heard a white MP tell my driver, in addition, "It will always be that way for you boys. Your place is across the field in that other area."

He said further that the orders had been passed down the line to him and he did not know who had originally issued them.

First Given Treatments

Continuing, he explained that the 54 women in the "white" houses and the 20 in the "colored" were being given shots and that as soon as these treatments had been completed the houses would be re-opened for business.

56d-1945

Foreign

White Lieutenant Hits 92nd Officer, Near-Riot Results

The Call Kansas City, Mo

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent in Italy

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY. — On the heels of the announcement Wednesday that the war had ended, racial cooperation which has never been worth a damn in the 92nd division, struck a new low here in its headquarters town of Viareggio when two near wholesale riots broke out on two separate occasions because some white American officers and some Italian men objected to the presence of colored officers and enlisted men at an entertainment spot.

The first of these "war is still on" activities occurred at a night club operated by the division for officers and involved 1st Lt. Ulysses B. Glover, of Baltimore, and Miss Nickie Q. Daniels, member of the cast of "Shuffle Along," Noble Sissle's USO show now playing in this area.

8-24-45

Looked Like White

Lt. Glover, Bronze Star winner for outstanding service with the division's 365th Infantry, entered the night club in Viarreggio with Miss Daniels, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who has red hair and might under some circumstances be mistaken for white. The two of them found themselves in the middle of the sore spot, which has been brewing for some time.

This particular club is the most fashionable of the two that the division operates for officers and for various reasons has had little patronage from colored, while the other, three blocks away receives little patronage from white officers.

Glover, who is brown-skinned, had hardly seated himself and his guest, Miss Daniels, in the former club Wednesday evening when the white first lieutenant in the division believed to be from either Mississippi or Texas accosted Miss Daniels, apparently believing her a white American because of her USO uniform. He asked if she wanted to be "with this N—r officer."

Real Fight Ensues

Following a discouraging remark from Miss Daniels and a demand from Lt. Glover that he apologize, the white lieutenant struck Lt. Glover and suddenly found he had struck the wrong man, for Glover thrashed him soundly until stopped by Col. Robert Ross, white division artillery commander, the ranking officer among those assembled.

After Col. Ross had ordered the fracas ended for the time being and had Lt. Glover by the arm talking to him, the white lieutenant broke away from the restraining officer and friends and struck Glover across the right eyebrow, opening a gash which later required four stitches.

Somebody passed the word outside in the meantime that there were just about half a dozen colored officers in the club and some 300 or more whites. So they had no more than restored some sort of order inside than trucks full of the 92nd enlisted men culled from everywhere drove up and surrounded the place.

Everything On Edge

Just one wrong remark then would have set off fireworks. Just an idea of how well prepared the enlisted men were, though this was an affair involving officers and one that would bring them the severest penalties if court-martialed, might be gathered from the fact that one moving about then on the side streets away from the club could find many parked trucks loaded with grim-looking GIs. 8-24-45

Asking why, would invariably bring the reply "we are reserves just in case our advance details can't handle things."

While the white lieutenant took physical action opposing the presence of colored officers at this division club, several others that evening passed discouraging remarks as has been the practice on former occasions when the divisions colored officers entered the club whether with feminine guests or not. 8-24-45

'We Want Bilbo'

On the previous occasion, a group of such whites improvised a song chant "we want Bilbo." On another occasion a similar bunch of idiots demanded that some used glasses be washed in a special solution, after being emptied by a colored officer.

Lt. Glover has preferred charges of conduct unbecoming an officer and of assault and battery against the white officer in question, while Col. Ross has brought charges of disobedience to a superior officer. If convicted, the officer will face a maximum penalty of a dishonorable discharge plus a jail sentence.

Observers point out that the ironical point in the affair was that this southern white officer suddenly found objecting to the presence of a colored woman with a colored officer and was encouraged by fellow whites who displayed equally bad judgment.

A Second Near-Riot

A second near-riot occurred on the heels of this affair when some Italian men and white soldiers grew offensive at the presence of colored GIs at nearby pleasure spots operated by Italians and patronized mostly by them and enlisted men of the colored and white units in this area.

This brought on an old-fashioned free for all which brought additional trucks of the division enlisted men reserves from everywhere and resulted in wholesale arrests and numerous persons suffering various minor injuries, but none serious, according to what I have been able to gather.

Topping all of this off, was an article appearing in a small newspaper printed in Viareggio, which cast slurs against colored soldiers and sought to discourage Italian young women from associating with them. 8-24-45

Wreck Newspaper Plant

The 92nd GIs had papers circulated around the division less than an hour after they hit the stands and three hours afterwards had completely wrecked the responsible newspaper plant.

At this writing, the situation here is still exceedingly tense and one spark is all that is needed to set afire this race hate situation which has smoldered among many colored and white American units since their entry in service.

Colored officers and men of the 92nd division, however, are well prepared and willing to meet whatever arises—this I assure you I know.

Probe of GI Hangings Is Urged

Journal + Guide 9-1-45

Says News Of Army Executions Was Suppressed

Norfolk, Va.

By Associated Negro Press

LOS ANGELES, Calif.— Demands for a thorough investigation into the hanging of two Negro soldiers at Camp Beale, Marysville, Calif., August 14, were made last week. The soldiers involved were Pvt. Clinton Stevenson, 30, who was found guilty of fatally stabbing a fellow soldier, and Pvt. Herbert W. Reid, 21, who had been convicted of raping a Marysville white girl, according to the report of Brig. Gen. Oscar B. Abbott, post commander.

No details of the executions were disclosed in a release issued by the Beale commander except that the hangings were witnessed only by a group of officers. In reply to a telegram from Leon H. Washington to Gen. Abbott, the following was received:

OFFICER'S REPLY

"In compliance with your telegraphic request of August 19. Follows herewith official release from Camp Beale, concerning execution of Privates Herbert W. Reid and Clinton Stevenson on August 14.

"The execution of two soldiers who had been convicted on capital crimes was announced here by Brigadier General Oscar B. Abbott, post commander. Those executed were Private Clinton Stevenson, who was found guilty of stabbing to death a fellow soldier and Private Herbert W. Reid, 21, convicted of a charge of rape. 9-1-45

General Abbott said both were hanged shortly after 9 a. m. Both had been convicted by Camp Beale court martial several months ago and the executions followed recent confirmation of the death penalties by the war department.

"Both executions were carried out on the Camp Beale reservation in accordance with Army directives. Only official witnesses attended the execution. Chaplains attended the condemned men. Nearest of kin were notified prior to the execution and informed they could claim the bodies. If they are unclaimed they will be interred in a military cemetery set aside for such burials here.

"Carl F. Beuoy, public relations officer, Camp Beale, Calif."

WIFE NOT REACHED

Efforts to contact Pvt. Reid's wife in Philadelphia by telegram, resulted in disclosure that she no longer lived at that address.

"While we are not familiar with all of the facts in the case," said Publisher Leon H. Washington Jr., "we believe that an investigation should be launched immediately, in view of the fact that the matter was kept from public disclosure until after the execution. 9-1-45

"In a similar case August 20, a reprieve through a writ of habeas corpus stayed the execution at U. S. Disciplinary Barracks at Ft. Missoula, Mont., of two military prisoners convicted of criminal attack by general court martial in California last year."

REPRIEVE GRANTED WHITES

U. S. Judge Charles M. Prey issued the writ and ordered Col. A. M. Weyand, commander, to stay the execution which had been scheduled for August 17. Both prisoners were white and were convicted of criminal assault of a woman near McFarlin, Calif., March 20, 1944. 9-1-45

They were given the death penalty April 18. The prisoners were then transferred from Camp Hahn, Calif., to Fort Missoula, and are scheduled to appear before Judge Prey on September 25.

A long distance telephone conversation with Miss Colbert, president of the Sacramento branch NAACP, stated that the matter would be taken up at the board meeting of the association next Tuesday night. Camp Beale is located 70 miles from Sacramento, the closest branch to the camp.

Jim Crow on Okinawa

PM New York, N.Y. 9-25-45

Dear Editor:

I celebrated V-J Day along with the rest of the millions of the U. S. A., because democracy had won in this war. Following is a quotation which might interest your readers, from a letter from a personal friend (Marine), who has fought on Okinawa, Iwo Jima, and other major battles in the Pacific area for the last 18 months. Are we to find out now that we celebrated in vain? 9-25-45

". . . Most of the fellows are to the movies. I would be at the movies, too, but I don't like the setup. One section is for the lily whites and the other is for colored. In others words Jim-Crowed. This is the only theater on the rock that is like this. When I go to a movie I walk two miles to another, rather than go to this discriminated one which is in our camp. I'm sorry to say so, but I hate these people. In spite of all the hell we have gone through in this war, they still make life miserable for us over here—we, who have been right up front with them when the Japs were throwing everything at us except the kitchen stove. There was no segregation then. They would come in our foxholes with a smile. In fact, they would rather be in a foxhole with one of us than with one of their own color. They claim we can see the Japs better at night (smile). We don't even have opportunity to make any ratings. The highest rated colored Marine in my outfit is a buck sergeant, three stripes. All of our staff NCOS and up are white."

GERTRUDE DANIELS

Corona, Long Island

White Soldiers Protest Racism Against Tan GIs

The Informer Huston Texas 9-22-45

BERLIN, Germany — (ANP) — Two white GIs, members of America's occupation force here, lodged a complaint against color barriers affecting Negro soldiers in a recent issue of Yank magazine.

T-Sgt. Willie Jones, a Mississippian, backed the right of Negroes to have the democracy they fought for. His letter to Yank, a service magazine read:

"I received a copy of your magazine and read the AMG (Allied Military government) is letting the Germans go back to school. After that I read in Mail Call about the jim crow treatment of colored American soldiers.

"Now I am from Mississippi. Until I came into the army I hated Negroes. It wasn't anything they did to me; I just didn't like them. Since I have been in the ETO I have fought from D-day to VE-day with Negro soldiers. I was wounded twice in one foxhole and a Negro saved my life by using his first-aid kit on me. Then he carried me to where a doctor could work on me. This was under heavy fire. Later he died. He was from New York and he knew I was from the south where he had no freedom.

"Many Negro soldiers have died on the front for American soldiers who thought jim crow was right. So if Germans can have freedom after they have caused so much suffering and destructions, why not let the Negro race have what they fought for? I feel that they should and a lot of southern GIs feel the same way."

Pvt. David Icheson, whose background was not revealed, loudly protested a military order that forbade white troops from associating with Negro soldiers.

"The other night we had a jam session with some colored boys from a quartermaster outfit quartered near us," he wrote. "This morning we were read an order which prohibits us to associate with the colored troops 'except on business.'

9-22-45

"A colored tank outfit fought side by side with this regiment clear to Steyr, Austria, and we were never ordered not to fight alongside of American troops of the colored race, so why should we be forbidden to associate with other American soldiers because of color?"

Bias Keeping Soldier French Bride Stranded

The Afro American 9-22-45

Baltimore, Maryland

MARSEILLE, France (ANP) — Race bias has stranded Pvt. Robert E. Lee and his French bride, the former Marie Rose Jaume of this city, here indefinitely unless American authorities grant them passports to the United States.

Pvt. Lee, a native of Los Angeles, revealed in his appeal to civic organizations how American Army officials tried to prevent him from marrying the French girl. His wife is a college graduate and has served as chief clerk and stenographer in the office of a local medical clinic for six years.

Army Officers Against It

Mrs. Lee disclosed how white American Army officers have tried to discourage French women from marrying colored American soldiers through newspaper stories. She encountered similar propaganda before she married Pvt. Lee she said. She cited one of her experiences under a signed affidavit.

"I was directed to this place by an employee of the Hotel de Ville, of this city," she stated. "We were met by a Mme. Darbon and she explained to me in French just what papers were necessary for us to be married and then she suddenly said to me:

"'The process of getting married is very difficult, especially your case, for any marriages between American blacks and whites are not recognized by the white Americans and if you should marry one, and go to America, you would be very unhappy and your life would be very miserable.' It is for this reason that we went ahead and completed the marriage ourselves."

Pvt. Lee revealed that he was fined $25 for six months and reduced to the grade of private because he married his French sweetheart against the will of white Army officials. The couple will be stranded in France until proper authorities in the United States help them. The American consul granted Mrs. Lee a passport but explained that her application might be delayed for some time.

Negroes Protest 'White Only' Order

Public Opinion, The National Daily Kingston, Jamaica 8-13-45

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY—The sting of prejudice has been felt again by Negro soldiers in this theatre of operations. Old Man Jim Crow reared his ugly head shortly after the total surrender of the Germans to Allied Forces. Members of the 183rd Engineer Combat Battalion Tan Yanks who played an important part in forcing the Nazis to their knees . . . are on the outside—and not even looking in.

The Tan Engineers felt the sting of prejudice early this month when a recreation centre was set up for white troops in Eupen, Belgium, and head quarters of the 133rd Engineer Combat Group announced that a "recreation centre for coloured personnel is to be opened in the very near future." 9-13-45

TAN YANKS PROTEST

A petition protesting the action was signed by each man in the 183rd Engineer Combat Battalion and addressed to the commanding general of the European Theatre of Operations. It reads in this wise:

The following memorandum from Headquarters 133rd Eng. Combat Group ... U.S. Army is quoted for your information:

11. Recreation:

1. Tricolour Recreation Centre will be opened in Eupen, Belgium. Attendance at the recreation centre is for three (3) days. When allotments are received from the Corps Commander they will be sub-allotted to units by this headquarters.

2. A Tricolour Recreation Centre for coloured personnel is to be opened in the very near future.

3. It is anticipated that sometime this month there will be allocated to this unit a quota of three (3) day passes to Paris and Brussels.

By Order of
Lieutenant Colonel Broad:
/s/t/ Thomas V. Denny
1st Lt. 133rd Engrs.
Adjutant.

GI's Segregated in French Parade

The Afro American Baltimore, Md. 9-22-45

MARSEILLES, France (ANP) — A contingent of colored soldiers, led by a white officer, was placed "at the very end of an elaborate Armistice Day parade" here, Nov. 12, Jesse O. Thomas, Red Cross official, reported, while colored French soldiers marched integrated "up front" with their white comrades. 12-1-45

Thomas commented: "How often have I watched a parade in the South at home, with whatever colored participants were allowed, tagging along at the end of the parade . . . I wonder what State that American officer was from."

The Red Cross official observed that, "Many things happen at home which we don't like and protest quietly about," but "when those same things happen abroad, the inconsistency, unfairness and the brutality of certain American customs, strike home."

American Race Prejudice Hampers War For Freedom

Norfolk, Va.
Journal and Guide

PARIS—(ANP)—"Unless conditions are changed in the United States, we have lost the war for world-wide freedom." 8-11-45

That opinion was expressed here by Lt. George W. Woody, Danville, Va., in contrasting the friendly French attitude toward Negroes and the ante bellum race prejudice in America.

Lt. Woody, attached to the 490th Port Battalion, said, "I know from personal experience as well as from observation that the French family makes no distinction between colors in inviting United States soldiers into their homes. It is a contrast to the general custom in America which has a different cultural background."

FRATERNIZE IN HARMONY

He, along with other Negro soldiers, reported that throughout France Negro GIs and French girls fraternize in perfect harmony. It is no unusual scene to see a Negro soldier with a petite French girl, or see the pair going through intricate jitterbug steps at village dances.

Maj. Charity Adams, commander of 855 Negro WACs here, said, "I have not osberved any resentment among the WACs and have had no occasion to inquire," she commented, "but I believe the WACs grant that the Negro soldiers have the privilege of doing as they please." 8-11-45

SCORES ATTITUDE

She scored American's attitude on the race issue.

"It is regrettable," she said "that Americans are so race prejudiced that anything you write wil offend many, each in the light o his own prejudices. Yet the stor should be written, as part of th history of the European war, a part of the current news o America's Army still in Europe.

"It is regrettable that American socially accept foreign Negroes but not American Negroes.

"In the Army post office my WACs work with German prisoners of war, men of the people whose Nazi leaders preached their racial excellence. The office relationship is without racial consciousness."

U. S. Guarantees To Abolish Jim Crow For German People

Norfolk, Va.

Negro Soldiers, Victims Of Unabated Racial Intolerance At Home, Among U. S. Troops Who Will Back Up Potsdam Decrees In Europe

Journal and Guide

By Harry McAlpin

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Harry S. Truman has affixed his signature to a document abolishing all racial discrimination. However, the document has no deference to America, but instead refers to Germany during the initial Allied control period. The document is also signed by Marshal Joseph Stalin of Soviet Russia and Prime Minister Clement Attlee of Great Britain.

The document against racial discrimination is part of the report released simultaneously last week in Washington, London and Moscow on the Big Three meeting in Potsdam.

In the political and economic section of the report on the conference, which began on July 17 and ended August 2, a list of ten political principles to govern the treatment of Germany includes one which reads:

"All Nazi laws which provided the basis of the Hitler regime or established discrimination on grounds of race, creed, or political opinion shall be abolished. No such discriminations, whether legal, administrative or otherwise, shall be tolerated." 8-11-45

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Another in the same group of principles declares: "The judicial system will be reorganized in accordance with principles of democracy, of justice under law, and of equal rights for all citizens without distinction of race, nationality or religion."

Meantime, Negro troops who are part of the American Army of occupation still face, daily, humiliating experiences with U. S. Army racial discrimination and intolerance even while in Germany.

Victims of increasing racial bias and discrimination at home, they must continue to constitute the forces which back up the non-discriminatory Potsdam decrees in Germany while getting daily reminders in letters from home that their own President, who signed the decrees, is doing nothing to outlaw segregation and jim crow in America.

Russia seemingly stumped the conference for a time with a proposal concerning territorial trusteeships. (Ed. Note: It is known that Ethiopia has been soliciting the aid and championship of Russia in its claims to certain Italian colonies in Africa.)

On the trusteeship question, the report states: "After exchange of views on this question, it was decided that disposition of any former Italian territories was one to be decided in connection with the preparation of a peace treaty for Italy and that the question of Italian territory would be considered by the September Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs."

COUNCIL SET UP

The council was set up by the Big Three accord. It will have headquarters in London, and will have representatives of the five principal powers — the United States, the United Kingdom, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, China, and France. Its primary purpose is to continue the necessary preparatory work for the peace settlements. Its first task will be the preparation of a peace treaty for Italy.

In the opinion of political observers, this method of handling the peace settlements for Europe eliminates the type of "peace conference" which occurred after the First World War, and shuts the door to any possibility that a Negro will sit at the peace table.

Truman Signs Anti-Discrimination Order, But Wait-It's in Germany

Washington Journal
By HARRY McALPIN

President Truman has affixed his signature to a document abolishing all racial discrimination. 8-11-45

The document, however, refers to Germany during the initial Allied control period, and is signed also by Marshall Stalin and Prime Minister Attlee. It is part of the report released simultaneously last week in Washington, London and Moscow on the Big 3 meeting in Potsdam.

In the political and economic section of the report on the conference, which began on July 17 and ended August 2, a list of ten political phinciples to govern the treatment of Germany includes one which reads: "All Nazi laws which provided the basis of the Hitler regime or established discrimination on grounds of race, creed, or political opinion shall be abolished. No such discriminations, whether legal, administrative or otherwise, shall be tolerated." What, D.C.

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Seaman complains of subtle snubbing in Honolulu

Los Angeles Tribune - Calif.

An article, published in the letters-to-the-editor column of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin and written by S1/c Russell C. Goeins, reached the desk of the TRIBUNE this week by way of a friend of Goeins, 15-year-old Elizabeth Simpkins, student at Dorsey High school here.

8-20-45

Under the title, "A Plea for Fair Race Treatment," Goeins' letter charged that Negro G.I.s in Honolulu are subtly discriminated against.

On their rare liberties in town, Negro seamen are snubbed on trolley cars or in the theatres, Goeins said. "When we sit in a theatre or trolley, the next seat, no matter how crowded the place, is always vacant."

Describing the Negro soldiers as the Unwanted Soldiers, the young seaman said, "Everyone knows who we are and makes it his business to avoid us." He went on:

"We are the ones that sweep the docks, drive the trucks, roll the oil drums, handle the ammunition and all of the other nasty chores. We are the ones who left our homes, our jobs (which were not at all like these) and our families.

"Some of us were tradesmen, professionals and business men, but these are the only jobs for us here. Althrough many qualify as officers there are but few given the opportunity.

"Our officers and rated men are but few, but the second class seamen are like raindrops in a storm. We are the ones you see in town only occasionally because our liberties rate few.

8-20-45

"Then too we have such a miserable time in Honolulu that we don't care to come back again.

"Our recreation is limited and affairs that invite "all hands," mean "all but ours," which happen to be a little sunburned. Our friends are few and they are criticized and ostracized so much that they are afraid of our association. Occasionally one of us gets a break here and there, but for the group, nobody gives a good darn.

"An exception to this story of discrimination is the fine and square treatment we received from Cmdr. Armstrong, of the U. S. Naval Reserve, who always went to bat for fair treatment for Negroes.

"The people on this island have been misinformed and I myself really pity them. Remember that we are Americans and that we too promised 'to pool our blood in a common stream' because our fate and her destiny are one. Somebody please rescue us."

Race Hate Flares in Europe as War Ends

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

8-25-45

Two Outbreaks in Italy Traced to Dixie Officers

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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VIAREGGIO, Italy — On the heels of the announcement on Wednesday that the war had ended, racial co-operation, which never has been worth a damn in the 92nd Division, struck a new low here in its headquarters town of Viareggio.

Two near wholesale riots broke out on two separate occasions because some white American officers and some Italian men objected to the presence at entertainment spots of colored officers and enlisted men.

8-25-45

Baltimorean Involved

The first of these "war is still on" activities occurred at a night club operated by the division for officers and involved a Baltimorean, First Lt. Ulysses B. Glover of 620 N. Arlington Ave., and Miss Nickie O. Daniels, a member of the cast of "Shuffle Along," Noble Sissle's USO Show now playing in this area.

Lieutenant Glover, Bronze Star winner for outstanding service with the Division's 366th Infantry Regiment, entered the night club with Miss Daniels, who hails from Brooklyn, N.Y., has red hair and might under some circumstances be mistaken for white.

The two found themselves in the middle of a sore point which has been brewing for some time. This particular club is the more fashionable of two that the division operates for officers, and for various reasons has had little patronage from colored, while the other, three blocks away receives little patronage from white officers.

Mistaken for Mixed Couple

Glover, who is brown skin, had hardly seated himself and his guest, Miss Daniels, in the former club, Wednesday evening, when a white first lieutenant in the division, believed to be from either Mississippi or Texas, accosted Miss Daniels, apparently believing her a white American because of her USO uniform, and asked whether she wanted to be "with this 'n——r' officer."

1ST LT. ULYSSES GLOVER

Following a discouraging remark from Miss Daniels and a demand from Glover that he apologize, this lieutenant struck Glover and suddenly found that he had struck the wrong man, for Glover thrashed him soundly until stopped by Col. Robert Ross, a white division artillery commander and the ranking officer among those assembled.

Persists in Assault

After Colonel Ross had ordered the fracas ended and had Glover by the arm talking to him, the white lieutenant broke away from restraining officer friends and struck Glover across the right eyebrow, opening a gash which later required four stitches.

Somebody passed the word outside, in the mean time, that there were just about a half dozen colored officers in the club and some 300 or more whites, and order barely had been restored when trucks of 92nd Division enlisted men, culled from every where surrounded the place.

GI Reserves Ready

Just one wrong remark ther would have set off the fireworks. An idea of how well prepared the enlisted men were, though this was an affair involving officers and one that would bring them the severest penalities if court-martialed, might be gathered from the fact that one moving about on the side streets away from the club, could find many parked trucks loaded with grim looking GI's.

Asking why would invariably bring the reply, "We are reserves, just in case our advance details can't handle things."

Insults Numerous

While the white lieutenant took physical action opposing the presence of colored officers at this division club, several others that evening passed disparaging remarks, as has been the practice on former occasions when the division's colored officers entered the club, whether with feminine guests or not.

On one previous occasion a group of such jackasses improvised a song chant, "We want Bilbo." On another occasion a similar bunch of idiots demanded that glasses be washed in a special solution after emptied by colored officers.

Charges Filed

Lieutenant Glover has preferred charges of conduct unbecoming an officer and of assault and battery against the white officer in question, while Colonel Ross has brought charges of disobedience of a superior officer.

If convicted, the white officer will face the maximum penalty of dishonorable discharge plus a jail sentence.

Observers point out that the ironical point in the affair was that this Southern white officer suddenly found himself objecting to the presence of a colored woman with a colored officer, and was encouraged by fellow whites who displayed equally bad judgment.

Natives Indoctrinated

The second near riot occurred on the heels of this affair when some Italian men and white soldier grew offensive at the presence of colored GI's at nearby pleasure spots operated by Italians and patronized mostly by them and enlisted men of colored and white units in this area.

This brought on an old-fashioned free-for-all which brought additional trucks of the division's enlisted men as reserves from everywhere, and resulted in wholesale arrests and numerous minor injuries, but none serious, according to what I have been able to gather.

Topping all of this off was an article appearing in a small newspaper printed in Viareggio which cast slurs againt colored soldiers and sought to discourage Italian young women from associating with them.

GI's of the 92nd had papers circulated around the division in less than an hour after they hit the stands, and three hours afterwards had completely wrecked the newspaper's plant.

At this writing, the situation here is till exceedingly tense, and one spark is all that is needed to set afire this race hate situation which has smouldered among many colored and white American units since their entry into service.

Colored officers and men of the 92nd Division, however, are well prepared and willing to meet whatever arises—this, I assure you I know.

Whites Show Off Lynch Technique to Londoners

Afro-Baltimore, Md.

LONDON—(By Cable) — Manifesting the same lynching techniques employed in this country white soldiers attacked several colored soldiers near Piccadilly Circus early Saturday morning Aug. 18).

Although the reason for the outbreak was not made known, one report was that the whites were enraged by the sight of two colored soldiers with two white girls; another was that the whites were drunk and indifferent to where they were.

One reliable authority, however, reported that 30 white soldiers, told that two colored soldiers had beaten two white marines and another soldier, decided to take the matter of punishment into their own hands and attack the Tan Yanks.

8-25-45

White Girl Joins Tan Yanks

During the street fighting, several colored GI's who had taken refuge in a service club reportedly were dragged out and beaten. One was nearly "lynched" as the attackers beat him about the head.

A white English girl, it is also said, fought with the colored troops until she realized that they were outnumbered and then she ran to a telephone booth to summon the police.

Although no names or reasons have been given, it is said that over 20 colored soldiers, only two white soldiers and a white woman were arrested after the incident.

Londoners generally have expressed shock upon learning that the white soldiers who helped defeat Hitler, expressing opposition to his theories and practices, are using the same techniques against the colored men who fought with them.

569-1945
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUN 22 1945

By Albert Deutsch:

The Truth About the Rankin Smear On Soldiers Working at Northport

Demagogue Finds Chance for Some of His Race-Baiting

Rep. John E. Rankin, who, as head of the House Veterans Committee, has been running interference for the agile buckpassers who head up the Veterans Administration, was guilty of particularly foul play during the recent hearings before his committee on conditions at the Northport, Long Island, hospital for mentally sick vets. The rambunctious demagogue saw an opening for some juicy race-baiting following testimony that 15 soldiers, assigned by the Army to relieve the attendant shortage at Northport, had been court-martialed on charges of alleged brutality toward mental patients there. (Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Terry, head of the Second Service Command, says that only 10 soldiers were court-martialed and only six found guilty.)

Rankin repeatedly stressed the fact that the soldiers involved were Negroes, or "niggers" as he called them. He wound up with a frothy demand that all Negro soldiers now assigned to Veterans Administration hospitals be summarily removed.

Buck Passing

VA officials, with their backs to the wall, defending themselves against the brutality charges, characteristically passed the buck to the Army for "dumping" alleged incompetents and misfits on them. Col. Louis F. Verdel, Southern-born manager of the Northport hospital, disparaged the Negro unit there in testimony before the Rankin Committee. He said he didn't want Negroes manning his wards, and demanded that they be replaced by white soldiers.

Nobody thought of inviting the Rankin-smeared Negro soldiers at Northport to give their version to the Committee as a matter of fair play. The picture the American public got was an ugly one: Negro soldiers were brutally beating up defenseless white veterans who were mentally sick.

During the past week, I've talked to several of the Negro soldiers stationed at the Northport hospital. Their story, together with official evidence and the testimony of Northport psychiatrists who know them, gives the lie to Rankin.

Blame on Accusers

It shows that the real blame for conditions at Northport rests not on the accused but on the accusers—the buckpassing executives of the VA who, to save their own skins, made scapegoats of a group of enlisted men without giving them a chance to defend themselves.

Why was nothing said about the Negro soldier-attendant who was found unconscious on the floor of Ward 6 at Northport, beaten up by disturbed patients with whom he was left alone?

Why was nothing said about another attendant, likewise alone in a ward, who is now in a hospital with three broken ribs after having been beaten up and trampled upon by a homicidal patient?

Why was nothing said about the heroic action of two Negro soldier-attendants in subduing a homicidal patient in Ward 61 who was running amok in a ward brandishing a knife stolen from the dining room and threatening to kill his fellow-patients?

Why was nothing said of the many injuries—including broken ribs and fractured limbs—sustained by Negro soldier-attendants at Northport at the hands of acutely disturbed patients while they were supervising crowded wards alone, with no training in methods of handling violent patients without hurting them?

Why was nothing said about the fact that none of the court-martialed soldiers was charged with malicious unprovoked brutality, and that in each instance, according to Gen. Terry, the brutality charge arose from an emergency situation in which the accused man was trying to subdue a patient attacking either a fellow-patient or the attendant himself?

The True Facts

Striking or kicking a mental patient is indefensible under any circumstances—provided that the attendant is trained. But I insist that you can't throw an untrained person—soldier or civilian—on the ward of a mental hospital, leave him alone with a large group of patients in all stages of emotional disturbance, and expect him to handle critical situations without injury to himself or his wards. And that's what happened at Northport. The skincolor of the attendants involved had nothing to do with the case.

Two years ago, Veterans Administrator Frank T. Hines, faced with a disastrous depletion of doctors and attendants in his hospital system, desperately appealed to the U. S. Army to assign soldiers to man the hospital wards. The Army agreed to assign a maximum of 8,000 enlisted men for duty in VA hospitals, in addition to several hundred medical officers. That agreement has been carried out.

Understaffed

The Army's first directive on this matter specified that only Negro soldiers be assigned to VA hospitals. The first batch of soldiers assigned to the Northport hospital came from Madison Barracks and Pine Camp in upstate New York. A member of this first contingent, still at Northport, told me:

"We weren't told where we were being sent. We weren't asked. We didn't volunteer. We were dismayed when we learned we were assigned to an 'insane asylum.' We naturally resented the fact that only Negro soldiers were told to take this work, which was considered too menial for whites. We didn't know how to handle 'crazy' people. We weren't told how. We got one lecture the first day, that's all. Then we were put on the wards and left on our own."

Eventually, the Negro soldier personnel at Northport was increased to 300, as against only 150 civilian attendants. (Northport, overcrowded with 2800 patients, needed a minimum of 500 attendants before the soldiers arrived to relieve the shortage.)

The Army made no effort to select suitable personnel for hospital assignments. The Veterans Administration never requested proper selection. Men were assigned to the VA mental hospitals willy-nilly, regardless of suitability. At first, the men were simply re-assigned to VA duty regardless of their wishes; in recent months they were asked to volunteer.

One non-commissioned officer, a Negro, sent to Northport from Fort Dix, said:

"The day we arrived, we got an hour's lecture from the chief attendant. It was very dull and most of us fell asleep. We were put on the wards the next day. Nobody told us what to do, except that we were supposed to keep the patients in order and not to mistreat or manhandle them.

Felt Unwelcome

"Nothing was done to try to make us feel welcome. We weren't given any recreational facilities. When we tried to get into the Northport USO, we were politely told that it was for white soldiers only. There was no USO for us Negroes.

"We went into the Army to fight. We never thought we'd be assigned to take care of 'insane' patients. Many of us who wouldn't have feared facing the enemy's bullets were scared to death of having to deal with men off their nut.

"We are supposed to holler for help if a fight breaks out among the patients. But a decent guy doesn't like to hang around waiting for help while two patients are committing mayhem on each other."

Gripes

Here are some of the main gripes of the soldiers assigned to attendant duty at Northport:

¶ They were doing civilian work at Army pay ($50 a month).

¶ They were replacing civilian attendants who had quit to go into well-paying war work at the nearby Grumman aircraft plant and other war-industry jobs. Their jobs as attendants hadn't been regarded as essential; now these same jobs were considered so essential that soldiers had to be assigned to them.

¶ The Negro soldiers felt they were in a hostile atmosphere, unwanted and even resented. Nothing was done to build up their morale.

¶ They feel that they have been pushed around by VA officials.

Despite the general resentment, a number of Negro soldiers became so interested in their jobs that they have decided to follow mental hospital work as a career after their discharge from the Army. Among these is Sgt. Reginald Armstrong, of New York City. Sgt. Armstrong, a man with forethought, obtained recommendations from Lt. Col. H. E. Foster, formerly clinical director of the Northport hospital who recently was named head of the veterans' hospital at Lyons, New Jersey, and Anthony De Groot, chief of the physical therapy department at Northport.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
PRESS
Circ. D. 18,257 - S. 14,682
AUG 25 1945

Army's Policy Better

The local Rheims Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, disapproves the establishment of hospitals for the exclusive use of Negro war veterans staffed by Negro doctors and nurses only.

That stand will strike many as both courageous and sound.

When "Jim Crow" is applied to any situation it only accentuates racial differences.

Segregation is an appeasement, not a frank facing of the prejudice devil as an evil that must be eradicated if human beings are ever to get along amicably.

The world cannot expect to move fast in solving the race problem. Wise men of all colors realize this and are patient.

But there is no good purpose served by compromising with makeshifts and opiates that only agitate and prolong the evil.

General Bradley Rejects Demand Segregation End

12-10-45
Courier-Journal

Washington, Dec. 9 (U.P.)—Negro leaders are demanding that General Omar N. Bradley end segregation in Southern veterans' hospitals but he has refused, it was revealed tonight.

Maj. Gen. Paul R. Hawley, Bradley's acting surgeon general, has cautioned him that the Veterans Administration cannot be made an agency for social change and that it must follow local custom.

Louisville, Ky.

Fanned by the Negro press, the issue has become one of Bradley's big headaches. His position has been that segregation will be eliminated as local custom changes.

Scene at Halloran General Hospital

Staten Island

Editor, Daily Worker:

I am a patient here at Halloran General Hospital sympathetic with the work your paper is carrying out, and I saw something here tonight which should be of interest to anyone working toward better relationships between the Negroes and whites of our country.

About eight o'clock tonight, I came out of the main building here onto the street where I saw a bunch of veterans, some in wheel chairs — some on crutches — grouped informally around a pleasant colored boy who was entertaining them with songs. He had a pretty crumby guitar but nevertheless was giving out with some sweet strains. The fellows loved it and called out more and more requests after he'd finish. For nearly half an hour we heard the old melodies: He was calm and almost professional in his manner and had the ability to make patter out of the small talk that would go between each number. It started getting pretty dark so we decided to go inside and try to scrape up an audience in the wards somewhere. By now there were four or five WACs and about fifteen patients listening. 7-14

One of the Ambulances going down the street even stopped to let the guy inside hear the boy sing. It was really a helluva swell thing to witness, I assure you. Well, we went back into Bldg. 2 and found out from a nurse that there was an officer in the officer's ward that had yellow jaundice and was in isolation; so we decided that wouldn't make a bad place to entertain. So John (the singer) went in and sang some more to this officer and then we broke up and went to our various wards. Daily Worker

But the big thing is that this boy and his songs and pleasant, cheerful manner really had a terrific effect on these fellas. I talked with one on the way back to my ward and he told me that all his life he had hated Negroes until he had gone overseas, at which time he fought in one of the few mixed race divisions. Here he saw heroism from men regardless of their color and it sunk in and he hasn't lost that feeling of guilt he had had for hating them so all his life. 7-14-45

He told me that hearing this colored lad here tonight brought back that feeling to him again and he wanted to know what the hell caused it. I told him to spread his experiences with the other men and not to tolerate the hate talk that you hear occasionally around here—to combat it with facts of his own personal experience. So we went our ways but I was so moved by the effect of it all that I decided it would make good reading for the public, so here it is.

JACK.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
UNION
Cir. D. 7,272

AUG 25 1945

Oppose Hospital For Negro Vets

Opposition to the creation of special Negro hospitals for veterans staffed by Negro doctors and nurses was expressed by the Rheims Post No. 554, Veterans of Foreign Wars at its meeting Thursday night.

The action followed a movement launched here on the day previous by the executive committee, National Medical Association, which calls for Negro hospitals to be established by the Veterans' Administration. The National Medical Association is made up of the country's leading Negro physicians.

In adopting a resolution opposing the Negro hospitals, the Rheims Post promised to support any move to have colored doctors and nurses included in all veterans' hospitals.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
PRESS
Circ. D. 18,257 - S. 14,682

AUG 23 1945

Negro Veterans Need Hospitals

Medical Men Urge Plans

The National Medical Association executive board in their Wednesday afternoon session held at the Arctic Avenue Branch YMCA appointed a committee to contact the head of the Veterans' Administration for the purpose of suggesting plans that will help to improve the veterans' facilities. The board recommended the establishing of facilities wherever it is necessary with a larger participation of Negro doctors and nurses in care of Negro veterans.

Dr. A. C. Terrence, chairman of the public relations, stated that the executive board had completed plans for a nationwide program through the press and radio to aid in the improvement of health.

The board recommended that Dr. Charles R. Drew, eminent physician and surgeon of the Freedman Hospital in Washington, D. C., be given the Distinguished Service Award of the National Medical Association because of his outstanding work in blood plasma.

Those present were Drs. E. I. Robinson, president of the National Medical Association of Los Angeles, California; A. C. Terrence, Public Relations chairman, of Opolusa, La.; J. D. Wilson, Detroit, Mich.; Leo S. Butler, Baton Rouge, La.; W. C. Atkinson, Coatesville, Pa.; W. G. Alexander, past president of National Medical Association, Orange, N. J.; L. H. B. Foote, Florida A. and M. College, in Tallahassee, Fla.; Robert M. Hendrick, chief of staff of New St. John Hospital, Gary, Ind.; G. Hamilton Francis, Norfolk, Va.; C. Herbert Marshall, Washington, D. C.; J. A. Long Jr., Palatka, Fla.; J. A. Lattimore, Louisville, Ky.; John T. Given, La.; William A. Morman, St. Louis, Mo.; A. E. Lee, St. Louis; E. T. Taylor, St. Louis, Mo.; J. S. Gathing, Houston, Tex.; P. M. Murray, New York City; J. E. Wallace, Cleveland, Ohio; John P. Turner, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mae McCarroll, Newark, N. J.; John A. Avery, Montclair, N. J.; H. A. Parris, Red Square, N. C.; R. M. Fowler, Atlantic City; H. H. Walker; W. A. Young, president-elect, of St. Louis, Mo.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
PRESS
Circ. D. 18,257 - S. 14,682

AUG 25 1945

Negro Veterans' Hospital Opposed

Rheims Post Against Proposal

Opposition to the creation of special Negro hospitals for veterans staffed by Negro doctors and nurses was expressed by the Rheims Post No. 554, Veterans of Foreign Wars at its meeting Thursday night.

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In adopting a resolution opposing the Negro hospitals, the Rheims Post promised to support any move to have colored doctors and nurses included in all veterans' hospitals.

A copy of the resolution will be sent to the Veterans' Administration and to members of Congress. Other posts of the VFW and the American Legion will be asked to take similar action. The matter will be discussed at the Tri-County Council, VFW, at a meeting in the All Wars Memorial Home on Sept. 4.

"I have been in the veterans' hospitals several times and I have always received 100 per cent treatment," said Harold C. Parsons, commander of Rheims Post. "We do not want segregated hospitals. We all fought together in two wars and we want to be hospitalized the same way."

Parsons said the post would work with other veterans' organizations in seeking the creation of a veterans' hospital in or near Somers Point.

A Soldier on Senator Bilbo

SIR: I have just read of Senator Bilbo's call for segregation in his mealy-mouthed warning of racial strife in Detroit.

I wish the Senator could see this ward. Here are five Negroes, two Filipinos, a Japanese Filipino, a Nisei Japanese, a full-blooded Hawaiian, and about 17 native Americans, some of various foreign parentages and some of them from the Deep South. I should like the Senator to see how all of those more able help their less able buddies—those who can walk pushing those in wheel chairs, those on crutches hobbling to the PX on errands for their at present bed-ridden buddies, and everyone helping everyone else to dress, to light cigarettes, to write letters—in complete harmony, with no regard for color or nationality. I should like the Senator to come to this ward, so that we could all get out of bed and throw him out—together.

c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. SGT. K. L. M.

Hospital For Negro Veterans Assured In Jefferson County

Birmingham Reporter
Birmingham, Ala.

A veterans hospital for Negroes, equipped with 300 beds, is to be erected in Jefferson County near Birmingham. 8-25-45

Carl Wiegand, chairman of a local veterans hospital committee, who announced this yesterday, said his committee had been informed that a 664-bed veterans hospital for white veterans, which is also to be erected in Jefferson County, had been confused with the Negro hospital. This accounted for an earlier report from Washington this week that an approved hospital was to be equipped with 300 beds. It was thought here that this referred to the white hospital.

The Negro hospital will be an annex to one at Tuskegee and will probably be of a specialized type rather than a general medical hospital, Wiegand said he understood. The local unit would serve Negro veterans from the northern part of the state. Wiegand said that 15,000 Negro veterans alone come from Jefferson County.

Site for the Negro hospital will be selected by Mr. Wiegand's committee, other members of which are Roy Johnson and Hugh Starnes. This committee will also select the site for the white hospital. Shades Mountain has been favored as the site for this latter hospital.

All Negro Hospital Meets Opposition

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

WASHINGTON. — (A N P) — The proposed establishment of an all-Negro veterans' hospital in Mississippi, was opposed this week by representatives of 22 national labor, church, fraternal and professional organizations who attacked the proposal as "a direct insult to the Negroes of America."

Meeting at the offices of the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha soroity, Thursday night, members of the group voiced their objection to the establishment of any veterans' hospital on a jim-crow basis. 8-24-45

They were considerably more bitter, however, in their denunciation of the proposal for the establishment of a veterans' hospital in a state which has race hatred and intolerance the law of the land.

Lashing out at "previous commitments," which, according to Veterans' Administration officials, "virtually assure construction of the hospital at Mound Bayou or Greenwood, Miss.," members of the delegation sent wires to President Truman; Gen. Bradley, Veterans administration head; to members of the federal board of hospitalization; to Congressman L. Dawson; Robert L. Hannegan, and to Harold D. South, director of the bureau of the budget. 8-24-45

VA Moves Worker to Quiet Protest

The Afro-American
Baltimore, MD.

WASHINGTON — (AFRO Bureau)—How many veterans are needed in any hospital before a recreation program is necessary?

That is the question which revolves around the transfer of Miss Ann Hartwell from the Veterans' Hospital at Murfreesboro, Tenn., to Tuskegee by the Administration this week.

In answer to the query as to why Miss Hartwell was transferred after the AFRO had learned that whites had objected to her presence, it was reported that there were not enough colored patients at Murfreesboro to justify her employment.

Records show that there are 212 colored patients occupying one ward at the hospital. The present enrollment at Tuskegee is nearly 2,000. 12-13-45

Didn't Know Racial Identity

All indications point to the possible fact that the racial identity of Miss Hartwell was not known when she was assigned to the Tennessee clinic as she was lost of pay or grade. transferred from the Camp Pos- The national office said they ton War Relocation Center at no personal information on Phoenix, Ariz., where she had Miss Hartwell other than a tele- made a fine record working among the Japanese Internees. The Veterans' Administration stating her willingness to transferred to Tuskegee on a temporary basis until her services can be utilized elsewhere without the transfer. 11-15-45

According to the Veterans' Administration Miss Hartwell was

Col. Dibble Silent on Hospital Charges

Afro-American

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (NNPA—) Col. Eugene H. Dibble Jr., manager of the Veterans' Administration Hospital here, last Saturday declined to comment on reports that he favored separate hospitals for colored veterans. 2-26-46

"At the present time, I am an officer in the United States Army, assigned to the Veterans' Administration for duty," said Col. Dibble. "In this status, it would be very inappropriate for me to enter into any controversial issues."

Vets' Administration Head Deaf To Appeal for Negro Assistants

Washington Tribune — D.C.

2-10-45

By HARRY McALPIN

Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, head of the Veterans' Administration, does not see the need of a Negro assistant administrator, he told this correspondent in an exclusive interview here last week.

He is aware of the desire and the demand for such a position coming from Negro groups.

He has been visited by several delegations and representatives of various organizations, one of which sent him a lengthy memorandum on December 16, signed by Mrs. Norma E. Boyd, national chairman of the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the AKA; James C. Arnold of the YMCA; E. Franlin Frazier, professor of sociology at Howard University; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Rev. William H. Jernagin, director of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, and Mrs. Thomasinao Johnson, legislative representative of the Non-Partisan Council.

But the General believes the Veterans' Administration is administered fairly and squarely for all Americans, including Negroes.

2-10-45

Wants no Outsiders

He was particularly opposed to taking someone from the outside for such a job even if he did create an assistant administrator's job for a Negro. Such an outside person would not know the Veterans' Administration's workings and policies, he said.

If he made such a move, he would be inclined to consider persons already in the organization—such as Dr. Eugene Dibble, head of the Tuskegee Veterans' Facility, on whom he relies now for certain advice concerning Negroes, or Ernest J. Davis, a reviewer in the adjudication division of the Administration in Washington, who recently has been detailed to other duties of a confidential nature, according to the Public Relations office.

In the same interview, however, the General said he used to get some "very excellent" advice from the late Dr. Robert Russell Moton, former president of Tuskegee Institute, who he recognized as a close follower of Booker T. Washington.

None Above Clerk

Despite the General's apparent pride in the fact that there are several thousand Negro employees connected with the Veterans' Administration throughout the country, the representatives of several national organizations listed above who wrote him on December 16, point out in the memorandum that some of 5,000 employees of the agency in Washington, with the exception of a half dozen or so, no Negroes are above the position of clerk, and that not more than six or seven Negro employees receive salaries of more than $2,000 a year.

References to the Tuskegee Veterans' Facility as a Jim Crow hospital irk General Hines. He looks on the Tuskegee hospital as a great achievement. He had planned, and so told a Congressional Committee, to set up one or two more all-Negro facilities, perhaps in Mississippi or Alabama.

Wants No Outsider

But he showed, during our interview that he is reconsidering this proposal. So much criticism of the separate facility has been received by him, resenting the Government-sponsored segregation, that he thinks plans may be worked out for including the expected increase in the number of Negro hospital cases in the general expansion program.

He says there is a great deal of misunderstanding of the Administration's policies and practices in the handling of Negro patients outside of Tuskegee. There are Negro patients in other veteran hospitals, where the institutions are divided into wards according to the maladies or surgical needs of the patients.

When there are a sufficient number of Negroes with the same malady to make up a separate ward, they find, the general states, that the Negroes prefer to be together. That is why Negro wards are maintained in some of the institutions, he says.

2-10-45

Millions Affected

The Veterans' Administration is spread out to touch the lives of about 15,000,000 veterans, and through General Hines as Administrator of Rehabilitation and Re-employment, the lives also of about 25,000,000 war workers who will have to be relocated during the reconversion period. These figures will include about 1,000,000 Negro veterans and 1½ to 2 million Negro war workers.

Despite these facts, however, and despite a resolution sent him by several national organizations—declaring that due to the present war, approximately one-third of the total population of the United States, including approximately 4 million colored citizens are or will become potential beneficiaries of the laws administred by the Veterans' Administration, which will result in a tremendous expansion of that agency and its activities—General Hines prefers to operate without benefit of counsel on the many peculiar problems affecting Negroes arising from the discriminatory practices prevalent in America.

Hines Ignores Negro Protests

P.M. N.Y. 2-6-45

2-6-45

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Veterans Administrator Frank T. Hines has served notice that he plans to continue action on proposals to build a second all-Negro hospital in the South despite protests from Negro leaders.

In a letter to the Washington Office of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) Hines made clear that the decision would not be altered.

2-6-45

Leslie S. Perry, Administrative Assistant of the NAACP, had protested "the extension of Jim Crowism" by the establishment of another "solid colored hospital." Perry and other Negro leaders feel the present all-Negro veterans hospital at Tuskegee, Ala., was a mistake and they regard the proposal to build another Jim Crow hospital as a fresh slap at Negroes.

"I cannot admit," Hines wrote Perry "that the establishment and administration of our hospital at Tuskegee for the treatment of Negro patients and fully staffed by Negro personnel, has in any way been a reflection upon the Negro race, or that it does not successfully meet a definite need for Negro facilities in the southeastern area."

2-6-45

Then plainly indicating that the Negro protests will go unheeded, Hines said:

"This same need obtains elsewhere in the South.

"In my opinion these institutions manned by Negro personnel represent a splendid contribution by your race in our program of service to veterans.

"Naturally, these colored institutions serve only the veterans in the general areas of their location, and in other areas the hospitalization needs of the Negro veterans are met by the hospital facilities of the Veterans Administration in these areas."

Hines pointed out that the 6,690 Negro veterans now undergoing hospitalization by the VA (Veterans Administration) are being cared for in 73 different facilities of the VA (out of 94 in the U. S. A.), and in 31 of these . . . the Negro patient population exceeds 50."

Perry had also complained to Hines of the refusal of the VA to upgrade Negro employes to appoint Negroes from outside the VA to policy-making positions. He charged that of 57 policy-making jobs in the VA, not one is held by a Negro, despite the fact that 10 per cent of the men in the armed forces are Negroes.

2-6-45

Hines replied that promotions within the VA are solely on the basis of "efficiency, qualifications, experience and training" and for that reason "there does not appear to be any justification for identifying Negroes on our rolls as a group separate and apart from other employes." He added that the VA's promotion policy considers all employes "in terms of their contribution to the organization."

The VA administrator said that of the organization's 55,343 employes, some 5900 are Negroes, "which is slightly more than 10 per cent of our strength."

"Increasingly," Hines added, "I am confident you will find our employment of Negroes in the higher grades, and more recently there have been appointed three Negro junior investigators in grade CAF-9 to carry out certain assignments for our investigation division." One of the three represented a promotion of a Negro employe within the VA ranks.

2-6-45

A CAF-9 job in the Government pays $3200 a year.

Hines Ignores Protests Against

Washington Tribune — D.C. 2-10-45

Despite protests from the NAACP and Negro leaders against the plan to construct separate hospital facilities for Negroes, Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Veterans' Administrator, this week, made it clear that he still plans to build a second all-Negro hospital in Dixie and that his decision will not be altered.

The administrator clarified his position in a letter to Leslie Perry, administrative assistant of the Washington NAACP, who had previously, in a letter, expressed "irrevocable opposition to the extension of jim crowism by the Veterans' Administration, whether under the guise of so-called 'solid colored hospital' or otherwise."

"We again must urge," said

Mr. Perry, "that Negro employees be integrated in the Veterans' Administration at their proper skills and levels, and that Negro patients be hospitalized in your facilities on the basis of medical need and not of color."

New Slap in Face

2-10-45

He said further that Negro leaders regard the all-Negro veterans' hospital at Tuskegee is a mistake and plans to build another is a new slap in the face of the Negro.

"I cannot admit," General Hines answered, "that the establishment and administration of our hospital at Tuskegee for the treatment of Negro patients and fully staffed by Negro personnel, has in any way been a reflection upon the Negro race, or that it does not successfully meet a definite need for Negro facilities in the southeastern area."

Indications that the protests will be ignored are in the following language:

"This same need obtains elsewhere in the South. In my opinion these institutions manned by Negro personnel represent a splendid contribution by your race in our program of service to veterans," continued the administrator.

"Naturally, these colored institutions serve only the veterans in the general areas of their location, and in other areas the hospitalization needs of the Negro veterans are met by the hospital facilities of the Veterans' Administration in these areas."

None Help Make Policies

Mr Perry also had complained that the refusal of the Administration to upgrade Negro employees or to appoint Negroes from outside the Administration to policy-making positions. He charged that of 57 policy-making jobs in the VA, not one is held by a Negro, despite the fact that 10 per cent of the men in the armed forces are Negroes.

General Hines countered that promotions within the VA are solely on the basis of efficiency, qualifications, experience, and training and for that reason there does not appear to be any justification for identifying Negroes on our rolls as a group separate and apart from other employees.

3-10-45

5,900 Negroes Hired

The administrator said that of the VA's 55,343 employees, some 5,900 are Negroes, "which is slightly more than 10 per cent of our strength."

"Increasingly," continued the general, "I am confident you will find our employment of Negroes in the higher grades, and more recently there have been appointed three Negro junior investigators in grade CAF-9 (a Government job paying $3,200 a year) to carry out certain assignments for our investigation division."

HEADS HOSPITAL UNIT!

New York Age N.Y., N.Y.

Word from the War Department states that Capt. Robert S. Wilkinson, has been selected to head a new hospital unit in the Burma-India Theatre of Operations. Capt. Wilkinson, a prominent Harlem physician, contributed many outstanding articles to the surgical journals which are now quoted in Military Surgical Manuals.

2-24-45

He was formerly associated with Harlem Valley State Hospital as visiting surgeon, and consulting surgeon for Harlem Hospital. Capt. Wilkinson is a member of Phi Beta Kappa fraternity at Dartmouth College before entering Harvard Medical College.

Freedmen's Psychiatrist Lashes Vet. Administration's Policies

Washington Tribune 2-3-45

Washington, D.C.

Dr. Charles Prudhomme, head of neuro-physiology, acknowledged in many quarters as one of America's leading Negro psychiatrists, told the Capital Press Club, Wednesday, that the Veterans' Administration "needed a house cleaning from Hines and Griffith on down."

Dr. Prudhomme told newsgatherers of his experiences as a member of the Veterans' Hospital staff at Tuskegee Institute. He related a series of experiences that led him to resign in disgust.

He was especially bitter at the way Negroes were shuttled out of the Army on psycho-neurosis counts, in spite of the findings of he, and other Negro psychiatrists.

2-3-45

According to the doctor, Negro soldiers who become disgruntled at Army treatment are called "psycho-neurotics" by Army doctors and are sent to a Veterans' Hospital for further observation.

There, many are not found to have anything mentally wrong by Negro doctors, but a Veterans' board of review made up of whites, refuses to change the Army diagnosis.

Usually the Army diagnosis contains a report that the person under observation was suffering from a mental illness before induction in the Army, hence are not qualified to receive the benefits of an honorably discharged soldier.

Dr. Prudhomme told the press club that he was among 16 of the staff of 37 doctors on the Tuskegee Veterans' Hospital staff that left the institution during 1943. Thirteen of the 16 resigned their commissions, while three others were inducted into the Army as non-coms.

In his startling address he lashed out at the inept leadership of several persons connected with the Veterans' set up at Tuskegee.

Calif. Hospital Staffed By 25 Negro Nurses

Philadelphia Pa. Tribune 3-17-45

CAMP BEALE, Cal.—(ANP)—Headed by Capt. Della H. Raney, one of only three colored nurses holding this rank, 25 colored nurses now compose the entire nursing staff of the station hospital at Camp Beale.

Capt. Raney's staff of one 1st lieutenant and 23 second lieutenants from army states of the south and east was transferred here from Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. 3-17-45

Although colored are stationed at Camp Beale with the army service forces personnel replacement depot, work at the station hospital is with all races. Only a small percentage of the hospital patients are colored.

Capt. Raney has the distinction of being the first colored nurse to report for duty in World War II. When she joined the service she was serving as operating room superviser at the Lincoln hospital, Durham, N. C., from which she had graduated.

Among the nurses here are: 2nd Lts. Gladys S .Brown, Camden, N J.; Laverne F. Martin, Princess Anne, Md.; Louise K. Jenkins, York, Pa.; MARY J. MONDERE, Philadelphia; Thelma N. Reynolds, Atlantic City.

Save Bousfield's Job In Huachuca Shakeup

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

4-7-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Despite the coming shakeup at Fort Huachuca that will involve the shutdown of the all-Negro Station Hospital No. 1, Col. Midian O. Bousfield of Chicago, medical officer in charge, is assured of a high place in the army in the future.

The Defender learned this week that Bousfield will be retained in the army medical corps with the privilege of practically writing his own ticket although a number of other leading Negro doctors are being pressured out of the corps. 4-7-45

Army Surgeon General Norman Kirk, it is understood, wants Colonel Bousfield to develop further the army's program with respect to Negro medical personnel within the service. In this connection, it is considered likely that the new Bousfield assignment will be at the national level with over-all supervision of young Negro medical officers.

The War Department is taking extraordinary precautions in expediting the separation forms of those medics leaving the corps in order to avoid charges that the men are being involuntarily ousted. There are rumblings, however, that some extraneous factor not presently descernable may have helped the men who have decided to quit to make up their minds on the double quick.

Col. E. B. Maynard, white, will remain at Huachuca as post surgeon taking over the remnants of the station one hospital person el who stay, utilizing them on an integrated basis. 4-7-45

Embryoic steps have already been taken at the post with respect to integration and with satisfactory results, it is learned. According to information, integration has not met too much opposition from the office of the surgeon general.

The station hospital, scheduled for abolition following the removal of the 372nd Division which is due any day now, was formerly staffed with approximately 65 of the best Negro medics in the country.

PROVIDES SEPARATE, EQUAL HOSPITALS

The Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The Senate last Thursday passed the Hill-Burton hospital survey and construction bill carrying an amendment sponsored by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Non-Partisan Council and providing for separate-but-equal facilities for colored people in Jim Crow States. 12-16-45

Under the terms of the bill, six months after the legislation becomes effective, the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service with the approval of the Federal Hospital Council and the Federal Security Administration shall prescribe regulations on certain specified matters.

WITHOUT BIAS

One of these regulations would require that the state construction plan provide for adequate hospital facilities for the people of the state, without discrimination on account or race, creed or color.

Regulations also may require that an applicant for an individual hospital construction project give assurance to the State that it will serve all persons residing in the territorial area of the applicant.

But the joker in the three AKA Non-Partisan Council sponsored amendments is the proviso that it require the regulations do require a policy and the House plan provide for adequate hospital of no discrimination, they must, facilities for the people of the make an exception where separate hospital facilities are provided for separate population groups, if the construction plan makes provision on the basis of equitable facilities and services of the medical profession said the Hill-Barton bill will help perpetuate race segregation, with colored people standing to lose.

The bill would provide an outlay of an estimated $700,000,000 for the construction of hospitals and health centers.

12-16-45

In plain language, this provision, if finally approved by the President, will authorize by Federal law race segregation in States where Jim Crow practices prevail.

Colored leaders of the medical profession said the Hill-Barton bill will help perpetuate race segregation, with colored people standing to lose.

56e-1945

Stabbing Exposes Jim Crow Practices Against Negro Vets

The Informer Houston Texas 2-17-45

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Jimcrow hangs over the heads of American Negro war veterans at Hines hospital here.

That discovery was made last week when Robert Triplett, 23-year-old World War II veteran, stabbed and seriously wounded William T. Strader, a white patient from Danville, Va., during an argument over the use of Jimcrow toilet facilities. Federal authorities are holding Triplett pending the outcome of Strader's condition.

According to investigation from the manager down, Negro veterans have been compelled to live under a Jimcrow policy at Hines hospital that differentiated on such hospital facilities as toilets and dressing rooms and is reported to have demanded of them Dixie deference for doctors, nurses and other white hospital help.

Beside asking Negro veterans, men who have served in the Spanish-American war, the Mexican border conflict, World War I and II, to say "yes, sir" and "no, sir," racial identity signs are posted around in wash rooms and dressing rooms "in the best Dixie fashion," veteran commented.

"I have seen with my own eyes white patients use the colored toilet," remarked another disabled here. The Negro patients aren't trying to start trouble. All they want is fair treatment."

Young veterans are especially resentful of Jimcrowism. One explained he had "spent six months in army hospitals and hospital beats from Italy to Africa, back to the United States where white and colored patients were together and shared everything alike. 2-17-45

"I am not alone when I say it can be done," he said.

Admits Discrimination

Charles G. Beck, hospital manager, admits racial discrimination and segregation but argues that "it is just a custom that seems to be followed in all the veterans' hospitals."

Beck said that Negro and white patients do eat in the same dining rooms and use the same recreational facilities. Negro patients are separated into rooms and wards according to their illness, he revealed.

Triplett's trouble started when he and a fellow patient, Fred D. Mitchell, broke the "unwritten anti-Negro law" Sunday by using a "white" toilet when the one labeled "colored" was in use. Mitchell explained that it was a case of necessity.

"Ours was crowded and there was nothing else to do," Mitchell said. "We were ordered out by an attendant who became very nasty about it." 2-17-45

Hasty preparations are being made by indignant civic leaders to probe deeper into the race virus that has been exposed by Triplett's stabbing. An investigation into the altercation is being launched by the Cook County Bar Association and the NAACP has already announced its intention of defending the young soldier when he comes to trial.

South and Germans Partners

The Call Kansas City Kansas 2-9-45

Negroes Moved From Mess Hall On Nazi 'Order'

By L. J. PERRY

TAMPA, Fla. — The German prisoners of war have started a system of working hand in glove with the Bourbon South in giving the Negro soldiers another type of slap in the face.

On Monday, Jan. 22, a group of German prisoners who are working as kitchen police and cooks' assistants at the base hospital of MacDill Field, near Tampa, Fla., refused to work if Negro military patients were continued permission to eat in the same hospital mess hall with the white patients, even though these Negro patients ate on separate sides of the mess hall. 2-9-45

Into Separate Halls

Strange enough, the hospital officials, who stated they were acting on orders from Washington, immediately began a system of feeding the colored military and civilian personnel in a separate mess hall entirely. As if by compromise, however, the colored personnel were then given white cooks in their segregated mess hall. 2-9-45

As this goes to press, both colored military patients and civilian employes state that the practice is still in effect. It has long been a policy here at this post where the Negro strength now approximates that of the white section, to hospitalize white and colored military personnel in the same wards even though they are filled with the white patients from one end toward the middle and the colored from the other end toward the middle. This same general policy was practiced in the hospital mess hall with colored military and civilian personnel eating on one side with the whites on the other. 2-9-45

Humiliation and Disgust

Feeling among the colored soldiers, who come largely under the command of the Engineer Aviation Unit Training Center, runs from humiliation to utter disgust, with a consequent lowering of morale. Yet, these soldiers are fearful of making any representations of an official nature for fear of courting round-about retaliation. Protests to minor officials of the Engineer Aviation Unit Training Center have met with the usual sympathetic response but with no action to implement it.

No official announcement has been forthcoming from either Col. Harold W. Kohl, who commands the base hospital, or from Capt. George R. Gresham who commands the German prisoner-of-war camp at this post. It appears that this latest form of Nazi-South segregation ties in with recent clamorings on the part of white Tampans against the excellent food given German prisoners in contrast to the rations Tampans are getting.

'We Play Your Game'

Just as this controversy over differences in weekly menus between Tampans and German prisoners was at its height, along came the German prisoner protest against the mess hall arrangements in the base hospital, which seemingly could have been an overture to white Tampans to "Lay off. Go easy on us. We play your game."

Just what action, if any, Col. Reynolds J. Burt intends to take is not known. Col. Burt commands the Engineer Aviation Training Center, but allows his administrative director, Lt. Col. Robert F. Hoffman, to handle such ticklish matters. It long has been known that Hoffman's attitude toward Negro troops under his command has been a little short of tolerant. His chief stock in trade has usually been the appeasment of entrenched southern interests, even though it meant the further inconvenience to his Negro personnel.

GERMAN PRISONERS PUT NAZISM INTO PRACTICE IN U. S. HOSPITAL

Plaindealer Kansas City Kansas 2-9-45

Release by L. J. Perry
(Continental Features)

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Vets Jim-Crowed At Hines Hospital; Man Stabbed In Row Over Rules

Chicago Defender Ill. 2-17-45

BY ROBERT LUCAS

Like a festering sore the Jim Crow hospital burst open this week, Crow situation at Hines Veteran's spewing out the rotten pus of race hate and discrimination.

A fight between a Negro patient and a white patient Sunday morning brought into the open the rank discrimination practiced against not only Negro veterans but Negro staff members as well.

Robert Triplett, 23-year-old World War II veteran, stabbed and seriously wounded William T. Strader, a white patient from Dan-

ville, Virginia, during an argument over the use of Jim Crow toliet facilities.

Jim Crow Policy Exposed

Behind Sunday's outbreak and another less serious one since then, lies the whole Veterans' Administration's policy of Jim Crow for colored patients. 2-17-45

Investigation by the Chicago Defender, prompted by inquiries of scores of individuals, brought to light evidence of the special treatment for Negroes who have seen action in the Spanish-American war, the Mexican border conflict, and World Wars I and II.

Negro patients must use the Jim Crow toilets assigned to them. In many cases a bathroom with accommodations for two men must serve 18 men in a ward.

Separate Dressing Rooms

Negro employees of the hospital must use separate dressing rooms and toilets, often going down three floors to reach the "colored" washrooms on the first floor.

In at least one instance, Negro patients have been ordered to say "Yes, sir" and "No, sir" to doctors, although they are no longer in the army and not required to address officers in this manner.

Negro patients at one time recently were directed to their Jim Crow toilets by painted signs. One patient admitted that he had torn one of them down.

The Negro patients, especially the younger ones, veterans of World War II, are becoming more and more resentful. While they deplore such violent outbreaks as occurred Sunday, they expressed the fear that similar incidents are likely to occur.

"I have seen with my own eyes the white patients use the colored toilet," said a former patient. "The Negro patients aren't trying to start trouble. All they want is fair treatment." 2-17-45

Triplett and a fellow patient, Fred D. Mitchell, World War I vet, broke this "unwritten law" Sunday when they used a "white" toilet.

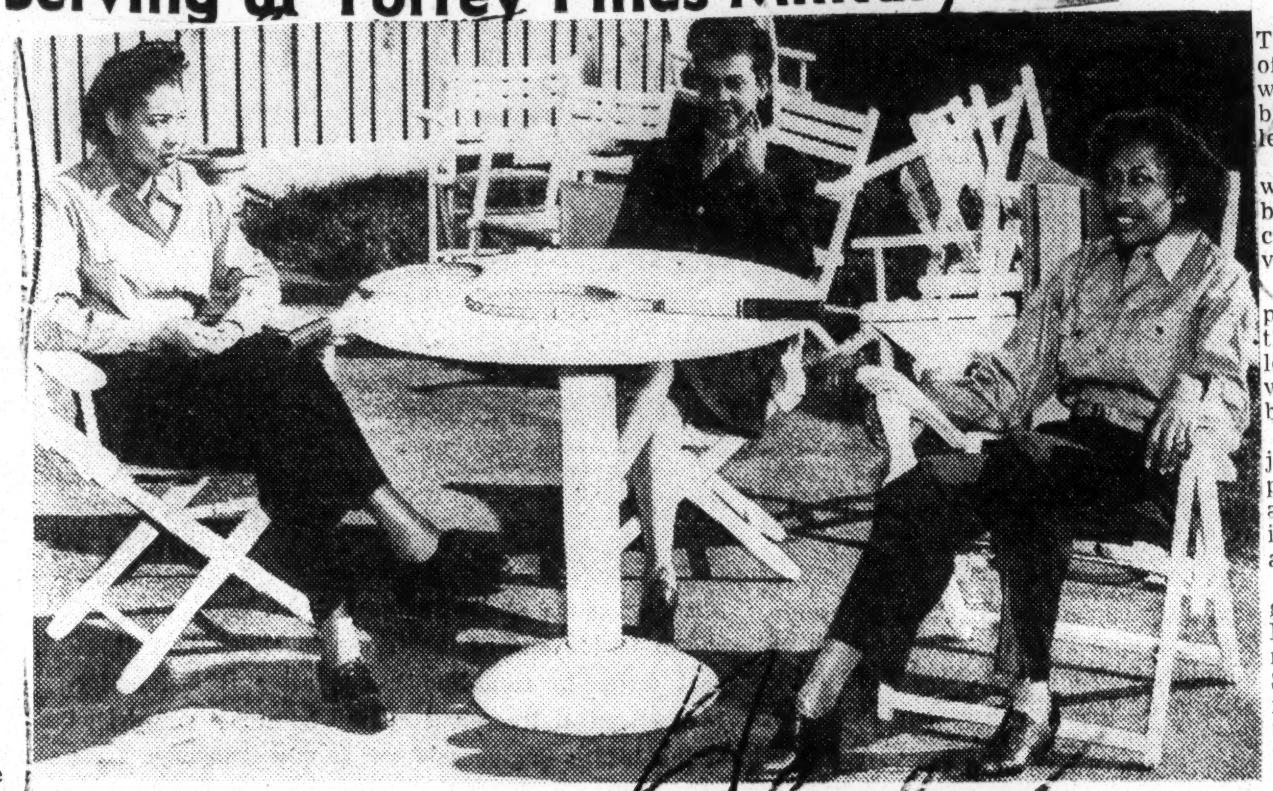
"It was a case of necessity," said Mitchell. "Ours was crowded and there was nothing else to do. We were ordered out by an attendant who became very nasty about it."

Later in the day Triplett became involved in an argument with another attendant when he overheard him make slurring remarks about Negroes, eye witnesses reported. Strader came charging out of his room and attacked Triplett without warning, they said. During the fight that ensued Strader was stabbed. 2-17-45

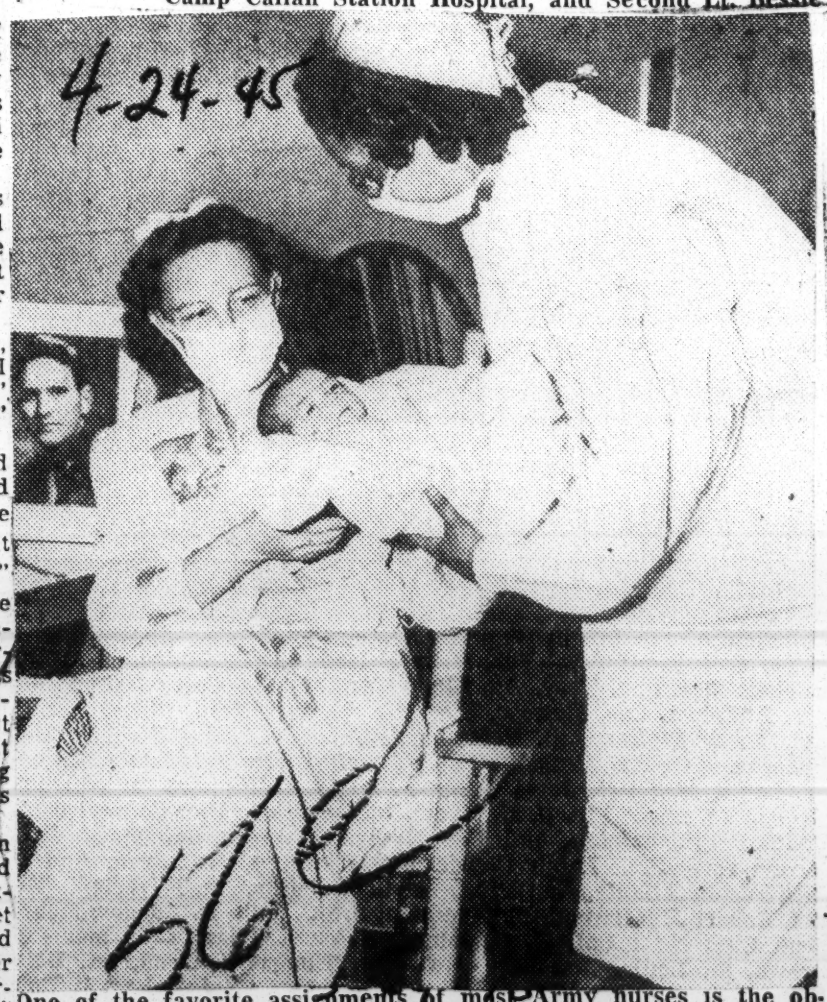
Coleman Moore said that when he was recently assigned to a bed in Ward B-360 he was given explicit directions to use the toilet assigned to colored men. He asked why this was necessary, and after some evasiveness was told that orders had come from "Washington."

Triplett, who was to have been arraigned Tuesday, is being held by Federal authorities.

Army Has No Regrets with These Serving at Torrey Pines Military Post



Taking time out from their arduous duties for a bit of rest are, left to right, Second Lt. Sophronia E. Graham, Roanoke, Va.; First Lt. Crystalee Maxwell, Los Angeles, Calif., principal chief nurse at the Camp Callan Station Hospital, and Second Lt. Bessie O. Hart, Steelton, Pa.



4-24-45

One of the favorite assignments of most Army nurses is the obstetrics ward. Here, Second Lt. Bessie O. Hart, of Steelton, Pa., is shown handling a "brand new" baby to her young mother, wife of an Army officer overseas. Maternity care for wives of military personnel is provided at the Station Hospital.

4-24-45

Expert, efficient care is administered a patient at the Camp Callan Station Hospital, San Diego, Calif., by Second Lieutenant Thelma Lambert, of Plainsville, N.J., ward nurse. She is taking pulse and temperature as a post-operative precaution. Sixteen young colored women, all commissioned officers of the Army Nurse Corps, are serving at the Torrey Pines military post.

Tuskegee Hospital To Teach Blind Vets

Birmingham Ala. News

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 — The Tuskegee Veterans Hospital is one of nine centers in the country where blind instructors will teach blinded soldiers to live the sightless life. 12-16-45

In World War II, 1,200 soldiers were blinded. Of these, 680 have been discharged and returned to civilian life, and 520 are still in veteran's centers.

The Veterans Administration plans instruction which will make the men self-reliant. They will learn Braille, use of Braille typewriters and watches, use of talking books. 12-16-45

They will learn perception of objects and sounds, recognition of people, how to get about without aid, personal hygiene, pencil writing, use of hand tools, use of hands and games.

First instructor appointed to begin introducing the plan is George Hackenburg, for 17 years a field representative of the Pennsylvania State Council for the Blind, and more recently a dictaphone operator for the Veterans Administration.

The special instruction centers will be opened at the hospitals in the Bronx and Tuskegee, and in seven VA homes.

Asks Probe Of Veterans' Administration

Informer Houston, Tex 2-24-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—An investigation of the Veterans' Administration because of its flagrant discrimination against Negro citizens was urged upon the House Military Affairs committee during hearings last week on the Nurse Draft bill by Mrs. Thomasina Johnson, executive secretary of the National Non-Partisan Council of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. 2-24-45

Mrs. Jonhson pointed out that Negro doctors are not allowed to serve in any of the 93 hospitals under the jurisdiction of the VA except at Tuskegee. Negro nurses, she said, are allowed to nurse in only 4 — Tuskegee, Otean, N. C., Waco, Tex., and Kecougtan, Va.

"We have been unalterably opposed to the erection of any other all-Negro hospitals for Negroes for many reasons," she declared. "Yet, General Hines (administrator of the Veterans' Administration) in recent testimony says that he plans to build other all-Negro hospitals.

"We were interested to note from Col. Ijam's testimony (assistant administrator of (VA) that Gen. Hines had had some conferences on this matter with some groups. We are one of the groups and the conference was most unsatisfactory," she told the committee. 2-24-45

"General Hines speaks in glowing terms of Tuskegee and its excellence, but fails to say that this is the one hospital in 93 where Negro physicians may serve, to say nothing of segregating persons who have offered their very lives for the four freedoms, equality and for their country."

She told the Military Affairs committee that it was interesting to note, too that Col. Ijams stated that very few of the Cadet Nurses who finish their training in the Veterans' hospitals remain there to work. She pointed out that Tuskegee is the only Veterans' Administration hospital where Negro cadet nurses are allowed to finish training.

"In spite of a shortage of 1,000 nurses in the Veterans' Administration hospitals," she said, "no Negro nurse need apply except for Tuskegee, Oteen, Waco and Kecoughtan." 2-24-45

2,000 Negro Nurses Available

She criticized the testimony of Col. Ijams that the Veterans had tried every possible source to get nurses. "There are 2,000 Negro nurses available— but he has not tried them," she stated.

"Until such time as the Veterans' Administration is investigated, as would certainly seem to be needed on many scores if recent investigations by one of the leading dailies are to any degree true, and until necessary corrections are made—it will prove futile and serve no worthwhile purpose to add compulsion to the already existing conditions."

Veterans Hospitals To Benefit By Funds

Birmingham News 2-6-45 Ala.

Veterans Hospitals at Tuscaloosa and Tuskegee would benefit from a $179,339,886 program for the nation recommended to Congress Monday by the House appropriations committee.

The Associated Press reported that the program includes addition of 300 beds to veteran hospital facilities in Alabama and Mississippi for treatment of general medical and surgical Negro patients and 200 beds for treatment of Negro tuberculosis patients. Cost of the proposal was estimated at $3,049,830.

An expenditure of $25,000 was recommended to supplement veterans hospital facilities at Tuscaloosa and a recommendation was made for $30,000 expenditure at Tuskegee for erection of an administration building. 2-6-45

The entire nation wide program as outlined before Congress Monday, covers hospital needs of the Veterans Administration up to and including June 30, 1947. It would make available 2,700 additional beds for neuropsychiatric cases, 3,400 for tuberculosis cases and 8,000 for general medical and surgical cases. A total of 14,100 beds is included in the program.

The bill also provides for construction of new services, major alterations, expansions and replacement of buildings, and utilities which have become obsolete.

Army Yields to Prisoners' Hate

Afro-American Md.

Encouraged Not to Serve Colored Patients

VICTIMS MOVED

2-3-45

U.S. Officers Unwilling to Offend "Super Race"

MacDILL FIELD, Fla. — When Nazi prisoners of war refused to serve colored patients in the station hospital here, the patients were transferred to a jim-crow mess.

In Army hospitals there usually is no segregation, but rather than offend the enemy prisoners, U.S. Army officers ordered the colored patients moved. 2-3-45

Wait on Whites Only

The "super race" prisoners now wait on white patients only. Maj. M. Locke, in command of colored troops, told his men to "be patient."

Asked about the "coddling" of Nazi prisoners, the War Department in Washington admitted there had been a "little disturbance" in the mess hall.

The Veterans' Hospitals

Birmingham News

Not long ago a congressional committee made an investigation of the veterans' hospitals of this country. The member of the committee assigned to visit such institutions in Alabama and adjacent states gave them a clean bill of health in his report, which was naturally somewhat limited in scope and thoroughness. Recently the veterans' organizations of the nation have undertaken investigations of their own and, at least as far as the three Alabama veterans' hospitals are concerned, found that conditions were not entirely as good as they should be.

To the credit of these Alabama hospitals—at Tuscaloosa, Montgomery and Tuskegee—it should be said that most of the complaints made against them involved primarily shortage of help and space. The American Legion report stated that there was need for 1,791 more beds in these three institutions, and that there also is an urgent need for more doctors and nurses. 6-13-45

Also see 56-0 (Veterans)

The Tuscaloosa hospital, the Legion report said, is good on staff and patient discipline, food quality, quantity and preparation, and excellent on patient care and sanitation. Overcrowding and understaffing there, however, are said to have led to unpleasant conditions for some of the patients.

The hospital at Tuskegee was reported as needing additional physicians and 500 more beds. It was, however, rated good on staff and patient discipline, building and grounds, quality and quantity of food and treatment and care of patients. The need for recreational facilities for patients there also was stressed in the report.

The attitude of the staff at the Montgomery hospital toward patients was sharply criticized by the Legion report, which said: "The staff should be advised that they were employed and assigned to give service to patients and be told that their present attitude of thinking that the patients are there for the staff's convenience be corrected." Conditions at this hospital also were criticized by the report of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, which made an examination coincidental with that of the Legion. Patient morale is poor at the Montgomery hospital, the V. F. W. report said, adding that recreational facilities are inadequate and the hospital badly overcrowded.

6-13-45

Summing up, it appears from these reports that the hospitals at Tuscaloosa and Tuskegee are about as well conducted as possible with the limited staffs and facilities at present available. These are complaints heard from practically every hospital in these days of few civilian doctors and nurses. The complaints against the Montgomery hospital, however, are of a nature which calls for prompt remedial measures.

T. O. Krasbel, Legion rehabilitation director, points out that the present veterans' hospital system was designed to serve a potential load of 5,000,000 veterans. There is now a possibility that this figure may be increased to 18,000,000, he says, in urging an immediate expansion of the system "to assure veterans of this war the best that the country can provide in the way of medical and hospital treatment."

With the expected release of many doctors, as well as nurses, from the armed services, the prospect for relieving at least some of the understaffing at veterans' hospitals should become brighter. There will still remain, of course, the problem of overcrowding, and this, it would appear, can be solved satisfactorily only when materials and equipment become available. It is good to know, however, that in the main the chief complaints against Alabama veterans' hospitals lie within these two fields.

Dr. Dibble Denies Sanction of J.C.

Afro-American

WASHINGTON. (NNPA) — In a telegram to NNPA, col Eugene H. Dibble Jr., head of the all colored Tuskegee Veterans' Hospital, declared that Rep. John S. Gibson (Dem., Ga.) apparently misinterpreted his association with a segregated institution as an unqualified endorsement of segregation in theory. 6-16-45

Dr. Dibble was referring to a state ment by Gibson in Congress, concurred in by Rep. John E. Rankin (Dem., Miss.), that colored patients must be segregated in veterans' hospitals, that white nurses should not attend them, and that every State should have an all-colored hospital. 6-16-45

Repudiates Views

Gibson said Col. Dibble agreed with him "in toto" on the business of segregation, and in his belief that colored people do not have to be mixed with whites to be able to "improve themselves."

Rankin, in the same debate, said anybody was crazy who "do not reflect my personal views."

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
PM
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912

JUN 15 1945

Rankin Blames War Dept. For Trouble in Hospitals

Mississippian Manages to Inject Race Issue

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.), chairman of the House Veterans Committee, has charged that "trouble" in veterans' hospitals — mistreatment and abuse of patients—is the fault of the War Dept.

Rankin criticized the Dept. for sending Negro soldiers into VA Hospitals as attendants under inefficient commissioned officers. His charge was typically Rankin:

"It is a disgrace that the War Dept. should send nigger troops into our Veterans Administration Hospitals to be mixed up with white nurses and with officers who cannot enforce discipline," he said.

As yesterday's hearings concluded, Joseph McQueen, general counsel for the VA, informed Rankin that Brooklyn's district attorney and Tom C. Clark, new Attorney General, had asked that all reports of abuse at the Northport, L. I., Hospital of the VA be submitted.

The Brooklyn district attorney is deciding whether seven civilian attendants should be cited for abuse of patients along with 13 soldiers. The soldiers already have been court-martialled at Governor's Island and sentenced to from two to six months.

Harry Stansfield, chief of the investigating division of the VA, admitted the difficulties of obtaining evidence from attendants at neuropsychiatric hospitals of the VA. He said that attendants had a tacit understanding not to testify against each other and added that nurses and attendants were afraid of Negro troops assigned to the facilities.

"They're afraid of the nigger soldiers?" asked Rankin.

"Yes, sir," replied Stansfield.

For a time it looked as if the "very worst" information investigators had to give the committee would not be made available to the public. Col. Louis Verdel, manager of the Northport, L. I., facility, refused to comment on the efficiency of Army doctors assigned to his hospital.

However, the VA investigator was allowed to give his testimony in public—interrupted at suitable intervals by Chairman Rankin, who wanted everybody to understand that the soldiers who were court-martialled for "abuse" at Northport were Negroes. He asked the same questions—six times.

Yes, they were Negroes, was the answer.

Rep. Bernard Kearney (R., N. Y.) declared that the transfer of Army personnel to the VA was "absolutely wrong." The men ought to be screened, he said, and maybe only volunteers should be accepted.

Rankin indicated that War Dept. representatives might be called to explain why Negroes and inefficient commissioned officers were assigned to VA hospitals.

Stansfield testified that the "undercover men" at the Northport hospital were not FBI men. They were investigators of New York State, who make periodic surveys of all mental hospitals. He said the so-called "abuses" were committed on white patients by Negro soldier attendants—limited service men assigned by the Army to the VA

Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, right, wishes success to Gen. Omar N. Bradley, who succeeds him as Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. In the center is Rep. John E. Rankin (D., Miss.), chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Legislation, in whose office the generals met.

Physicians Oppose J.C. Hospitals

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Dr. John A. Kenny | Dr. John P. Turner | Dr. John W. Chenault | Dr. Paul B. Cornely

These members of the National Medical Association are among the outstanding physicians in the country who have publicly gone on record opposing jim crow hospitals for war veterans, and recommending that as few as possible be set up in the South. Dr. Turner is of Philadelphia; Dr. Kenny of New Jersey; Dr. Cornely of the Howard University Medical School, Washington, and Dr. Chenault is director of the Tuskegee Polio Hospital.

Jim-Crow Vet Hospitals Fought by NMA Members

Afro American Baltimore Md.

OPELOUSAS, La. — (ANP) — Colored doctors throughout the country want no jim-crow veteran hospitals, an overwhelming majority of letters from members of the National Medical Association reveal. 11-30-45

Moreover, agreeing that the problem of integration is not easily settled in the South, most of the doctors recommend sending as few as possible to that section of the country.

Pointing out that veterans' institutions throughout the country already show evidences of overcrowding, Dr. John P. Turner of Philadelphia adds that the situation for colored service personnel will be worse where segregation and jim crow are practiced.

Holding the same belief is Dr. John A. Kenny of New Jersey, who says:

"North of the Mason-Dixon line, there is no question but that there should be one facility for the soldiers of both races under the care of mixed staffs and attendants."

In his letter, Dr. Paul B. Cornely of the Howard University Medical School points out that the existing pattern of the Veterans' Administration is poor because it prevents the integration of colored professional workers in the various facilities. 10-20-45

His argument is also that of Dr. L. M. Hill of Atlanta, who says that hospital staffs should be selected "merely on the basis of training and merit of the doctors, regardless of race or color."

Cites Advantages of J.C. Setup

On the other hand, Dr. T. M. Smith of Chicago, past NMA president, advocates separate hospital facilities so that more colored persons "may have the opportunity for developing in their respective specialties."

The NMA has appointed at veterans' committee, headed by Dr L. H. B. Foote of Tallahassee Fla., to meet with Gen. Omar Bradley, Veterans' Administrator, to present the body views, Dr. A. C. Torrence, NMA public advisor, announced recently.

Veterans Hospitals Show Weaknesses, Legion Declares

Birmingham News

6-12-45 Birmingham, Ala.

See veteran (hospitals) 56

Difficulties Are Shown At Tuscaloosa, Montgomery And Tuskegee; Physicians Needed; Legion Unit Cites Red Tape

BY MARGUERITE JOHNSTON
News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 12—Surveying the nation's 97 veteran hospitals as to their readiness to take on a future clientele of 18,000,000 men and women, the American Legion pointed to the present weaknesses in Alabama's three veterans' hospitals—at Tuscaloosa, Montgomery and Tuskegee.

All three are dangerously short on help, are cramped in the need of 1,791 more beds. The Tuskegee Hospital, in addition, is suffering for the lack of physicians which it could already put to use.

This report was made before a House investigating committee in Washington Tuesday morning.

6-12-45

THE SURVEY SHOWS THAT ON AVERAGE, veterans hospitals in this state give to former members of the armed forces hospital treatment and care of about the same caliber as that given civilians in city, county and state public hospitals. But narrowing the focus, the Legion survey spotted the flaws in the picture: Red tape, overcrowding and understaffing.

Tuscaloosa's neuropsychiatric Veterans Hospital was graded good on staff and patient discipline, food quality, quantity and preparation, and excellent on patient care and sanitation.

But to achieve this, nurses are "worked to death." Help is needed badly. The hospital should be doubled in capacity by the addition of 791 new beds to its present 791. Mental patients the survey indicated, are not properly separated from other patients.

6-12-45

GENERAL MEDICAL PATIENTS AT TUSCALOOSA complained to the Legion surveyors that they were kept in the same type of locked wards as mental patients. And because of crowded conditions, the Legion reported, "one veteran with a bullet in his hip was not operated upon or transferred to another hospital until authorities received a letter from the man's congressman."

The Montgomery Veterans Hospital was sharply rapped for the attitude of its staff toward the patients. "The staff should be advised," the report suggested, "that they were employed and assigned to give service to patients and be told that their present attitude of thinking that the patiens are there for the staff's convenience be corrected."

But here again the Legion investigators report "nurses worked to death" and an immediate need of more help. The 329-bed hospital should be expanded by 500 beds. Despite staff discipline, treatment and care of the patients pronounced "excellent," the hospital was reported overcrowded and clogged by red tape. No recreation facilities or programs are maintained, the canteen is rated poor and food quantity poor.

6-12-45

* * *

TUSKEGEE'S VETERANS HOSPITAL shows more basic lacks. The neuropsychiatric hospital needs additional physicians and 500 beds added to the 1,934 already in use. Thus handicapped, the hospital was yet rated good on staff and patient discipline, building and grounds quality and quantity of food, treatment and care of the patients. There are no recreational facilities for the giant mental hospital.

The conclusion at Tuskegee was "bett r medical personnel needed; 500 beds needed; overcrowded."

Decentralization of the nation's veterans hospital system to eliminate red tape and a 10-point administrative program was proposed to the House committee Tuesday.

6-12-45

"The present veterans hospital system was designed to serve a potential load of 5,000,000 veterans. It now faces a clientele that may well number 18,000,000, T. O. Kraabel, Legion rehabilitation director, pointed out.

"The enterprise should be revitalized and expanded immediately to assure veterans of this war the best that the country can provide in the way of medical and hospital treatment.

"Hospital treatment and care should be at the same high level as that in the famous Mayo Clinic and Johns Hopkins Hospital."

or some other form of entertainment is given.

4. Canteen service is most unsatisfactory.

6-12-45

5. Excessive delays in receiving wards. Two patients complained they were kept in these wards 16 days.

6. Hospital overcrowded. Authorized capacity is 269 patients, but hospital had 281 patients on day of inspection.

* * *

MR. REYNOLDS RECOMMENDED THAT at Montgomery, construction should be started right away for 500 additional beds. He also recommended that at Tuskegee interne doctors should be employed to lighten the load of the older doctors.

"In my opinion, the facility at Tuskegee is exceptionally well managed. The doctors, nurses and attendants all seem to take the greatest personal interest in each individual case," Mr. Reynolds declared.

6-12-45

Both Tuscaloosa and Tuskegee facilities are in need of two doctors each, Mr. Reynolds reported.

Soldier Attendants Blamed In Beatings at Northport

New York, N.Y. Times

By SAMUEL A. TOWER

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, June 14—Incompetent and dissatisfied soldier personnel were assigned by the Army to take care of veteran patients at the Neuropsychiatric Hospital at Northport, N. Y., Col. Louis Verdel, manager of the institution, told the House Veterans Committee today. He said this was mainly responsible for mistreatment of the patients.

More than half of the more than 300 soldiers assigned as attendants were unqualified and would have been rejected by him as "unfit" for the work, he said. Of the five Army doctors at the hospital, he reported, only three were on duty, with one absentee "suffering from an ear condition" and the other away following an Army "diagnosis of neurosis."

The colonel explained to the committee, investigating charges of violence to patients of Northport, that a contributing factor was his inability to take disciplinary action against enlisted personnel because of a system of divided authority whereby soldier-attendants were in charge of a company commander.

"Authority Over Civilians"

In the cases of civilian attendants guilty of abuse he had the authority immediately to suspend them and recommend their dismissal to the General Offices of the Veterans Administration in Washington, he testified.

Previous testimony before the committee has revealed that thirteen Negro soldiers have been court-martialed for mistreatment of patients and that seven white civilian attendants have been dismissed on similar charges.

Speaking of the courts-martial, Colonel Verdel stated he regarded the use of Negro soldiers in mental hospitals as inadvisable and that he had asked the Second Service Command for the substitution of white troops, but said that his request had been met only in part.

He stated that there was widespread discontent among both white and Negro soldiers over assignment to hospital duty and that this dissatisfaction "had a bad effect on the patients and other attendants."

Nevertheless, he suggested that "cases of civilian attendants and soldiers striking patients were acts of impulse."

6-15-45

"I do not believe we had any affairs of sadism," he said.

Both Departments Criticized

Colonel Verdel's testimony, made according to his words, under the handicap of being both an Army officer and an employe of the Veterans Administration, brought criticism of both departments from members of the commitee.

"I resent the War Department's attitude toward these hospitals," said Chairman John E. Rankin, Democrat from Mississippi.

Representative Bernard W. Kearney, Republican of New York, accused the War Department of "not playing the game with veterans," adding that he felt also that there was "too much red tape between the central office of the Veterans Administration and its regional facilities."

The committee then went into closed session to hear Colonel Verdel's report on the treatment of specific mental patients and the administration of the hospital, which followed in general his open testimony, according to committee members.

When the meeting was reopened, Harry Stansfield, an investigator for the Veterans Administration, testified on cases of mistreatment uncovered by undercover operators for the agency. Both he and Colonel Verdel contended that both soldiers and attendants followed a code of not "peaching" on one another, making substantiation of charges difficult.

Witness Tells of Beatings

Nevertheless, the agency's operators had witnesesd or received incontestable evidence of cases where patients were beaten and kicked by both military and civilian attendants, and sometimes choked with towels, not only in efforts to restrain patients but as a result of irritation.

Joseph MacQueen, counsel for the committee, announced that data on the seven civilian attendants had been requested by the new Attorney General, Tom Clark, and by the United States Attorney in the Second District of New York, and were being turned over immediately.

At the conclusion of the day's session, Chairman Rankin disclosed that the committee intended to summon representatives of the War Department to appear before it and explain the Army's policy on veterans' hospitals.

"It seems to me that these cases involved negligence on the part of the War Department rather than the Veterans Administration," he said. "We are going to try to find out just why they assign such men there."

6-15-45

McDonald Making an Inquiry

Miles F. McDonald, United States Attorney for Brooklyn and Long Island, said yesterday that his office was making an inquiry into the charges of mistreatment of patients at the Veterans Hospital at Northport, L. I. T. Vincont Quinn, Assistant United States Attorney in charge of the criminal division, is in charge of the investigation.

Mr. McDonald said that the investigation was the result of a request from Edward E. Odom, solicitor of the Veterans Administration in Washington. The Brooklyn prosecutor said he expected material would be presented to the Federal grand jury next week.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
TIMES
Circ. D. 419,447 - S. 805,967
JUN 15 1945

13 Negro GI Attendants At N. Y. Vet Hospital Jailed; 7 Whites Freed

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Thirteen Negro soldier-attendants stationed at the Neuropsychiatric hospital, Northport, N. Y., were courtmartialed and sentenced to from two to six months at Governor's Island for alleged abuse of patients interned in the hospital, Col. Louis Verdel revealed here.

No action has been taken against seven white civilian attendants dismissed at the same time.

Col. Verdel made this disclosure in testimony before the House Veterans committee this week, although the soldiers were sentenced last winter.

He further testified that half or more of the 300 soldiers assigned to the hospital as attendants are not suited to their jobs.

Many of them resent the assignment, the colonel said, and some are "very definitely neurotic and not suited to be working in a hospital of this type." 6-23-45

Rankin Usual Self

Chairman John Rankin (D. Miss.) immediately pounced upon the War Department for "sending nigger troops in a Veterans Administration hospital to be mixed up with white nurses and with officers who cannot enforce discipline." He termed the situation a "disgrace," and indicated that the War Department would be called into account to explain why Negroes and inefficient commissioned officers were assigned to VA hospitals, adding, "I bitterly resent the War Department attitude toward these veterans' hospitals."

Whether the Negro soldiers were actually at fault or victims of administrative prejudice was not clearly established by Col. Verdel's testimony. Although an army officer, Col. Verdel is an employe of the Veterans Administration, serving as manager of the Newport unit.

This much was established. The colonel had asked the Second Service Command to substitute white troops for Negroes at the hospital inasmuch as he regarded the use of Negro soldiers in mental hospitals as inadvisable. He told the committee his request had been met only in part. 6-23-45

Discontent Widespread

Revealing that there was widespread discontent among both white and Negro soldiers over assignment to hospital duty, Col. Verdel said the dissatisfaction factor "had a bad effect on the patients and other attendants."

Harry Stansfield, an investigator for the Veterans Administration, testified on cases of mistreatment which he said were uncovered by undercover operators for the agency.

He said he had experienced difficulty in obtaining evidence from attendants at neuropsychiatric hospitals of the VA. This he alluded was due to a tacit understanding not to testify against each other, and added that nurses and attendants were afraid of Negro troops assigned to the facilities.

Here Rankin asked, "They're afraid of the nigger soldiers?"

Stansfield obligingly replied, "Yes, sir."

Whites' Brutality Ignored

Rankin left no stone unturned to establish before the committee the fact that the 13 court-martialed soldiers were Negroes. But neither he nor Stansfield made any reference to the sensational charges of brutality brought against white attendants at the Lyons, New Jersey, charges substantiated in a large measure by Veterans Administrator Hines himself.

Stansfield said the "abuses" at the Northport facility were committed on white patients by Negro soldier-attendants-limited service men assigned by the army to the VA. Sixty of the soldiers were sightless in one eye, he testified.

These "abuses," he said, consisted of striking a patient with a knotted towel; punches on the jaw; blows on the chest, and some fractured ribs.

Joseph MacQueen, counsel for the committee, announced that data on the seven civilian attendants had been requested by the new attorney general, Tom C. Clark and by the United States attorney in the Second District of New York, and were being turned over immediately. 6-23-45

Legion Wants Jim-Crow

Spokesmen for both the VFW and the American Legion were making reports on their investigations of veterans facilities throughout the country, investigations which in each instance gave a clean bill of health to the installation at Tuskegee.

The facility at North Little Rock, Ark., according to the Legion report, presents something of a problem. "Contemplated plan of having an army detail of Negro attendants to serve white patients will prove highly unsatisfactory and should be resisted by the American Legion," the report said. A spokesman for the organization explained that "friction" between the groups is the reason for this proposal. His own view is that segregation is best for the races.

The report on Muskogee related the incident where a group of colored patients seated themselves at the counter and the canteen and demanded to be served. After this occurred, the manager called a meeting of the representatives of all parties concerned, and the matter was temporarily resolved. The report then went on:

"I am fearful of the consequences of colored and white veterans being associated together in the same hospital and not being allowed the same privileges. The colored veterans are allowed to come to the library and take books and magazines, but unlike the white veterans they must leave and are not permitted to read or lounge in the library. 6-23-45

"This facility hospitalizes the veterans not only from Oklahoma but from Texas and Arkansas. As the hospital becomes crowded, I think there will be greater possibility of friction between colored and white veterans. We of the American Legion are greatly concerned over this problem and recommend to the manager of the Veterans' administration that these patients be separated at once."

Consensus Of Opinion Secured By Association

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta Physician Joins In Opinion Against Division

Atlanta, Ga.

OPELOUSAS, La.— (ANP) —Negro doctors throughout the country want no jim crow veteran hospitals.

A consensus of opinion on the question of separate hospitals for white and Negro veterans has been gathered thru the National Medical association by letters from many of its outstanding members.

Dr. L. M. Hill, an Atlanta, Ga. physician, suggested "hospitals for veterans that have no segregation as regards to race or color-only disease such as tuberculosis and neurological diseases." He wants hospital staffs that are not segregated, but selected "merely on the basis of training and merit of the doctors, regardless of race or color."

CORNELY COMMENTS

Dr. Paul B. Cornely, head of the department of bacteriology, Preventive medicine and public health, Howard university, Washington, said: 10-12-45

"I do no believe that the pattern which has been established by the Veterans' administration of having segregated hospital facilities for Negro veterans is desirable or good neither is the practice which prevents Negro physicians and other professional people from being able to be integrated in the various veterans facilities."

On the other hand, Dr. T. M. Smith, Chicago, past NMA president, believes "we should accept added separate hospital facilities for their (veterans) care in which more and more of our men may have the opportunity for developing in their respective specialities."

But Dr. E. B. Perry of Texas, said "my first approach would be to idealistically hope that in the future we would not have segregated institution. This is not possible in the advanced age.

"At present there is quite a deal of discussion about the shortcomings of many of our VA hospitals. Naturally, we should wonder if the whole VA set-up does not need an infusion of newer and younger blood."

STAFF INTEGRATION

He added that "we should as staff officers be integrated into non-segregated hospitals, especially in the more visionary sections of the country...." 10-12-45

"North of the Mason-Dixon line, there is no question but that there should be one facility for the soldiers of both races under the care of mixed staffs and attendants," said Dr. John A. Kenny of New Jersey. "For the south, the question is not so easily settled. These men need and want tranquility and comfort. They should have, not only expert medical care, but the mental attitude of those administering it will have a great deal to do with their physical reactions."

Dr. Homer V. Wilburn, medical director of Provident hospital, Chicago, said that "I feel that the existing facilities would be inadequate to meet the additional demands of the returning veterans. However, it is my opinion that civilian hospitals will have to and should participate in the service by expansion of their facilities and service units."

OTHER AREAS

Returning veterans should be hospitalized in the north, east or west rather than in the south, said Dr. Jno P. Turner of Pennsylvania "As far as possible, Negro veterans should not be sent to southern hospitals," he advised. He said that "reports from institutions throughout the country caring for veterans show a sad overcrowding. Naturally, where segregation and jim crow are part of the set up our boys and girls will fare worse in these areas"

The National Medical association has appointed a Veterans committee, headed by Dr. L. H. B. Foote of Tallahassee, Fla., to meet with Gen. Omar Bradley, head of the Veterans administration, to present the views of the NMA revealed Dr. A. C. Torrence, NMA public director.

Oppose All-Negro Vets Hospital In Mississippi

The Louisiana Weekly New Orleans, La.

Washington, Nov. 7.—The proposed establishment of an all-Negro veterans' hospital in Mississippi was opposed this week by representatives of 22 national labor, church, fraternal and professional organizations who attacked the proposal as a "direct insult to the Negroes of America."

Meeting at the offices of the National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in this city on Thursday night, members of the group voiced their objection to the establishment of any veterans' hospital on a jim-crow basis. 11-10-45

They were considerably more bitter, however, in their denunciation of the proposal for the establishment of a veterans' hospital in a state which has sent to Washington "such men as Bilbo, Eastland and Rankin, who would make race hatred and intolerance the law of the land." 11-10-45

Lashing out at "previous commitments," which, according to Veterans' Administration officials, virtually assure construction of the hospital at Mound Bayou or Greenwood, Miss., members of the delegation sent Wires to President Truman, General Bradley, Veterans Administration head; to members of the Federal Board of Hospitalization; to Congressman William L. Dawson; the Hon. Robert L. Hannegan, and to Harold D. Smith, director of the Bureau of the Budget.

Soldier Tells Bias In Army Hospital

Chicago Defender

Jim Crow appears to be more prevalent in the armed forces as time marches on. With conditions as grave as they are in Europe, one would think intelligent people as cultured as Americans would have a different outlook on life and not stoop so low.

I am a shut-in at a general hospital here in Georgia and have been here for more than two months. I have had quite a few experiences and never have I seen Jim Crow so largely displayed as around here. I have visited the Red Cross Recreation building here with friends and from observation I have found the workers quite interested in seeing that the white patients were participating in the games, while on the other hand, the colored patients were left holding their hands unless they found games of interest themselves.

Last week a spring dance, a formal affair, was held for white patients only. They don't usually ask the colored to give such affairs, but the fact that their presence is not desired is known. I have begun to wonder if our donations are being used on the front lines in this same manner. 5-19-45

Last Sunday I noticed having gone to the mess hall, for the first time, that white waitresses made their own Jim Crow signs although they are not hung on the walls. The one single line was formed of white and colored and we marched into the mess hall for the noon meal. The trays of the cripples as usual were carried or placed on tables for the patients. Here they made the separations by having all whites together and all colored together. Many times during the meal I wondered if these small minded American women stopped to realize what a slander that was since in active combat many of these same soldiers were happy to eat and drink with us.

The most striking incident was last Easter Sunday, during the morning worship in the chapel. There were only two colored patients present and the rest were whites. At the beginning of the Communion Service, the chaplain opened with the invitation for all to come forward and I was in the number going to the front. The whites knelt around the altar and as long as they possibly could they sought places to kneel rather than near me. Finally there was enough space beside me for three other people. How small they must be to carry such racial prejudices to the altar, partaking of the Lord's Supper. America is fighting two wars, one over there and another against her black sons and daughters in America.—T-Sgt. Edgar T. Stricknev, Thomasville, Ga.

2nd All-Colored Hospital Unit Overseas Ministers to Men of All Races in Burma

Afro-American

6-30-45

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA War Correspondent

ALONG THE STILWELL ROAD, India-Burma—(Delayed)—High on the side of a 4,500-foot peak of the dense, vast green jungle of the Patkai Mountain Range at Tagap in upper Assam Province nestles the only hospital in Asia entirely staffed by colored personnel.

One of the two such colored units operating overseas today, it administers to the various needs of its international patients, who include colored and white Americans, Britains, Chinese, Indians and Burmese.

Over 500 were treated in the first three and a half months of operation, with 20% of them white.

Headed by Philadelphian

Commanded by Maj. William H. Strickland of Philadelphia, the hospital is staffed by graduates of Howard, Lincoln, Wilberforce and Harvard Universities, Dartmouth and Meharry Colleges, and Harlem, Homer Phillips and Kansas City General Hospitals.

A graduate of Lincoln University and of Howard Medical School, Major Strickland practiced in Philadelphia before entering the Army, specializing in internal medicine, and also served at both Mercy and Douglass Hospitals there.

Assisting him is Maj. Robert S. Wilkinson of New York City, a Dartmouth Phi Beta Kappa and Harvard Medical School graduate, formerly associate visiting surgeon of Harlem Hospital and consulting surgeon of the Harlem Valley State Hospital, both in New York.

Heads 2nd Complete Unit

The author of a military treatise on abdominal staff wounds, Major Wilkinson, surgical chief of the Tagap Station Hospital here, is also the commanding officer of another complete station hospital unit.

Activated out of Major Strickland's complement, the new hospital is scheduled to move to another location.

Upon arrival here in September, 1944, the unit, which was activated at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., in August, 1943, first had to construct improved facilities for sheltering and treating the sick and wounded.

Native Help Used

With the help of native labor, new bamboo bashas were constructed to serve as laboratories, operating room, wards, and quarters for the hospital staff, while a complete water system was installed running from water sheds in the hills.

The hospital is equipped and prepared for just about any emergency. The X-Ray section is under the supervision of Capt. Leroy T. Barnes of Philadelphia, a radiologist. 6-30-45

In Surgical Division

In the surgical division one finds besides Major Wilkinson, who is Consultant to Surgical Service in the combined group;

Capt. Maurice F. Gleason of Cleveland and Chicago, a Meharry Medical School product, chief of surgical service in the combined group;

Capt. Neville A. Griffith of New York, a graduate of Magill University School of Medicine, Canada, who is Assistant Chief of Surgical Service in the combined group;

Capt. Clarence D. Hinton of Chicago, Howard Medical School alumnus, surgeon-in-charge of the orthopedic section;

Capt. Carl S. Jenkins of Wilberforce, Ohio, Howard Medical School graduate, surgeon on orthopedic service.

Field Staff of Nurses

In the combined group, 1st Lt. Rose E. Robinson of Morton, Pa., is chief operating room nurse, and 1st Lt. Rosamae G. Glover of Dayton, Ohio, is nurse supervisor on surgical service. She is assisted by 1st Lt. Polly Lathion of Piper, Ala.

Other nurses are 1st Lts. Madine H. Davis of Gainesville, Tex.; Deshia M. Watkins, Kansas City, Mo., and 2nd Lts. Fannie M. Hart, New Orleans; Eva J. Wheeler, River Forest, Ill., and Lillie M. Lesesne, anesthetist, of Pittsburgh.

New Yorker in Medical Service

In the Medical Service are Major Strickland, consultant for the combined group; Capt. Henry A. Washington of Syracuse, N.Y., Chief of Medical Service, and 1st Lt. Roscoe C. Williams of Alabama, now on detached service to Rest Camp No. 1 at Calcutta.

First Lt. Elestia E. Cox of Los Angeles is nurse supervisor on Medical Service, while 2nd Lts. Anna T. Landrum of Asheville, N.C., and Caroline E. Schenck of Uniontown, Pa., are assistants.

The principal chief nurse in the combined group is 1st Lt. Agnes B. Glass of Meridian, Miss., a graduate of Homer Phillips Hospital, who is assisted by 1st Lt. Daryle E. Foister of Bedford, Pa., a Mercy Hospital graduate.

Five Served in Liberia

Second Lt. Rosemary Vinson of Detroit serves as hospital dietitian. Among the nurses, Lts. Foister, Hart, Landrum, Schenck and Vinson are experiencing their second assignment overseas, having served with the 25th Station Hospital in Liberia.

The dental clinic, comparable to any overseas, is under the command of Capt. George E. Marshall of Jamaica, N.Y., who has 1st Lt. Marvin M. Fisk of Rockford, Ill., as his assistant.

Captain Marshall is now attached to Major Wilkinson's new unit and Lieutenant Fisk will remain with Major Strickland's outfit. Both Marshall and Fisk are Howard University Dental School graduates. 6-30-45

Bostonian Heads Pharmacy

In charge of the pharmacy is Sgt. John R. King of Boston, a registered pharmacist who used to own his own drug store there and who has filled some 1800 prescriptions since January 1.

In the clinical laboratory, three trained GI technicians, under the supervision of Captain Hinton, perform such tests as urinalysis, hematology, feces, sputum, malaria, and other diagnostic analysis, averaging 1000 separate lab checks monthly.

They are T/Sgt. Barney S. Goodson of Houston, who studied medicine at Meharry one year; T/4 Samuel H. Golden of Pittsburgh, who was studying pharmacy at Duquesne when inducted, and Cpl. Herman Green.

Highly Commended by All

A trip through the wards reveals that both colored and white patients are receiving the best of medical attention, all being generous in their praise of both the medics and nurses for their care and interest in them.

Typical are the remarks of one white soldier, who was recuperating from an operation for stomach ulcers, who said:

"This is the best hospital I've been in since coming into the Army, and I've been in four before. The doctors and nurses here treat you like a paying patient back home.

"They really know their work. If they can't find out what's wrong with you, then no one can. There's no discrimination here either.

Lack of Bias Cited

"All of us, including myself, my buddies, the Chinese, Indians and British, get the same treatment and attention. When we can move around, we eat, play, and talk with each other because we are all in the various wards together."

A clerk in an engineering outfit here, Pfc. Louis E. Lambert of Washington, an asthma patient, who attended Howard University and was a shoe clerk before being drafted, stated that it was good to receive medical attention which consisted of something else besides pills.

Both T/4 Joseph Redding of Dawson, Ga., and T/5 John W. Jackson of Philadelphia reported that if they didn't get well in a hurry, it wouldn't be because the medics and nurses are not doing all that they could for them.

Praise from 2nd White GI

Declaring that for the first time he had learned what was wrong with him, T/5 Phillip O. Thevenet, white, of Breaux Bridge, La., an electrician in an engineering outfit, said: 6-30-45

"You can say this for me, that these docs here really know their stuff—and they're such young fellows. Never seen anyone like 'em. They take pictures of you (X-rays) 'til they find your trouble and then they go to work, then you get well."

Many of the white patients, curious as to where the medics and nurses received their training, express surprise upon learning that some had trained in colored institutions and others at white ones.

Other Staff Officers

Others on the staffs of the combined and separate units are:

First Lts. Donarell R. Green Jr. of Atlanta, the assisting receiving and assistant sanitation officer; Charles S Hall of Omaha, Neb., adjutant; James B. Staffford of Alton, Ill., adjutant in the original hospital unit, registrar and supply officer;

Capt. Russell M. Coleman of East Orange, N.J., receiving and sanitation officer; 2nd Lts. Calvin J. Webb of Kansas City, Kans., detachment commander; Nelson F. Pallermon, San Diego, Calif., supply officer, and Virgil R. Harris, Cleveland, a detachment commander and the educational officer.

Enlisted men in the various sections of the hospital include:

DENTAL LABORATORY

T/4 William J. Owsley, Indianapolis, Ind.; T/4 Mahlon Lane, Clearfield, Pa., and Pfc. Thomas G. Alston, Everett, Mass., all of whom are admittedly excellent technicians.

IN ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

T/Sgt. Frank Ellis, Huntington, W.Va., personnel sergeant; Cpl. George C. Carpenter, Jellicoe, Tenn., a typist; Cpl. James L. Goudeua, Los Angeles, Calif., switchboard operator; T/5 Willie Moore Jr., Houston, Tex., clerk-stneographer;

T/4 Elmer H. Washington, Washington, chief clerk in the sick and wounded section of the registrar's office, and T/5 Elmer L. Childress, Minneapolis, Minn., also a clerk-typist.

ON MESS STAFF

Handling the cooking duties are: S/Sgt. Freddie Mayes Sr., Waco, Tex., mess sergeant; and the cooks, Pfc. Eddie L. Hill, Norfolk, Va.; T/5 Lawrence A. Johnson, Simpsonville, Md., and Pvt. Lorenzon Vincent, Philadel-

phia, who also represents the hospital unit in the India-Burma boxing tournaments.

First Sgt. John W. Gazaway, Chicago, who runs the detachment; Pvt. James L. Carter, Los Angeles, who is vitally interested in the rehabilitation of diseased and crippled veterans, and Cpl. James Brown, St. Joseph, Mo., who was my vehicle driver.

Anxious about their future in America, the soldiers have taken up the Army's voluntary savings plans. The pay allotment of the organization for savings and war bonds constitutes 75 per cent of its gross wages. Many have also enrolled in the Armed Forces Institute courses.

The Red Cross is supervised by Miss Bernice Grice of Omaha, Neb., a graduate of the University of Omaha, who also holds the master of arts degree from Howard University.

Pride of Personnel in Unit

In summing up the hospital here, Major Strickland has somewhat of a stock statement which he generally issues to all news scribes. He says:

"We are not an unusual organization. We are well-trained American citizens who all happen to be colored. We are able to do anything that comes within the scope of this training.

"To the majority of our personnel, this hospital represents the fulfillment of an ideal: an ideal that allows free men the opportunity to pursue their chosen occupations regardless of race, creed, or color."

Burma Hospital Has All-Negro Personnel

730-45

Pittsburgh Courier, Pgh. Pa.

By FRANK E. BOLDEN, NNPA War Correspondent

ALONG THE STILWELL ROAD, India-Burma—(Delayed)—High on the side of a 4,500-foot peak of the dense, vast green tapestried jungle of the Patkai Mountain Range at Tagap, in upper Assam Province, where the black panther craftily stalks his arch enemy, the Bengal tiger, through a dim, primordial world which for centuries afforded the elephant, the cobra, and the devil-tormented aborigine a refuge from the encroaching tides of civilization, nestles the only hospital in Asia entirely staffed by Negroes, and which is also one of two such colored units operating overseas today.

Here, midst the site of the happy hunting grounds of the Nagas, a primitive people, who only a generation or two ago were head hunters, and even today display the skulls of hapless adversaries as trophies of their native bamboo "bustees," this citadel of mercy administers unflinchingly to the various needs of its international patients, numbering both colored and white Americans, British, Chinese, Indians and Burmese. About 20 per cent of the patients to date have been white.

Under the command of dapper Maj. William H. Strickland, of Philadelphia, Pa., who is well-known in social circles along the Gay White Way of the Eastern Seaboard, the hospital has grown out of the planning and sweat of competent doctors, nurses and technicians. Assisting Strickland is the well-known and highly competent physician and surgeon, Maj. Robert S. Wilkinson, of New York City.

The hospital is equipped and prepared for just about any emergency. An X-Ray section is under the supervision of Capt. Leroy T. Barnes, of Philadelphia, Pa.. In the surgical division, one finds, besides Major Wilkinson, Capt. Maurice F. Gleason, of Cleveland, Ohio, now of Chicago, Ill.; Capt. Neville A. Griffith of New York, Capt. Clarence D. Hinton of Chicago, Ill., and Carl S. Jenkins, of Wilberforce, Ohio.

HOSPITAL PERSONNEL

First Lieut. Rose E. Robinson, of Morton, Pa., is chief operating room nurse in the combined group, and First Lieut. Rosamae G. Glover, of Dayton, Ohio, is nurse supervisor on Surgical Service in the combined group. She is assisted by First Lieut. Polly Lathion, of Piper, Ala. Other nurses are First Lieuts. Madine H. Davis, of Gainesville, Tex.; Doshia M. Watkins, of Kansas City, Mo., and Second Lieuts. Fannie M. Hart, of New Orleans, La.; Eva J. Wheeler, of River Forest, Ill., and Lillie M. Lesesne, anesthetist, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

In the medical service are Major Strickland, Capt. Henry A. Washington, of Syracuse, N. Y.; First Lieut. Roscoe C. Williams, of Alabama. First Lieut. Elestia E. Cox, of Los Angeles, Calif., is nurse supervisor on Medical Service in the combined group. Also working on this same service are Second Lieuts. Anna T. Landrum, of Asheville, N. C., and Caroline E. Schenck of Uniontown, Pa.

Principal chief nurse in the combined group is First Lieut. Agnes B. Glass of Meridian, Miss. She is ably assisted by First Lieut. Daryle E. Folster of Bedford, Pa.

Secnod Lieut. Rosemary Vinson, of Detroit, Mich., serves as the dietitian for the hospital.

The well-equipped dental clinic is under the command or Capt. George E. Marshall, of Jamaica, N. Y., and he has First Lieut. Marvin M. Fisk, of Rockford, Ill., as his assistant.

In charge of the pharmacy I found an old friend of mine from way back in the old Fort Huachuca days, cigar-smoking Sgt. John R. King, of Boston, Mass. The soldiers working in the laboratory are T/Sgt. Barney S. Goodson, of Houston, Tex.; T/4 Samuel H. Golden, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Corp. Herman Green, Trenton, N. J.

Others on the staff whom I met and who keep this mercy station going like a well-oiled machine were First Lieuts. Donarell R. Green Jr., of Atlanta, Ga.; Charles S. Hall, of Omaha, Neb.; James B. Stafford, of Alton, Ill., and Charles T. Cole, of Detroit, Mich.

I also met Capt. Russell M. Coleman, of East Orange, N. J.; Second Lieuts. Calvin J. Webb, of Kansas City, Kas.; Nelson F. Pallermon, San Diego, Calif., and Virgil R. Harris, Cleveland, Ohio.

In the dental laboratory are T/4 William J. Owsley, Indianapolis, Ind.; T/4 Mahlon Lane, Clearfield, Pa., and Pfc. Thomas G. Alston, Thomas G. Alston, Everett, Mass.

Over in the administration office are T/Sgt. Frank Ellis, Huntington, W. Va.; Corp. George C. Carpenter, Jellicoe, Tenn.; Corp. James L. Goudeua, Los Angeles, Calif.; T/5 Willie Moore Jr., Houston, Tex.; T/4 Elmer H. Washington, Washington, D. C., and T/5 Elmer L. Childress, Minneapolis, Minn.

Handling the cooking duties are S/Sgt. Freddie Mayes Sr., Waco, Tex., and Cooks Pfc. Eddie L. Hill, Norfolk, Va.; T/5 Lawrence A. Johnson, Simpsonville, Md., and Pvt. Lorenzo Vincent, Philadelphia.

I also met First Sgt. John W. Gazaway, Chicago; Pvt. James L. Carter, Los Angeles, and Corp. James Brown, St. Joseph, Mo.

The Red Cross is very efficiently supervised by a winsome little Miss from Omaha, Neb., one Miss Bernice Grice.

Charged With Brutality

White GIs To Replace Negroes As Mental Hospital Attendants

Chicago Defender 6-23-45

NEW YORK—"Negro soldiers will be replaced by whites" at the Northport (L. I.) hospital for mental cases, declared Maj. Gen. Thomas N. Terry, commanding general of the Second Service Command, at a press conference Saturday. This announcement followed disclosure before the House Veterans Committee last week at a hearing in Washington that soldier-attendants had been court-martialed for brutality to patients.

General Terry revealed that ten colored soldiers at the Northport Hospital had been held for court-martial, six had been convicted and four acquitted on charges of mistreatment of patients. He further stated that the light sentences (highest being three months at hard labor and forfeiture of $10 a month pay) bore out the belief of the court that none had been guilty of deliberate violence. 6-23-45

ATTENDANTS "UNSUITABLE"

At the press conference were General Terry, Maj. Gen. Joe N. Dalton, deputy director of personnel, Army Service Forces, and Col. D. G. Hall, chief of the personnel service, Office of Surgeon-General. They agreed that soldier-attendants originally sent to Northport had not been carefully selected as regard "suitability" but the conditions would be remedied despite the lack of first-rate personnel.

The veterans' facility at Northport has 2,700 patients, predominantly white, and now has 134 colored soldier-attendants and over 200 white, replacing the original all-colored detachment.

At a hearing before the Veterans Committee, headed by Congressman Rankin of Mississippi, Col. Louis Verdel, manager of Northport, stated he regarded the use of Negro soldiers in mental hospitals as inadvisable and had asked the Second Service Command for the substitution of white troops.

RANKIN RAVES 6-23-45

Chairman Rankin then launched into a tirade against Negroes and Communists. He declared "I want information why Negroes were sent there. The Army is attempting to break down necessary segregation of whites and Negroes. I am tired of seeing Communists in the War Department. There must be a change in the War Department—the sooner the better."

After a heated discussion, the committee settled down to hear a report by the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars on conditions found to exist in veterans' hospitals throughout the country.

In the reports were the following references to Negroes:

LEGION OKAYS TUSKEGEE

All reports on Tuskegee were favorable. According to the American Legion report, there were no general or specific complaints on medical treatment and hospital care, standards of treatment were superior, discipline and morale of patients is satisfactory and of hospital personnel, good.

The facility at North Little Rock, Ark., according to the Legion report, presents something of a problem. "Contemplated plan of having an Army detail of Negro attendants to serve white patients will prove highly unsatisfactory and should be resisted by the American Legion," the report said. A spokesman for the organization explained that "friction" between the groups is the reason for this proposal. His own view is that segregation is best for the races.

The report on Muskogee related the incident where a group of colored patients seated themselves at the counter of the canteen and demanded to be served. After this occurred, the manager called a meeting of the representatives of all parties concerned, and the matter was temporarily resolved. The report then went on

FEAR CONSEQUENCES

"I am fearful of the consequences of colored and white veterans being associated together in the same hospital and not being allowed the same privileges. The colored veterans are allowed to come to the library and take books and magazines, but unlike the white veterans, they are not permitted to read or lounge in the library.

"This facility hospitalizes the veterans not only from Oklahoma but from Texas and Arkansas. As the hospital becomes crowded, I think there will be greater possibility of friction between colored and white veterans. We of the American Legion are greatly concerned over this problem and recommend to the manager of the Veterans Administration that these patients be separated at once."

Racial Antagonism Deplored

New York Times

Soldier in Italy Tells Apprehensions of Japanese-American Regiment

N.Y. N.Y.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

Many publications from the States, reaching us over here waiting for the War Department to decide our fate, have carried articles recently publicizing the remarkable combat record of the 442d Infantry Regiment, the so-called Japanese-American regiment, and most of us are highly gratified at the recognition they are now receiving. Anyone who has been in this theatre at all has heard of their feats; indeed, it would be hard to overpraise them.

Concurrently with such articles, however, has come a stream of news reports detailing a series of unbelievably discriminatory and terroristic treatment of the Japanese-Americans, many of them the families of these same soldiers, who are now, or will be, returning from the relocation centers and trying to resume a peaceful life.

Among those who know the 442d these reports arouse a just rage, and a deep feeling of shame that such Ku-Klux-Klannish violence exists in the States. Of course, we all know that it does: Anti-Negro riots, anti-Semitic disturbances, and the many other instances of the prevalence of racial and minority feeling, expressed and unexpressed, have shocked us all into realizing that fascism is a mental and spiritual disease of the entire world, and must be fought. 8-21-45

An article in Stars and Stripes again spotlights the apprehensions of Japanese-American service men over here for the welfare of their families. Is there not some movement which could be undertaken to guarantee to these people, who through their sons in the Army have demonstrated so overwhelmingly their loyalty to the United States and to democratic ideals—guarantee if necessary through national or State intervention—that they will be treated on a basis with other Americans? That is all they ask, and the least they deserve. 8-21-45

Corp. DAVID R. WILSON.

Italy, Aug. 12, 1945.

No Color Line at Naval Convalescent Hospital

Afro-American 6-30-45

Commanding Medical Officer Says He Opposes Any Discrimination

A PATIENT'S VIEW—*"I couldn't ask for better," said one wounded seaman. "The medical care is excellent. We mix with white seamen, eat together, and indulge in all activities together."*

Eleven colored seamen are enjoying all the comforts, recreational facilities and fun afforded patients housed in what was once the large boardwalk Half Moon Hotel. Among men in the group are Marcus Cooper of Camden, N.J., who is recovering from an appendectomy; Mack E. Gilmore of Hamilton, N.C., who is recuperating from a back ailment, and Marvin C. Williams of Philadelphia, South Pacific veteran, whose arm was broken while pitching for the Seabees.

By RICHARD R. DIER

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—There are eleven colored seamen at the U.S. Naval Convalescent Hospital, Sea Gate, and they are enjoying all the comforts, recreational facilities, and fun this former big boardwalk hotel, known as the Half Moon, affords its patients. They bunk together with whites, mix freely with them in sports and games, and are encouraged to do this by the hospital's medical officer in command, Capt. E. P. Huff, MC, U.S.N.

"I wouldn't stand for a color line, discrimination, or segregation here," Captain Huff told the AFRO last week at the hospital. "I always encouraged the colored men to mix freely with the whites in everything. The only time you find colored seamen bunking together in one room is when they personally request it."

No Separate Records

He pointed out that no records are kept of how many whites or colored are at the hospital and that there has been no trouble between the races. 6-30-45

Captain Huff said that the colored men used to be afraid to ask white girls to dance with them at the hospital on dance night, and that now both colored and white girls are invited. Occasionally, a mixed couple gets on the dance floor without complaint from any onlooker.

He explained that the men who come to this hospital are in the final stages of recovery from wounds, accidents, or illness, and that a good time is stressed for all.

Men who are in need of relaxation, fresh air, and sunshine are sent here by the Navy before returning to duty again. They play softball, go swimming, fishing and get the best of food.

"Couldn't Ask for Better"

The captain's statement on the non-discriminatory policy was confirmed by five of the seamen who said that this was the best hospital they had ever been in.

Edwin J. Detige, officers' cook 3/c, of St. Martinsville, La., who has been in the Navy four years and was seriously injured when his ship was bombed during the invasion of Sicily, had this to say about the hospital:

"I couldn't ask for better. The medical care is excellent. We mix with the white seamen, eat together, and indulge in all activities together. We should give thanks to Captain Huff for it."

Detige has been in various hospitals in the States since September, 1943. He came to Sea Gate Hospital about six weeks ago.

Roommate Is White

Marcus L. Cooper, steward's mate 1/c, Camden, N.J., who is convalescing from an appendectomy, he shares a room with a white seaman.

"I like this place fine," he said. "About the only thing I am able to do yet is go on the sun-deck for some sunshine. This hospital has a swell set-up."

He was a blacksmith in civilian life, but he intends to join the police force after the war. He has a brother, Albert, who is in the Coast Guard.

Mack E. Gilmore, seaman 1/c, of Hamilton, N.C., who has been here a month with a back ailment, says he likes the hospital very much although the only thing he is able to do is to go out on the beach and bake himself.

Gilmore was a drill runner in civilian life, a job to which he'll return provided there's an opening for him. 6-30-45

"Treated Swell"

"This is the best hospital I've been in yet," declared Marvin C. Williams, S2/c, who served in Guam, Pearl Harbor and the South Pacific: "I'm treated swell. I play softball; there's plenty to eat, and the movies and stage shows just hit the spot."

A former semi-pro baseball player, Williams broke several bones in his arm while pitching for the Seabees last September. His wife lives in Philadelphia.

No Friction

Samuel E. Norwood, cook 3/c, of Little Rock, Ark., who has been here since May 18, rooms with two white seamen at the hospital with whom he gets along very well.

He was slated to go overseas, but three days before his ship sailed he had to be operated on for a ruptured knee joint as a result of an injury he received in civilian life in an automobile accident.

"I think it is a pretty nice place here," he stated. "There's no discrimination. Men from the North and South are all thrown together. Except for an occasional wisecrack by a white patient which doesn't amount to much, we get along very well."

He was formerly a construction worker and would like to return to this trade when he leaves the service.

The Northport Veterans' Hospital

New Republic

SIR: Stories of the mistreatment of mentally disturbed veterans at the Northport, New York, Veterans' Administration Hospital have recently aroused public indignation. The fact that these stories emphasize the beating of white veterans by Negro soldiers may probably be ascribed to the influence of Representative John E. Rankin of Mississippi. Rankin, chairman of a House committee now "investigating" the Veterans' Administration, evidently hopes, by smearing the Negroes, to distract attention from other evidences of VA mismanagement. 7-16-45

Two time-worn policies account for the Northport situation: The VA's neglect of its mentally sick patients, and the Army's treatment of Negro soldiers. The VA has been notorious for its exceptionally low rates of pay, resulting in a second-rate medical personnel, and for dangerous understaffing, such as the assignment at Northport of one doctor to 350 patients or only one nurse to two wards. Similarly the VA has always been hostile to progressive medical techniques. For instance, in the 93 VA facilities there is exactly one research laboratory.

Northport is the site of one of the 33 neuropsychiatric institutions run by the Veterans' Administration. In 1943 the shortage of civilian attendants compelled the VA to ask that army personnel be assigned to the hospital. One hundred and twenty-five Negro soldiers were shipped in. The War Department, in its initial statement of policy regarding the use of soldiers in such institutions, ruled that, so far as possible, these Negroes were to serve under white commissioned officers. One factor in this decision was probably the presence of large numbers of Negro troops in the Second Service Command, comprising the states of New York, New Jersey and Delaware. Top Army policy has opposed the training of large numbers of Negroes for combat; and the relatively high level of education of Negro draftees from this area made them unsuitable or unruly material for labor battalions.

Civilian attendants at the hospital, never having received formal training in the care of the mentally disturbed, had developed their own methods. Emphasis was on absolute control. Beatings, soon after entry into the hospital, and a minimum diet, made the patients spiritless and submissive. Willing candidates for attendants' jobs were found among ex-patients who had been fascinated by the beatings and kickings they had seen dealt out while they were under "care." (Compare the reaction of ex-prisoner guards in German concentration camps.)

What did these soldiers know about the proper treatment of the mentally disturbed? Their imaginations were filled with stories of how "crazy people" acted. Their only guide was the elementary techniques of the civilian attendants. No other training was given them. Dr. Harold Foster lectured a few times, it is true, warning them not to strike patients. His admonition to call another attendant if patients became threatening, and to use mattresses to quiet them, was sardonically remembered by soldiers who had been left alone in a violent ward with 54 homicidals.

At first no effort was made to select soldiers temperamentally suited to work in a mental institution. Volunteers were not requested, although there was a War Department provision that a man might sign out after six months. In practice, signing out was discouraged. However, beginning in September, 1943, men with relatively high IQ's were assigned straight from the induction centers, and this practice continued until the spring of 1944. Then the Army began sending in veterans from overseas who, because of disabilities received in combat areas, had become ineligible for further foreign service. The first group of 28 sent to Northport went on a mass sitdown strike and obtained shipment out in three days. After that, overseas veterans were judiciously mixed with new inductees. By early fall of 1944 it was found that nine percent of the company were under observation or had been committed as insane, and a little more attention began to be given to requests for transfer at the end of six months.

In the last few months, the management of the hospital, under a new director, has made much capital of improper conduct by some Negro soldiers who were being used as attendants. However, as Major General Thomas A. Terry of the Second Service Command points out, the fact that only Negro soldiers were convicted of beating patients is meaningless, since the only soldiers used as attendants were Negroes.

Very recently, 183 white soldiers, many of them overseas veterans, were sent in to serve as attendants. Of the Negroes, 153 were shipped out and 135 were left behind to instruct the whites. To the surprise of the management, the Negro and white soldiers made common cause. Although the majority of white soldiers were from the South, they resisted all efforts at segregation, and cordial relations persist among the men. Most of the Negro soldiers would like to stay, under a sympathetic administration, though it is doubtful whether any man who has been in combat should be required to care for the mentally disturbed. This leaves the VA and the War Department in a dilemma, since the hospital management does not want Negroes at all, and official War Department policy is to discourage mixed units.

New York City P.F.C.

What's Wrong At Northport?

The Worker

7-1-45

The big veterans' hospital housing 2,700 patients at Northport, L. I., is mismanaged and understaffed, in the opinion of the men who work there. And Negro-baiting has added to the difficulties.

By EUGENE GORDON

COL. LOUIS F. VERDEL is the Medical Corps officer who (according to men who work under him) **mismanages** the Veterans Neuropsychiatric Hospital at Northport, L. I. He is officially listed as manager. In Washington on June 14 he told Rep. John E. Rankin (D-Miss), and the House Veterans Committee headed by Rankin, that soldier attendants in the Northport veterans' facility had beaten and otherwise abused mentally sick patients.

Verdel obviously was scared, for he was testifying in a situation which had aroused nationwide concern—the mistreatment of World War I and World War II veterans by the Veterans' Administration. He realized his own responsibility as a part of that administration. It was his fright which led him to pass the buck to his defenseless soldier-attendants—his fright combined with his ingrained prejudice against Negroes. Referring to them as "niggers," Verdel declared that he had never wanted the soldiers, many of whom, he told Rankin, were themselves mental cases.

What the Men Say

The Worker dispatched me to Northport, suggesting that I find out what remedy the men themselves had for what ailed the Veterans' Administration. I spent all the afternoon and early evening and all the afternoon and early evening of the following Sunday (June 24) on the hospital grounds. I talked with soldiers, with doctors and with relatives and friends who were visiting patients. 7-1-45

The consensus of opinion among the soldiers is that no remedy would be worth anything unless it included Col. Verdel's removal.

A talk with those men tends to center attention on the main issue: mismanagement of the Veterans Administration under Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines. Verdel's assertion that Negro soldiers "mistreated" white patients was Rankin's cue to change the subject to Negro-baiting. Let us get back to the original subject.

A private first-class thought the main fault lay in the fact that soldiers are ordered around by civilians—soldiers being helpers to civilian doctors and nurses. He saw no reason why soldiers shouldn't be attendants in a veterans' hospital, provided they took orders only from Army personnel. Most of the men resented the fact that soldier-attendants were poorly paid in comparison with the civilians in charge.

Complain About Food

Another private first-class complained that mental patients worked in the kitchen and dining room. Everybody agreed that the hospital food was inferior to government issue for soldiers. The quality, on the whole, they said, was all right, but it was ruined in preparation. One man said that dietitians prepared the food "according to prescribed hospital rules," but that mentally-sick helpers often ruined it. These helpers' personal habits were "awful," too, he said.

A private first-class who had not previously spoken said that if civilian help were offered higher pay the hospital would get better results. Even the civilian doctors, he showed, were underpaid. This man, before his induction, had worked for the Sheffield Farms laboratories as a senior technician. He now works in the kitchen.

Some of the doctors and nurses know how to use the special training possessed by the Negro soldiers. One such man, trained in X-ray technique, works with a civilian X-ray technician. The civilian "gets more a week than I get a month," the soldier said, and when he's absent "I have charge of the place." Doctors, too, have let this soldier take X-rays of bone fractures and heart cases.

"No matter how long I stay here," he complained, "I'll still be just a pfc." 7-1-45

This soldier, as is true of others, feels that Col. Verdal's attack in Congress injured the men's morale. He has asked for a transfer and has been denied. He said:

"The colonel told Rankin 60 percent of the Negro soldiers here were disabled—had one eye, or something like that, or were mental cases. Every Negro soldier here—or a majority of them—is capable of overseas service. The truth is that Verdel never did want Negro soldiers. He said so from the first. He passes us without saluting. Capt. Hatten—William H. Hatten—whom all the men liked, fought for them. The colonel got between him and the Negro troops. Hatten was relieved of his command."

REP. JOHN RANKIN

Negroes Lose Ratings 7-1-45

They said 305 Negroes came in at first. Verdel shipped out 137. He brought in 189 white soldiers.

"We're being kept here to train the whites," a corporal said, adding: "We Negro troops have lost all our ratings. The white boys are keeping theirs."

The white soldiers, however, also dislike the job, I was told. I found that, on the whole, they resented being brought here as attendants, having been trained for combat. That is the basic complaint of all the Negro troops.

"These are all beefs," I said at last, having listened to perhaps 20 different soldiers. "Now, tell me just what you think the remedy is for what's wrong out here."

Some said the remedy was that "no soldiers should take orders from civilian personnel." Some said it was to remove all soldiers and put in a complete civilian staff.

They all agreed that a larger trained staff was essential. They all agreed that Col. Verdel ought to be removed. 7-1-45

I was in a ward containing 208 patients. Two soldiers have charge. A ward being a big building of from two to three floors and many rooms, one attendant may not see the other for hours. These two men are locked in with the patients, some of whom are homicidal maniacs. When a patient recently stole up behind an attendant, threw a towel around the man's neck and proceeded to strangle him, it was only his fighting back that saved him.

Few Doctors On Duty

An attendant is **not** supposed to strike back, no matter what happens.

A larger number of attendants is essential, a doctor told me. He said that the hospital contained between 2,700 and 2,800 patients, yet, during the night, four or five middle-aged or elderly women nurses had to cover that immense block of big buildings. The doctor said:

"If there is 'abuse,' it's not deliberate. Some kind of force is necessary to give some patients their medicine or to get them to go in the direction they've got to go or to save your life.

"As to the troops, I think they are necessary here, because of lack of civilian personnel, trained or untrained. They just couldn't get anybody to work here. However, most of these soldiers have received basic training for action against the enemy. They haven't been trained to take care of mentally ill patients. Therefore, even their training is not suitable to the work they have been assigned to.

Too Few Attendants 7-1-45

"They're blaming the Army; they're blaming all sorts of things but the real thing. There's too much paper work for the doctors; too much red tape. Today, Sunday, for example, with all these patients and all their visitors wanting to see the doctor, there are only two of us on duty for more than 2,700 patients."

He thought Col. Verdel was too aloof from the hospital personnel. The colonel, he said, didn't consult or meet with them as he should.

He did not dispute my suggesting that Verdel be removed as a part of any thorough-going remedy of what ails Northport.

56e- 1945

Dibble Denies Sanctioning Any Segregation Theory

Washington Tribune
6-16-45

By Harry McAlphin

In a telegram to NNPA, Col. Eugene H. Dibble, jr., head of the all-Negro Tuskegee Veterans Hospital, declared that Rep. John S. Gibson (Dem. of Ga.) apparently misinterpreted his associatian with a segregated institution as an unqualified endorsement of segregation in theory. Washington, D.C.

Dr. Dibble was referring to a statement made by Gibson on the floor of the House of Representatives, concurred in by Rep. John E. Rankin (Dem. of Miss.), that Negroes must be segregated in ties, that white nurses should not be allowed to attend Negro patients, and that it would be a fine thing if every State had an all-Negro hospital.

In the course of his tirade, Gibson said Col. Dibble agreed with him "in toto" on the business of segregation. He said the colonel agreed too that Negroes do not have to be mixed with whites to be able to "improve themselves". He was loud in his praise of the hospital at Tuskegee, which he referred to constantly as the "nigger" hospital. 6-16-45

Rankin Spouts

Rankin, in the same debate, said anybody was crazy who tried to knock down segregation.

Col. Dibble's full telegram to NNPA read: "This has reference to article by Charles A. Michie in PM of Sunday, June 3 in which it is stated Congressman John S. Gibson of Georgia said that Col. Dibble agreed with him in toto on the business of segregation.

"Congressman Gibson has apparently misinterpreted my association with a segregated institution as an unqualified endorsement by me of segregation in theory.

"While the Congressman's statements do not reflect my personal views, I wish to point out that it is not my privilege as a professional man in a United State Government agency to criticize the policies of that service either favorably or unfavorably. Above statement has been wired to PM today."

FIFTEEN NEGRO ENLISTED MEN CHARGED WITH BEATING INMATES IN U. S. VETERANS HOSPITALS

The Black Dispatch

Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Make Investigation With FBI Aid

Oklahoma City, Okla

FIVE WHITES HELD IN PROBE

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Mistreatment and abuse of mental cases at the veterans hospital at Northport, L. L., was laid to 15 enlisted colored troops and five white civilians by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, it was disclosed last Tuesday at hearings before the house veterans committee.

Spokesmen for both the VFW and the American Legion were making reports on their investigations of veterans facilities throughout the country, investigations which in each instance gave a clean bill of health to the installation at Tuskegee.

Joseph M. Stack of Pittsburgh, senior vice commander in chief for VFW, is the one who testified for his organization. "Our first recommendation," he said, "is for this committee to set in motion an 'undercover' probe, assuring immunity to each complainant." He called the conditions existing in the neuro-psychiatric hospitals, "starting with Northport," "sickening examples of the results of physical violence."

The report itself had this to say: 6-23-45

"When asked if there were any complaints or known instances here patients had been beaten or ill-treated, the manager (of the facility) informed the (VFW) committee that 15 enlisted colored troops had been court-martialed and convicted of mistreating the patients, and five civilian employees are now facing criminal assault charges for beatings administered to patients.

"These convictions were obtained, we learned, by three FBI agents who had been admitted to the facility as patients and produced evidnece to convict. The manager also admitted that there were other cases of mistreatment which were not reported and that any man against whom a complaint for mistreatments lodged, is immediately suspended and the charges investigated."

All reports on Tuskegee were favorable. According to the American Legion report, there were no general or specific complaints on medical treatment and hospital care, standards of treatment were superior, discipline and morale of patients is satisfactory and of hospital personnel, good.

The facility at North Little Rock, Ark., according to the legion report, presents something of a problem. "Contemplated plan of having an army detail of Negro attendants to serve white patients will prove highly unsatisfactory and should be resisted by the American Legion," he report said. A spokesman for the organization explained that "friction" between the groups is the reason for this proposal. His own view is that segregation is best for the racesu.

The report on Muskogee related the incident where a group of colored patients seated themselves at the counter of the canteen and demanded to be served. After this occurred, the manager called a meeting of the representatives of all parties concerned, and the matter was temporarily resolved. The report then went on:

"I am fearful of the consequences of colored and white veterans being associated together in the same hospitals and not being allowed the same privileges. The colored veterans are allowed to come to the library and take books and magazines, but unlike the white veterans they must leave and are not permitted to read or lounge in the library.

"This facility hospitalizes the veterans not only from Oklahoma but from Texas and Arkansas. As the hospital becomes crowded, I think there will be greater possibility of friction between colored and white veterans. We of the American Legion are greatly concerned over this problem and recommend to the manager of the Veterans' administration that these patients be separated at once."

NAACP Opposes Vet Plan For Separate Hospitals

Pittsburgh Courier — Pa.
2-3-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A protest against the announced plan of the Veterans Administration to construct separate hospital facilities for Negroes, was voiced by Leslie S. Perry of the Washington Bureau NAACP in a letter this week to Brigadier General Frank T. Hines, administrator of the Veterans Administration. In registering concern over the attitude of the Vet Administration, Perry pointed to Hines' own testimony before the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives regarding appropriations for 1945, in which he said:

"'We are going to have a problem undoubtedly of providing another Tuskegee Hospital, or a solid colored hospital, probably more in the Mississippi - Alabama area. There are a large number of colored troops from that area. The Board is studying all of that now."

In response to Hines' statement, Perry said, "The racial attitudes and practices of the Veterans Administration is a matter of deep concern to the Association as well as to thousands of thoughtful white and colored people throughout the Nation. We must express ourselves as being irrevocably opposed to the extension of jim crowism by the Veterans Administration, whether under the guise of so-called 'solid colored hospitals' or otherwise."

Promise Veteran Hospital Amalgam Probe

New York News
Negro Segregation
N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—After a conference Oct. 25 with representatives of the National Negro Publishers' Association, the NAACP and leading figures of the National Medical Association, General Paul H. Hawley, assistant surgeon general and chief of staff of the hospital division of the Veterans' Administration, promised that he would personally visit "non-segregated institutions of the Veterans' Administration and proceed as rapidly as circumstances permitted to integrate Negroes into these institutions."

At the conference which General Hawley held were Dr. E. I. Robinson, president of the National Medical Association of Los Angeles; Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, National Association of Negro Graduate Nurses; Carl Murphy, Louis Lautier and Roy Garvin of the Negro National Publishers' Association; Dr. A. C. Torrence, Opelausas, La.; Dr. L. H. B. Foote, Tallahassee Fla.; Dr. Montague Cobb and Dr. Charles Prudhomme, of Howard University; Jesse Dedmon, Jr., and Walter White of the NAACP.

General Hawley, obviously impressed by the united opposition to segregated facilities in the Veteran's Administration promised that he would make a "personal visit to non-segregated facilities and would proceed as rapidly as circumstances permitted" to integrate Negroes in non-segregated institutions.

Among the topics discussed in the one-hour conference was the appointment of guardians for incompetent Negro veterans.

11-3-45

NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292

JUN 20 1946

Negroes Protest Vet Hospital Abuse Charge

'No Training'—'Forced to Violence'—'Too Menial for Whites'

Negro soldiers stationed at the Veterans' Facility at Northport, L. I., today protested that their race had been unfairly maligned in connection with the abuse of patients at the hospital.

Letters received by the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in Armed Forces from Negro soldiers stationed at the facility were bitter about the charge leveled at Negroes.

"I came with the first group of Negro soldiers here July 6, 1943," one letter said. "At that time the War Dept. specifically provided that detachments in veterans' neuropsychiatric institutions should be composed of enlisted Negro personnel and white officers. In other words, the work to be done was considered too menial and unpleasant for white soldiers."

The letter continued:

"The soldiers were given no course of training. The facility was tragically understaffed. Soldiers would be thrown on wards of violent patients alone, without knowledge of how to protect themselves, much less the patients, from other patients . . .

"The civilian attendants had not been given a course of training either, and understaffed as they were, they had to resort to violence to protect themselves.

"Yet in almost two years we have been here there have been only 15 prosecutions for assaulting or threatening to assault patients on the part of soldiers. A month and a half ago the authorities determined to transfer the Negro soldiers and replace them with whites. But the Negro soldiers are still there because the white soldiers refuse to work on the wards under conditions the Negro soldiers have to face."

Other letters received by the Lynn Committee are in similar vein.

Congressman Rankin Licks His Chops:

Negro Vets Sentenced For Striking Patients

The Voice
New York, N.Y.
6-13-45

WASHINGTON—Mississippi's Representative, John E. Rankin, was licking his chops last week. He had something on Negro soldiers. During hearings of the House Veterans' Committee, it was disclosed that 13 Negro veterans had been court-martialed for mistreating patients at the Neuropsychiatric (Veterans) Hospital at Northport, N. Y., where they worked as hospital attendants, and sentenced to from two to six months.

Rankin wanted to make sure that everybody understood that Negroes were the guilty ones. He asked the same question six times of Col. Louis Verdel, manger of the hospital. He wants to investigate the War Department for sending Negro troops to care for white patients.

6-13-45

"That's a white hospital and every one of the convicted men was a Negro," he shouted. "It is a disgrace that the War Department should send Negro troops into war veterans' hospitals to be mixed up with white nurses and with officers who cannot enforce discipline."

"I'm tired of seeing communists in the War Department," he said at one point in the hearings." The Army is attempting to break down necessary segregation of whites and Negroes. There must be changes in the War Department—the sooner the better."

Previous testimony before the committee had revealed that seven white civilian attendants at the Northport facility had been dismissed on similar charges. They, with the soldiers, had been accused of striking patients. Col. Verdel suggested that the striking of patients by the attendants had been "acts of impulse." "I do not believe we had any affairs of sadism," he said.

He regarded the use of Negro soldiers in mental hospitals as inadvisable, the colonel said, and had asked that they be replaced by white soldier attendants. He also said that both white and Negro soldiers were dissatisfied over assignment to hospital duty and their attitude had a bad effect on the patients.

6-13-45

SEVEN WHITES CONVICTED

As Rankin continued to point out that the convicted men were Negroes, Rep. Bernard Kearney (R., N. Y.), another member of the committee, said that seven men had been convicted of the same charges at the Jacksonville hospital and that all of them were white.

Negro Publishers Blast Physicians Seeking Jim Crow Veteran Hospital

New York Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.
9-29-45

By Amsterdam News Staff Correspondence

WASHINGTON (Special) — The National Negro Publishers Association sub-committee on the welfare of wounded Negro war veterans went on record here Friday as committed to a right to obtain complete integration of the servicemen in all hospitals, regardless of race or color.

Told in an interview with Gen. Omar N. Bradley, newly appointed head of the Veterans Administration, that some Negro physicians are high pressuring a proposition for Jim Crow hospitals for wounded Negro veterans in order to provide places for them to practice, the NNPA declared:

"Let the federal hospitals take care of the Negro doctors, let the Veterans Administration take care of the GI's first. Let there be no color separation of war veterans. There was none during the war—continue the practice in times of peace. Separation does no one any good. We do not want another Tuskegee."

The NNPA went on record as demanding a Negro in the veterans administration to advise and work on matters of policy; someone whose duty it will be to set up bulwarks and to guard against discrimination and Jim Crow in the various bureaus.

Abolish Jim Crow

Abolition of Jim Crow "north of the Mason-Dixon line" was urged by Dr. John A. Kenney of New Jersey, who added, however, "for the South the question is not so easily settled. These men need and want tranquility and comfort. They should have, not only expert medical care, but the mental attitude of those administering it will have a great deal to do with their physical reactions." 10-20-45

Doubts as to the advisability of outright abolition of racial barriers were expressed by Dr. E. B. Perry of Texas:

"My first approach would be idealistically to hope that in the future we would not have segregated institutions. This is not possible even in this advance age."

Nevertheless, he urged integration into non-segregated hospitals of Negro physicians.

A veterans committee headed by Dr. L. H. B. Foote of Tallahassee, Fla., has been appointed by the National Medical association to meet with Gen. Omar Bradley head of the Veterans' Administration to discuss the findings of the NMA.

Dixie Vet Care Assailed

Chicago Defender
10-20-45

OPELOUSAS, La. — Jim Crow and wounded Negro veterans must not be bedmates in government hospitals.

This is what leading Negro doctors throughout the country made clear in a poll taken by the National Medical association this week.

One outstanding physician suggested that colored vets not be sent to hospitals in Dixie, but only in the North, East or West.

No Segregation

Dr. John P. Turner urged that Negro veterans "should not be sent to Southern hospitals. Where segregation and Jim Crow are a part of the set up, our boys and girls will fare worse in those areas."

He advised hospitalization in the North, East, or West for Negroes.

Dr. J. M. Hill of Georgia suggested:

"1. Hospitals for veterans that have no segregation as to race or color—only as to diseases, such as tuberculosis and neurological diseases.

2. Hospital staffs that are not segregated, but selected merely on the basis of training and merit of the doctors, regardless of race or color.

Dr. Paul B. Cornely, head of the Department of Bacteriology, Preventive Medicine, and Public Health, stated: 10-20-45

"I do not believe that the pattern which has been established by the veterans' administration of having segregated hospital facilities for Negro veterans is desirable or good; neither the practice which prevents Negro physicians and other professional people from being able to be integrated in the various veteran facilities."

Drop Plan for Dixie Veterans' Hospital

Pittsburgh Courier — Pa.

By JAMES L. HICKS, NNPA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The plan of the Veterans Administration to build a 500-bed all-colored hospital in Alabama or Mississippi has been abandoned, according to an announcement made by Major General Omar N. Bradley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, last Thursday. 12-15-45

Revision of a prior authorization for the all-colored hospital has been approved by the President. The revision calls for a 250-bed addition to be built at a jim-crow hospital in Alexandria, La. Allocation of the remaining 250 beds will be made later, General Bradley said. 12-15-45

RACE GROUPS OPPOSED PLAN

Funds for the construction of an all-colored hospital in Alabama or Mississippi were provided in the 1946 Independent Offices Appropriation Bill.

The Veterans' Administration declined to reveal why its plan had been changed, but opposition of colored organizations and individuals is believed to have been responsible.

With a capacity of 725 beds, the jim-crow hospital at Alexandria has 495 beds available for white veterans and 230 beds available for colored veterans in segregated wards. The 250-bed addition will bring its capacity to 975 beds.

CITY CALLED A "HELL-HOLE"

The Veterans' Administration declined to say whether the 250 additional beds will be used for colored veterans, thereby making a total of 480 beds available to colored veterans, or whether they would be divided proportionately between white and colored veterans. It did state, however, that the racial policy in effect at the Alexandria hospital follows the pattern of the local community and would not be changed.

Colored soldiers who were stationed at Camp Claiborne and Camp Livingston, La., near Alexandria, regarded that city as one of the worst hell-holes in the entire South. They were subjected to race discrimination and police brutality, the latter culminating in the wanton murder of a colored military policeman by a white civilian officer.

President Truman's approval of such a proposal.

The 250-bed addition at Alexandria represents one-half of an authorization given in the 1946 Independent Offices appropriation act for the construction of a 500-bed all-colored veterans hospital in either Alabama or Mississippi at a total cost of $3,049,830.

Construction of another jim crow hospital was opposed by the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Medical Association, the National Negro Nurses' Association and other organizations. 12-22-45

Opposition to construction of an addition for colored veterans at Alexandria is based on (1) conditions evisting in Alexandria and other localities in the deep South.

Two Men Murdered

At least two cases of apparent wanton murder of colored soldiers and a number race riots occurred in Alexandria during World War II.

A riot took place in Alexandria on the night of January 10, 1942. Colored soldiers and civilians and members of the military and civilian police force were involved. Twenty-nine colored soldiers were injured, three of them critical.

Pvt. Raymond Carr, a colored MP, on Nov. 1, 1942, was killed by State Trooper Dalton McCollum. A Louisiana grand jury refused to indict McCollum.

As a consequence of this case, forör Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson asked Congress to enact a bill broadening existing law so as to make it a Federal offense to assault or kill any service man. Congress has failed to pass such legislation.

Proposed Hospital Unit in Hostile Town Opposed

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Opposition to the building of a 250-bed addition for colored veterans at the veterans' hospital in Alexandria, La., was developing after it became known that the Veterans' Administration had obtained

Killed by Bu Driver

On March 14, 1944, Pvt. Edward Green, a soldier, was shot and killed by Odell Lachnette, a white bus driver. The Army officer, who investigated this case, said that the conclsion was inescapable that the there was no justification for the killing. Nothing was done to Lachnette.

Those incidents are typical of incidents which colored veterans sent to veterans' hospital at Alexandria would be subjected to whenever they had occasion to leave the hospital and go into the community.

According to a rialble source, Army experiences with colored troops, which have an important bearing on the location of veterans' hospitals, indicate that in border States conditions in Army camps were tolerable.

In the States of the deep South, conditions on military posts were generally undesirable and in the civilian communities intolerable.

Would Face Embarrassment

Many of the veterans who would be sent to Alexandria and other veterans' hospitals in the South have returned from overseas and would be continually facing embarrassment. A more favorable atmosphere is desirable for them.

The 725-bed general hospital at Alexandria has been converted into a tuberculosis hospital, the Veterans' Administration announced last Thursday. It declined, however, to state whether the proposed 250-bed addition be used exclusively for colored veterans.

The Alexandria hospital at present has 495 beds available for white veterans and 230 beds for colored veterans on segregated wards.

House Bill Keeps Jim Crow Pattern

The Afro American Baltimore, MD.

Georgian Named Head of Hospital Facilities

PROTESTS IGNORED

Money Appropriated for Second Separate Unit

12-8-45

WASHINGTON

Approval by the House Friday of the deficiency appropriation bill which provides funds for an addition to the Tuskegee Veterans' Hospital and the construction of a similar jim-crow unit either in Alabama or Mississippi this week forecast a prolonged fight over the issue of segregated hospitals.

Several organizations are already on record as vigorously opposing any extension of the old pattern of racial discrimination in veterans' facilities.

That this opposition might be ignored by Maj.-Gen. Omar Bradley, administrator of veterans' affairs, unless further pressure is brought to bear, was indicated this week.

General Bradley appeared to be moving along the old familiar path of racial segregation, observers pointed out. This was indicated by: 12-8-45

1. His appointment of Lt. Col. Harry E. Brown, a Southern industrial engineer and son of a former Georgia governor, as acting director of hospital planning and operation for veterans' hospitals throughout the United States.
2. His repeated disclosure that certain colored "leaders" in various parts of the country are urging the Veterans' Administration to follow a practice of jim-crow hospitalization of colored veterans.
3. A statement of Maj. Gen Paul R. Hawley, acting surgeon general of the Veterans Administration, that commitments on the issue of segregated hospitals made by General Bradley's predecessor Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, would prove embarrassing if not carried out.
4. The failure of General Bradley to change the 1946 hospital program as submitted to Congress. This program calls for additions to Tuskegee and the erection of a similar segregated unit in either Alabama or Mississippi.

House Approves Program

A total of $158,320,000 for veterans' hospitals and facilities was included in the deficiency appropriation bill passed by the House Friday. It is certain to be approved by the Senate.

Of this sum, $3,729,786 is definitely ear-marked for additions to the Tuskegee hospital and $3,659,898 would go for the erection of the new 500-bed general medical and tuberculosis hospital in Alabama or Mississippi.

Patterned after the Tuskegee institution, this would be the second all-colored hospital.

A delegation representing the NAACP, the National Medical Association and the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association, protested the segregated policy to General Bradley several weeks ago, and were given assurance that he would "study the matter." 12-8-45

At that time, General Bradley told these representatives that "some colored leaders" favored the old jim-crow plan and had written letters requesting that the new segregated building be erected.

Two Favor Segregation

Two men who are reported as favoring the plan for all-colored hospitals are Col. Eugene Dibble, present manager of the Tuskegee hospital, and Maj. Vance H. Marchbanks, former flight surgeon of the 332nd Fighter Group at Godman Field, Ky.

Opponents of any continuation of the segregated plan point to Tuskegee as the best example why such an organization should not exist.

Charges are made that only colored doctors who are not qualified to compete with white doctors in integrated hospitals will accept jobs in segregated set-ups like Tuskegee's.

Ironically enough, a statement made public by the Veterans' Administration itself fully substantiates the charge. The administration said: 12-8-45

Men Refuse Jobs

"Several attempts have been made to place colored doctors in hospitals in the South where special wards are provided for colored men. Apparently each attempt has failed, primarily because the colored doctor applicant has refused to go to a Southern hospital where segregation is practiced.

"Many colored doctors desire to be placed in hospitals in the North where there is no segregation of colored and white veterans. The Veterans' Administration has found this situation to be untenable in that it is difficult to place colored physicians in the position of tending white veterans, no matter where the locale. Public opinion for the most part will not stand for it."

However, Dr. Montague Cobb, professor of anatomy at Howard University, a firm opponent to jim-crow hospitals, does not share the views of the VA, when it says colored doctors cannot be integrated.

"Experience is, that if qualification is present at the beginning, and the administrative officer makes no particular inquiry to determine whether it will be agreeable with other personnel, absolutely nothing happens," he asserted.

Experiences Cited

To prove his contention, he cited experiences at Western Reserve University in Cleveland and Washington University in St. Louis.

Most flagrant abuse at Tuskegee, it was charged, was in the matter of guardianships for veterans, which borders on a racket.

The guardians, all white, are appointed to handle veterans' finances, with the power to invest the money and take a portion of it as their fees. 12-8-45

No colored persons are appointed as guardians for colored veterans at Tuskegee and some white men act as guardians for as many as ten colored veterans, it was charged.

Veterans' Administration figures reveal that of the 97 veterans' hospitals, 17 do not admit colored veterans except in cases of "medical emergency" and 24 of the remaining 80 admit them only to segregated wards.

15 Located in South

Fifteen of the institutions which totally bar colored veterans are located in the deep South, where most of them reside. The other two are at Reno, Nevada, and Waukesha, Wis.

Of the funds approved by Congress Friday, $1,525,000 will be used for the erection of a neuropsychiatric ward at Tuskegee. Other items in the Tuskegee appropriation include a storehouse, $146,000; refrigeration, $55,000; elevators, $24,000; incinerator, $65,000, and landscaping, $20,000. Remodeling of the dining hall and kitchen, $305,000; recreation building, $263,000; a gymnasium, $243,000; a theater building, $425,000; occupational therapy shops, $274,000; a connecting corridor between buildings, $45,000; a new $12,500; a chapel, 12-8-45

Negroes Battle U.S. Army Hospital Jimcrow in South

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

12-10-45

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (UP).—Negro leaders are demanding that Gen. Omar N. Bradley end segregation in southern veterans hospitals but he has refused, it was revealed tonight. Maj. Gen. Paul R. Hawley, Bradley's acting surgeon general, has cautioned him that the Veterans Administration cannot be made an agency for social change and that it must follow local custom.

Fanned by the Negro press, the issue has become one of Bradley's big headaches. His position has been that segregation will be eliminated as local custom changes.

A delegation representing 25 Negro organizations is currently seeking an appointment with the administrator to press the demand. Bradley's office said a meeting has not been arranged.

Thomasina W. Johnson, legislative representative of the National Nonpartisan Council, an organization of Negro women, charged that Bradley for six weeks has given her "the run-around" in scheduling the conference.

She said that in three previous talks with smaller groups, Bradley has been non-commital.

Bradley recently ordered a survey of Negro hospital facilities which showed that of VA's 97 hospitals, 17 accept no Negroes except in emergency and that 24 of the remaining 80 have separate wards for Negroes.

One hospital, at Tuskegee, Ala accepts only Negroes. The remaining 55 make no distinction.

AKA Amendments Hold 'Joker'

'Hospital Bill Makes World Charter Worthless--Langer

The Pittsburgh Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.

12-22-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Any Senator who voted to ratify the United Nations Charter adopted at San Francisco and outlawing discrimination on account of race, color, creed, or sex anywhere in the world, and voted for the Hill-Burton hospital survey and construction bill, was not consistent, Senator William Langer, Republican of North Dakota, declared just before the Senate passed that measure.

VIOLATES UNO CHARTER

Referring specifically to the Alpha Kappa Alpha-sponsored provision which authorizes race segregation in jim-crow States, Mr. Langer said:

"A short time age we ratified the United Nations Charter adopted at San Francisco. That document is either a great, immortal document, or it is a worthless scrap of paper. It is one or the other.

"In the Charter we said that there should be no future discrimination anywhere on earth because of race, color, creed, sex, or language.

"Yet, Mr. President, there is pending before us today a bill provides that a colored man lying in a hospital, if it be in a State which prohibits a colored doctor practicing in the hospital, cannot call in his colored physician.

WILL VOTE UNDER PROTEST

"I shall vote for the bill, but I shall vote for it under protest. I feel that anyone who voted for the Charter drawn up at San Francisco, in which we said we were going to have no more discrimination and then votes for a bill such as this, is not consistent."

Before making this comment Senator Langer had tried unsuccessfully to amend the bill so as to require State plans for carrying out the purposes of the measure to permit a patient to employ any doctor licensed to practice in the State where the hospital is located.

In support of his amendment Mr. Langer said he believes any hospital patient "'should have the right to select any physician he desires to take care of him. That is especially true," he added, "where Federal money is being appropriated to build and maintain hospitals."

STATES SHOULD DETERMINE

"Who shall practice in the hospitals, and the other matters pertaining to the conduct of the hospitals," Senator Lister Hill, Democrat, of Alabama, said "we have sought in the bill to leave to the authority and determination of the States, and not have the Federal Government, through this bill invade the realm of the operation and maintenance of hospitals."

Under the terms of the bill, six months after the legislation becomes effective, the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service with the approval of the Federal Hospital Council and the Federal Security Administration shall prescribe regulations on certain specified matters.

One of these regulations would require that the State construction plan provide for adequate hospital facilities for the people of the State, without discrimination on account of race, creed, or color.

Regulations also may require that an applicant for an individual hospital construction project give assurance to the State that it will serve all persons residing in the territorial area of the applicant.

"JOKER" IN AMENDMENTS

But the joker in the three AKA Non - Partisan Council - sponsored amendments is the proviso that if the regulations do require a policy of no discrimination, they must make an exception where separate hospital facilities are provided for separate population groups, if the State construction plan makes equitable provision on the basis of need for facilities and services of like quality.

In plain language, this provision if approved by the House and the President, will authorize, by Federal law, race segregation in States where jim-crow practices prevail.

Colored leaders of the medical profession said the Hill-Burton bill will help perpetuate race segregation, with colored people standing to lose.

The bill would provide an outlay of an estimated $700,000,000 for the construction of hospitals and health centers. Of the $700,000,000, the Federal Treasury would provide $375,000,000.

Five years ago the Senate passed a similar bill but it died in the House.

Vet Hospitals Refuse Or Segregate Negroes

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

12-7-45

By JAMES L. HICKS
NNPA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON. — (NNPA)—Of the 97 veterans' hospitals in the United States, 17 do not admit colored veterans at all, except in cases of medical emergency," and 24 of the remaining 80 admit them but place them on segregated wards or units, a study of the Veterans' Administration revealed.

Fifteen of the veterans' hospitals which do not admit colored veterans are located in the South, the other two being at Reno, Nev., and Waukesha, Wis. The 15 lily-white veterans' hospitals in the South are located at Albuquerque, New Mexico, Amarillo, Texas, Atlanta, Ga., Bay Pines, Fla., Biloxi, Miss., Dallas, Texas Fayetteville, Ark., Fayetteville, N. C., Montgomery, Ala., Legion, Texas, Cutwood, Ky., Augusta, Ga., Gulfport, Miss., Lexington, Ky., and Tuscaloosa, Ala.

According to officials of the Veterans' administration, the term "medical emergency" in its application to colored veterans, is not given too strict an interpretation in order that "no injustice" may result to colored veterans applying to lily-white hospitals for treatment.

12-7-45

Plan More in South

There are now 34 veteran hospitals located in the South, and the Veterans' administration is at present considering sites in Alabama and Mississippi for the erection of another. This would be an all-colored 500-bed hospital patterned after the one now located at Tuskegee, Ala., which only accepts colored veterans and is completely staffed by colored doctors and nurses.

Congress' action in appropriating funds for the erection of another all-colored hospital aroused protests from colored organizations but, at the same time, it was disclosed, a small minority of self-styled "colored leaders" have been urging the Veterans' administration to go ahead with its plans for jim-crow hospitals.

When a delegation representing the N.A.A.C.P., the National Medical association and the Negro Newspaper Publishers' association conferred with General Omar N. Bradley, recently, to protest segregated veteran hospitals, they were informed that some colored leaders favored the plan and had written letters requesting that such a hospital be erected.

Favor Jim Crow Plan

Two men who are reported as favoring the plan for all-colored hospitals are Col. Eugene Dibble, present manager of the jim-crow hospital at Tuskegee, and Major Vance H. Marchbanks, former flight surgeon of the 332nd Fighter Group and now stationed at Godman Field, Ky. 12-7-45

Opponents of the plan of an all-colored hospital point to the only all-colored hospital now in existence at Tuskegee, Ala., as the best example of why such an organization should not exist.

Charges are made that only colored doctors who are not qualified to compete with white doctors in integrated hospitals will accept jobs in segregated set-up such as the one at Tuskegee, and ironically enough, a statement made public by the Veterans' administration itself fully substantiates the charge.

The statement of the Veterans' administration said:

"Several attempts have been made to place Nero doctors in hospitals in the South where special wards are provided for Negroes. Apparently each attempt has failed, primarily because the Negro doctor applicant has refused to go to a southern hospital where segregation is practiced.

"Many Negro doctors desire to be placed in hospitals in the North where there is no segregation of Negro and white veterans. The Veterans' administration has found this situation to be untenable in that it is difficult to place Negro physicians in the position of tending white veterans no matter where the locale. Public opinion for the most part will not stand for it." 12-7-45

However, Dr. Montague Cobb, professor of anatomy at Howard university, and a firm opponent of all-colored hospitals does not share the views of the Veterans' administration when it says that colored doctors cannot be integrated into non-segregated hospitals.

Speaking directly to Major General Paul R. Hawley, acting Surgeon General of the Veterans' administration, at a recent conference, Dr. Cobb said "Experience is, that if qualification is present

at the beginning, and the administrative officer makes no particular inquiry to determine whether it will be agreeable with other personnel, absolutely nothing happens." He then cited experiences at Western Reserve university in Cleveland, Ohio, and Washington university in St. Louis.

Some of the charges levelled at Tuskegee were specific. Among them was a charge that the matter of guardianships for veterans at Tuskegee is a lucrative racket in which white guardians are appointed to handle colored veterans' finances. 12-7-45

These guardians, it is charged, have the power not only to invest the ex-soldier's money but also to take part of it as payment for being his guardian. It is also claimed that no colored persons are appointed as guardians for colored veterans at Tuskegee, and that some white men act as guardians for as many as 10 colored veterans.

Questioned on this matter, the Veterans' administration said that guardians are appointed for veterans by a county probate court within the state and admitted that guardians have the power to invest a veteran's money and that the court allows a guardian to take up to five percent of the money handled as payment for being the soldier's guardian.

The investments, however, said the Veterans' administration, are usually made in war bonds and the guardian's handling of the ex-serviceman's money is frequently checked by the court. 12-7-45

It was further charged that colored veterans at Tuskegee must pay concession operators a certain sum of money to get their checks cashed. When queried on this matter, the Veterans' administration stated that this is a practice that has been widespread in veterans' hospitals until a few months ago, but that plans are now underway which will place all such canteens and stores under the Veterans' Special Service branch and that individuals operating concessions in Veterans' hospitals now are merely serving out their unexpired leases which will not be renewed when they expire. In the future the federal government will operate the concessions at Veterans' hospitals.

Plan $3,729,786 Addition At 'Skegee Vets Hospital

The Memphis World Memphis, Tenn.

12-7-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) — Although the House Appropriations Committee considered the Veterans' Administration 1946 hospital building program, which includes an item of $3,729,786 for a 164-bed addition to the Veterans' hospital at Tuskegee, Alabama, it recommended no appropriation in the first deficiency appropriation bill for 1946 which it reported last Monday.

The amount sought for veterans' hospital totaled $158,320.00, but the committee deferred action because it believes it should have more time for studying the projects located in relation to existing facilities and those now foreseeable for which appropriations must later be made and the possible utilization of surplus Army and Navy Hospitals by the Veterans' Administration. 12-7-45

$1,525,000 WARD

The addition at Tuskegee will be a neuropsychiatric ward to be built at a cost of $1,525,00.

Other items for the Tuskegee hospital, for which estimates were submitted but for which no appropriations were made, include a storehouse, $146,000; refrigeration, $55,000; elevators, $24,000; remodeling of the dining hall and kitchen $305,000; recreation building, $263,000; a gymnasium, $243,000; a theater building, $425,000; occupational therapy shops, $274,000; a connecting corridor between buildings, $45,000; a new incinerator, $12,500; a chapel, $65,000, and landscaping $20,000.

Any addition to the veterans hospital at Tuskegee and the construction of another Jim Crow hospital in Alabama or Mississippi have been opposed by colored organizations as an extension of race segregation.

House Body Considers Large Item

Statement Not Read By Gen. Bradley

Journal-Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The statement which Gen. Omar N. Bradley, administrator of Veterans' Affairs, had prepared to read at a conference last Thursday but was prevented from doing so by the reading of a lengthy statement by the spokesman for the delegation, was released for publication last Friday.

It follows: 12-24-45

"The Veterans' Administration is charged with the responsibility of rendering service to the veterans of our country's wars, under the provisions of several pieces of national legislation.

Norfolk, Va.

"This legislation makes no distinction among veterans because of race, creed, color or national origin. It will be the basic policy of the Veterans' Administration to work toward the elimination of any such distinctions that may exist in any program under its control.

"General study of the entire Veterans' Administration is being made. It is not possible at this time to state all of the changes which can or should be made, but you may be assured that when our investigation shows that there is any distinction being made in the handling or treatment of veterans and their relatives, because of race, creed, color or national origin, in any matter under the control of the Veterans' Administration, that every possible step will be taken as rapidly as feasible to eliminate these distinctions."

Gen. Bradley Aids Jim Crow

P.M.

12-10-45

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10. — Negro leaders are demanding that Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Veteran Administrator, end segregation in Southern veterans hospitals, but he has refused. Maj. Gen. Paul R. Hawley, Bradley's Acting Surgeon General, has persuaded him that the VA should not be made "an agency for the changing of social customs" and that it must "follow the customs" of local regions.

Fanned by the Negro press, the issue has become one of Bradley's major problems, but so far his position has been merely that segregation will be eliminated as local custom changes. New York N.Y.

A delegation representing 25 Negro organizations has for some time been seeking an appointment with the Administrator to press the demand, but Bradley's office says no meeting has been arranged. Thomasina W. Johnson, legislative representative of the National Non-Partisan Council, an organization of Negro women, charges that Bradley for six weeks has given a runaround in scheduling the conference.

56f-1945

Field On Morotai Named For GI Killed In Combat

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

WITH THE 93RD INFANTRY DIVISION IN THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES—In a moving ceremony witnessed by more than 6,000 service men, the athletic field of the 25th nfantry Regiment recently was dedicated to the memory of a Texas Doughboy who died battling the Japs on Bougainville in May, 1944. Sat. 12-29-45

The event, held during the Morotai Island baseball championship play-off, honored Staff Sgt. Walter J. Burroughs, son of Mrs. Mabel Burroughs, 1610 East Third street, Fort Worth, Texas.

The field was officially dedicated by Colonel William M. Hoke, commanding officer of the 25th Infantry. His remarks follow:

Hero's Death Told

" . . . Today, before the beginning of this championship game between the Bullets of the 25th Infantry and the All-Stars of the 369th Infantry, we thought it fitting to give an official name to the field, the home of the 25th Infantry Bullets baseball team. In naming it, we wish to honor the late Staff Sergeant Walter J. Burroughs, a former member of this command who was killed in action against the enemy on the 14th day of May, 1944.

"Sergeant Burroughs was inducted into the army from his hometown, Fort Worth, Texas, on the 18th of January, 1941. During his three years of service with this Regiment, he was known by his immediate comrades to be a likeable person, a fine man and a brave and efficient soldier. He was also an outstanding athlete. Those of you who were members of the Division in the fall of 1942, will remember him as an excellent football player. In fact, his every action as a soldier and as a man makes us proud to claim him, honor him, and perpetuate his memory.

"So as Regimental commander of the 25th Infantry, it is with the greatest pride in the service of a soldier of this command, that I officially name this place of recreation, Burroughs Field."

The Bullets won the championship of Morotai by a score of 6 to 1 over the All-Stars. The winning pitcher was Captain Frederick D. Jenkins of Alexandria, La., who was Sergeant Burroughs' company commander at the time of his death.

56f-1945

CHEMICAL UNIT HONORED

Chicago Defender 5-3-45

WITH U.S. ARMY FORCES IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC—In a special ceremony at a base somewhere in the South Pacific, a Negro chemical processing company was awarded the coveted Meritorious Service Unit Plaque. This award was made by the commanding general of this island base by the direction of the President.

DEDICATE LARGEST BRIDGE IN FRANCE TO SOLDIERS

Plaindealer, Kansas 1-5-45

By Rudolph Dunbar
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

Paris. (ANP) — A ceremony which touched the unusual was staged at Rouen, France, where, with pomp and dignity, the Darental bridge, the largest in France, was dedicated by two colored soldiers of the 392nd Engineer Regiment General service. They were Pfc. I. D. Dickerson, whose address is Box 173, Pikeville, N. C., and Pfc. Albert Ames of Cave City, Ky.

1-5-45

The former was killed by an anti-personnel mine at Carenton while clearing a mine field; and Ames was killed by an anti-personnel bomb while on guard duty in Brittany. The ceremony included the award of the Legion of Merit to M/Sgt. Eldred M. Currie who comes from Nashville. It is said that he is a man of large resourcefulness. With consummate skill he trained some of the most inexperienced men to work on the administrative staff. His wife is at present living in Columbus, O.

Pvt. A. I. June received the Certificate of Merit for saving a soldier from burning to death. The soldier's clothes were in flames due to the explosion of a gasoline tank. In fear of being burned to death he started to run away, thereby feeding the flames with his movement. Pvt. Al June ran behind the soldier, threw him on the ground and rolled him about until the flames were extinguished. Pvt. Al June's address is Route 1, Box 175, Rodessa, La. His mother, who lives at the same address, is Mrs. Hana June

The ceremony had triple function for aside from dedicating the bridge to these two gallant Negroes and the award of medals to the officers and men: it was the manifestation of a remarkable engineering feat completed with astonishing rapidity. It was also the greatest tribute paid to Negro soldiers that I have seen in France. 1-5-45

The construction of the bridge was carried out by the second battalion under the supervision of Maj. Horace B. Rickey from New Orleans who received the Brown Star award. Before the Nazis cleared out of Rouen they deposited 40 tons of TNT under the main columns of the Viaduct which blew up nine arches of the bridge. This made a gigantic pile of masonry which took eight days to clear away by blasting, and by the use of bulldozers before the actual work on the bridge began.

The men had to dig nine feet under the ground in order to get a solid foundation. There were no timber available consequently the men had to go into the forest and fell huge trees to get their timber required for the massive structure of the bridge. Special belts were made in the French machine shops. The French railroad officials provided the battalion with flood lights thus enabling them to work on a 24 hour shift. They had to face an arduous task for the perpetual rains had threatened to rob them of the record they were trying to establish. Coupled with this there was a sea of mud which added to their difficulties.

Nevertheless, the job was completed as arranged much to the astonishment of the British and French officials who said that it was impossible of accomplishment. In order to demonstrate the resistance of the bridge, two engines weighing 200 tons each were coupled together and made a run across which was a distinct success. It was a great achievement for the 2nd battalion and high military and civil dignitaries including Americans, French and British, gathered to pay them homage.

The Ceremony 1-5-45

The ceremony began with a luncheon at the Grand Hotel De La Poste where Maj. Gen. C. B. Moore, chief engineer, U. S. Army ETO, was the principal guest. Sitting beside the general were Adm. Rivett-Carnac, commander of the British naval forces, Rouen; Brig. Ben. Monguy, French 3rd region; Brig. Hynes, commander British Rouen garrison; Capt. Heron de Vollefosse, French naval commander, Rouen; Comdr. Morris, U. S. navy; the mayors of Rouen and Darental, the vice president of the chamber of commerce, railway officials, the commander of the port and a multitude of other important personages.

After the luncheon the party drove to the bridge where the ceremony was carried out. After the bridge was officially dedicated to the two colored soldiers by General Moore, a 200 ton locomotive decorated with the allied flags, slowly and gracefully made a run across the bridge sounding its whistle in salute of the occasion. It was an impressive sight for it brought a spontaneous burst of cheering from the large crowd that were standing in the rain.

The presentation of colors and award of decorations followed. The guard of honor was made up of a detachment of the 2nd battalion with its regimental band under the direction of 1st Lt. Edwin H. Rusker from Grosse Ile, Mich. They enlivened the scene with martial enthusiasm by the playing of marches and the three national anthems. To mark the end of the ceremony the official party boarded a streamline train and drove across the bridge to the main station. 1-5-45

What impressed me most was the enthusiasm the officers in this regiment had shown for the recognition of their men. In addition, their unpolluted esteem for them in general for it was the men's wish that the bridge should be dedicated to their fallen comrades.

Maj. Edwin W. Hamilton, the executive officer who comes from Tulsa and who was also given the Bronze Star medal, was carrying the Legion of Merit medal in his pocket and showing it to every colored soldier he met in Paris. Col Woolsey Finell, Jr., from Kentucky is the commanding officer.

Commemorations

Engineers Master Giant Task

Pgh. Courier 1-6-45

Dedicate Bridge To 2 Dead Heroes In France

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR, ANP War Correspondent

PARIS—Dedication of the rebuilt Darental bridge (largest in France) to two dead Negro soldiers, presentation of the Legion of Merit and Certificate of Merit to two heroic Tan Yanks, and a tribute to the remarkable engineering feat of the Second Battalion of the 392nd Engineer Regiment (General Service), marked the unusual ceremony staged recently in Reuen, France.

There's an interesting story behind this colorful ceremony. It all started when retreating Germans placed 40 tons of TNT under the main columns of the bridge and blew up nine of its arches. This is where Negro soldiers, members of the 392nd Engineer Regiment, entered the story. The second battalion of the 392nd moved in and in eight days cleared the debris. In reconstructing the bridge, the tan Yanks had to dig nine feet to reach a solid foundation. Working 24-hour shifts and hindered by rain, the engineers felled the trees to get timber required for the massive structure of the giant bridge. Nevertheless, they completed the bridge, much to the astonishment of the British and French.

SEEK OUT DESERVING GI'S

When it came time to reopen the bridge and pay due honor to the Negro engineers who had made possible the reopening, Army officers decided this was the occasion for giving praise to outstanding colored heroes of the ground forces.

This was the time to dedicate the bridge to two fallen fighting men and to present awards to deserving GIs'.

Pfc. I. D. Dickerson of Pikeville, N. C., was kiled by an anti-personal mine at Carenton while clearing a mine field, and Pfc. Albert Amos of Cave City, Ky., was the victim of an anti-personal bomb while on guard duty in Brittany. To these two brave tan Yanks who proved their mettle during moments of danger, the bridge was dedicated.

SAVES BURNING SOLDIER

The awards went to M./Sgt. Eldred M. Currie of Nashville, Tenn., and to Pvt. Al June of Rodessa, La. Sergeant Currie, awarded the Legion of Merit, was credited with training some of the most inexperience men to work on the Army's administrative staff.

Private June received the Certificate of Merit for saving a soldier from a fiery death. The victim, his clothes ignited by an exploded gasoline tank, was overpowered by Private June and rolled on the ground until the flames were extinguished.

The ceremony was one of the greatest tributes paid to Negro soldiers. It began with a luncheon at the Grand Hotel De La Poste where Maj. Gen. C. B. Moore, chief engineer, U. S. Army, ETO, was principal speaker. High ranking Allied officers were present.

The party drove from the hotel to the bridge where the remainder of the ceremony was carried out. After the bridge was dedicated to the two soldiers by General Moore, a 200-ton locomotive, decorated with flags of the Allied nations, made a test run over the bridge. A large crowd stood in the rain to witness this impressive sight.

GUARD OF HONOR

The presentation of colors and award of decorations followed. The guard of honor was made up of a detachment of the second battalion with its regimental band under the direction of 1st Lt. Edwin H. Rusker of Michigan.

"Immortality" Given Colored Women by 92nd GI Artist

Afro-American 1-6-45

By CAPT. DOUGLASS HALL
Chaplain with the 92nd Division

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY.—A lasting memorial to colored womanhood is being left here by Sgt. Ralph McAfee, 19, of California, a member of the 92nd Division, whose hobby is painting life-size poses of bronze beauties upon the walls of Italian buildings.

From Salerno Beach to his present station, wherever his outfit has moved and set up a club, he has left his trademark, painting of a beautiful colored woman.

Explaining his hobby, the young sergeant says: "Well, they talk so much of the girls back home and rave so about their pictures that I just figured they would like life-size models of them."

GI's Eager for Glimpses

That he figured right is evidenced by the attempts of soldiers to get passes so that they can go to town and see the images he has created.

Sergeant McAfee, who was a student at a California college when he was drafted, says that he expects to return to his work in civilian life after the war, adding: "I think I will give my life to immortalizing the beauty of the colored woman."

RACE CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON START MOVEMENT TO ERECT MONUMENT DEDICATED TO OUR NEGRO SOLDIERS

Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Wash 1-9-45

Every man and woman in the Pacific Northwest will have an opportunity, starting today, to contribute to a $150,000 fund for the building of one of the nation's outstanding monuments, dedicated to our Negro soldiers.

The plan, which was started in Seattle, will embrace the entire Pacific Coast, including the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and California. Committees have been and are being set up in each of these states, to operate under an executive committee composed of the following:— 1-3-45

J. A. (Jack) Johnson, Chairman; E. R. Chainey, Vice Chairman; William B. Foster, Secretary; E. I. Robinson, Treasurer; Mrs. Eleanor Mitchell; Russell E. Smith; and C. T. Dawson of Seattle, and D. B. G. Swanson of Bremerton. Executive committee members will be added from Tacoma, Yakima and Spokane and also from other states in the campaign area.

"More than 700,000 Negroes now are fighting with the American forces," said Chairman Johnson. "In every war this nation has fought, the Negro has fought side by side with his white brother-in-arms. He has borne the same hardships and made the same sacrifices. He has fought just as bravely and died just as gamely, knowing all the while he did so that when the history of the war was written, he and his race would get little of the credit. Unfortunately, that is the way things are. 1-3-45

"But the time has come for we who stayed at home—we in the shipyards and the airplane plants and wherever we may be—to recognize our obligation to the 700,000 who are doing our fighting for us on battlefields the world over. Look at the heroic record they have made, a record that is being added to daily by deeds of valor on land and sea. The blood of many of these heroes already has been spilled in the South Pacific, in Italy, in France, on battlegrounds everywhere. Negroes cannot ignore the noble sacrifices these men and women have made. 1-3-45

"And so we are going to build this huge monument as an eternal tribute to the Negroes who fought and bled and died that freedom and democracy might survive."

Alonzo Victor Lewis, eminent American sculptor, already has been commissioned to begin his studies for the statue. It will be heroic in size, larger even than the "Doughboy," created by Mr. Lewis as a testimonial to the soldiers of the last war and erected in front of the Seattle Civic Auditorium. 1-3-45

The monument will be built on the Pacific Coast. The exact location will be determined by the state that raises the largest contribution toward its erection in proportion to the number of Negro residents of that state.

Pacific Coast headquarters for the campaign have been opened in the Elks Club Building at 662½ Jackson street, Seattle (4) Wash. Phone Elliot 9787.

Beginning today solicitors will begin work in all parts of the state. Every authorized solicitor will give official receipts for all contributions. 1-9-45

All funds collected will be deposited in the Seattle First National Bank and those responsible for handling it are bonded.

Honor Men Who Died In Action

Kansas City Call mo.
1-5-45

Ceremony Held For Engineer Corps Privates

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR
NNPA War Correspondent

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WORTHY OF SUPPORT

Birmingham News—Alabama

A project that merits support by public-spirited Dallas Countians is the funds campaign which Negro leaders will launch this week for completion of a youth camp on Highway 80 as a memorial to members of their race who died in World War II.

The site for the camp, formerly known as Joyland, already has been purchased and paid for by Negro sponsors of the project and an additional $1,500 in cash is in hand from last year's financial campaign. An additional $12,000 is being sought to permit construction of a memorial swimming pool, a bath house, a pavilion, a fish pond and six small cottages, all of which can be achieved if the stipulated goal is reached. 9-17-45

As scores of Dallas Negroes went into the armed services during the war and gave an excellent account of themselves, it is only fitting that this county should memorialize their dead. It is even more fitting that such a memorial take the form of a development that will aid in the betterment of the youth of the Negro race, and the camp project should be given the full moral and financial support that its high purposes merit.—Selma Times-Journal.

Plan $500,000 Memorial Unit

Atlanta Daily World

CHICAGO 4 (ANP) — A $500,000 memorial civic auditorium building, dedicated to Negro service men and women, will be erected in one of several local communities soon, according to Ald. Oscar Depriest here last week. 8-22-45

Ald. DePriest, who disclosed that he is now looking for a site to begin construction on the building, denied that the sponsors of the building have any political designs in its erection. He said that it is to be non-partisan, absolutely free of political control.

DePriest, a former congressman and also a south side realtor revealed that the auditorium will have a seating capacity of 10,000 and will be equipped with facilities for recreation, sports meetings and conventions, news-reel theatre, ice hockey and skating arena, he said. The auditorium will be air-conditioned. 8-22-45

"The recreation program is scheduled so that about 70 per cent of the activity will be allocated to the public without charge," the Alderman added. The building will house several war veterans posts.

Similar memorial civic buildings will be erected in other cities, he said by the Commerce Research group, which will handle construction of the proposed memorial building here.

Name Plane After Captain Faulkner

Atlanta World

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — (SNS) — Honor to the memory of Captain William J. Faulkner, Jr., former Lockhead employe of Department 15, Factory A-I, the first Negro officer to receive a commission in the Army Air Forces, was paid this week when a fighting Lockhead Lightning was decided in his name.

Captain Faulkner was killed on a combat mission over Austria on November 7, 1944, after completing 56 battle missions with the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron. On many occasions he had been cited for bravery, leadership and efficiency and was holder of the Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters.

4-18-45

Son of Dr. W. J. Faulkner, dean of Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., Captain Faulkner graduated from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia; and completed his pilot training at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. He had gone to work for Lockhead on October 23, 1941, and terminated August 15, 1942, to join the AAF. At the time of his death a message came from Major General N. F. Twining, commanding officer of the 15th Air Force, which stated that Captain Faulkner had participated in action during the most vital period of Mediterranean operations.

4-18-45

"His record compares favorably with those of our finest airmen," said General Twining.

Honor guest at the dedication of the Memorial plane this week was Captain Faulkner's widow, Mrs. Martha Faulkner, who was accompanied by officials of the company and close friends among his co-workers at Lockhead.

Plane dedicated to 99th hero

Los Angeles Tribune 4-16-45 C2L.

Honor to the memory of Capt. William J. Faulkner, Jr., former Lockheed employe, first Negro officer commissioned in the Army Air Forces, was paid this week when a Lockheed Lightning was dedicated in his name by his wife who is visiting here from Cleveland.

Capt. Faulkner was killed on a combat mission over Austria Nov. 7, 1944, after completing 56 missions with the 99th Pursuit squadron. He was the holder of the Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters.

Son of Dr. W. J. Faulkner, dean of Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., Capt. Faulkner graduated from Morehouse College, Atlanta, and completed his pilot training at Tuskegee university. He had gone to work for Lockheed in 1941 and quit in 1942 to join the AAF. At the time of his death a message came from Maj. Gen. N. F. Twining, commanding officer of the 15th Air Force, which stated that Captain Faulkner had participated in action during the most vital period of Mediterranean operations.

4-16-45

"His record compares favorably with those of our finest airmen," said General Twining.

His young widow, Mrs. Martha Faulkner, was accompanied by officials of the company and close friends among his co-workers at Lockheed.

Names Fighter for Slain 332nd Pilot

Call-Leader City, Mo.

Lockheed Honors Memory of Captain

4-27-45

NASHVILLE. — (ANP) — Honor to the memory of Capt. William J. Faulkner Jr., former employe of the huge Lockheed plant was paid Wednesday when one of the Lightning fighters produced here was dedicated in his name.

Faulkner had been employed here as a riveter.

He was killed on a combat mission over Austria on Nov. 7, 1944, after completing 56 battle missions with the 332nd fighter group, commanded by Col. B. O. Davis Jr. On many occasions he had been cited for bravery, leadership and efficiency and was holder of the Air medal with four oak leaf clusters.

Son of Dr. W. J. Faulkner, dean of Fisk university, Nashville, Capt. Faulkner graduated from Morehouse college, Atlanta, where his father formerly pastored the First Congregational church. He completed his pilot training at Tuskegee Army Air field.

At the time of his death, a message came from Maj. Gen. N. F. Twining, commanding officer of the 15th Air force which stated that Capt. Faulkner had participated in action during the most vital period of the Mediterranean operations.

4-27-45

"His record compared favorably with those of our finest airmen," said Gen Twining.

Honor guest at the plane dedicatory service was Capt. Faulkner's widow, Mrs. Martha Faulkner, who was accompanied by officials of the company and close friends among his co-workers at Lockheed.

Name Manila Red Cross Club For 99th Flyer Hero

Chicago Defender

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

MANILA.—What is believed to be the first American Red Cross club in this theatre to be named for a Negro hero of this war opened its doors in Manila last week.

6-2-45

The club, located in a 15-room mansion, is named for the late Capt. Robert S. Treswell, a West Point graduate and member of the pioneer 99th Pursuit Squadron. He was killed last year in combat.

Firm Donates And Equips Hospital Stage For Heroic Seaman

New York Age 5-19-45

On Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the U. S. Naval Convalescent Hospital at Seagate, Brooklyn, a completely equipped stage, which was donated and built by Emil Friedlander and George Feinberg, heads of the well-known firm of Dazian's, will be dedicated to the memory of Charles W. David, Jr.

5-19-45

David, a young Negro sailor, lost his life attempting to rescue another sailor, after the transport on which he was crossing the Atlantic was torpedoed.

His widow and son who reside at 375 West 127th street, will participate in the ceremony. They are shown above holding picture of the heroic seaman (inset).

Robert S. Treswell Club Mecca For GIs In Manila

Memphis Weekly

Memphis, Tenn.

CLEVELAND, O.
PRESS
Circ. D. 253,946

AUG 1 0 1945

MANILA, The Robert S. Treswell Club is a mecca for servicemen from all parts of Greater Manila This popular recreational center, located on the corner of Singalong and Remedios Streets is the first Red Cross Club in the Greater Manila Area to be named in honor of a hero of World War 11.

Capt Treswell was the son of Captain and Mrs. Treswell, formerly of the 24th Infantry. He was born at Fort Benning, Georgia During his high school and college days he was a promising tennis player and participated in the major sports as well.

8-9-45

He graduated from West Point and was the third ranking student in his class Shortly after the outbreak of war, Capt. Treswell was attached to the 99th Bomber Squadron and had 23 missions to his credit before he was killed in action in the European Theatre of Operations.

The American Red Cross staff in charge of the Treswell Club has worked-out a well balanced program of leisure time activities including dances, ping-pong tournament, badminton, bridge, whist and other table games. Birthday parties are staged each month and plans are underway for a monthly amateur talent night.

Ralph A Long is director of the Treswell Club. He is a former tennis champion and was an all-round athlete at Clark College. He has had rich experience in community and recreation work and prior to entering the Red Cross was supervisor of recreation and assistant coach at Atlanta, Georgia.

Other members of the staff are: Miss Willie C. Powe, assistant club director, of New Orleans, formerly supervisor of Parish Schools in Louisana; Miss Ocey Smith, of New York City, program director; and George Taylor Waugh also of New York City, in charge of Welfare Services.

Rally to Honor Merit of 75 Negro Workers

Seventy-five outstanding Negro workers representing almost every type of industry and business in Cleveland are to be honored at a "Merit Rally" at Carver Park Sunday afternoon.

Capt. Clarence L. Jamison, famous flyer of the 477th Bombardment Group will present badges to the workers. They have been chosen as representative of the hundreds of other Negroes who are not only good citizens but doing outstanding work in their jobs.

The Urban League is sponsoring the rally which has the support of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Sidney Williams, executive secretary, and H. M. Nash, industrial secretary of the Urban League, are in charge of the program. George Leroux, assistant plant manager of National Mallable & Steel Castings Co.; Joseph Kres of the Industrial Union Council, B. D. Zevin, vice president of World Publishing., and Frank Evans of the A. F. L. United Auto Workers will take part in the program at 4 p. m.

HOWARD THOMAS encourages others to do their best. Mr. Thomas, superintendent of waste collection and disposal for the city, has about 700 people in his department. He himself works 60 hours a week and is responsible for street-cleaning, garbage and rubbish disposal. He is always on call in case of emergency, when a fire breaks out on the dump for example.

Mr. Thomas was born in Middletown, O. but he has spent most of his life in Cleveland. He started out as a laborer and has gradually won his way ahead to his present position. Mr. Thomas and his wife live at 2207 E. 71st street.

Mr. Thomas was chosen to represent Negro employees of the city because "he is able to get the confidence of his fellow-workers and encourage them to do their best," S. F. David, director of public service, said. "Beneath his devotion to duty he possesses a frank simplicity which endears him to all who know him. He is a real asset to the city and a credit to his race."

PAUL HERVEY overcame a physical handicap. Mr. Hervey is a box maker at the Copifyer Lithograph Corp. Although he has only 10 per cent of normal vision, Mr. Hervey finds his way through the various departments at the firm and does a skilled job without help. Boxes he makes are used for sending Army Air Force manuals overseas.

"We've had other blind workers here but none of them except Paul Hervey have been able to stick it out," an official of Copifyer Lithograph said today. "He's a top-notch worker and we chose him as representative because of his dependability, his skill and the fact that he never uses his handicap as an excuse not to do good work."

Mr. Hervey, a graduate of the Ohio State School for the Blind in Columbus, has a brother in the Army in Burma. He gets around through the city streets by following the crowd which he sees only as a blur. He lives at 2175 7. 68th street.

MRS. SARAH DUNCAN helps to maintain war plant morale. Mrs. Duncan heads the good housekeeping committee at Railley Corp. She superintends 10 people and is responsible for the cleanliness of the entire plant.

Mrs. Duncan was born in Arkkansas and came to Cleveland in 1923 with her husband who works for the State Highway Department. Before the war she did hotel work. She has worked at her war job six days a week for three years and for the past two years she has never once been absent or tardy even a minute. Mrs. Duncan lives at 2218 E. 101st street.

Foremen and supervisors at Railley chose eleven people who were believed to be outstanding in their departments and then let them vote among themselves for a representative worker. Mrs. Duncan was chosen because of her "important part in maintaining factory morale."

A. B. AUSTIN promotes understanding and friendliness between white and colored workers. Mr. Austin is assistant operator of the Asphalt Department of the No. 1 Works of Standard Oil Co. of Ohio.

representative worker because he is a "dignified, quiet and unassuming man whose influence has helped to develop good race relations in the plant."

Mr. Austin, a graduate of State Teachers College in Montgomery, Ala., taught school in the south for 15 years. When World War II came he joined the Army, served for eight months and then was given an honorable discharge because he was 41 years of age. He started work at Sohio two years ago as a laborer and won promotion to his present job. Mr. Austin, his wife and two daughters live at 2654 E. 45th street.

miles west of Harbin. This column, now west of Solun, out-

The Negro and Manpower

Daily Worker N.Y.

IN HIS message to Congress, President Roosevelt has given a vivid description of the crisis in manpower. Because of its seriousness, Mr. Roosevelt has asked for legislation to mobilize the people for greater effort as the war approaches its climax. Proposals are even now being made to meet this pressing demand. 1-10-45

The people will agree wholeheartedly that everything necessary to achieve maximum output should be adopted. We, for our part, have always favored measures to assure this end. The best way to bring this about is for government, management and labor to arrive at an agreement, making those recommendations and advancing those measures which will realize this objective.

But we have always pointed out, also, that the failure to make full use of Negro manpower is an evil which has to be corrected. This is required as part of the effort by government, management and labor to get maximum production. 1-10-45

The war has dramatized that every measure and law, including the Fair Employment Practices Committee, should be utilized for this purpose. There are still many industries in which Negroes are not fully utilized. There is a need for the wide employment of nurses in war activities, accompanied by the denial of service to Negro nurses. We find that this practice of segregation in this field has gone so far as to deny the services of Negro nurses even to combat units manned by Negro soldiers. We can see how costly, particularly in lives, has been this failure in drawing upon this reservoir of manpower.

This is not only a postwar question. The war brings before all our people the urgency for overcoming prejudices and brushing away artificial barriers. If this is done, the whole nation, along with the Negro people, will gain immensely.

Wounded Soldiers Plead for Production in Texas Plants

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

TEXARKANA, Texas — Five wounded enlisted men back from various battlefronts visited the Red River Ordnance Depot here to help urge colored workers to back the "100 per cent on the job" drive held in the city, February 11-17.

Speaking on a daily schedule arranged by A. Maceo Smith, director of the colored division of the drive, the group talked to workers in all essential industries in the area. 2-12-45

Present Buttons

In addition, the group spoke in the schools, awarded 100 per cent buttons to eligible war workers and participated in the finals of the essay contest which were held at Canaan Baptist Church here.

Members of the group, headed by Col. West A. Hamilton, senior colored officer of the Eighth Service Command, were:

S/Sgt. Jimmy L. Johnson, Jacksonville, Texas, who wears the Solder's Medal, the Silver Star, the Purple Heart and South Pacific Theatre Ribbon with five stars; Pfc. Joseph Green of Alexandria, La., a veteran of the Italian campaign, who has the Purple Heart; Pfc. Melvin Miller, Stockdale, Texas, who served in the South Pacific almost twenty-four months; Pvt. W. D. Bowman, Madisonville, Texas, a former artilleryman wounded at Bougainville, who has the Purple Heart, South Pacific Ribbon and two stars; and Pfc. Ozzie C. Dunning of Selma, Ala., who served eighteen months in New Hebrides during the invasion of Guadalcanal.

Negro Labor Part in War Work Found 280% Greater Since '41

Daily Worker 1-30-45

War production records have been smashed by no "labor elite," but by an all-American team of white manpower AND black manpower, declares Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, in the current issue of the Chicago Defender, influential Negro weekly. This all-American team, adds McNutt, includes "the power of the handicapped, the power of the over-aged workers and the power of woman-power." 1-30-45

Referring specifically to the Negro, McNutt writes:

"As never before, the tradition of exclusion has been hammered at in every state, in every community. Negro Americans, traditionally 'the last hired, the first fired' have been given their greatest job opportunity since the reconstruction period. In 1941, Negro workers made up about three percent of war labor; by September, 1942, the percentage was approximately 5.7 percent, and in January, 1943, about 7.4 percent. Today it is approximately 8.4 percent. These percentages are a graph of economic democracy in action."

This represents a 280 percent increase since Pearl Harbor in Negro labor's share in war work.

McNutt sees the Negro as having demonstrated his "know-how in all the war industries." He sees the Negro's skills as "potentially convertible into the pay envelopes of peace." He sees hate strikes against Negroes as having thrown a "national spotlight on those resistant Americans who are either racist in their philosophies or confused or indifferent to the practices of economic democracy."

No American has a right, McNutt thinks, to a prejudice or to "a confusion or an indifference that will impede the flow of war goods to the fighting Americans overseas." At the same time, however, prejudice cannot be swept away by fiat, by wishful thinking, by rhetoric."

"The new maturity of organized labor, both in the AFL and CIO, combined to facilitate the hiring and upgrading of Negroes in war production. If these new attitudes . . . are projected into the postwar, all workers will benefit, not only the Negro workers." 1-30-45

McNutt concludes: "The color line in industry is a line against democracy," and "the only lines that counted in making a ship, a plane, a jeep, a rifle, were the lines on a blueprint."

Brooklyn UE Member Chosen Miss Negro Victory Worker

Daily Worker 6-22-45

The Negro Victory Rally yesterday named 24-year-old Ruth Hemming, a Brooklyn machine winder, as Miss Negro Victory Worker for 1945 and will present her at Madison Square Garden Monday night.

Miss Hemming, in the nationwide contest to find the young woman with the best record in war industry, and carrying on such outside activities as buying bonds, keeping a victory garden and participating in voluntary war activities, works for the United Transformer Co., Brooklyn, and is a member of Local 430, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO.

Sponsored by the Brooklyn National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Miss Hemming ran far ahead of a score of contestants. She has two brothers and 10 first cousins in the armed forces and is a regular purchaser and seller of war bonds. She maintains a victory garden at 1798 Pacific Ave., where she lives with relatives.

She donates blood and recruits blood donors. During the last Red Cross campaign she turned in $365, the largest sum collected by an individual in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area. She is also chairman of the Sweethearts of Servicemen, a branch of American Youth for Democracy.

Asked how she found time to do so much, Miss Hemming replied:

"Well, I use my lunch hours, my Saturdays, and my evenings after work."

She does it all, she said, because, working on a war job and having so many loved ones in the services, she "wanted to do all I could to help them." 6-22-45

Her father, now 64, and about to retire on a pension, is a coal miner in Virginia. Her mother lives on a farm in Buckingham Co., Va. Miss Hemming has lived in Brooklyn six years.

CLEVELAND, O.
PLAIN DEALER
Circ. D. 218,415 - S. 405,226
JUL 22 1945

Negro Workers to Receive Citations

Capt. Clarence L. Jamison of Cleveland, flyer in the original 99th Pursuit Squadron, will make the citation to the honored workers at the merit rally sponsored by the Urban League of Cleveland, Aug 12, in Carver Park. Capt. Jamison, now with Col. B. O. Davis in the 477th Composite Group, Godman Field, Ky., will be accompanied by other Ohioans in the fighter group.

Wide representation of industries and shops employing Negro workers is expected at the rally, according to Howard M. Nash, the league's industrial secretary. The program has the support of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. Many shops have already elected their representatives, it was reported yesterday.

The Urban League is requesting the entire Negro community to cooperate in the league's postwar welfare program for Negro workers by reporting to Nash cases of workers laid off as a result of cutbacks and reconversion, and even rumors of cutbacks.

Contribution Described In D. C. Bulletin

Atlanta Daily World

WASHINGTON — (SNS)— Increasing their civilian employment from 1,500,000 in 1940 to more than 2,100,000 in 1944, Negro women workers not only helped to produce the weapons of war, the Department of Labor reported this week; they also have played an important part in preventing a major breakdown of the essential consumer services in wartime.

Atlanta Ga.

The contribution of Negro women to the war effort is outlined in a bulletin, 'Negro women War Workers," prepared by the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, and released July 16.

STORY OF WAYS

7-21-45

"What this report tells," the bulletin points out, "is a story of the ways in which Negro women have helped to bridge the manpower gap. Working together with men and women of every other national origin, their contribution is one which this nation would be unwise to forget or to evaluate falsely. They are an integral part of Americas' prospect."

The 23-page booklet, which may be obtained at 10 cents a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Govenrment Office, Washington 25, D. C. presents a series of vignettes of Negro women's work in munitions plants; in steel mills, factories, shipyards, aircraft plants; on the railroads and in the canneries, in laundries and restaurants, as well as in many jobs including the WACS, WAVES, SPARS, U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps, American Red Cross, and other branches of the war services.

FARMS TO FACTORIES

The most dominant changes in Negro employment between 1940 and 1944, the bulletin states, were a marked movement from the farms to the factories, especially to those making war munitions and a substantial amount of upgrading. There was little change in the proportions occupied in unskilled jobs however.

The proportion of Negro women on farms was cut in half in the four year. In April 1944, approximately 16 per cent of all Negro women in the labor force were on the farms; four years later only eight per cent remained, and the number employed on farms had decreased by about 30 per cent. While the total number of Negro women employed increased by approximately a third, the number employed as craftsmen and foremen and as factory operatives almost quadrupeld.

"Negro women's empolyment increased not only in the munitions factories," the report states, "but in food, clothing, textiles, leather, and all other manufacturing. The greatest increase was in the metals chemicals and rubber group. Fewer than 3,000 Negro women were employed in this group in April 1940; four years later 50 times as many were so employed.

"In the other major occupational were large, but the number involved were not sufficient to have much effect on the occupational distribution of Negro women. The number working as proprietors, managers, or officials trebled. Those working as saleswomen almost five times as great as before.

democracy. It can be procured for 10 cent at the Cuncil on African Affairs, 23 West 26th Street, N. Y. C

CLEVELAND, O.
NEWS
Cir. D. 122,094
AUG 3 - 1945

Negro Workers to Get Honor Pins At Urban League's Merit Rally

Several hundred outstanding Negro workers will be honored at a merit rally at Carver Park August 12.

The event is sponsored by the Urban League, to recognize representative Negro workers and demonstrate their stability, according to Howard M. Nash, Urban League industrial secretary, in charge of the program.

"A majority of the 200 plants and shops invited to delegate a representative worker have done so," Nash said today.

• • •

HE ADDED that the rally has endorsement and support of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, the AFL and the CIO here.

Among the scores of men and women to be honored are Charles White, 2642 E. 45th St.; Calvin C. Strong, 5001 Hoover Ct.; Wyatt Fountain, 12513 Hirst Ave.; Mrs. Ollie Brown, 2209 E. 38th St., and Mrs. Eula Lightner, 2559 E. 49th St.

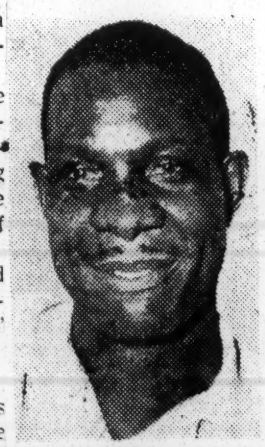
Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Lightner are sewing machine operators at the Gottfried Co., 2822 Detroit Ave. Mrs. Brown has a son in the service in Burma and Mrs. Lightner's brother is stationed in France.

Mrs. Brown, (left) and Mrs. Lightner

• • •

"Both these women have made outstanding service records," said Lawrence A. Cort, factory superintendent. "I am glad to know they will receive public recognition."

Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Lightner are members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, an AFL affiliate. Mrs. Brown has served as a union group chairman, while Mrs. Lightner has done much to help her unskilled co-workers increase their working capabilities, Mr. Cort added.



Mr. White

Mr. Strong

Mr. Fountain

Now a lathe operator at the Enamel Products Co., Eddy Rd. and Taft Ave., Wyatt Fountain has worked there for 26 years as mill room helper, mill room straw boss and forge operator.

• • •

HE IS THE OLDEST Negro at the plant on point of seniority and the third oldest male employe in seniority, according to Edward E. Hill, personnel manager. He is serving as a union committeeman.

"My son leaves for military service August 6," remarked Mr. Fountain. "I'm going to work harder than ever."

Charles White, 42, is a pipefitter's helper at the Standard Oil Co., 3527 Broadway, and he hasn't missed a day's work since he started January 26, 1940. He has a son in service.

• • •

On one occasion, according to plant officials, White worked 14 hours without interruption to prevent delay in production of vital war materials.

• • •

An outstanding service record is that of Calvin Strong, an agent for the Domestic Life & Accident Insurance Co., 2584 E. 55th St., who has never missed a day because of illness in 12 years.

• • •

THESE AND OTHER nominees will receive a badge of honor, presented by Captain Clarence L. Jamison, 477th Bombardment Group, Godman Field, Fort Knox, Ky.

The rally program will also include greetings from B. D. Zevin chairman of the industrial committee of the Urban League and president of the World Publishing Co.; George J. Leroux, assistant plant manager of the National Malleable & Steel Castings Co.; Frank Evans of the AFL, and Joseph R. Kres, treasurer-manager of the

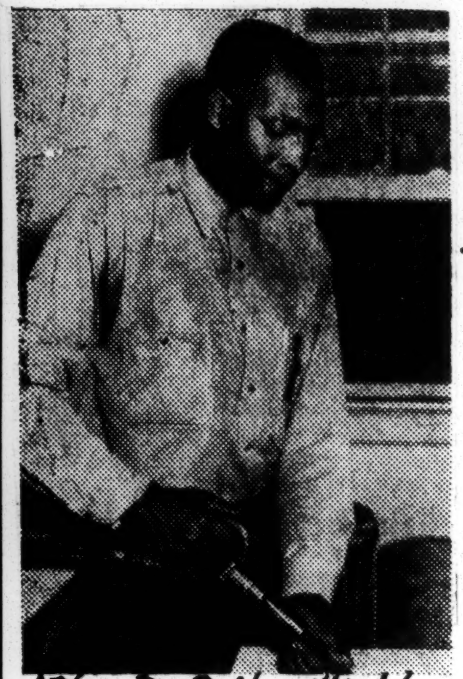
Gets Merit Award

N.Y. Amsterdam News

MRS. DOROTHY M. KNOWLES-ROBINSON of 1538 West Butler St., Philadelphia, received an Award of Merit last month from the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, War Department, Philadelphia, for "her suggestion which through savings in manpower and material will facilitate the prosecution of the war." Mrs. Robinson, a war bride, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Knowles, 2004 Fifth Avenue and an honor student from the Peter's Business School, and a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School in Miami, Fla.—swg.

56g-1945

Industrial Work



Atlanta Daily World

TIME, MONEY SAVING IDEA WINS HIM CASH AWARD FROM NAVY—Charleston, S C.—For an idea which is estimated will save the government approximately $9,000 annually, Walter Snype (above), Negro shipwright employed at the Charleston Navy Yard, has been awarded $250 and a Certificate of Individual Production Merit by the yard's Beneficial Suggestions Committee Snypes suggestion was that the slow task of knocking old caulking out of the seams of hulls and decks of ships by means of hand-chisel and wooden mallet might be speeded up by means of attaching a chisel to a small compressed-air-driven hammer. The idea was found practical and workable. Before going to work in the navy yard, Snypes operated his own boatyard at Mount Pleasant, S. C. (Official U. S. Navy Photo) 8-14-45

56g-1945

LINCOLN (MO.) U. MACHINE SHOP MAKES B-29 PARTS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.--Between late in 1943 and April, 1944 the Linclon University Machine Shop, Dr. C. Robert Cotton, supervisor, made radio parts for B-29 Bombers.
Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
1-6-45

Negro plant gets citation on anniversary

Los Angeles-Calif. Tribune

With Mayor Fletcher Bowron extolling the contribution made to the "more spectacular" larger defense plants by such small plants as The Pacific Parachute Co., the Coast's only Negro war plant observed its third anniversary Sunday, Mar. 25.

"Yours is typical of the large number of smaller plants which have been integrated into our overall war production program", Mayor Bowron told Pacific Parachute workers, adding, "Without your splendid effort and your contribution, the larger and more spectacular completed war production would not be possible".

Award of an "approved rating" citation by the Army Air Forces was accepted during the anniversary ceremonies by President-Founder Howard "Skippy" Smith. Now producing bomber parts, the company's work was praised by Major Max Franklin who presented the citation.

Negro Tanker Workers Set Record At Mobile

Montgomery Advertiser Ala.
1-8-45

MOBILE, ALA., Jan. 7—(AP)—The S. S. Crow Wing, built in record time by negro workmen at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Co., slipped into the Mobile River late today.

The 22,400-ton tanker, constructed entirely by negro craftsmen working under white supervisors, was launched 61 days after the keel was laid, breaking the Pinto Island shipyard record by one day.

Mrs. H. Austill Pharr and her daughter, Miss Susan Pharr, of Mobile, were co-sponsors of the vessel, 92nd wartime craft built by the Mobile yards.

Industrial Work

Colored Workers Set Shipbuilding Record

Baltimore Md. 1-13-45

MOBILE, Ala.—Colored workmen at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company built in record time the S.S. Crow Wing which was launched here Sunday.

The 22,000-ton tanker was launched sixty-one days after the keel was laid, breaking the Pinto Island shipyard record by one day. All of the work was done by colored craftsmen. Afro-American

Two Negroes Credited For First Southern Lumber Co. Getting Army-Navy E Award

New York Age

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The first southern lumber company to win the coveted Army-Navy E. Award this week credited two Negro workers with making a major contribution to this achievement. The workers were identified in a letter to the War Production Board as Theodore Denman and Jesse Howard, carpenters, employed by the Angelina County Lumber Company at Keltys, Texas.

According to officials of the company, Denman and Howard, during 1944, converted 2,500,000, board feet of yellow pine lumber into 1000,000 "general-manager type" grain doors, used by railroads to hold grain shipments in cars.

"Their only equipment in addition to keen eyes and muscular coordination," the officials stated, " was a hammer and a good supply of nails. Starting at opposite ends of a 20" x 7' door each man works toward the center. A knack developed through long experience enables the nailer to slip one nail at a time from the supply in his hand. With machine-line precision the nails are placed and pounded home.

"Doubtless the work of these men contributed to Angelina's achievement as the first southern lumber company to earn the Army-Navy E Award."

1-6-45

Company officials pointed out that the men averaged $10 a day in wages, and that each has purchased his own home in addition to other real estate in the community. One of the workers has four children; two of them are in grammer school, one in high school and one recently graduated from high school. The other has five children; one in the Army, one in college, one graduated from high school, one in high school, and one in grammar school. Both Denman and Howard are regular purchasers of War Bonds.

Company officials pointed out that the Angelina County Lumber Company was founded in 1887 and has continued under the same management for 57 years.

LINCOLN (MO.) U. MACHINE SHOP MAKES B-29 PARTS

Afro-American-Balt. Md.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Between late in 1943 and April, 1944, the Lincoln University Machine Shop, Dr. G. Robert Cotton, supervisor, made radio parts for the B-29 Bombers. 1-6-45

Whites Work With No Pay on Ship Named for Negro

Louisville City Call
1-5-45

BRUNSWICK, Ga. — Heeding the plea of President Roosevelt for war workers to stick to their jobs and keep the munitions flowing, more than 500 shipyard workers of the J. H. Jones Construction company volunteered to work without pay at the Brunswick (Ga.) shipyard on Christmas Day to speed the construction of the first Liberty ship named for a Negro and built in that establishment.

The ship is the SS William Cox, and it was named for a Negro fireman who lost his life when the SS David A. Atwater was shelled and sunk April 2, 1942. Cox, a native of Cairo, Ga., was born March 29, 1898. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Arlee Cox, of 559 Indiana Street, Savannah, Ga. 1-5-45

The volunteer drive for Christmas work on the ship "without pay as a gift to the boys overseas,' began with 80 shipfitters in the yard and rapidly spread to more than 500 Negro and white workers, Emil J. Krapt, general manager of the yard, revealed. The completion of the ship will mark up seven Liberty ships in December for the yard.

Negroes To Be First Fired In Peacetime, Aircraft Man Admits

Chicago Defender 1-6-45

By R. RANDALL IRWIN

Will the aircraft industry continue to employ Negroes in peacetime?

Will Negroes be the first to be laid off as war orders for aircraft end?

These two questions are posed continuously, in one form or another, to personnel directors by various groups, organizations, writers and individual workers. They are good, direct-to-the-point questions. Unfortunately, they cannot be answered by a simple "Yes" or "No."

Frankly, the situation as it can be surveyed thus far in advance is discouraging in many ways. This, however, is due to basic conditions which have little or nothing to do with racial distinctions or discrimination. 1-6-45

The curtailment of war production will unquestionably bring a temporary setback in the employment of Negroes, as it will in the employment of all other relatively new employees. That is unavoidable.

On the brighter side of the picture is the fact that based upon the excellent performance records of Negro workers, the doors are now open for their reemployment as the postwar production program requires their services.

Negroes have proven, in direct competition with other workers, that they are good producers and good employees.

In order to understand this situation and judge just what opportunities exist for Negro employment by the aircraft industry in future years, it is necessary to know something of the problems that accompanied the integration of Negroes into aircraft factories.

Few Negroes in Prewar Jobs

In the prewar period, the number of Negroes in aircraft plants was almost negligible. The industry was small. Airplanes were built more or less on a custom basis. Thus, the work was extremely diversified and required a wide range of skills.

Because there were many more applicants than there were available jobs, the factories were inclined to employ persons who had a background of technical or junior college training in a wide range of aeronautical skills. In addition, experienced toolmakers and members of other special trades were employed. 1-6-45

In the areas where aircraft manufacturing was performed, there was practically no supply of skilled Negroes adapted for this work.

Apply For Employment

With the beginning of the national defense program, the question arise of reaching out and tapping new sources of labor supply to meet the expansion of the aircraft industry has been likened to an explosion than an expansion; and, seeing attractive job openings, Negroes began to look to these jobs as employment opportunities. They first began to apply in very small and then in larger numbers, realizing that here was a large untapped source of production manpower, the aircraft factory management began to seek ways and means of utilizing this force that had not been employed instead of the one hours or, at first, weeks of training required.

R. RANDALL IRWIN is possibly the foremost personnel man in the aviation industry with close contact to the employment problems in this virtually new field. At present he holds the post of director of the industrial relations research service of the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America, which includes most of the biggest plane manufacturers in the nation. He formerly was industrial relations director of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in California.

FDR Executive Order

Then, on June 25, 1941, the President issued an Executive Order which provided management with a basis for action in hiring Negroes, the aircraft factory management began to apply effectively and adaptability. In many cases they were selected and recommended by local Negro workers. How effective the Executive Order was shown in the groups, whose aid had been sought, talked to by top management and aircraft factories responded to the proclamation of the President's Executive Order. The first Negroes to be employed were selected for character, attitude and adaptability. In many cases they were selected and recommended by local Negro workers. First, the Executive Order was in the factory before and that the success of the policy would depend upon the way in which they adapted themselves to the social and working conditions within the factory.

Rapid Promotions

At the same time, supervisors in the particular departments to which Negroes were to be assigned were talked to by top management and informed of company policy.

As to occupational distribution, obviously the newcomers first entered at the lower brackets of jobs, but promotions were rapid. In one factory, as of August of this year, there were Negroes employed in ninety-four occupational classifications. Eighty-seven per cent of the Negroes were employed in the semi-skilled brackets, such as assembly and riveting. Only 13 per cent were in the common labor and custodial occupations.

It is true that there still are few Negroes in the supervisory or professional ranks, but the reason is the relatively short period of employment and the relative lack of experience or professional training. There are, of course, outstanding exceptions. There are engineers, personnel representatives and various professional people among the Negro employees, but numberwise, they still are relatively small.

Negro Employees Increase

It is interesting to note that whereas the total employment in aircraft has been declining since July 1943 in South California aircraft factories, the actual number of Negroes employed continues to increase. Most of the new employees now are women rather than men, and for the most part they are without previous industrial experience.

It is agreed by aircraft personnel executives that the future of Negroes in aircraft will depend upon the same factors as will affect other aircraft employees.

First of these is the curtailment of aircraft manufacturing. Unfortunately, this is wholly an unknown quantity.

Secondly, there is the matter of the number of service men and women who will want their jobs back. 1-6-45

Thirdly, much of the future employment will be governed by the operation of the lay-off provisions in labor contracts.

Seniority Hits Negroes

During the six months following V-E Day, it now appears that the employment reduction may be very largely absorbed by normal turnover. There will be a steady curtailment during the six months period following V-E Day and before V-J Day. If it is not true that the turnover will take care of the reduction needed, then the layoffs for the most part will be in accordance with seniority. Organized labor has been generally insistent in securing rather rigid seniority clauses in its agreements. In one sentence, it merely means this: The last hired, the first laid off.

The fact must be faced frankly that Negro men and women were among the last hired in aircraft, so necessarily will be among the first laid off, with no discrimination as to sex or as to color.

Perhaps the greatest problem that aircraft faces is the re-absorption of former employees who are now in the armed services. Most of the aircraft factories have several times as many employees on leave in the armed forces as they had total employment at the beginning of the national defense and war production programs.

The aircraft industry is expected to be substantially larger in the peacetime that follows the war than it was before the war, but it would have to be many, many times the size that it was, to re-absorb all the veterans that the government and the veterans expect the industry to re-absorb. 1-6-45

Proved Efficiency

Thus, the answers to the questions asked . . . Will the aircraft industry continue to employ Negroes in peacetime? . . . and, will Negroes be the first to be laid off as war orders cease? . . . must be answered affirmatively or negatively according to circumstances as they develop.

There is no slightest doubt but that Negro workers have proven their efficiency on the production line. In addition, they have shown that they can work harmoniously with white employees. There is every reason to believe that when aircraft factories need additional help for peacetime production, Negroes will be given equal opportunity to qualify for job opportunities.

On the other hand, the situation must be faced that many Negroes will be among the first to be laid off wartime production lines . . . not because they are Negroes, per se . . . but because they were among the latest to have been hired. However, those who are laid off will be rehired as the post-war production schedules require their services.

Negroes and whites, employers and employed, have reason to take pride in their joint war accomplishment in the aircraft industry. They can feel assured that future industrial relationships will be enhanced because of the efforts that all have made together in producing the airplanes which have done so much to win the war.

Negro Welders Hired By New Orleans Shipyard

Chicago Defender 2-3-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—The Delta Shipbuilding company of New Orleans has notified the Region X office of the FEPC at Dallas that skilled Negro welders are now being hired, the committee announced Tuesday.

The hiring of 30 Negro production welders by the company during the early part of this month, according to the FEPC, has helped to relieve a shortage of welders reported by the firm during much of 1944. The new workers are members of the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

Honor Negroes' War Role in Rally Sunday

Cleveland, Ohio News 8-10-45

Miss Mildred J. Smith, former Cleveland actress now on Broadway, will be a guest at the Merit Rally honoring more than 100 representative Negro workers at Carver Park, 2382 Unwin Rd., at 4 p. m. Sunday.

Miss Smith, 22, left the Gilpin Players of Karamu House two years ago to go to New York. Since then she has appeared in three Broadway plays, "Men to the Sea," "Blue Holiday," with Ethel Waters, and "Mamba's Daughters." Her home is at 11724 Imperial Ave.

Mildred Smith

The rally, sponsored by the Urban League of Cleveland, will honor Negro workers in war industries who have outstanding production records. 8-10-45

B. D. Zevin, chairman of the league's industrial committee, will welcome guests and sketch a history of Negro employment in this vicinity.

The United States Coast Guard Band, directed by Allen P. Dudley, radio technician second class, will play George Gershwin selections, and a group of Jamaican workers will entertain.

Captain Clarence L. Jamison, of the 477th Bombardment Group, Fort Knox, Ky., will present merit awards to the honored workers.

The program will also include greetings by George J. Leroux, assistant plant manager of the National Malleable & Steel Castings Co.; Frank Evans, international representative of the United Automotive Workers (AFL), and Joseph R. Kres, treasurer-manager of the Cleveland Industrial Union Council. 8-10-45

Howard M. Nash, industrial secretary of the Urban League, will be master of ceremonies.

Coast Guard Mixes Crew Finds Experiment Works

AFRO-AMERICAN

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Lt. Carlton Skinner, former secretary of the Washington Newspaper Guild, is responsible for an experiment in the Coast Guard to combat racial discrimination at sea, according to an article appearing last week in the Guild Reporter.

Skinner, according to the article, got permission from Admiral Waesche to take a mixed crew of colored and white men and officers on a tour of duty to determine whether abandonment of the segregation policy would work out in actual operation. 4-28-45

Commander Skinner took out a mixed crew with the Atlantic fleet on the Sea Cloud, a weather patrol ship. At the end of a year, his ship got a grade AA rating on every operation.

Experiment Proves Successful

As a result of Skinner's experiment, the Guild Reporter says, the Coast Guard has concluded the experiment was a success and that the team work was first rate. The report was publicized by Drew Pearson in his syndicated column.

The Coast Guard reports the Sea Cloud's duty was unusually rough and that the ship made every patrol on schedule and that colored members of the crew were like members of any other crew.

"It would be nice to be able to say that she was an outstanding ship and that the colored members of the crew were all bursting with energy and could be seen at all hours of the day and night wiping and cleaning and studying," the report said. 4-28-45

"Actually, it wasn't so," the report concluded. "They were just like any other group of officers and enlisted men. Some were bright and quick, some were slow and lazy, some wanted to advance and be promoted. Some didn't give a damn and wanted to turn in their sacks all the time."

2 Marines Given Purple Heart for Saipan Wounds

CENTRAL PACIFIC (ANP)—Two marines, Pvts. John A. Nevy of New York City and Arthur Williams of New Orleans, La., of the Third Ammunition Company, have been awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in the Saipan struggle last June.

Two others, Pvts. Elton M. Ginnis of Los Angeles and Robert Mc Queen of Mason, Ohio, have been recommended for the Purple Heart. They were wounded on the beach during the initial hours of assault. They have recovered and have resumed their duties.

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE!

Chicago Defender

White Crew Works Year With Negro Skipper

Chicago, Ill.

By ALFRED E. SMITH
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The first Negro skipper to command a white navy crew reported back in Washington this week. 7-28-45

He was Panama-born Lt. Clarence Samuels, skipper of the L.S. 115, a coast guard patrol vessel in the Panama canal area.

Samuels non-Jim Crow assignment, the first given a Negro officer, was exclusively reported in the Chicago Defender a year ago. This week he visited Admiral R R. Waesche, rugged commander of the U. S. Coast Guard.

Lieut. Samuels 7-28-45

"It's been a complete success," Samuels told the Defender concerning the Coast Guard's trial step. "It was my pleasantest assignment."

When Samuels first took command of the powerful patrol vessel rumors were widespread that his white crew would apply for a mass transfer rather than serve under a Negro.

After the brown-skinned veteran had read his orders to his assembled crew he put them at ease. Then in his friendly but firm fashion he talked to them briefly, invited their confidence, assured them of commendation and promotion when deserved and also assured them of punishment if deserved.

Later, when the crew, which has only two Negro members, Alfred B. Johnson, bosun's mate second class and Henry Brown, ships cook third class, presented him with an icing-inscribed birthday cake "to our skipper," Samuels said he knew complete harmony would prevail.

"There was never any difficulty," he remarked.

Samuels, now a full lieutenant, is leaner, grayer than a year ago. When interviewed he was tired but attentive, having spent 72 consecutive sleepless hours on the bridge during his trip from Panama to Norfolk. He had attended to the all-important navigation himself.

Democracy aboard the little coast guard cutter extended ashore where Samuels said he regularly visited homes of white fellow officers. He commented that democracy has been more or less assured in Panama because of the white officers and enlisted men who have married natives and who would be classed as "colored" or "Negro" in the United States. 7-28-45

Samuels' immediate future is somewhat uncertain. Admiral Kingham, commander of the 15th Naval District, has requested his return to Panama, where his fluent Spanish is an invaluable asset.

Another possible assignment for Lt. Samuels is with an all-Negro crew in the Aleutians where colored Coast Guard officers, Lt. Joseph Jenkins and Ensign Harvey Russell are now serving.

Samuels' L.S. 115 is one of the cutters which intercepts ships coming into the entrance waters of the Panama canal to check for clearance papers. At present, it is tied up at Coast Guard docks in Norfolk Area with one-third of its crew on leave.

3800 Negroes In Coast Guard 155th Anniv.

Philadelphia Tribune

Pa. 7-28-45

More than 3,800 Negro enlisted men, officers and SPARS will join approximately 170,000 fellow members of the U. S. Coast Guard in celebrating the 155th anniversary of that branch of the armed services on August 4, Coast Guard Headquarters announced here this week.

Founded in 1790 with an appropriation provided by the first Congress of the United States, the Coast Guard has fought in every major war of the United States. In the last war, the Coast Guard had the highest proportional loss of men of any of the United States services. In every major invasion of this war, from Casablanca to Normandy, from Guadalcanal to Okinawa, the Coast Guard has fought alongside the Navy to put men and supplies on the beaches.

Negro coast guardsmen have participated in the vast majority of these encounters, official announcements reveal. In one of the first major coast guard encounters with the enemy in the North Atlantic, an all-Negro gun crew on the cutter Campbell fired several rounds and scored telling hits on a Nazi U-boat, which was later rammed, and sunk by the cutter. A Negro crew member was cited for bravery when the little ICARUS sank a Nazi submarine twice her size and captured most of its crew.

As of July 3, 1945, the Coast Guard boasted 3 687 Negro enlisted men, nearl 1,000 of whom were serving as petty officers; three commissioned officers, one warrant officer and five enlisted SPARS.

In recent months, Coast Guard correspondents have reported heroic actions of Negro members on Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Majuro, Eniwetok, Saipan, Tinian, Leyte, Luzon and other landings.

In this war, the Coast Guard was the first to have contact with the enemy when Greenland radio installations were seized from the Naxis months before Pearl Harbor. That our convoys were able to reach Europe in ever increasing proportions was due in large measure to the patrol and escort work of the Coast Guard. The service now mans over 5,000 vessels. 7-28-45

Admiral Russell R. Waesche, Commandant of the U. S. Coast Guard, is the highest ranking officer of that branch of the armed service in its 155-year history.

3,800 Negro Coast Guardsmen And Spaars Join Fellow Members In Celebrating Branch's Anniversary

N. Y. Age

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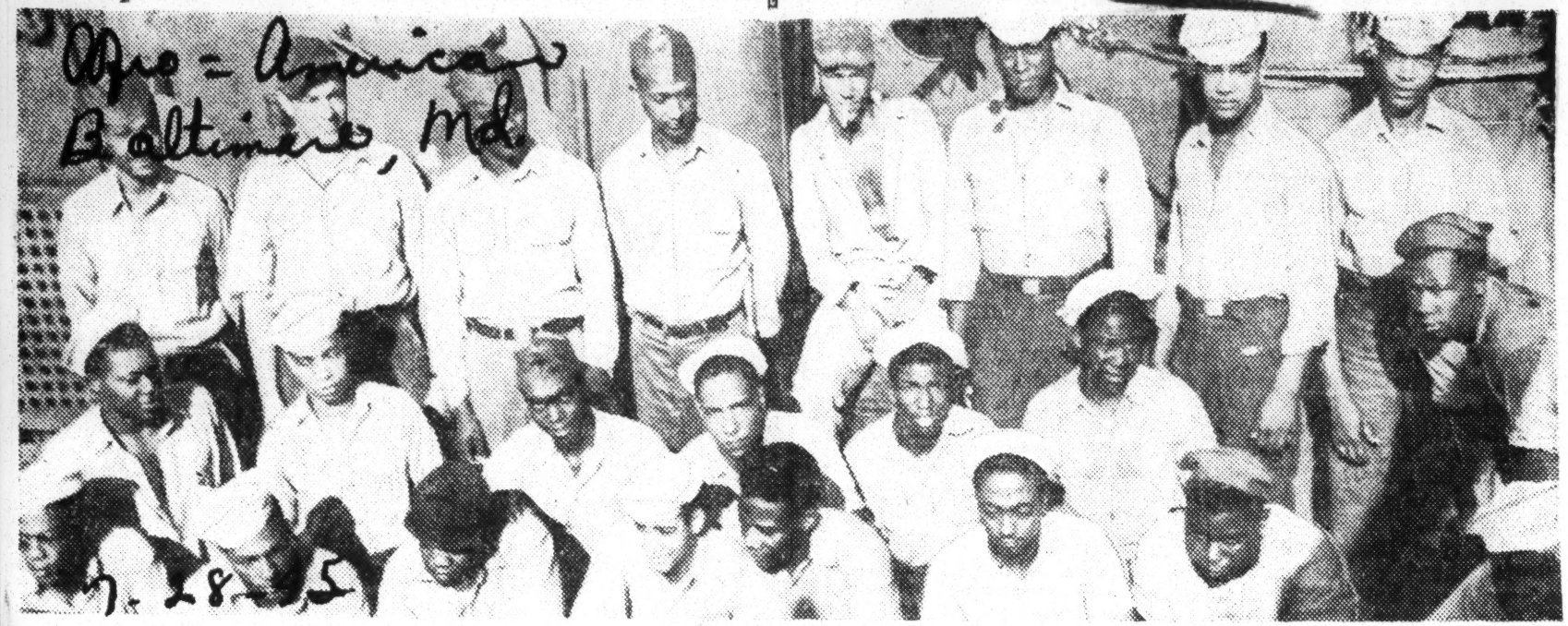
56k-1945 Okinawa-Coast Guard

They Shoot Down Three Jap Planes in Okinawa Invasion



Participating in the initial assault on Okinawa as part of the crew of a Coast Guard-manned invasion transport, these men shot down three Jap planes. The majority of them are veterans of European amphibious operations. Left to right: front row—Stm 1/c John D. Ball, Alexandria, La.. Stm 1/c Floyd L. Irwin, Memphis; S 1/c William A. Stewart, Keokuk, Iowa; S 1/c Albert Z. Spencer, Philadelphia; Stm 1/c Eddie J. Williams, Fairfield, Ala.; Mmm 2/c Hassan D. Kahn, Chicago; S 1/c John D. Davis, Washington, D.C.; second row—S 1/c Spencer Braston, Baltimore; Stm 1/c Isaac J. Oliver, Starr, S.C.; Stm 1/c Ralph T. Haraway, Washington, D.C.. Stm 1/c Allen Herbert, Chicago; Stm 2/c James H. Griffin, W. Palm Beach, Fla.; Stm 3/c Lawrence Hills, New Orleans; and Stm 3/c Benny Pierce, Paulsboro, N.J.; third row—Stm 3/c James Row, New York; Sp. 2/c Forest B. Parker, Greenwood, S.C.; Stm 2/c Abraham J. Ellison, Scranton, N.C.; Stm 3/c Harmon Scales, Los Angeles; Sp. 3/c Fred Atlas, Chicago; Stm 2/c Foster E. Kilgure, Chicago; and S 1/c Raymond E. Manson, Edgewood, R.I.

56k-1945

Hampton Navy School

Twofold Purpose Served by Hampton Navy School

AFRO-AMERICAN

HAMPTON, Va.—While, perhaps, not deliberately designed as such, the Navy training program at Hampton is actually capable of serving a twofold purpose.

Obviously, the primary objective is to get men ready for many duties aboad ships and to train them to perform these duties effectively and skillfully in combat.

4-28-45

The secondary purpose — one which might be described as an incidental by-product — is the opening of a numbered of post-war possibilities for the personnel receiving the training.

Trained for Specialization

The training provides basic background in Diesel engineering, sheetmetal, electric and arc welding, electricity, storekeeping, yeomanship and communications.

In a 16-week period, trainees are thoroughly grounded in fundamentals in their respective specialist courses. Eight weeks are devoted to classroom work, with the final half given over to practice.

Before coming here from Great Lakes Naval Training Station, each man is given diversified mechanical aptitude tests.

Assignment Based on Tests

After the results are collated with his background, he is assigned to the school for which his aptitude and talents seem best fitted.

4-28-45

A trainee is by no means a finished product when his 16-week schooling is completed, but he knows enough about the fundamentals to go from there.

Repots of the remarkable records being made aboard ships and at other installations by graduates of the various schools tend to substantiate any conclusion that first class training is offered here.

Visual Aids Employed

The Navy is making extensive use of visual aids. The courses are repleted with movies. Models showing operations of the mechanisms also have proved assets.

From both the standpoint of its absolute essentiality to the Navy and its counterpart value to the trainee when he eventually returns to civil status, the Diesel engineering school offers promising possibilities.

Virtually all Naval craft are utilizing Diesel engines, and, undeniably, they will be an integral part of civilian pursuits at the end of the war.

When a trainee completes his course here, he is able to dismantle and reassemble diesels and to repair their divergent parts.

With actual Navy experience added, he will be able to exploit the opportunities that Diesel engineering will offer in post-war re-construction. With advanced training, he may become an expert craftman in the field.

The yeoman school offers the kind of training that produces the most effective results in the 16-week period.

Is Made Good Secretary

When a bluejacket finishes this course, he is capable of typing at the rate of 45 to 60 words per minute and to take shorthand dictation at the rate of 60 to 70 words per minute.

From necessity, a trainee deals with Naval forms, correspondence, etc., but the various business nomenclature, habits and abilities he acquires may easily be transferred to a civilian pursuit.

Once released from service, he may engage in stenographic or secretarial work, or even apply this training to some other work field not directly related to the commercial line.

4-28-45

Communications to Be Vital

With the anticipated ascendency of air travel after the war, the signal school offers a wonderful postwar outlook for the sailor assigned to it for training.

He learns how to send messages with the blinker system, using the Morse code and semaphores. He likewise learns communication procedure—decoding and deciphering messages.

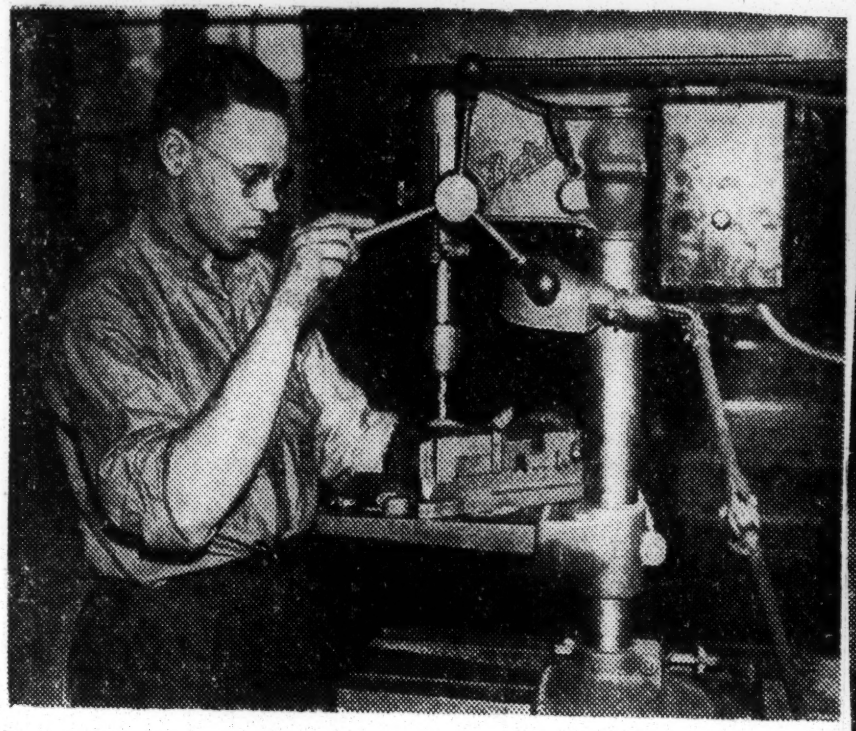
Security of receiving and sending messages is of prime importance in wartime Naval operations and should be of vital significance after the war. The need for trained personnel, therefore, will be urgent.

Other Fields Important Now

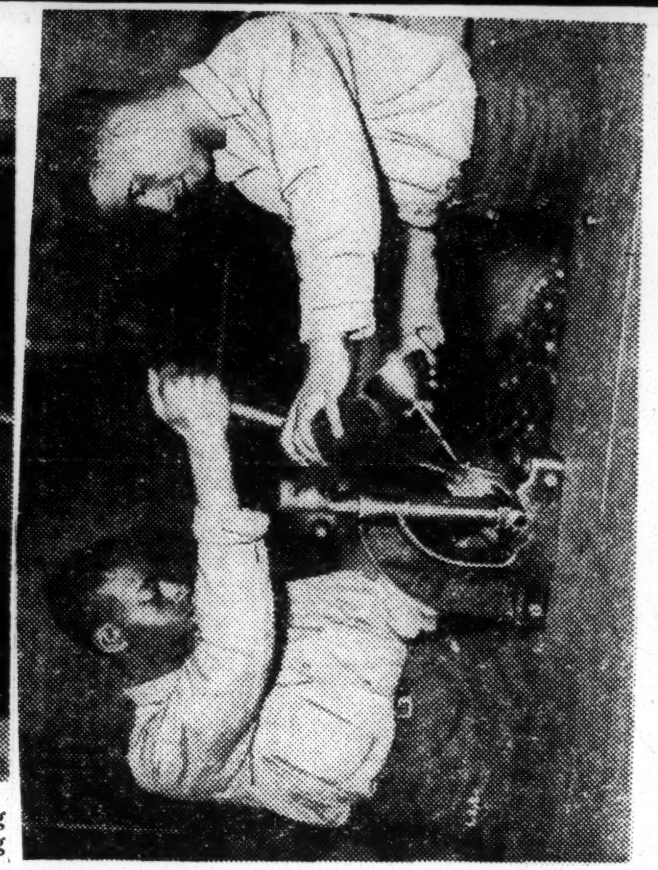
The school of basic engineering, embracing sheetmetal, shipfitting, electricity, electric and arc welding and metalsmith, speaks for itself as to potentalities for Navy men in civil life.

A shipfitter may become a plumber; a sheetmetalist a worker in ventilation and cooling systems; a welder may be used in any number of occupations, and the same goes for the metalsmith.

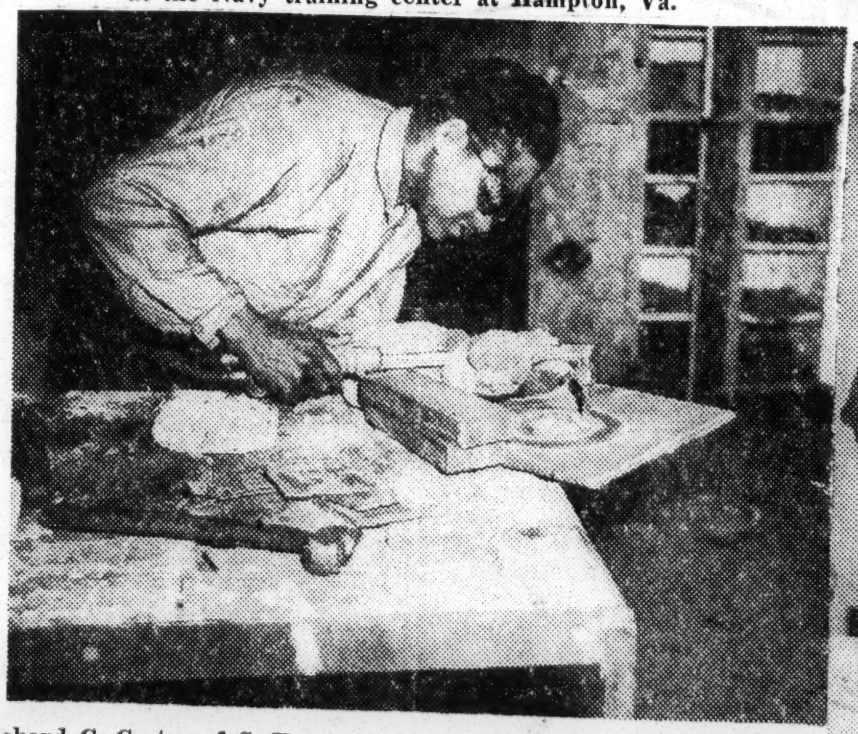
Carpentry and storekeeping also will open many avenues of employment for the trainee after the shooting is over.



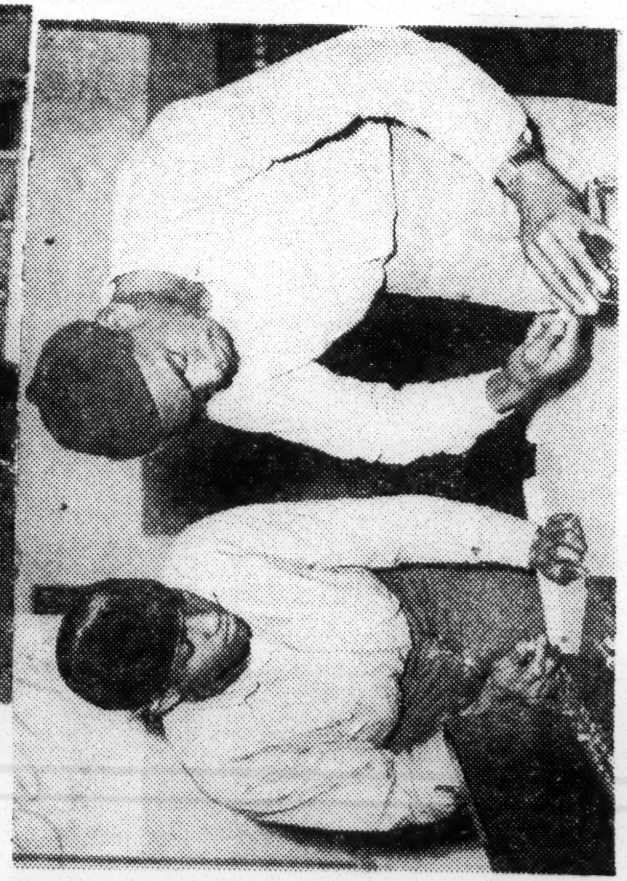
Henry Cole of Washington, fireman second class, is shown operating a drill press in the metalsmith shop of the school of basic engineering at the Navy training center at Hampton, Va.



John J. Lewis of Norfolk, left, and Wilbur Hyson of Washington, both firemen 2/c, work together threading a pipe in the shipfitter's shop in the school of basic engineering.



Richard C. Carter of S. Hanover, Mass., fireman 2/c, is shown practicing arc welding, which along with electric welding, is offered in the Naval training program's school of engineering.



William Carnes, left, of Charleston, W.Va., watches Thomas Livingston of Washington as he takes apart a carburetor. Both firemen 2/c, they are learning to handle gasoline engines.

Graduates No Longer Made Petty Officers, Advanced One Degree

AFRO-AMERICAN

4-28-45

HAMPTON, Va.—Nine months ago, when a trainee graduated from Hampton Naval Training School, he would come out with a petty officer's rating in his speciality, but not any more.

Trainees either come now as seamen second class or firemen second class. They are only advanced one rating when they leave and with efficient service aboard ship or elsewhere usually earn it.

Naval School at Hampton to Close

AFRO AMERICAN
5-19-45

NORFOLK, Va.—The U.S. Naval Training School at Hampton Institute will be closed following the graduation program for the last class on August 15, Lieut. Commander Leroy F. Moore, commanding officer, announced last week.

5-19-45

Established on September 12, 1942, with a complement of 900, the school turned out thousands of colored sailors as specialists who are now serving on naval ships in every theater of war.

The men were trained as motor machinists, coxswains, quartermasters, electricians, signalmen, carpenters, yeomen, storekeepers and shipfitters. Some Hampton graduates were rated chief petty officers and petty officers. Commander E. Hall Downs, USNR, preceded Lieutenant Commander Moore.

56k-1945

Honolula

Negro Sailors Now Throughout Pacific

Atlanta Daily World

HONOLULU —(ANP)— It now can be told where the great mass of Negro graduates from Great Lakes Service Schools are functioning. The slight haze of mystery which had been thrown around it is disappearing as Negro sailors and craftsmen are being flung into regular navy jobs and having their ups and downs like the rest of the sailors. 7-21-45

Comdr. Daniel W. Armstrong, too whom everybody remembers as the man who tackled the job of the special service units at Great Lakes in order to get Negroes started into the navy in the early days, is right out here with his boys. He's now attached to the staff of the commander, service force, U. S. Pacific fleet, and that's where most of the colored sailors are functioning. Atlanta, Ga.

NORMAL PATTERN

The story of the participation of Negro units in the naval operations of the Pacific war has followed a normal American pattern. In the earlier stages of development of plans and the execution of them there have been strengths and weaknesses, excellent performances and poor performances. There is no doubt today, however, that the record of Negro naval units in swinging to strengths and excellent performances. Many factors account for this trend.. Seasoning and experience of the men themselves, some of whom now have from two to three years of naval service to their credit, have been a great factor. 7-21-45

From the Pacific coast, where they operate patrol ships and harbor craft a swell as man shore facilities, to the beaches and hills of Okinawa and on the high seas between, Negro men of the navy are shouldering their assignments with confidence and ability.

IN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

In the Hawaiian islands, particularly at the many stations surrounding Pearl Harbor, many thousands perform innumerable duties in the operations which carry the war forward. These include naval air stations, naval ammunition depots and the vast naval supply depot. 7-21-45

Negro officers carry a large share of the administrative load at Manana Naval barracks where one is the first lieutenant and maintenance officer, another the disbursing officer, another the commissary officer, and others doctors and dentists.

Negro petty officers at many stations are carrying out duties in administration, military leadership and skilled specialties such as work on aviation engines, communications and transfer of high explosives. Yeoman handle office management duties, storekeepers concern themselves with the vast quantities of supplies passing thru to the fleet, gunner's mates supervise ammunition activities; and machinist's mates keep mechanical devices in operation.

LOGISTICS SUPPORT COMPANIES

At Iroquois Point, on the island of Oahu, there is a major training activity through which many new logistic support companies are passing for training on the way to duty in combat areas. Both Negro and white companies are being trained identically and will perform identical duties side by side when they reach their destination.

ON HIGH SEAS

On the sea, many of the great fleet auxiliaries carry substantial numbers of Negroes in their deck and engineering forces. It is no rarity to find a Negro quartermaster or seaman standing a steersman watch on the bridge, or a Negro signalman at the blinkers or flagbag on the signal bridge, or a Negro gunner's mate readying the ship's heavy guns for action.

IN MARIANAS

In the Marianas islands at Guam, Saipan and Tinain, units of navy Negreos are carrying on activities of vital importance to the fleet in harrying the enemy. Some of these activities are less dramatic and perhaps less glamorous than those of many of their shipmates mentioned, but they are neverthless performing essential military duties at the supply depots ammunition depots and operating bases of that area.

ON OKINAWA

On Okinawa, nearing the end of the long westward march to the heart of the Japanese empire, American forces include some Negro navy logistics support companies. Detailed accounts of these units must be withheld until operation can be made completely revealed and details obtained, but early reports gave clear indication that they have performed remarkably well under difficult operational circumstances.

Skippers Find Navy's Non-Bias Policy Works

Chicago, Ill. Defender 10-20-45

HONOLULU — (ANP) — Captains and other executive officers aboard ships that have applied the navy's non-discrimination policy toward Negro sailors have reported the results as successful, said Lester B. Granger, National Urban League official and a traveling representative for Secretary Forrestal.

Granger, a World War I artillery officer, said that Washington is sincerely and honestly trying to execute the race code that gives Negro sailors the same chance for ratings as other sailors have. But the farther he has traveled from Washington in his tour for the navy, the more evidence he has found of violations and ignorance of the policy. 10-20-45

"This policy, which opposes that of segregated service, had to be worked out cautiously and skillfully to overcome the widespread prejudice that Negroes would make only good messmen aboard ship," he said, "and not good machinists, electricians and other technical rates. Nearly all the skippers reported the policy successful after it was given a fair trial."

The navy's traveling race relation expert remarked that "the whole thing is largely a matter of convincing officers of the fairness and workability of the policy. The hardest to deal with is the well-meaning but timid officer."

He prophesied a postwar migration similar to that which followed World War I when 1,000,000 Negroes left the South to make homes in the North and West. Negro veterans will insist on their civilian right to equal treatment as regards to employment, wages, veteran's benefits and many other things, he believes.

Granger is accompanied on his tour of navy bases by Matthew Bullock, chairman of the Massachusetts State Parole Commission and former Dartmouth football star; Lt. Sylvester White, a Chicagoan and one of the first 12 Negroes commissioned in the navy; Harry McAlpin, White House correspondent; and Lt. Robert Roper, representing the bureau of naval personnel. 10-20-45

His tour will include visits to the Marianas, Okinawa, the Philippines and other naval installations.

56k-1945

Marine Corp

Only 2800 Colored Men Wanted, Says Marine Corp

Afro-American

By JAMES HICKS

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The following questions were asked and answers given in an exclusive interview with a Marine Corps officer in the public information division of the Marine Corps headquarters: 11-24-45

Q. Is it true, as Lester Granger charged, that the Marine Corps is following a strict policy of segregation in dealing with colored Marines? Baltimore

A. The word "strict" is not correct. The policy of segregation of colored Marines is the same policy that applies to any combat unit. All men eat and sleep with their own organization.

In each division headquarters the Marine Corps has what is known as a Steward Branch composed of colored personnel who do the cooking and baking and other such jobs for the officers of the division's headquarters. These men sleep in a tent together, but the tent is located in a row of tents with white marines. They do not eat with the white enlisted Marines but eat at the officer's mess where they work.

Q. If question number one is true, will this policy be followed in the peacetime Marine Corps?

A. The policy as outlined in the answer to question number one will remain unchanged.

Q. Are colored men being accepted for enlistment or re-enlistment in the Regular Marine Corps? Are there any colored men now in the Regular Marine Corps? 11-24-45

A. Colored men are now being accepted for enlistments and re-enlistments in the Regular Marine Corps. Records are not available at this time which would show whether or not there are colored men in the Regular Marines. Present plans call for about 2,800 in the Regular Marines. We hope that the 2,800 will come from the trained men already in the corps whom we hope will shift over to the regulars. If more than 2,800 seek enlistment we will take the best 2,800.

Q. Were there any colored Marine combat units committed to combat in World War II?

A. The 51st Antiaircraft Battalion was in the Marshall and Gilbert Island and has one battle star. The 52d Antiaircraft Battalion landed after the assault troops in Guam and may have done patrol work but the complete records are not in yet. The Steward Branches of each division which are composed of colored personnel went in with their divisions on Iwo Jima, Saipan and Tinian.

56k-1945

Marines

Quota Filled, Volunteers Now Rejected

Chicago Defender

Spokesman For Marines Admits New Ban On Recruits

By JAMES L. HICKS

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA)—There will be no new Negro Leathernecks, the Marine Corps admitted this week. Chi. Def.

Col. Edward Hagenah, executive officer of the Marine Corps' division of public information, said that no further enlistments are being accepted from colored men.

The Navy bureau of public information declined to comment on the charge of Lester P. Granger, special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and executive secretary of the National Urban league, that Negroes are being refused enlistment in the Marine Corps.

Hedge On Integration

In reducing its peacetime strength from half a million to 100,000 men, Marine Corps officials said that 18,000 Negro Leathernecks now in the service fill the present quota.

The Marine Corps also hedged on the question of integration for colored Marines already in the service.

Brig. Gen. Gerald C. Thomas, director of plans and policies, admitted to the Associated Negro Press that there had been no marked degree of integration in the branch. He refused to say that integration might not be "in the cards," but that hurdle had not yet been reached. 11-17-45

Granger's Recommendations

Granger, recently returned from an inspection tour of Pacific naval installations, recommended to Navy Secretary James Forrestal improvements which "can be brought about on a permanent basis for an enlarged peacetime Navy."

Granger's statement was interpreted to mean that he had recommended to Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal that wider use be made of colored personnel in all branches of the Navy, but the stand taken by the Marine Corps would indicate that such a policy has not been adopted for the peacetime Marine Corps.

The marine corps, which was 170 years old last Saturday, broke a long precedent when Negroes were accepted for the first time in April, 1942. Last week Brig. Gen. Gerald C. Thomas of Greenville, N. C., and Slater, Mo., director of the division of plans and policies, was able to say flatly to the ANP:

"The Negro is in the marines to stay as far as we are concerned. They have done good work in the Pacific and there is no intention to saw them off."

In point of planning for the future the marine corps has gone further than any other branch of the navy. In August, 1939, congress had set an authorized strength for the corps of 27,400 but only 17,000 of this was ever attained. The new strength is expected to be about 100,000.

How Negroes Will Be Used

On the basis of this new figure there will be provision for a minimum of 2,800 of colored personnel. Of that number 1,847 will be in the fleet marine force—the combat organization—and the remainder in other activities. A further breakdown was given:

Anti-aircraft (1 btn.)	967 men
Depot and ammunition	880 men
Stewards branch	704 men
Non-available (sick and in transit)	249 men

"These are our plans at the present time," General Thomas said. "There is some thought that we can use more but we want to see what congress will do about the post-war Marine size before we do any more planning."

At present there are 17,000 Negroes in the marine corps or slightly more than four percent of the total strength. On October 15, there were 3,550 non-commissioned officers—corporal and above. Better than 74 per cent of the Negroes have served overseas, General Thomas said.

Asked if there had been any special reports made on Negro performance, General Thomas declared confidently there had been none. "We didn't expect these fellows to fall down and we saw no need for specific reports on colored personnel," he declared. "They came in, did their work, and that was all there was to it."

He was not able to discuss reenlistments yet because their letters are only now going out to the field. He did say, however, that "any man, upon discharge, who desires to re-enlist in the marine corps can do so. We will re-enlist them in their present rank. We are making every effort —and our stress is on people in service, trained and tried—and we are going to make effort to fill our requirements for Negro personnel from those in the marine corps."

Urban League Sec'y Says Negroes Are Refused In Marines

The Call, Kansas City Missouri. 11-16-45

Colonel Edward Hagenah Says Corps Is Reducing Its Present Strength to Peacetime Strength; Now Has 18,000 Colored

By JAMES L. HICKS
For the NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON.—The Navy Department's Bureau of Public Information declined to comment this week on the charge of Lester P. Granger, special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and executive secretary of the National Urban League, that colored men were being refused enlistment in the Regular Marine Corps.

Colonel Edward Hagenah, executive officer of the Marine Corps' Division of Public Information, said the Marine Corps is reducing its present strength from 500,000 to a peacetime strength of 100,000 and, since it now has 18,000 colored Marines, no further enlistments are being accepted from colored men.

This statement by Colonel Hagenah contrasted sharply with a statement by Granger in his press conference at the Navy Department, November 2, that he has "indicated some ways in which I believe improvements can be brought about on a permanent basis for an enlarged peacetime Navy." 11-16-45

Used Colored Personnel

Granger's statement was interpreted to mean that he had recommended to Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal that wider use be made of colored personnel in all branches of the Navy, but the stand taken by the Marine Corps would indicate that such a policy has not been adopted for the peacetime Marine Corps.

At his press conference Granger admitted that the Navy is permitting downright discrimination against colored personnel in the Pacific, that many naval commanders openly exhibit their racial prejudices to their colored personnel and that, now that the fighting is over, the Marine Corps is refusing to accept Negroes for enlistment in the peacetime Marine Corps.

Despite these facts, Mr. Granger insisted that the Navy's policy towards colored personnel has improved greatly over the last three years and, in the next breath, he hotly denied charges by colored leaders that he is a "tool of the Navy Department."

Summarizing his 30-day inspection tour of racial conditions at Pacific bases, Granger revealed that the most consistent complaints he received from colored servicemen concerned slowness of promotion and racial segregation.

Charging the Marine Corps with following a strict policy of segregation in the Pacific, Granger said that colored Marines now on active duty were being turned down when they applied for enlistment in the Regular Marine Corps. 11-16-45

Lash at Critics

He lashed out at critics who have charged him with being a "tool of the Navy," asked them to "look at the record," and declared that racial improvement in the Navy over the last three years had been remarkable.

Granger stated that his party could not have been expected to cover every phase of the various situations which it encountered but that its visit had brought comfort as well as information to colored personnel and had served as a corrective and advisory influence in dealing with colored officers.

Members of Granger's official party which visited nine island bases and 47 separate Naval activities while in the Pacific included Matthew W. Bullock of Boston, chairman of the Massachusetts State Parole Commission; Harry S. McAlpin, newspaperman; Lieutenant (junior grade) Sylvester White of the Navy's Bureau of Public Information; Commander Daniel Armstrong, Liaison Officer for colored Personnel in the Pacific, and Lieutenant R. P. Roper of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

The Marine Corps Should Quickly Make Up Its Mind

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 11-24-45

(Story on Front Page)

SINCE the commissioning of 2nd Lt. FREDERICK C. BRANCH as an officer in the nation's Marine Corps was in the nature of a symbolical advance toward democratization of a service branch totally closed to colored Americans until the onset of war, it appears that the ordinary reasons for placing new officers, including him, immediately on inactive status might have been waived.

It takes away some of the understandable satisfaction that, at long last, a tentative and indicative step long needed had been taken by the Marines, the last branch of service to open up to other than white-only enlistments.

It never took in any Negro women marines (nor did the Coast Guard accept any colored Spars), although the Army has our women in its Women's Corps and Nursing Service and the Navy has a token cadre of Waves and one nurse at least.

The interpretation already put on the corps' action in commissioning and then de-activating Lt. BRANCH is that the action is in line with its policy of keeping colored personnel in subordinate positions. It does leave it with no colored man above the rank of master sergeant.

The corps is of course reducing personnel and all the white officers in Lt. BRANCH's class were similarly put on inactive status. The Negro group does not ask for special advantage, but the whole setup in the corps with respect to the Negro is so special itself that an exception would not be difficult to justify and, in fact, seems imperative.

The de-activation of Lt. BRANCH also is inconsistent with an announcement last Friday that the corps would accept qualified colored men at once for enlistments. This contradicts or supercedes an earlier and contrary statement of policy. The result is confusion.

LESTER GRANGER on his return from the Pacific charged that Negro marines were being turned down for enlistments. 11-24-45

It behooves the corps to make up its mind. And it certainly ought to have Negro officers if it is going to retain any colored personnel under its non-integration policy or otherwise.

NAVY, COAST GUARD AND MARINE CORPS TO KEEP NEGRO RATINGS AND COMMISSIONS DURING PEACE

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City Oklahoma
11-17-45

Forrestal Insists Upon Using Race Personnel To Fullest Extent

NEGRO VOLUNTEERS WILL BE ACCEPTED

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Negroes with ratings and commissions are in the navy for keeps—and that goes for the coast guard and the marine corps.

The Associated Negro Press has just completed a survey of the plans of the several branches that comprise the navy as to the future role of Negroes in the service. Unequivocal statement made by top-ranking officials of the branches attest to the fact that experience growing out of World War II in the utilization of Negro personnel has substantially justified their inclusion in the respective post-war organizations.

This is in sharp contrast to things which happened following World War I, when Negroes in the navy were demobilized, and those coming in later were confined to the steward's branch of the service. 11-17-45

Whereas experience is justifping this position, much of the credit for this straightforward position is stemming from the office of Navy Secy. James V. Forrestal, who in the short time that he has headed up the department, has shown a greater insistence upon fullest utilization of Negro personnel than any previous secretary.

Vice Adm. Louis E. Denfield, since Sept. 11 chief of the bureau of naval personnel, was quite frank in his statement. "I believe we will use Negroes more extensively as their training and experience would indicate," he said. "As they get to be chief petty officers we will use them to the fullest extent of their capabilities.

Reminded of what had happened after the last war, Adm. Denfeld said, "I don't think we will ever go back to that. Certainly," he added, "I have no feeling about it." 11-17-45

Denfeld said that the future navy will be a volunteer organization, and that Negro volunteers will be accepted with no holds barred. Reenlistments are now coming in at the rate of 500 a day, he said, but no breakdown was available on Negro re-enlistments. The service will continue to adhere to the 10 percent of complement quota set in 1943, but will show no hesitance about going over that if enlistments warrants. Congress is authorizing a peacetime strength of 500,000 men for the navy.

Negroes were admitted to general service in the navy in April, 1942, for the first time since World War 1. On V-J day, there was a peak strength of 165,000 enlisted Negroes serving with the navy. On Nov. 6 there were 53 commissionel officers, four nurses and 23 officer candidates. These figures are exclusive of the marine corps and coast guard. 11-17-45

This personnel was assigned to shore estatblishments in continental United States, at Pacific basses, aboard auxiliary vessels and on sub-chasers, PC, DE, minesweepers, and district craft.

Policy Of Corps Is Confused

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
11-24-45

Never Given Chance Actually To Serve As 1st Race Officer

By James L. Hicks
NNPA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Second Lt. Frederick C. Branch of Charlotte, N. C., who on Nov. 10 became the first and only colored man ever to be commissioned in the United States Marine Corps, was placed on an inactive duty status as soon as he received his commission, it was learned this week.

This action, which is in line with the Marine Corps' policy of keeping its colored personnel in subordinate positions, still leave the pride of the United States fighting forces without a colored man, above the rank of master sergeant, who can issue a qualified order in the Marine Corps.

HAS NO AUTHORITY

Having been placed on inactive duty, Lieutenant Branch has no authority of command over marines on active duty, and unless recalled to active duty, falls into the same category as any civilian who has graduated from college and received a reserve commission as second lieutenant in the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

In explaining this action, the Marine Corps' bureau of public information fell back on its statement of last week, that the corps was reducing its personnel from 500,000 to 100,000 and pointed out that all white officers of the class in which Lieutenant Branch had graduated also had been placed on inactive duty. 11-24-45

This explanation, however, was inconsistent with the announcement of the Corps' Division of Public Information last Friday, that effective immediately the Marine Corps will begin accepting qualified colored men for enlistments.

COMPLETE REVERSAL

This was a complete reversal of the policy announced by Colonel Edward Hagenah, executive officer of the corps division of public information, who unequivocally stated that the Marine Corps was reducing its strength and no enlistments were being accepted from colored men. 11-24-45

Colonel Hagenah confirmed the charge made by Lester Granger, Urban League secretary, upon his return from a tour of inspection of naval installations in the Pacific, that colored marines were being turned down for enlistments.

When asked whether Colonel Hagenah had erred in making his statement, the Marine Corps said that Colonel Hagenah's statement had been correct at the time it was made but that the policy had been changed "in the last few days."

All this gives rise to the question: Why place the only colored officer in the Marine Corps on inactive duty when colored personnel are still being accepted for enlistments even though the Corps is reducing its strength?

The answer is not hard to find.

MARINE OFFICER ON INACTIVE DUTY

11-24-45
Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Second Lieut. Frederick C. Branch of Charlotte, N. C., who on Nov. 10, became the first and only colored man ever to be commissioned in the U. S. Marine Corps, was placed on an inactive duty status as soon as he received his commission, it was learned last Friday.

This action, which is in line with the Marine Corps' policy of keeping its colored personnel in subordinate positions, still leaves the pride of the United States fighting forces without a colored man, above the rank of master sergeant, who can issue a qualified order in the Marine Corps.

Gets Bars, Then Put on Reserve

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Will Have No Command of Men on Active Duty

POLICY REVERSED

11-24-45

Pat Explanation Given by Officials of Corps

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—2nd Lt. Frederick C. Branch, of Charlotte, N.C., who, on Nov. 19 became the first of his race ever to be commissioned in the United States Marine Corps, was placed on an inactive duty status as soon as he received his commission, it was learned last Friday.

This action, which is in line with the Marine Corp's policy of keeping its colored personnel in subordinate positions, still leave the pride of the United States fighting forces without a colored man, above the rank of master sergeant, who can issue a qualified order in the Marine Corps.

Same As Civilian

Having been placed on inactive duty, Lt. Branch has no authority of command over marines on active duty and, unless recalled to active duty, falls into the same category as any civilian who has graduated from college and received a reserve commission as second lieutenant in the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

In explaining this action, the Marine Corps' bureau of public information fell back on its statement of last week, that the corps was reducing its personnel from 500,000 to 100,000 and pointed out that all white officers of the class in which Lt. Branch had graduated also had been placed on inactive duty.

This explanation, however, was inconsistent with the announcement of the Corps' Division of Public Information last Friday, that effective immediately the Marine Corps will begin accepting qualified colored men for enlistments. 11-24-45

Want No More Men

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Colonel Hagenah confirmed the charge made by Lester Granger, Urban League secretary, upon his return from a tour of inspection of naval installations in the Pacific, that colored marines were being turned down for enlistments.

When asked whether Colonel Hagenah had erred in making his statement, the Marine Corps said that Colonel Hagenah's statement had been correct at the time it was made but that the policy had been changed "in the last few days."

Answer Is Easy

All this gives rise to the question: Why place the only colored officer in the Marine Corps on inactive duty when colored personnel are still being accepted for enlistments, even though the Corps is reducing its strength?

The answer is not hard to find.

Former Pfc. Branch, graduated from the First Officers' Reserve Class, of the Officers' Applicant Battalion, at Hadnot Point, Camp Lejeune.

Enlisting in May, 1943, Branch trained at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune. In January, 1944, he joined the 51st Defense Battalion and served seven months overseas.

He started V-12 training at Purdue University in Sept., 1944, and completed the course with high scholastic honors.

On V-J Day, Branch was among the Marines given the alternative of being discharged immediately or attending the six-week Reserve Officers' Class.

Attend Temple University

He attended Ferderick E. Bellows High School, Mamaroneck, N.Y., and Johnson C. Smith University, where he won the freshman award for scholastic achievement. He was a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Branch was a student at Temple University when he was drafted.

The Marine is married to the former Miss Camilla Robinson of 2518 N. 22d St., Philadelphia. A graduate of Philadelphia's Girls' High, Mrs. Branch also attended Temple University.

Lt. Branch's parents, the Rev. and Mrs. James Matthew Branch, live at 305 W. Second St., Charlotte. Rev. Mr. Branch, a minister for 30 years, is pastor of the Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church, Charlotte.

Two brothers of the Marine are in the service. Second Lieutenant Matthew D. Branch is serving with the 372d Army Infantry in the Pacific and Army First Sergeant Milton C. Branch is in Europe. William B., youngest of the four brothers, is a student at Lt. Branch plans to continue his studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

56k-1945

Marines

Negro Marine Tried By Court-Martial At Algiers Naval Base

The Informer
Houston, Texas
2-10-45

NEW ORLEANS — Charged with leaving his post of duty and attempting to rape a woman on the night of November 25, 1944 at the Naval Ammunition Depot, McAlester, Oklahoma, Marine Private, First Class David Hickman, 24, was tried by court martial at the Naval Repair Base, Algiers, La., on Wednesday and Thursday. At press-time, the official verdict of the court was awaited.

"Truly American"

"During the entire testimony in the court martial trial of Pfc. David Hickman at the Algiers Naval Repair Base last week, there was not a single reference to the racial identity of the accused nor the color of the alleged victim," stated John E. Rousseau, Jr., Informer reporter, who covered the trial.

Because New Orleans is the headquarters of the Eighth Naval district, Pfc. Hickman was brought here for trial on December 13, 1944.

According to evidence presented in the trial by Lt. Commander Lewis, prosecutor, Hickman had been assigned to guard a parking lot at the Naval Ammunition Depot, McAlester, Oklahoma, on the night of November 25, 1944 between the hours of 8 and midnight.

Shortly after nine o'clock that night a white woman (whose name is purposely withheld) was set upon by an assailant who choked her, and threw her to the ground on a muddy footpath, a short distance from Hickman's post of duty, it was said out during the trial. The woman screamed and fought the attacker off and attracted the attention of persons nearby, who, like the woman, were going to their homes at the completion of the day's work as civilian employees in the ship service canteen, probers were told.

Officials of the Naval Ammunition Depot were notified of the incident and a search was instituted, witnesses testified.

Hickman, whose post of duty was not far from the attack scene, was questioned as to whether or not he had seen or heard anything, his superior officers declared, but he replied he had not. The search ended after the vicinity had been scoured and no trespasser was found. Hickman has steadfastly maintained he is innocent. 2-10-45

Officers testified under oath that they had noticed mud on Hickman's trousers at the knees; mud on his hand, and fresh abrasions on his face. The parking lot patrolled by Pfc. Hickman was of asphalt and gravel and there was no place on his post where he could have gotten mud on his shoes, trousers and hands, it was testified. Naval personnel on duty at the McAlester Naval Ammunition Depot on the night of the affair were brought to New Orleans for the trial.

Sgt. Arthur Wright, U. S. Marines, a native of Jacksonville, Fla., took the stand and testified that he is stationed at the marine barracks, main gate at the Naval ammunition depot, McAlester, Okla. He told of assigning men to their posts on November 25, and pointed out on a map produced by the prosecution the section to which he had assigned Hickman.

At the beginning of the search, he had noticed mud on Hickman's trousers at the knee and had wondered how he had become muddy since the entire lot patrolled by Hickman was gravelled, Sgt. Wright testified.

Marine Sergeant Robert S. Youngdeer, an American-Indian, stationed at the Naval ammunition depot, Mc Alester, Okla., on the night of the incident, testified he had noticed mud on Hickman's feet, knees and right hand, and had noticed fresh scratches on both sides of his nose. Hickman made the excuse that he had perhaps rubbed the mud from one of the automobiles parked on the lot, Sergeant Youngdeer testified. 2-10-45

Marine Sgt. Eugene C. Ross, also stationed at the marine barracks on the night of the attack, told how he had brought Hickman to the medical officer for examination about an hour after the incident had been reported. He also testified that he had noticed the mud on Hickman's clothing and the scratches on his face. Sgt. Ross added that he noticed Hickman's trouser flap was unbuttoned when his field jacket was removed.

Commander Arthur L. Shultz, senior medical officer at Mc Alester Naval Ammunitnon depot, testified as to the condition of Hickman's clothing; and that the scratches on Hickman's face were fresh when he examined them and could not have been inflicted more than two or 3 hours earlier at the most. There were not physical evidences to sustain a theory that Hickman had attempted to commit rape, Commander Shultz said under cross-examination. 2-10-45

Capt. Charles M. Briggs, of the Naval ammunition depot, Mc Alester, Oklahoma, took the stand and told how he had noticed the mud on Hickman's clothing, and scratches on his face. He also told of visiting Hickman, in the brig and discussing the case with him, after being ordered to do so by the commander.

"I told Hickman he could put his statement in writing if he cared to," Captain Briggs testified.

Lt. Col. David W. Mooy testified as to the methods used in assigning men to guard posts, and also said Hickman had been a good marine and had never been in trouble, at that station prior to the incident.

Lt. Commander Thomas L. Shean, USNR, McAlester Naval Ammunition Depot, maintainance officer, testified as to the lighting of the parking lot guarded by the accused and further declared that it would be impossible to identify any person standing 25 or 30 yards on the outside of the parking lot, because the lights were not designed to carry for that distance.

Lt. Commander William J. Bivens and Attorney A. P. Tureaud of New Orleans, defended Hickman.

The statement purportedly written by Hickman, was submitted as evidence by the prosecution. The admissibility of the statement was challenged by the defense counsel. The court sustained the defense counsel's objection and ruled the statement inadmissable as evidence.

In the cross examinations, the defense counsel established the fact that the alleged attack victim had never identified Hickman as her assailant. The scratches on Hickman's face were previously accounted for when Hickman told his superior officers he had sustained them in a basketball game. 2-10-45

The trial court consisted of nine United States Navy officers, headed by Captain Arthur E. Jones.

When interviewed, Pfc. Hickman, a well built, handsome, young man, said he is a native of Center, Miss. He is married, father of one child and has been in the armed forces since March, 1943, he said.

Since he entered the service and even during his arrest and incarceration, he had been treated fairly and had no complaint whatsoever, he declared.

Pittsburgh Courier 4-21-45

FIRST NEGRO MARINE OFFICER CANDIDATES — George Frederick Ellis Jr., 30, Brooklyn; Charles Fisher Anderson, 24, Birmingham, Ala., and Charles Willis Simmons, 27, Centralia, Ill. (left to right), all Marine sergeants, are the first Negroes trained as possible commissioned officers in the U. S. Marine Corps. They were among the first 1,200 colored enlistees to volunteer for the Marine Corps in 1942. The three sergeants are now members of the Ninth Platoon Commanders class, Marine Corps School for Officers, Quantico, Va.—U. S. Marine Corps Photos from OWI. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Negro Marines Iwo Casualties

Pittsburgh Courier 4-7-45 p2

IWO JIMA—(ANP)—Negro marines have been under fierce Japanese artillery and mortar fire and have fought bravely side by side with combat troops to help stem counter attacks.

Piling on the torn beaches, which were systematically being raked by shells lobbed on them from Japanese gun positions in the volcanic hills, were three depot companies and one ammunition. They did a wonderful job of handling vital supplies such as ammunition, food and water in ship to shore operations, day and night.

Some of our Negro casualties evacuated from Iwo Jima to an Army field hospital on this advanced American base are: Pfc. Raymond Glen, Jonesboro, Ark.; Pvt. James Hawthorne, Seneca, S. C., and Pfc. James Davis, Philadelphia.

The Voice 7-28-45

ABOUT THE MARINES

Editor: As you know, in June, 1942, the Marine Corps broke its lily-white tradition by accepting Negroes into its organization. On June 15, 1944, which was D-Day for the Saipan invasions, Negro marines were experiencing for the first time jungle warfare. We stormed the beaches under heavy Japanese mortar fire and found out that was was really hell. I'm proud to say that of the four colored marine companies that participated in that bloody battle, my company received the Presidential Citation for meritorious service. Since then other Negro marines have been used in operations and have added glory to their history. — CPL. ERNIE STEWART. N.Y.N.Y.

Archbishop Hails Heroism of U.S. Merchant Mariners

New Orleans, La.
Catholic Action
August 30, 1945

(By NCWC News Service)

The American merchant seaman has emerged from World War II in a blaze of glory, Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, said at a banquet on the first anniversary observance, last week, of the United Seamen's Service-George Washington Carver Hotel for Negro merchant marines.

The American merchant seamen, Archbishop Rummel said, has attained "newer heights of honor in the esteem of his fellow-countrymen, a niche of honor and gratitude in America's hall of fame. His task has been to transport men food, clothing, munitions, everything needed by the armed forces on a thousand battlefronts. He stretched the lines that formed a liaison between a feverishly productive home front and a courageously fighting battlefront. Those lines were reddened with blood and spotted with danger and death constantly lurking on and under the waters and in the air."

Paying tribute to Dr. Carver, scientist of Tuskogee institute, for whom the hotel was named and whose picture was unveiled at the banquet, the Most Reverend Archbishop said: "He was born a slave, but knew how to take advantage and culture. As student, scientist and educator he ranks high among the greatest of the generation."

Rabbi Julian B. Feibelman gave the invocation, Rev. L. L. Haynes gave the benediction and Rev. Vincent O'Connell, S. M., Notre Dame seminary, said the grace.

Two Negro Companies Cited By Navy For Service With Marines

New York Age 7-21-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Two Army Transportation Corps port companies, the 311th and 539th, have been awarded the coveted Unit Citation by the Navy for their heroic services with the Fourth Marine Division, Reinforced, during the invasion of the Marianas, the War Department announced Monday.

This was the second time the Navy Unit Citation was presented to Army units and the first time that an Army Service Forces unit in any theater had received the award. First to win the red-gold-and-blue ribbon was the American Division, now on Cebu in the Philippines, for its work on Guadalcanal.

The official citation lauded the 311th and 539th for "outstanding performance in combat during the seizure of the Japanese-held islands of Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas, from June 15 to August 1, 1944." 7-21-45

During the invason the two port companies were attached to the Fourth Marine Division. Despite fanatical Jap counter-offensives and casualites within their ranks, the portmen unloaded ammunition and other supplies in the face of enemy fire, hour after hour, without relief.

Training of the port companies, which are composed of Negro personnel, took place in Hawaii, under the command of Lieutenant General Robert C. Richardson, Jr., Commanding General of the Pacific Ocean Areas.

The 311th was activated at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania, and received its advanced training at the Seattle Port of Embarkation. The 539th, activated at the Charleston Port of Embarkation, was trained at the New Orleans Port of Embarkation and the Hampton Port of Embarkation—all Transportation Corps installations.

Restless For Action

Pittsburgh Courier

Marines Prove Worth In First Waves Of Pacific Operations

6-30-45

Pittsburgh, Pa.

By CHARLES H. LOEB, NNPA War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC—"The Negro race can well be proud of the work performed by an ammunition company as they have demonstrated in every respect that they appreciate the privilege of wearing a Marine uniform and serving with Marines in combat . . . in the eyes of the entire division they have earned a WELL DONE."

To earn this high praise from former Commanding General W. H. Rupertus of the First Marine Division, Negro Marines had to live up to the ultimate in fighting tradition of the Corps . . . and Marine Corps tradition is lofty!

Members of the Marine ammunition companies are hand-picked for size and courage. In the assault landings on Peleliu last September, and throughout the fierce fighting that followed, members of this ammunition company proved that they possessed both.

IN FIRST WAVES OF FIGHTING

They swarmed over the beach with the first waves of fighting Marines; loaded vital ammunition under fire, lugged it to the front lines, and brought back wounded on the return trips. Then, when the going got really tough, they were thrown into the line to defend vital sectors of our still inadequate beachhead.

Two of its members were awarded the Order of the Purple Heart. One of them, Pvt. Dryel Augustus Shuler, son of Mrs. Charlye Mae Shuler, Springfield, Mass., is still with the company on this island; the other, Pvt. John Copeland, son of Mrs. Willie Copeland, Philadelphia, Pa., is buried beneath one of the white crosses in the little cemetery on Peleliu.

MEN RESTLESS FOR ACTION

The ammunition company was not fighting when I caught up with them out here, but I found them eager to be off to the wars. They know that the work they are doing on this islands is vital. Ammunition must be sorted, loaded and shipped to the forward areas, but the men are restless for action.

Under the Marine policy of assigning non-commissioned Negro officers to Negro outfits as rapidly as they can be made, I found many rated men handling the details that make a company click. The lone white NCO was First Sgt. George E. Richards, Philadelphia, Pa., a veteran of nine years in the Marines.

Others in the outfit include:

SERGEANTS: James B. Diggs, Washington, D. C.; F. W. Gaffney, Swansea, S. C.; J. Harlee, Greensboro, N.o C.; G. H. Nagle, New York City, and Joseph Woolridge, Newark, N. J.

COOKS: Chief Cook B. E. Morris, Monerey, Calif., and Field Cooks J. Maffett, La Grange, Ga., and A. McDonald, New York City.

CORPORALS: L. B. Atkins, Atlanta, Ga.; J. B. Billups, Colembus, Miss.; H. Dillahunt, New Bern, N. C.; A. Fontenot, Beaumont, Tex.; O. V. Hanks, Atlanta, Ga.; H. L. Paige, Norfolk, Va.; W. Russell, Tuskegee, Ala.; J. A. Shields, Suffolk, Va.; O. C. Watson, Hugo, Okla.; W. O. Wesley, Washington, D. C., and B. T. Williams, Memphis, Tenn.

ACTING COOKS include W. Alexander, Frederick, Okla.; S. B. Avant, Wilmington, Del.; C. R. Crawford, Jacksonville, Fla., and N. Jackson, Natchitoches, La.

COMPANY CLERKS: Pfc. Leonard Franklin Mayo, Morton, Pa.; Pfc. Rudolph Boush, Washington, D. C., and Sgt. Charles Robinson, Dayton, Ohio.

MASTER OF "HOWARD" — Capt. H. L. Nillson, native of Malmo, Sweden, is master of the SS Howard Victory, namesake of Howard University. The ship was launched May 14. The "Howard," which will soon move troops overseas, passed a series of rigid tests on a trial run June 5.

Our Marines On Okinawa Display Superb Courage

New York Amsterdam News 7-14-45 N.Y.N.Y.

By PFC. JARVIS ROVINSON and PFC. LEONARD VAUGHN
(ANP Marine Combat Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC (ANP)—Near the southern front lines on Okinawa, where bitter fighting raged, colored marines of the Third Marine Ammunition company displayed courage in the execution of their duties which was the supplying of ammunition to a famed marine division, while under intense irregular Japanese fire.

South of Naha, those gallant leather necks steadily suplied tons of precious ammunition while Nipponese artillery and mortar barrages made their area a roaring inferno. Once they were camped as close as 500 yards from the front line fighting, but this position and the violent shelling were old stories for them. These invasion veterans had experienced enemy resistance before in the Marianas. 7-14-45

Another peril set in again for them as they were guarding a bridge during a pause in their duties, when word was passed of a Jap breakthrough. Reports reaching them indicated that the Nips were approaching the object which was their job to protect. The destruction of this bridge would help the Japs in that it would erase it as a supply route for the advancing marines. The very splendid composure of those men while in wait for the attack (which somehow never came off), rated praise from both the officers from the company as well as those from the division. Once again the company had performed an unfaltering duty in the action against the little men from Japan.

The lasting tribute paid to the third amphibious corps for its great victory on Okinawa must include this Negro marine corps unit and others who have shown bravery and heroism while serving with combat teams in the fury of the Ryukus islands. 7-14-45

Marines Get First Glimpse Of Japan's "Holy" Mountain

Huston Post 7-22-

The Informer

By Charles H. Loeb
NNPA War Correspondent

WITH AMERICAN OCCUPATION FORCES IN SAGAMI BAY—(August 28)—It was a sight to bring exultation to the heart of any American—the power of the fleet that stretched for 100 miles across the Pacific before it steamed into Sagami Bay, 30 miles south of Tokyo, in preparation for the landing of our occupation forces. With the breaking of dawn, correspondents and the impatient Marines aboard the USS Meriwether, Navy transport that had brought us to this day of triumph, crowded the rail for their first glimpse of the famed Fugiyama, Japan's "Holy" mountain.

However the towering mountain, long a scenic epicure for tourists, was but an imposing backdrop for such power as is represented by the battleships Iowa and Missouri (the latter the Flagship of Admiral Halsey). Completing the picture of any Naval might gathered at the front door of Japan were other powerful fleet arms . . . the battleships Duke of York and King George V, belonging to the British . . . and scores of destroyers, mine sweepers and auxiliary craft.

First Opportunity Offered

After more than two weeks in the cramped quarters of our transport, we jumped at the first opportunity offered to visit some of the fighting ships. Led by Lt. (jg) Sam Dietz, Public Relations Officer in charge of the group aboard the Meriwether, we boarded a small boat and bounced across the choppy bay to the IOWA, and a visit of several hours with its Negro personnel. 7-22-45

All Negro members of the Iowa's crew are stewards mates. Lt. (jg) J. C. Coleman, USNR, of Kalamazoo, Mich., introduced me to Steward first class, W. C. Williams, New York City, and Steward first class, John O. Banks, another New Yorker, who supervise the stewards department of 54 Negro and 6 Filipino bluejackets.

56k-1945 Nav.

Heroic Seabees, Workhorses of Navy, Found Jammed on Leyte Gulf Houseboat

the afro american
Baltimore Md.

By HARRY McALPIN

LEYTE GULF, P.I.—(NNPA) Over 400 of the men who, with the First Marine Division, were responsible for victory in the bloody Battle of Peleliu Island in September, 1944, are living today on an overcrowded houseboat in the middle of Leyte Gulf.

They feel that they have been forgotten, mistreated and ignored.

The men are members of the second section of the 17th Seabees Battalion—workhorses of the Navy. They are stevedores and cargo handlers. Their story came to light during the course of the investigation tour of Lester B. Granger as personal representative of the Secretary of the Navy. 11-10-45

Supplied Marines

Two hours after the Marines hit the beach at Peleliu, the men of the 17th Seabees were carrying ammunition and supplies in to them. The battle line was only 25 yards from the water's edge. At one stage of the battle the Marines were driven back into the water, and were fighting knee-deep in the ocean. Still, the 17th Seabees fed them the needed ammunition and supplies.

Some of the Seabees were killed in the action. 3m 2/C Sinclair King remembers seeing four of his buddies killed by mortar shells just 20 feet from him in the water.

As the fight progressed and defeat for the Marines was staved off partially by the steady supply of ammunition, the Seabees followed the action onto the island and carried ammunition across the airfield under fire 11-10-45

Served as Combat Men

They fought, too, to bolster the dwindling ranks of the heroic Marines, though they had not been trained for such action.

Deservedly, the First Marine Division was given a Presidential citation. Their casualties were unusually heavy and their victory a costly one.

But the 17th, who were as necessary to victory as were the courage, fighting hearts and never-say-die spirit of the Marines, have heard no praises ringing in their ears. They have received no citations. They have been accorded no rest. 11-10-45

While this situation is not peculiar to this unit, and appears to have no racial implications, the men are growing sour because of its existence.

Twenty-two months ago, on December 16, 1943, these men began their overseas service. They served four months on the Island of Banika, five months on the Island of Emerau in the Bismarck Archipelago.

After helping take and secure the Island of Peleliu, they served five months there, unloading ships, storing supplies. Then half of the organization was moved to the Island of Guam and the other half was sent to the Philippines.

Work 'Round the Clock

This second group is stationed in Leyte Gulf. They are still doing stevedoring work and doing it well. Their schedule, though the war is over, calls for round-the clock service, which they do without shirking.

Their duty is performed ashore and on the ships that dock in the spacious harbor of San Pedro Bay. But they live on a houseboat, called by the Navy an APL (Auxiliary Personnel Lodging).

For eight months, these men have lived on an APL. Twice a week, sometimes only once, they are given "liberty" to go ashore for recreation. The rest of their time off from work is spent in the sardine-can space of an engineless ship, parts of which even have been declared out of bounds to them. 11-10-45

They had completed their 18 months of overseas duty long before the war ended. But they were not accorded the rotation privilege and sent home.

Discrimination Victims

On top of all this, they feel that they are the victims of racial discriminations. Their quarters on the boat are below deck where the generators hum and add to the stifling heat. Over 400 of them live under these conditions. Topside is reserved for the headquarters and ship's companies—which are predominantly white.

The few colored men who are members of headquarters company are nevertheless housed below deck with the rest of their race. For all colored men, except those who service the officers' quarters, topside is "out of bounds."

According to Mr. Granger, this kind of set-up is in line with and descended from a practice common throughout all the Seabees outfits he has observed in his several tours of Naval installations.

Most Seabee outfits he has visited contain both colored and white personnel. This would seem to make them racially mixed units. Actually, however, he points out, all the white personnel have been assigned to headquarters and ship companies, or to supervisory positions which include many of the "white collar" and skilled duty assignments.

The remaining companies in the unit, which are responsible for the stevedore work, are composed of colored personnel.

Do Heavy Work

This arrangement puts colored recruits in the position of doing the heavy laboring work, while the most sought-after jobs are held primarily by white. "With this pattern established," said Mr. Granger, "the way is open for all racially different situations to be construed as racial discrimination by colored personnel."

As an instance, in the movies shown on deck, when the mess hall is converted into a movie house, the 50 or 60 white enlisted men aboard invariably occupy the front tables and seats, the remaining tables and seats being occupied by colored men.

Lt. T. F. Gaffey, officer in charge of the 17 Seabees, told this correspondent that there have been no orders for such separation and segregation, and that it is voluntary on the part of the whites. 11-10-45

But the men, because of the pattern cited above, are convinced in their minds that here is another evidence of racial segregation.

Another of their complaints is that in the eight months on this floating "hotel," they have had no chaplain. No provision has been made for those who would like to attend and participate in religious services, or for the discussion of their personal problems with a member of the clergy.

One bright spot, which has had perhaps most to do with maintenance of their morale and prevention of a total collapse on the part of these men, has been the presence of a lone colored officer, Ensign J. B. Williams, of Annapolis, Md.

With Them 9 Months

Ens. Williams has been with the men for nine months. He has spent the entire period with them since they have been marooned on an APL in the middle of Leyte Gulf.

But eight months of such life, 22 months overseas without rotation or rest, and racial discriminations, both real and fancied to boot, are dulling the edge on the wholesome effects of Williams's presence and rank. 11-10-45

Today, these 400-odd men, above all their grievances, want only one thing—to come home. Their immediate commanding officers agree they deserve such consideration.

Because of their exemplary record, it is believed Mr. Granger who has investigated their situation, will discuss their plight with Naval officials.

Admiral Bars Jim Crow At Navy Swimming Pool

Chicago, Ill., Defender

WASHINGTON — The United States Navy wiped out another stronghold of discrimination against Negroes at Anacostia Naval Receiving station with the opening of the swimming pool on the post to colored service men on orders from Rear Admiral William M. Fechteler. 11-18-45

In September, Electricians Mate, first class, James E. Wright was a student at the Navy's Electrical Inter-Communication school at the Receiving station. He advised the D. C. branch of the NAACP that he had been denied admittance when he went to the pool at a time designated for the students.

George E. C. Hayes, president of the branch, wrote the Navy Department, inquiring into the circumstances of Wright's experience and received the reply that "the navy is desirous of preventing discrimination against any of its personnel."

When Wright subsequently met a second refusal at the swimming pool, the NAACP again wrote asking for a clear statement of policy with regard to the pool.

Rear Admiral William M. Fechteler, assistant chief of Naval Personnel, replied on Oct. 24, stating:

"Instructions have been issued that all facilities at the Receiving Station, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., shall be available on the same basis to all authorized personnel regardless of race or color.

"The term 'authorized personnel' includes Naval personnel who are temporarily at the station in a transit status as well as those permanently assigned."

Wright, with a record of more than three years' war-time service, was honorably discharged from the navy on Oct. 12, being the first Negro to graduate from the Electrical Inter-Communication school where he was an outstanding student. 11-18-45

After his discharge he visited his family in Detroit but returned to Washington again this week. He came to join the picket line at the home of Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi where a Veterans' picket line to oust Bilbo has been maintained for several weeks.

Navy Jim Crow Worse Than Dixie's, Says Gob

the Chicago Defender
Chicago Ill.

Please allow me to take a few minutes of your time to express my deep dissatisfaction with the way we Negroes are being treated here on Okinawa.

To begin with, with the exception of boatswains our rates are almost completely ignored. Second class men in barges hooking up cranes. To bring the whole thing to a head, last night we opened a new theatre. A line was drawn here. The "Third Special See-Bee Battalion" (a white outfit) to which we are attached were in one section and the logistic support companies 61-64 in another section. It was simply a smooth and legal way of navy Jim Crow. 11-24-45

I am a MoMM 3-c and supposed to be a crane operator. But we are Jim Crowed on that. The white boys operate the heavy ones and we the little ones. I operate about five or six hours a week and the rest of the time I am in a barge hooking material on some other crane.

We were and are supposed to be supply outfits. If the See-Bees don't want us (which none of the five hundred of us wants) why not send us on to a supply depot? Or send us home. Personally, I don't think segregation and Jim Crow has any place in the navy. Everything here reeks with it.

We have been here since July 24 and do not have decks in all the tents. We do not have lights of any kind. We are working 12 hours a day and seven days a week. I heard some time back the war was over. The commanding officer is Lt. Comm. G. W. Taylor. The officer in charge of LSC L. W. Musick, Lt. Officer in charge of my section is Lt. C. W. Wilson. We even have segregated pay days, third special on the 10th and LSC on the 12th.

Being from Amherst, Va., I am used to segregation. But no segregation in civilian life is as bad as it is in the navy. I have been in the navy for 20 months but this is the first time I was Jim Crowed on the job in the navy. 11-24-45

Sorry to waste your time but I just had to blow off a little steam.—W. F. Kidd, MoMM 3-c.

The Afro American Baltimore Md.

Naval Racial Practice Lagging Behind Policy, Granger Reports

11-10-45

WASHINGTON

Observing that the Navy has greatly improved in its handling of colored service men in the last three years, Lester Granger, Urban League executive secretary, reported Thursday that generally the Navy's practice still lags behind its announced new policy.

The report, made to Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, followed Granger's return from a 31-day tour of Navy bases in the Pacific.

His statement to the press made at a special conference called by Secretary Forrestal, was couched in generalities.

After the late Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox announced in April, 1942, that the Navy would accept colored volunteers for enlistment for general service in the reserve components of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard and all ratings in those two branches would be opened to them, two mistakes were made, Mr. Granger said. 11-10-45

Cites Mistakes

These mistakes, he stated, were the establishment of a separate training program and the large concentration of colored personnel in the ordnance service, which resulted in a disproportionate number of colored men being assigned to duty in ammunition depots.

In 1945, he said, the Navy actually began to admit colored inductees to all branches of the service and to remove the segregated features which were interfering with good morale and efficient service. But progress in the Pacific, he stated, "has lagged behind the standards on the mainland."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Colored personnel still is not enrolled in the Regular Navy, nor accepted for training as pilots in the Naval Air Corps. Naval policy still restricts colored personnel to auxiliary craft aboard ships except as messmen, although Mr. Granger said a few colored men were serving in rated positions aboard battleships. He would not venture a guess as to the number. Colored women are still barred from the Women Marines.)

Mr. Granger said he found a few cases of exemplary leadership in the Pacific and many cases of "downright biased leadership." But, he added, the Navy is gradually improving.

Slects Wrong Officers

The most serious failure of the Navy, he said, was in its selection of officers to command colored personnel. Most officers found commanding colored personnel, he stated, were probably not capable of handling colored men to the full extent of their ability and effectiveness.

"The final answer to a democratic and completely efficient Navy," he said, "is going to be found in the abolition of all types of segregation" and "the abolition of any special approach to the service of colored men in the Navy." 11-10-45

He said he had run across a number of commissioned officers. He saw six or seven in the Philippines, the highest ranking being Lt. Edward Hope, he stated; three on Eniwetok, Martin Sublett and Nelson; three on Saipan, Lts. Philip Barnes and Reginald Goodwin, and one with a construction battalion, Ensign Joseph Williams.

Hits at Criticism

In reply to a question concerning criticism of him implying he was a tool of the Navy, Mr. Granger said the comment of Walter White, secretary, and Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP, boiled itself down to a question of the honesty of the Navy and his competency as a social worker.

He said he is sure the Navy is willing to meet the issue of its honesty and that his record as a social worker was open.

Mr. Granger and his party left this country on Sept. 27 and returned to Washington on Oct. 27. The party consisted of Mr. Granger, Lt. Robert Roper, Matthew W. Bullock, of Boston, chairman of the Massachusetts Parole Commission; Harry S. McAlpin, a newspaper man, and Lt. (j.g.) Sylvester White, who represented the Navy's Bureau of Public Information.

At Pearl Harbor the party was joined by Comm. Daniel W. Armstrong, former commanding officer of Camp Robert Smalls at Great Lakes.

Visited 9 Islands

On the tour which lasted 31 days, the party visited nine island bases and 47 different activities. Mr. Granger said they were informed there were in the Pacific area approximately 45,000 colored service men at shore bases; of that number, he added, about 30,000 were located at the activities they visited.

He said they found on the whole that the morale and performance of colored personnel in the Pacific generally corresponded to that of the whties. There are various irritating conditions existing, he said, which men feel they needlessly endure, resulting in a tendency to magnify grievances.

His party found, he said, several jungle situations of which charges or race discrimination aro-

There were several examples of commanding officers, he stated, who exhibited race prejudice themselves which prevented impartial and effective administration of their commands.

Base-wide and area-wide conditions which were beyond the control of officers themselves, he said, also were noted.

Highest Morale on Ships

The highest morale and the most praiseworthy performance were found among crew members of auxiliary ships. He rated air fields and bases next. Construction battalions, he said, were low-down on the morale scale, and somewhere between the best and the worst were the Marine outfits. 11-10-45

His party came across two colored combat Marine battalions which never had a chance to see service at the front.

Radarman Served on Carrier

The Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va. 11-17-45

Augustus Prince, radarman, third class, USNR, 3849 North Sydenham street, Philadelphia, Pa., is shown at work aboard the carrier, USS Santee, on which he saw action during the Okinawa campaign and in strikes against the Jap homeland. Prince, one of the first Negroes to finish radar school, is the only one rated as a radarman aboard a Navy carrier, or so far as is known, on any other Navy ship except the Negro-manned USS Mason and PC 1264. Before entering the Navy he was employed by the Sun Ship Co., Chester, Pa. 11-17-45

56k-1945

Navy

Negro Wins Fight Against 'Yellow' Discharge

Daily Worker

By MILDRED McADORY and MICHAEL SINGER

Daniel Joseph Hardy beamed as we met him in his three-room apartment at 204 Lewis Ave., Brooklyn. He was happy for the first time since being mustered out of the Navy. He showed us why. It was a letter he had just received from the Navy Department:

"This board has decided that the undesirable discharge given you on Dec. 9, 1944, should be changed to Discharge Under Desirable Conditions by Order of the Board of Review." 12-28-45

Just one sentence, but to Hardy it means: "I can hold up my head again." The Negro vet looked at his twin daughters, six months old.

"It means that now my children won't have to face the disgrace of a Dishonorable Discharge to their father," he said. "I can meet my friends and not feel ashamed."

Hardy's fight against the "yellow" discharge was described in detail in Wednesday's Daily Worker.

Hardy has been a good sailor. He had performed his job faithfully and with patriotic devotion. He had worked himself into a Navy hospital loading ammunition at a naval base in California.

Daniel Joseph Hardy and His Wife Etheleen

Operated on for hernia, he had been released before recuperation and returned to the back-breaking loading assignment. Unable to carry heavy loads, he had requested a new assignment. His lieutenant replied:

"What good are you to the Navy? You ought to be shot."

For fighting racial discrimination in the Navy, for reporting this fascist remark of the lieutenant to his commanding officer, for protesting Jimcrow physical attacks upon himself and his buddies in Vallejo, Cal., for his audacity in speaking out against Jimcrow-incited "riots" at a Navy hearing, for proposing Negro chaplains in the Navy, for refusing to be humiliated, debased and insulted—for standing up as an American fighting for his country, fighting against fascism, Daniel Joseph Hardy was given a "yellow" discharge.

A "yellow" discharge is a brand; it means "other than honorable."

HEARING WON 12-28-45

Hardy went to Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., New York Councilman. Davis wrote to Congressman Adam Clayton Powell. Powell urged Hardy to file a petition with the Navy and ask for a hearing. Edward R. Dudley of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, helped Hardy fill out the forms. Milton Becker, of the veterans administration office of the International Labor Defense, filed the case with the Navy. The wheels began to turn. The Navy granted a hearing.

Hardy was both incensed and amazed at the questions the Navy Board asked him. "They were ridiculous," he said. "They wanted to know where I was when the Vallejo riots took place and whether I had Negro officers?" 12-28-45

"It seemed as if they wanted to prove I led the rioting. They knew we had no Negro officers, not even a Negro chaplain."

The Navy didn't bother to send a chaplain "to our men until after the riots," Hardy declared, a Chaplain Flowers. "They would have done better to send a Bilbo. At least he would have been an open fascist."

Hardy's mother came into the room. New York, N.Y.

"This is the happiest Christmas in my life," she said. "First this letter to Daniel from the Navy and then my other boy, Emmet, comes home from Guam—all on the same day. Now most of my prayers have been answered."

Daniel remarked how good it felt to be able to greet Emmet with an honorable discharge. Etheleen, Hardy's wife, said only one more prayer needed answering.

"If we could only find a place to live."

The Hardy family—Hardy, his wife and two children, Mrs. Hardy and Emmett—live in three rooms. For months, Hardy's mother and wife have been searching for an apartment in vain. With a "yellow" discharge it was even more difficult.

"But now," Mrs. Hardy explained, "we can apply at least for an apartment in a housing project."

There are other Negro and white veterans with "Blue and "yellow" discharge slips—blots on their names for refusing to resist prejudice and injustice.

"I hope other fellows in my position fight to clear their names," Hardy said. "Now I know it can be done."

Powell Protests Negro Transfer

P.M. N.Y.C. 12-6-45

The Paris bureau of the New York *Herald Tribune* reported yesterday that a Negro quartermaster truck company scheduled to sail from Le Havre aboard the U. S. aircraft carrier Croatan was transferred to a slower Victory ship because Navy officers ruled that there were no segregation facilities on the flight deck of the flattop. N.Y.

This news brought a sharp protest from Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (R., N. Y.), who wired President Truman and Secretary of the Navy Forrestal demanding an investigation.

ENSIGN THOMAS ASSIGNED TO SHIP.

The Pittsburgh Courier

SEATTLE, Wash.—Ensign James E. Thomas, USNR, came here last week from San Francisco under orders to assume duty on the USS Red Oak Victory. 12-22-45

56k-1945 Navy

Raleigh Naval Seaman Home After Being In Six Invasion Battles

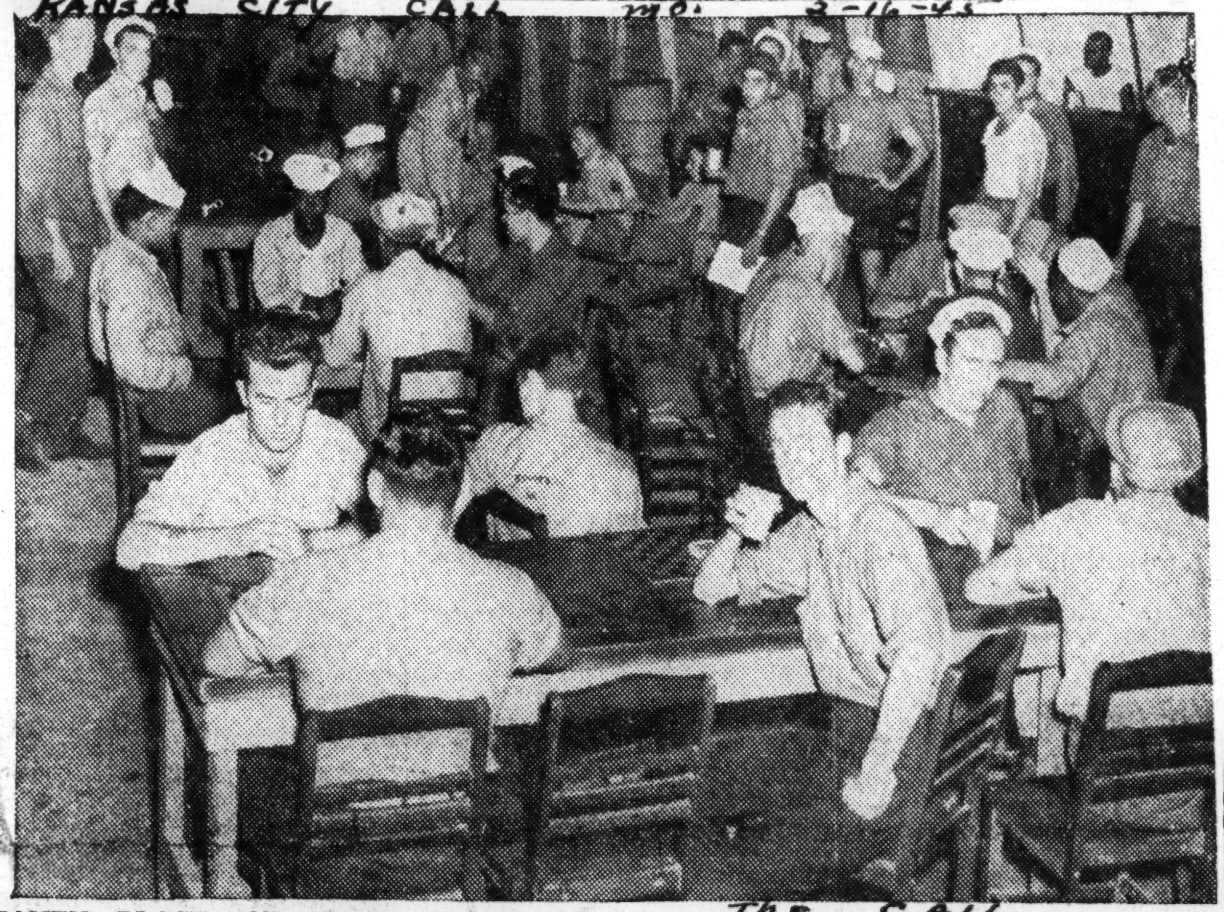
Journal & Guide Va.
2-24-45

KANSAS CITY CALL Mo. 2-16-45

BY SILAS J. WEBB
1210 Newbern Avenue

RALEIGH, N. C. — John H. Sampson, officers steward, first class, USN, of 1018 Manly street and veteran of six major invasion battles against the Nazis, is here visiting his mother. He has served aboard a destroyer, which for over two years has been in action in the Mediterranean Sea, protecting convoys, bombarding the shore lines of Africa, Sicily, Italy and France, and in spare moments transferring German prisoners.

Sampson enlisted in the Navy in 1939. Once while protecting a convoy, gunners brought down a German plane and his destroyer picked up two Nazi airmen. Sampson said he had to feed them until port was reached. 2-24-45



SEAMEN, BLACK AND WHITE, WORK AND PLAY TOGETHER IN SOUTH PACIFIC.—When there is time for recreation, seamen in the South Pacific do not waste their energy trying to separate themselves according to color. In their off-duty hours, white and Negro seamen play baseball, basketball and other outdoor and indoor sports. Here seamen of both races are shown relaxing at the Red Cross Canteen on Espiritus Santo in the New Hebrides. —U.S. Navy photo from OWI. 2-16-45

THE CALL

Navy Secretary Pledges a More Democratic Policy

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Mo.
2-10-45

WASHINGTON—(ANP) — Discussing his approach to Naval matters during a 45-minute interview with the Associated Negro Press, Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal announced his plans to assure a more democratic Naval policy.

Calling the job to be done a great "challenge to the white people and to the colored people," he said that in so far as he is able he will see that colored persons get the opportunity that all Americans want—to perform.

Already under consideration, he announced, is the appointment of a civilian aide, whose duties will be similar to those of Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Others to Be Used

He also told of his early decision to have two or three colored men working in the Navy Department on legitimate Navy business who could also counsel him on matters affecting colored persons as an incidental task.

Mr. Forrestal, who says that the job is not to be "just a symbol," is reported to have talked with Ensign Reginald Goodwin, who at present is unassigned, and is scheduled to see Sylvester White, formerly public relations officer at Great Lakes.

Aware that colored persons want the chance to work and be upgraded on the same basis as anyone else, he said that he is considering their desire to advance and serve wherever their talents permit.

Mess Attendants Fight

At the same time, he attempted to correct certain erroneous impressions about the duties of mess attendants, explaining, "They are as much a part of the fighting unit as anybody else."

"Many are in gun crews, fire control and damage control units," continued the Secretary, to whom is attributed the acceptance of women in the WAVES and the assignment of sailors to other than mess duties.

To Step Up News Coverage

Furthermore, he said, he is taking measures to see that coverage of activities of colored Naval personnel in the various theatres of operations, in terms of news stories and pictures, is stepped up.

Unable to commit himself, he finally stated that the decisions in the trials involving colored seamen—the Port Chicago mutiny trial and that of the eighteen discharged Seabees — may be forthcoming soon.

A New Yorker, Mr. Forrestal attended Dartmouth College where he was a classmate of Lester Granger, executive director of the Urban League, for whom, with Paul Robeson, he expressed profound respect.

Education to Help

An opponent of moves for expediency's sake, he says that education is going to be tremendously helpful in doing the job properly, adding that "the higher you go in the scale of intelligence, the less intolerance you find."

Finally, the Secretary inquired about three books by and about colored people—Angelo Herndon's "Let Me Live," Roi Ottley's "New World A-Comin'," and Richard Wright's "Native Son," the last of which he asked his secretary to obtain.

Charges Jimcrow Persists in Pacific Navy

The Daily Worker New York N.Y. 11-3-45

FORRESTAL AIDE CITES SEGREGATION, SLOW PROMOTIONS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2. — The United States Navy in the Pacific still indulges in Jimcrow practices regarding Negroes in its service, an aide to Secretary James Forrestal charged here.

Lester Granger, Negro special assistant to Forrestal, declared that the Navy in the Pacific followed a policy of slowing promotions of Negro personnel because of prejudice by commanding officers, and that slowness also resulted from the fact that Negroes were admitted to general duty too late in the conflict to acquire sufficient seniority. Granger's report was based upon a survey made among Negro Navy men.

Granger also charged the Navy with practising segregation, which he declared was "more frequent than on the mainland, and sometimes enforced with unusual stupidity." 11-3-45

On the other hand, Granger asserted, Fleet Admiral Nimitz assured him that Negroes in the Navy had performed excellent wartime duty and had proved their right to continued admission to the service in peacetime. Prior to the war, Negroes were only taken into steward work aboard ships.

Three Honor Graduates at Camp Smalls

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

Recent graduates of the Camp Robert Smalls Service Schools, at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, receiving certificates from Lt. Comdr. Lewis C. Solomon, executive officer of the school command, while William E. King, speaker at the graduation exercises, looks on. They are, left to right: Leonard E. Benson, 930-A Queen Street, Greenville, S.C.; Ulysses Jones, 938 E. Alexandrine Street and William B. Flournoy, 5233 Twenty-third Street, both Detroit.

Graduating Class at Great Lakes Hears Chi Attorney

AFRO-AMERICAN

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — "What you have learned here at Camp Robert Smalls is only the beginning; it is merely preparation for your larger life in the Navy," William E. King, Chicago attorney, told graduates of the Camp Smalls Service School at exercises held January 2.

Continuing, Mr. King, member of the Illinois State Industrial Commission, warned his hearers that "wherever opportunity may be found there also lurks opposition, but it counts little if you are pursuing the right course," he declared, adding: 1-6-45

"Opposition then is inescapable, but capable men of true worth can and do rise above opposition. Destiny has chosen you as the standard bearers of America and you will and must rise above it."

Certificates of merit were presented to the three honor men.

One of them, William B. Flournoy, Detroit, graduate of Machinist's Mate School, received special commendation for earning the highest mark (92.74) made since the school was opened in July, 1943.

He was advanced from fireman, second class to fireman, first class.

The other two honor men, Leonard E. Benson, Greenville, S.C., graduated from the Cooks' and Bakers' School with an average of 86.70, and Ulysses Jones, Detroit, of the Gunner's Mate School who had an average of 95.00.

Both men were advanced from seaman, second class to seaman, first class.

5,328 Colored Seamen in Last War; 160,000 Now

Afro-American 5-12-45

During the Revolutionary War the number of seamen employed ranged from 5,000 to 10,000, with an average of about 6,000 and a total of about 15,000, of which 1,800 were colored.

During the War of 1812 there was an average of about 7,500 seamen and a total of 15,000, of which over 1,500 were colored.

During the Mexican War there was a total of 12,000, of which 1,000 were colored.

During the Civil War the total was 118,044, of which 30,000 were colored.

During the Spanish-American War the total was 24,123, of which 2,000 were colored.

During World War I enlistments in the Navy totaled 435,398, of which 5,328 were colored. These were divided as follows: U.S. Navy, 3,203; U.S. Naval Reserve, 2,099, and National Naval Volunteers, 26.

During the present war over 160,000 colored seamen are serving in the Navy, with only thirty-four colored. officers.

Navy Racial Policy 'Successful'—Granger

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 10-20-45

HONOLULU—(ANP)—Captains and other executive officers aboard ships that have applied the Navy's non-discrimination policy toward Negro sailors have reported the results as successful, said Lester B. Granger, National Urban League official and a traveling representative for Secretary Forrestal.

Granger, a World War I artillery officer, said that Washington is sincerely and honestly trying to execute the race code that gives Negro sailors the same chance for ratings as other sailors have. But the farther he has traveled from Washington in his tour for the Navy, the more evidence he has found of violations and ignorance of the policy.

"This policy, which opposes that of segregated service, had to be worked out cautiously and skillfully to overcome the widespread prejudice that Negroes would make only good messmen aboard ship," he said, "and not good machinists, electricians and other technical rates. Nearly all the skippers reported the policy successful after it was given a fair trial."

The Navy's traveling race relation expert remarked that "the whole thing is largely a matter of convincing officers of the fairness and workability of the policy. The hardest to deal with is the well-meaning but timid officer."

56k-1945

Says Navy Policy Is Improved

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 11-10-45

Biased Leadership Found To Exist At Some Installations

By LOUIS LAUTIER
For NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Conditions under which colored personnel were serving at naval bases in the Pacific in which he and members of his party visited at the invitation of Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, were described at a press conference last Thursday by Lester B. Granger, special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and executive secretary of the National Urban League.

His statements to the press were couched in generalities. He said the Navy has greatly improved in its handling of colored service men in the last three years. This conclusion was reached by a comparison with conditions which existed in 1942 when the Navy permitted colored men to enlist only in the messmen's branch. 11-10-45

SEES MISTAKES MADE

After the late Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox announced in April, 1942, that the Navy would accept colored volunteers for enlistment for general service in the reserve components of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, and all ratings in those two branches would be opened to them, two mistakes were made, Mr. Granger said.

These mistakes, he stated, were the establishment of a separate training program and the large concentration of colored personnel in the ordnance service, which resulted in a disproportionate number of colored men being assigned to duty in ammunition depots.

In 1945, he said, the Navy actually began to admit colored inductees to all branches of the service and to remove the segregated features which were interfering with good morale and efficient serivce. But progress in the Pacific, he stated, "has lagged behind the standards on the mainland."

(Editor's note: Colored personnel is not enrolled in the Regular Navy, nor accepted for training as pilots in the Naval Air Corps. Naval policy still restricts colored personnel to auxiliary craft aboard ships except as messmen, although Mr. Granger said a few colored men were serving in rated positions aboard battleships. He would not venture a guess as to the number. Colored women are still barred from the Women Marines.) 11-10-45

SEES IMPROVEMENT

Mr. Granger said he found a few cases of exemplary leadership in the Pacific and many cases of "downright biased leadership." But he added, the Navy is gradually improving.

The most serious failure of the Navy, he said, was in its selections of officers to command colored personnel. Most officers found commanding colored personnel, he stated, were palpably not capable of handling colored men to the full extent of their ability and effectiveness. 11-10-45

"The final answer to a democratic and completely efficient Navy," he said, "is going to be found in the abolition of all types of segregation" and "the abolition of any special approach to the service of colored men in the Navy."

He said he had run across a number of commissioned officers. He saw six or seven in the Philippines, the highest ranking being Lieutenant Edward Hope, he stated; two on Eingwetok, Martin, Sublett and Nelson; three on Saipan, Lieutenants Philip Barnes and Reginald Goodwin, and Ensign Joseph Williams who was with a construction battalion.

REPLIES TO CRITICISM

In reply to a question concerning criticism of him implying he was a tool of the Navy Mr. Granger said the comment of Walter White, secretary, and Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People , boiled itself down to a question of the honesty of the Navy and his competency as a social worker.

He said he is sure the Navy is willing to meet the issue of its honesty and that his record as a social worker was open.

Navy

Mr. Granger and his party left this country on September 27 and returned to Washington on October 27. The party consisted of Mr. Granger, Lieutenant Robert Roper, Matthew W. Bullock, of Boston, chairman of the Massachusetts Parole Commission, Harry S. McAlpin, a newspaper man, and Lieutenant (junior grade) Sylvester White, who represented the Navy's Bureau of Public Information. 11-10-45

At Pearl Harbor the party joined by Commander Daniel W. Armstrong, formerly commanding officer of Camp Robert Smalls at Great Lakes.

On the tour which lasted thirty-one days, the party visited nine island bases and forty-seven different activities. Mr Granger said they were informed there were in the Pacific area approximately 45,000 colored service men shored base. Of that number, he added, about 30,000 were located at the activities they visited.

IRRITATING CONDITIONS

He said they found on the whole that the morale and performance of colored naval personnel in the Pacific generally corresponded to that of the whites. There are various irritating conditions existing, he said, which the men feel they needlessly endure, resulting in a tendency to magnify grievances.

His party found, he said, several general situations out of which charges of race discrimination arose. There were several examples of commanding officers, he stated, who exhibited race prejudice themselves which prevented impartial and effective administration of their commands.

Base-wide and area-wide conditions which were beyound the control of officers themselves, he said, also were noted.

The higest morale and the most praiseworthy performance were found among crew members of auxiliary ships. He rated air fialds and bases next. Construction battalions, he said were low-down on the morale scale, and somewhere between the best and the worst were the Marine outfits.

His party came across two colored combat Marine battalions which never had a chance to see service at the front.

The text of Mr. Granger's prepared statement follows: statedenoor ehoftelea.ueeTat

STATEMENT

I ave just finished reportingt Secretary of the Navy on my observation and findings compiled during four weeks tours of the Naval activities in the Pacific area. Without committing the members of my party, I believe that I can say that they concur generally in my conclusions.

During our tour we visited nine Island bases and 47 separate Naval activities. The personnel of the activities included approximately 30,000 of the 45,00 shore based Negro Naval personnel in the Pacific. I brought away with me several vivid impressions. One is the attitudes of the Negro servicemen with whom I talked regarding their conditions of the service and their hope for peacetime future. Most of all Negro servicemen in the Pacific like their white fellows, want two things from their country at this time: they want to get home as quickly as possible, they are tired of the Pacific, and they want an early start at rebuilding their civilian life. 11-10-45

DEMAND FAIR CHANCE

With almost equal intensity, they want and they demand a fair chance at decent living when they return. They want equal job opportunities, a chance to make and save money, and to develop family living. They expect the American population of all races to show real appreciation of the sacrifices they have made by putting into practice our democratic professions of eqpaul opportunity for all regardless of race or creed. After talking with these men, I am convinced that the state of race relations into post war America will be determined by the spirit in which we meet these returned veterans.

Regrading the conditions under which they are serving, I have these comments to make: progress toward actual practice of the Navy's officials racial policy in the Pacific lags far behind standards set on the mainland. We found examples of both excellent and deplorable policies in the command of Negro personnel. We found that where serious trouble-spots were discovered, they were the result of inept or racially prejudiced officer leadership. We found that the morale and the performance of Negro servicemen compared favorably with that of whites except in situations where racial discrimination invariably affecter the job performance and the spirit of Negro personnel. 11-10-45

HANDLED SUPPLIES

From the base commandants whom we interviewed we received glowing reports of the contribution which Negro outfits made in keeping the stream of supplies moving steadily up to the battle areas. In many cases Negro Seabees and supply companies were actually in the fighting, landing with the Marines, helping to establish the beachhead. High praise was given of the record of the 34th Seabees Battalion and the 17th Special Seabees. Admiral Nimitz called the work of these Negro service troops part of his "secret weapon."

The complaint most persistently received from Negro servicemen was slowness of promotion, sometimes because of prejudice on the part of the commanding officers, and at other times because Negroes admitted to general service late in the war and therefore lacked the seniority of many of their white fellows.

second frequent complaint was concerning racial segregation, which exists more frequent in the Pacific area than on the mainland and which is sometimes enforced with unusual stupidity. Our party investigated the causes of the racial conflict on Guam and the handling of the court martial that resulted in sentences of 45 Negro sailors. Representatives regarding these trials have been made to the Secretary of the Navy.

VISITS BRING COMFORT

Traveling thousands of miles a day on several occasions, spending from eight in the morning to nine and ten at night interviewing Negro personnel and their officers, studying reports and base facilities our party could not be expected to have covered thoroughly every phase of the various situations which we encountered. We found however that our visits brought comfort as well as information to the Negro personnel. We served as a corrective and advisory influence in dealing with our officers. We found intense interest of the part of whites and Negroes alike in developments here on the mainland They are impatient over the slowness of Congress in settling many issues important to reconversion, and over the inability of management and labor to work out a basis for peaceful cooperation. Homesickness and boredom accentuate their distaste for the onerous conditions of island life. They tend to magnify existing difficulties which are serious enough at best. 11-10-45

I have indicated to the Secretary my strengthened conviction that there is need for further improvement of racial practices in the Navy, and I have indicated some ways in which I believe improvements can be brought about on a permanent basis for an enlarged peacetime Navy. The members of the party accompanying me were: Matthew W. Bullock of Boston, Massachusetts, Chairman of the Massachussets State Parole Commission; Harry S. McAlpin, Whitehouse correspondent for the Negro Press; Lieutenant (junion grade) Sylvester White of the Navy's Bureau of Public Information; Commander Daniel Armstrong, Liason Officer for Negro Personnel in the Pacific, and Lieutenant R. P. Roper of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

Peacetime Navy To Have Full Quota Of Negro Volunteers

The Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois

11-17-45

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Negroes with ratings and commissions are in the navy for keeps—and that goes for the coast guard and the marine corps.

The Associated Negro Press has just completed a survey of the plans of the several branches that comprise the navy as to the future role of Negroes in the service. Unequivocal statements made by top-ranking officials of the branches attest to the fact that experience growing out of World War II in the utilization of Negro personnel has substantially justified their inclusion in the respective post-war organizations.

This is in sharp contrast to things which happened following World War I when Negroes in the navy were demobilized, and those coming in later were confined to the steward's branch of the service.

Whereas experience is justifying this position, much of the credit for this straightforward position is stemming from the office of Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal who, in the short time that he has headed up the department, has shown a greater insistence upon fullest utilization of Negro personnel than any previous secretary.

Vice Adm. Louis E. Denfeld since September 11 chief of the bureau of naval personnel, was quite frank in his statement. "I believe we will use Negroes more extensively as their training and experience would indicate," he said. "As they get to be chief petty officers we will use them to the fullest extent of their capabilities."

Reminded of what had happened after the last war, Adm. Denfeld said, "I don't think we will ever go back to that. Certainly," he added, "I have no feeling about it."

Seek Negro Volunteers

Denfeld said that the future navy will be a volunteer organization, and that Negro volunteers will be accepted with no holds barred. Re-enlistments are now coming in at the rate of 500 a day, he said, but no breakdown was available on Negro re-enlistments. The service will continue to adhere to the 10 per cent of complement quota set in 1943, but will show no hesitance about going over that if enlistments warrant. Congress is authorizing a peacetime strength of 500,000 men for the navy.

Negroes were admitted to general service in the navy in April, 1942, for the first time since World War I. On V-J day there was a peak strength of 165,000 enlisted Negroes serving with the navy. On Nov. 6 there were 53 commissioned officers, four nurses and 23 officer candidates. Those figures are exclusive of the marine corps and coast guard.

This personnel was assigned to shore establishments in continental United States, at Pacific bases, aboard auxiliary vessels and on sub-chasers, PC, DE, minesweepers and district craft.

Coast Guard Record Cited

Speaking for the coast guard, Rear Adm. Joseph F. Farley, chief personnel officer, said that the branch would be returned to the authority and jurisdiction of the treasury department six months after the peace proclamation. He stated that "there will be absolute fairness" in the handling of Negro personnel. "Our past record has shown that."

The coast guard, he said, has been tied up with demobilization plans—and this is true of most of the services—but the "problem is being studied."

"We have no intention of discharging," Adm. Farley declared.

Discussing performance of Negro personnel, Adm. Farley said "they were just about average of what you would expect of any personnel—good and bad. Whenever you get personnel together you have to expect a certain amount of adverse criticism. But we got that on the white boys as well as on the colored. Much depends upon the individual."

ships, which are not needed to transport war weapons, are now bringing athletic gear, photographic equipment, radios, radio-phonographs, musical instuments, books and educational materials to replace and enlarge stocks which have been on hand throughout the war.

Lt (jg) S. E. Earnes of Oberlin, Ohio, supply and educational officer for Logistic Support Co. 64, one of hte first Negroes to be commissioned in the Navy, has charge of the educational program. Detroit 'Lions' former football star Lt. (jg) S. N. Belichick, welfare and recreation officer has appointed Wm. P. Honey, Sp (A) 1c, of Camden, N. J., acting director of his company's athletic activities.

Typhoon-wrecked baseball fields are being rebuilt by some able, experienced colored Seabees who were attached to the 10th Army.

11-16-45

Among them are John Browskaw, Fle (motor machinist striker,) of Somerville, N J.; John Giles, S2c, of Birmingham, Ala.; Keith Anderson S 2-c of New York City; James Bright S 2-c Chicago; James Antley S2c, of Columbus, Ga.; Sylvester Curley, Cox, of Baltimore, Md.; Armour Stamps, S 2-c of Hattiesburgh, Miss.; and Eligah Fields, S 2-c of Alexandria, La. Willie Johnson, CM3c, of San Francisco, Cal. is a key man in the carpentry gang.

Veterans here of many Pacific campaigns agree that the staging of "M-Day" (Morale Day) marks the beginning of the end of monotony while they are "sitting it out on the rock"-a-stone throw from Japan awaiting discharge from the armed forces.

Negro Navy Officer Heads Supply Educational Program On Okinawa

Memphis, Tenn. World

11-16-45

By R. E. Johnson, Y2c
Former Assoc. Editor of The Masterhead
12ND Press Assn. Correspondent

OKINAWA — It's "M-Day" on Okinawa!

War-hardened veterans of General Stilwell's tough Tenth Army, courageous conquerors of Jap-held Okinawa, and members of the first and second marine divisions who are stationed at Chimu Wan, Tengan, Okinawa have begun a large scale war on monotony.

Rapid expansion of recreational, educational and athletic programs are underway, designed to help fleet bluejackets and those stationed at island bases use profitably their duty-off hours.

Many cargo planes and supply

Navy Has Opened Pool For Use of Negro Sailors

The Call Kansas City, Missouri

Discrimination Is Wiped Out At Anacostia

11-16-45

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — The United States navy wiped out another stronghold of discrimination against Negroes at Anacosta Naval Receiving station with the opening of the swimming pool on the post to colored service men on orders from Rear Adm. William M. Fochteler.

In September, Electrician's Mate 1st Class James E. Wright was a student at the navy's electrical inter-communication school at the receiving station. He advised the D. C. branch of the N.A.A.C.P. that he had been denied admittance when he went to the pool at a time designated for the students.

George E. C. Hayes, president of the N.A.A.C.P branch, wrote the navy department, inquiring into the circumstances of Wright's experience and received the reply that "the navy is desirous of preventing discrimination against any of its personnel."

When Wright subsequently met a second refusal at the swimming pool, the N.A.A.C.P again wrote asking for a clear statement of policy with regard to the pool.

Rear Adm. William M. Fochteler, assistant chief of naval personnel replied on Oct. 24 saying: "Instructions have been issued that all facilities at the receiving station, navy yard, Washington, D. C., shall be available on the same basis to all authorized personnel regardless of race or color.

"The term 'authorized personnel' includes naval personnel who are temporarily at the station in a transit status as well as those permanently assigned."

Mr. Wright, with a record of more than three years' war-time service, was honorably discharged from the navy on Oct. 12 being the first Negro to graduate from the electrical inter-communication school where he was an outstanding student.

After his discharge he visited his family in Detroit but returned to Washington again this week. He came back to join the picket line at the home of Sen. Theo G. Bilbo of Mississippi where a veterans' picket to oust Bilbo has been maintained for several weeks.

Messmen Watch Surrender on Deck of Battleship Missouri

Chicago Defender

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

ABOARD THE USS MISSOURI IN TOKYO BAY — Surrounded by a hushed and impressive audience of the military leaders of nine nations which had aided in her vanquishment, Japan officially confirmed her defeat Sunday (Saturday U.S. time).

The end came officially after invalided Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Yoshijiro Umezo, affixed their signatures to the surrender document laid before them by the conquerers.

The drama, signifying the conclusion of the world's greatest war, was enacted on the USS Missouri, flagship of the 3rd Fleet, which was battering the innermost defenses of Japan when the end came.

Negro Sailors Watch 9-8-45

Against a backdrop of thousands of white and khaki-clad marines, standing firmly and in an unwavering line, were scores of Negro messmen who, before the surrender, had come closer to Tokyo than any of their racial brothers in the military service. Their presence on deck recalled to the minds of the four Negro correspondents, covering the ceremony with other representatives of the world press, the sacrifices made and the services rendered by Negro servicemen to bring this day to pass.

These sailors, many of whom have been serving on the Missouri in the double capacity of messmen and anti-aircraft gunners since its launching, were fit representatives of the legions of heroic Negro combat and service troops that could not be present. If Sunday was a red-letter day for these men because it marked the official end of hostilities, then it was also memorable because it brought into sharper focus the recommencement of their lives as civilians to which they are looking forward with a hope for peace and justice for themselves and all their fellowmen.

This fervent hope for a better life in a better America which I have heard from the lips of fighting men from Australia to Japan can be expressed no better than it was by a youthful Washingtonian I met when I visited the messmen of this ship several days before the ceremony. 9-8-45

Want a Better World

Thomas Hilliard of Washington personal steward to Capt. Stuart Murray who commands this mighty man-o-war, told me as I watched him at work in his tiny galley: "I have put everything I have into this job because I feel it is my business to help make this a better world for all people. I hope I can count on all those who have been helped by my efforts in the navy to help me just as hard in my fight for a better life as a civilian."

The efforts of Hilliard and his mates has meant months of labor in the steaming galleys below deck, waiting in the ship's wardrooms and the rendering of extra personal services for officers occupied by important matters.

It has meant manning guns against a foe intent upon destruction on such memorable occasions as Task Force 58's first raid on Tokyo in February 1945; the attack on Okinawa a month before our troops landed there; the battle of April 11 when a Kamikaze crashed

SEE HISTORY MADE

ENOC P. WATERS JR.

into her starboard starting a fire; and the brazen approach to the very coast of Japan where the ship stubbornly remained, with the rest of the fleet, until the enemy yielded.

These Negro sailors who stood by today on the deck of five Missouri as the war of wars was brought to a close were of the courage and patience and endurance required for their less spectacular jobs.

The roster of Negro personnel aboard the Missouri was as follows:

Std. 1c Willie W. Booth Jr., Baltimore, Md., in charge; Ck. 3-c Charlie Lee Hardy, Newport News, Va.; Ck. 3-c Charley Henry Davis, 4407 Indiana avenue, Chicago; T-c William S. Doani, Louisville, Ky.; Std. 1-c Clifford Johnson, San Francisco; Std. 3c Roy Lee Allen, Houston, Texas; Std. Aaron J. Black, Charlotte, N. C., and Std. Ison Smith, Greensboro, Ala.

Ship's company included: Std. 1-c Samuel Tyler, Clarksdale, Miss., in charge; Std. 3-c James Knowled, Miami, Fla., master at arms; St. M. 2-c Clarence Williams, Clarksdale, Miss.; Stm. 2-c Jesse Lee White, Philadelphia, Pa.; St. M 1-c J. P. Jackson, Washington, D. C.;

Std. 1-c J. E. Paryton, New Orleans, La.; St. M. 1-c Frank Cummings, Baltimore, Md.; St. M. 1-c Jesse Lee Robinson, St. Louis, Mo.; Std. 1-c Cleveland Randolph, Tampa, Fla.; Std. 1-c Commodore Hill, 619 E. 45th Street, Chicago, Ill.; Ck. 3-c Roy L. Watts, Atlantic City, New Jersey; St. M. 1-c William Leake, Fayetteville, N. C.; St. M. 1-c Willie Ramage, New York City;

St. M. 2-c Robert Toussainnia, Alexandria, La.; St. M. 2-c Freddie Green, Anguilla, Miss.; St. M1-c James Hill, Brooklyn, N. Y.; St. M2-c T. H. Thompson, Aiken, S. C.; St. M1-c McKinley Bradley, Clarksdale, Miss.; St. 1-c Alfred Bush, Nashville, Tenn.; Std. 3-c Joseph L. Carter, St. Petersburg, Fla.;

St. M3-c Roger Hughes, Casen Creek, Ky.; St. M2-c Robert Evans, Quincy, Fla.; St. M1-s Theodore Freeman, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Std. 2-c William Cannady, St. Petersburg, Fla.; St. M1-c Thomas Hilliard, Washington, D. C.;

Std. 3-c W. C. Parker, Killnackon, Miss.; St. M1-c Robert Duggins; Charleston, S. C.; St. M2-c Dorsey Morrow, Omaha, Neb.; Henry Thomas Jr., Suffolk, Va.; St., M1-c Frank Rogers, Chattanooga, Tenn.; St. M1-c Robert L. Green, Grenada, Miss.; St. M2-c Eddie Johnson, Baltimore, Md.; Ck. 2-c Booker T. Alexander, Charlotte, N. Y.;

St. M2-c Edward Lewis, Richmond, Va..; St. M1-c Thomas E. Lilly, Wadesboro, N. C. Std. 3-c Roy Watson, Dawson, Ga.; St. M1-c Frank Claire, Miami, Fla.; St. M1-c Ernest Prieser, Brooklyn, N. Y.; St. M2-c L. A. Smith, New York City; St. M1-c Willie Richardson, Florence, Ala.; St. M1-c Freeman Walker, Waycross, Ga.

St. M1-c Herman Pope, Tallahassee, Fla.; St. M1-c John Randall, Jonesboro, Ark.; Std. 2-c Robert A. Smith, St. Louis, Mo.; St. M1-c Morgan S. Curry, Ft. Myers, Fla.; St. M2-c Melvin Griffin, Charlotte, Miss.; Std. 3-c Otis Miles, Magnolia, Miss. and St. M 1-c John Murphy, Smithfield, N. C.

UAW Asks Pardon For Sailors

The Savannah Tribune
Savannah, Georgia
9-27-45

Detroit, Mich.—Local No. 15 of the United Automobile Workers of America has passed a unanimous resolution asking President Truman to grant a "full and unconditional pardon" to the 50 Negro sailors convicted of "mutiny" as an aftermath of the fatal ammunition explosion at Port Chicago, California, in July, 1944, which claimed a total of more than 327 lives.

The CIO resolution said: "We call upon the CIO to cooperate with the NAACP in mobilizing all labor, liberal, Negro and working class fraternal organizations in a campaign for the pardon of these sailors."

The testimony of the men at the original courts-martial was not handled by the NAACP but the appeal of their sentences was handled before the Navy Board of Review by Thurgood Marshall and other NAACP lawyers. The Judge Advocate General of the Navy has approved the legal form of the courts-martial, but according to a letter dated August 15 from Secretatry Forrestal to the NAACP, the sentences "have not been affirmed" and "have not yet come to me for final review."

Navy man with white unit first Negro in Japan

The Los Angles Tribune Los Angeles, California
9-24-45

WASHINGTON — Possibly the first Negro to set foot on Japanese soil, following the cessation of hostilities, was Lowell L. Davis, Navy hospital apprentice who got into a white Marine division by mistake and remained there because his white buddies wanted him.

Davis, according to Charles H. Loeb, correspondent in Japan for the National Negro Publishers' association, said Davis was ordered from New Orleans to the Fourth Marine division at Guadacanal, as a result of a clerical error. After the first week, his mates wouldn't have him shifted to a Negro division.

Davis' landing, Loeb reported, recalled the fact that when Commodore Matthew C. Perry, with an armada of four ships, pulled into Tokyo Bay 92 years ago to carry out the commission of President Millard Fillmore to effect commercial and diplomatic relations with Japan, two Negro bodyguards marched alongside him.

Eight service companies, numbering 1,500 men, comprised the first Negro troops to set foot on Japanese soil shortly after the recent signing of the peace treaty aboard the U. S. S. Missouri in Tokyo Harbor. According to Loeb some 92,000 service troops, attached to the 6th and 8th armies, will participate in the occupation of Japan.

Elkton Teacher Gets Citation

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
9-22-45

ELKTON, Md. — Harry Noble Simms, a former teacher in the Elkton school system, now music director of the colored school of music at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, was recently commended by Capt. R. J. Penney, commanding officer of the Recruit Training Command.

The citation read as follows:

"As director of the Negro School of Music at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., you have trained and sent out over 100 band units which are now playing for and entertaining Navy personnel all over the world. 9-22-45

"In your personal contacts you have proved yourself to be capable, diligent, of excellent character, sincere in your work and always co-operative. Reports have consistently contained the high level of your achievements."

Navy Veteran Holds Two Congressional Medals

Though none have been awarded the nation's highest honor in World War II, Chief Gunner's Mate Dick Turpin, USN (retired), offers living proof that colored men have received the coveted Congressional Medal of Honor. In fact he holds two. Pictured in the Turpin Center, named in his honor at Los Angeles, Chief Turpin holds the dedicatory plaque which tells how he saved the Captain of the USS Maine when it blew up in Havana Harbor and saved 29 enlisted men and two officers aboard the USS Bennington when her boilers blew up, the exploits that won him the awards. He has served in every campaign between the Civil War and World War II and has invented an acetylene torch that can be operated beneath water.

56k-1945

Navy

Group Makes Sea History In War; 4 Captain Ships

8-3-45

Atlanta (Ga.) Daily World

Hard Struggle Overcome After Mulzac Named To "Washington"

NEW YORK— (ANP) — Negro sailors have made sea history in World War 11 and four of them have emerged as captains of their ships.

All of this has happened since 1942 and is dramatically told in John Beecher's book, "All Brave Sailors," which features the struggles of Capt. Hugh Mulzac, the first of the four Negro sailors to win a ship's captaincy.

Although born in the British West Indies, Capt Mulzac has been an American citizen since World War 1. He came here after completing his nautical training in Wales, which is said to have been financed by his white father, but discovered that his chances were blocked by the color of his skin and racial heritage. He could not find employment on the deck of any ship and soon became stranded in this country.

CALLED 'N——' HERE

He held a second mate's ticket in England at 25 but when he came here in search of work he was called a "n——" for the first time in his life.

"If this is the land of freedom they talk about, I never want to come back," he remarked sadly.

His break came during World War 1. He was granted an American second mate's license and a job. He passed his master's examination with the highest grade ever known in Baltimore in 1920, according to merchant marine records. Even though he held a master's ticket, he couldn't get a master's berth. He worked as ship steward, as a painter and for Marcus Garvey's Black Star line. He was one of the founders of the National Maritime union.

VICTORY FINALLY WON

Capt. Mulzac faced the same race handicap during the early months of the present war. His application was rejected by the War Shipping administration, although the call had been made for qualified officers. The combined efforts of the National Negro congress, the NMU the CIO, the Negro press, the F. E. P. C. and President Roosevelt were necessary to place Mulzac in charge of the Booker T. Washington, which was commissioned in October, 1942, as the first of the famous liberty ships to be named in honor of American Negro leaders.

John Beecher, author of "All Brave Sailors," is a descendant of Henry Ward Beecher, the noted anti-slavery orator, and Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Beecher, who brings out in his story that Mulzac had a white father and black mother, served as purser under Mulzac for two years.

Granger Says Mutiny Case Of Bad Handling

Atlanta Daily World

Port Chicago Situation Gets New Inspection

Atlanta, Ga.

By HARRY McCALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA) —While there was no indication that justice had not been served in the actual trial of the 50 sailors convicted of mutiny several months ago following the Port Chicago explosion, it appeared that mistakes in personnel had helped to precipitate the mutiny, according to Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, who recently returned from an inspection tour of naval installations on the West Coast.

7-21-45

Mr. Granger pointed out that immediately after the explosion which killed several hundred enlisted men and officers, survivors who had seen the tragedy were picked and sent to other bases to continue loading ammunition because of the great need.

BAD FEELING

According to men left at Port Chicago, with whom he talked, there was a feeling that these young men should not have been picked up and dropped into another job of doing the same thing after having had their relatively peaceful existence shockingly disturbed by seeing their buddies blown out of existence in a twinkling of an eye.

The men involved in the mutiny, Granger said, felt they had been discriminated against. They noted that their detachment was an all-Negro unit. They felt this was so because the work was dangerous. In that situation, he said, someone should have used better judgment.

NO BIAS FEELING

Among the men left at Port Chicago, Granger said he did not find any feeling that there had been discrimination. However, he said he feels there is plenty of ground for reconsideration of the severity of the sentence in view of the fact the Navy is not entirely without blame for the situation arising. Ten of the men were sentenced to 15 years, 24 were sentenced to 12 years, 11 were sentenced to 10 years and 5 were sentenced to 8 years.

7-21-45

Mr. Granger revealed that since the Port Chicago incident, the Navy has adopted a policy of reducing the complement of Negroes in ammunition depots to not more than 30 per cent of the total.

Says Fleet Arm Is Far Ahead Of Army

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The navy is sincerely administering its new policy to integrate Negroes in all phases of the services.

That was the essence of the report made here Friday to Navy Secy. James V. Forrestal by Lester B. Granger executive secretary of the National Urban League, after a naval inspetion tour that took him to 12 naval stations, bases and depots on the west coast, the Great Lakes Naval training school in four naval districts.

7-21-45

The navy's policy of integrating Negroes in all phases of the services is "admirably sound" and is being "honestly and intelligently administered" in the headquarters of all naval districts, he said. He added that 'the further down in the ranks of command the administration of this policy descended, the more instances there were of deviation from it or violation of its spirit.'

REASONS FOR TRIP

Granger said he made the trip for two reasons. One was to observe the actual administration of the navy's policy of integrating Negroes, and the other to discuss with Negro enlisted men and their officers the practical results of the racial policy as it affects the performance and morale of Negro personnel.

He talked with 80 Negro and white enlisted men, he said.

"In spite of these not infrequent violations of the policy," he remarked, "is is evident that the navy made remarkable strides during the past two years toward the complete equality of expression in the service."

It is a progress "which reflects great credit upon the integrity and intelligence of the navy's leaders, and which should evoke a warm spirit of cooperation from the Negro and white public which is anxious to see our armed services more completely democratized," Granger declared.

7-21-45

AHEAD OF ARMY

Asked how navy policy in practice compared with that of the war department, he said he had no expert knowledge of the latter. He observed, however, that "the navy is far ahead of the army. The navy is doing things which the army insists would be bad for morale.

"The war department," he continued, "is still trying to build two armies whereas the navy had realized that is insanity."

Granger noted specific instances where the integrated pattern is working successfully, listed gains made in the service and revealed that he plans to make a similar tour of Pacific installations sometime during the fall.

He denied reports that he will be named civilian aide to the secretary of the navy. He has urged such an appointment and expressed confidence it will be done, but he will not be the appointee, he added.

LAST ALL-NEGRO RECRUIT COMPANY IS GRADUATED FROM GREAT LAKES

The Iowa Bystander, Des Moines Iowa
8-30-45

Great Lakes, Ill.—The last all-Negro recruit company was graduated from the U. S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, Illinois, last week, after winning almost every Recruit Training Award.

The company, commanded by Fritz Weller, Boatswain's Mate, second class, 208 W. 151st street, New York City, in battalion competition won the "Rooster" flag for military proficiency for six successive weeks, the athletic "A" award for three successive weeks and set twelve new Center track records. Harry David Bray, Apprentice Seaman, 180½ North street, Rochester, N. Y., was selected honor man of the company.

Captain R. J. Penny, commanding officer of the Recruit Training Command, addressing the company at the graduation review said: "You men have done an excellent job. If you do your work in the Fleet as well as you have done in training, you will be a credit to your country as well as your race." 8-30-45

Negro recruits entering the Navy since July 1, have been assigned to the same companies as whites and the policy of maintaining a special training program and camp at Great Lakes for Negroes for general service has been discontinued.

Negro Seamen Mark First Year At New Orleans Hotel

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.
9-8-45

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The valor of the nation's white and black merchant seamen was lauded by Archbishop Joseph H. Rommell of New Orleans, who was principal speaker at a banquet held on last Saturday evening commemorating the first anniversary of the George Washington Carver Hotel-Club for Negro seamen.

The first anniversary of the hostelry was celebrated with a three-day program, beginning on Friday with an inspection by prominent guests of the residential, dining and recreational facilities and closing on Sunday night with a formal dance. Archbishop Rommell's address was one of the feature events of the occasion.

Speaking before a number of leading citizens of both races who were present at the dinner party, the archbishop paid tribute to the important role played by the boys in dungaree to help win the war, and also to the late Dr. George W. Carver of Tuskegee Institute, for whom the hotel-club was named.

USS Jim-Crow in South

Other speakers at the banquet included Rabbi Julian B. Feibelman, Rev. L. L. Haynes, Frank C. Bancroft, Gulf Coast regional director of USS; A. P. Tureaud, prominent attorney and chairman of the Carver advisory committee, USS, and J. L. LeFlore, chairman of the Dorrie Miller advisory committee, USS, Mobile.

The Carver Hotel-Club is operated by the United Seamen's Service, with headquarters in New York, which provides sleeping and club facilities throughout the world for merchant seamen. Only in the South does the organization have separate units for white and Negro seamen. This policy has been forced upon the agency by so-called southern custom and perhaps law in one or two instances.

The hostelry here for Negro seamen is one of five so far opened for them in southern ports. The USS is the only seamen's welfare group which has established sleeping and recreation accommodations for Negroes in the South. Since it was founded to meet contingencies confronting seamen during the war it is not known at this time as to whether it will be made a permanent post-war service. It seems to be the opinion of many citizens throughout the nation and a large percentage of merchant seamen that it should continue to function as a peace-time organization.

20 Per cent Negroes

Negro seamen, who comprise about 20 per cent of the American merchant mariners who enter southern ports, were without decent housing accommodations and wholesome recreation before the USS was organized.

Negro, Whites in Same Building

The Carver and the Senator, the latter is a USS-operated facility for white seamen here, provide the rather unique experience of Negro and white seamen being housed in the same building in the South. Both groups have living and recreation quarters in the old Senator Hotel, in the heart of the French section. The Senator was previously a hotel for the white public, and included all of the space occupied now by the Carver-Senator seamen's hostelries.

To acquire the property for merchant seamen the War Shipping Administration had to institute condemnation proceedings.

Race-baiting whites, led by Cong. F. Edward Hebert, of this district, and strongly supported by Mayor Robert H. Maestri, attempted to block the utilization of the old Senator Hotel as a seamen's facility. They were willing for whites to occupy the building but were opposed to Negro seamen, who were sharing the same war tragedies as their white shipmates, being housed there.

Hebert, who proved himself as another example of the poor representation with which the South continues to plague the Congress in this enlightened day, took to the radio to spread his race-hate campaign against the occupancy of any part of the old Senator Hotel by Negro seamen. He viciously attacked the War Shipping Administration and exerted pressure on one of New Orleans' leading white citizens, George H. Terriberry, who was chairman of the New Orleans Port Area Committee of the USS at the time.

The New Orleans political demagogues brought out the red-herring of social equality to conveniently meet their designs. However, the will of the people who believe that America must eventually afford us a realistic democracy prevailed.

The doorway to the foyer of the colored section of the building is on Iberville street and the entrance to the lobby of the white seamen's hotel is on Dauphine street; a drug store which occupies the corner space forms the exterior separation between the white and colored units.

During its first year of operation the Carver served 2,277 seamen, had a total number of 7,884 beds used, and its recreational programs attracted a total attendance of 70,155. A volunteer corps of 217 workers has contributed 6,800 hours of service toward making the seamen's stay in port pleasant and comfortable.

Navy Mum on Ouster of Tan Combat Men

The Afro American
Baltimore, M.D.

"Story Being Investigated" Say Officials; 123 Kept Off Ship

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—As an avalanche of protests rolled in, the Navy Department declined last Wednesday to comment on the action of the commander of the aircraft carrier Croatan in barring 123 colored combat soldiers from sailing aboard the vessel.

12-15-45

As the result of the action of Capt. Charles D. Griffin of Virginia Beach, Va., the men were forced to sail from Le Havre on a much slower vessel.

In reply to a request to comment on reports concerning the conduct of Captain Griffin, the Navy issued the following statement:

"Until full facts are ascertained, the Navy Department cannot comment on this story. Navy policy, however, is one of no segregation. Ships of the "Magic Carpet," including carriers, have brought home colored and white officers and colored and white enlisted men, quartered together and messed together.

In Line with Policy

"This is in line with the Navy's policy of non-discrimination under which colored men are currently trained and assigned as other personnel without reference to race. Colored officers and enlisted men are serving aboard Navy ships in mixed crews. 12-15-45

"The story is being investigated and appropriate action will be taken."

The 123 veterans, members of a quartermaster truck unit, were scheduled to sail for the United States on the Croatan from Le Havre on Dec. 4. But, over protests of Army officers, their names were stricken from the sailing list.

Navy officers argued that the Navy's policy was not to mix the races and pointed out that the facilities on the aircraft carrier would not permit segregation inasmuch as all troops would have to be quartered in the ship's hangar.

Demands Investigation

Rep. Adam C. Powell (Dem., N.Y.) in telegrams to President Truman and Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, demanded an investigation of the case.

The NAACP telegraphed Secretary Forrestal that it wished "to lodge its protest against such treatment of colored personnel by officers of the Navy and urgently request proper investigation be held and proper disciplinary action be taken against officers of the USS Croatan immediately for this un-American action on their part."

Army officers who bowed after vigorous protests to the Navy said they refused to remove six high point colored casuals who were already on board the ship when the Navy raised its protest.

They added that difficulties over redeployment of colored veterans began as soon as naval vessels were pressed into service as troop transports.

To Ask Clarification

Col. Conrad H. Pederson of Hoboken, N.J., director of movement for the port of Le Havre, was quoted as saying he would ask the Headquarters of the U.S. forces in Europe for clarification on what to do if a similar case arose.

The U.S.S. Croatan, one of the first aircraft carriers to enter the port of Le Havre under the accelerated "Magic Carpet" program to get troops home in a hurry, is only one of such carriers performing this duty.

Captain Griffin, commander of the Croatan, is a graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis of June, 1927, and was on duty as a lieutenant at Anacostia near Washington when the Japs struck at Pearl Harbor.

Climbing rapidly, in July, 1942, he was made commander of a Replacement Group which operated with both Atlantic and Pacific fleets, and on Sept. 1 of that year was promoted to commander.

Appointed to duty as Commander-in-Chief of U.S. Fleet in Washington, in April, 1944, the Annapolis graduate held that post until he was made captain on Nov. 10, last, and ordered to sea as commanding officers of the Croaton.

56k-1945

Navy

Negro Sailor a Hero Off Okinawa

Daily Worker

By MAX R. JOHNSON

ABOARD PACIFIC FLEET WARSHIP SOMEWHERE IN NANSEI SHOTO, April 26 (UP). — A 6-foot, 3-inch, 212-pound Negro, who was a waiter at the New Yorker Hotel or nine years, performed super-human physical feats when his ship was hit by a Japanese suicide plane on April 16 off Okinawa

4-27-45

He is Steward's Mate Second Class Samuel C. Dixon, 29, of 92 W 18 St., Bayonne, N. J.

Ensign William C. Word, Jr., Silver City, N. M., assistant gunnery officer. told of Dixon's work:

"He carried a case of three-inch ammunition under each arm and they weigh about 150 pounds each. Sometimes he would have a case of ammunition in one arm and be carrying a wounded man in the other.

4-27-45

"He would place a man in a stretcher on one deck and alone carry the litter and patient down a ladder to the deck below."

The husky former waiter said: "We all had to work hard and fast, the executive officer told me 'let's keep fighting'."

Young Seaman Wins Commendation For Action With Navy

Memphis World

1-19-45

A young Memphis seaman came home last month, after 19 months of sea duty, bearing two letters of Presidential Commendation, an Oak Leaf Cluster, and other ribbons and stripes to indicate the part he has already played in the global conflict.

Petty Officer Third Class Walter Lee Robinson Jr., 19-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Robinson, Sr., 651 North Decatur, is the youthful Memphian who made his first trip home in almost two years, arriving around the middle of last month. He is returning for another assignment this week-end.

Young Robinson, volunteering for the Navy 23 months ago has seen action in several theaters of war. Serving on a Landing Ship Tank (LST) vessel, he manned an anti-aircraft gun among other duties. He saw battle action in Sicily, Oran, and Bizerte.

The youth said his most exciting action was seen at Bizerte, where he and his colleagues took part in an all night battle against enemy planes. After trips to overseas ports in Africa, England, Sicily, Italy, and France. . .he was under fire at Salerno. . .Robinson returned to this country without a scratch

4-9-45

A graduate of Booker T. Washington High School, the youth is also devoutly religious. He said, "I believe my good fortune in coming through those experiences unhurt so far, has been due to the fact that I prayed constantly . . .and have done so every night since going away." He is a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church.

4-9-45

He said he plans to enter college following the close of the war, and study to become a radio technician. While in Memphis on his leave he visited relatives and friends, among them Miss Lou Ethel Hines, 1111-B Mosby Street.

Negroes End Hunger Strike At Navy Post

Richmond Times

3-5-45

LOS ANGELES, March 4—(AP)—The two-day hunger strike of a Negro navy construction battalion at Port Hueneme, near Oxnard, Calif., ended today when the men reported for breakfast, naval officials said.

The navy public relations office here reported that no known change had occurred in the conditions of which the men complained, but added that "apparently they just got good and hungry."

3-5-45

The number affected was estimated at approximately 1,000 men by Norman O. Houston, member of the Los Angeles directorate, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Houston said practically the entire personnel of the Thirty-fourth Construction Battalion, veterans of 21 months' service in the South Pacific, participated. Their complaint, he declared, was against the alleged addition of white enlisted men to the battalion for ultimate rating as chief petty officers, whereas the Negroes feel entitled to these ratings because of their experience overseas.

The public relations office said that provision for elevation of Negro battalion members to chief petty officer ratings is now pending in Washington. Their demonstration, a spokesman added, does not constitute meeting, because they cannot be ordered to eat. No discrimination against members of the battalion has been practiced, their commander declared.

Navy Department Ready To Take Positive Action In Integrating Negroes In All Service Branches

New York Age

3-17-45

The Navy Department under Secretary James Forrestal, intends to pursue vigorous steps toward the integration of Negroes in all branches of the Navy Service. This assurance was the result of a conference held in Washington Tuesday, between Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, and Secretary Forrestal on the status of Negroes in the naval forces, and attitudes of the Negro public regarding recent racial incidents that have occurred.

3-17-45

The Urban League official emphasized the need for a thorough investigation of the real conditions under which Negroes live and serve in the Navy, so as to uncover those factors responsible for such outbreaks as the "Hunger Strike" carried on recently by Negro Seabees at Port Hueneme, California. Other recommendations called for wide assignment of Negro nurses to duty in naval hospitals; programs for training and commissioning of additional officer personnel and their assignment to a broad spread of naval responsibility; correcting unsatisfactory employment conditions in many shipyards and other naval establishments, and wider publicity for Negroes engaged in combat in other naval services.

3-17-45

The question of the post-war status of Negroes in the Navy was raised by Mr. Granger, who pointed out that except for mess attendants, stewards, and the like, practically all present Negro personnel are in the Navy's reserves rather than in the regular service.

These and other racial problems Mr. Forrestal was told, cannot be solved by the simple process of appointing a Negro as civilian aide to the Secretary. Mr. Granger emphasized the need for wider use of Negro commissioned personnel as specialists and technicians througsout the whole department; promotion of some to the ranks above that of ensigns and lieutenants; creation of a formal public relations machinery to publicize in the Negro and white press, the achievements of colored sailors and marines and coast guard members and setting up advisory machinery which will establish sound racial policy and actually put it into effect in the various branches and divisions of the Department. All of this, it was pointed out, call for a good deal more than simply the appointment of a civilian aide.

Youngsters Prove Alert, Efficient

3-10-45

KANOHE BAY, OAHU, Hawaii—Manning the complex instruments of radio communication throughout the Pacific areas are men who have found their talents best suited for this branch of the Navy's great fighting machine.

Among these men are many alert young Negroes who have come from all kinds of civilian jobs to find their positions in winning the war. One such man is Seaman First Class Roosevelt Smith Jr., 19 years old, who less than eleven months ago was a corn and cotton farmer in Jackson, Miss.

ATTENDED RADIO SCHOOL

When he enlisted Seaman Smith was sent to the United States Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, Ill. There he went through recruit training and during that time was examined and found qualified for the radioman service school. After completion of his training there he was sent to Navy Air Station here for duty.

Another talented Smith, although no relation to this shipmate of the same name, is on duty in radio communications at this station. He is seaman First Class Jessie Smith of Philadelphia, Pa.

SEES PERMANENT WORK

3-10-45

Also 19 years old this seaman Smith was a student in a school for radio work, having developed an interest in this field before he enlisted in the Navy. He too went through recruit training and radioman service school at Great Lakes. He plans to make radio his occupation after the war.

Seamen Making Good In New Assignments

Journal & Guide

Erase All Fears Of Abilities

3-10-45

KANEOHE BAY, OAHU, Hawii—Many skilled Negro technicians are applying their talents to the maintenance and repair of airplane engines at the Naval Air Station here.

"Not so long ago a number of the Navy men and civilians working in the section that handles such work were voicing concern over the forthcoming debut of Negroes in the shop," one of the supervisors at this air station said.

FEARS WERE GROUNDLESS

"These Navy men and civilians pride themselves on the quality of their work and some felt that the new men might not be able to hold up the standards. They quickly found that their fears were groundless. Now the men work side by side in a spirit of friendly competition and with the greatest of harmony."

Among those responsible for the record of the new men are Seaman First Class Fadis Jones, 26, of 205 Lenwood avenue, Dublin, Ga., and Seaman First Class Joseph T. Kilpatrick, 33, of Tallahassee, Fla. Both men were mechanics before they enlisted in the Navy and both are now striking for the rating of aviation machinist's mate, third class.

TRIBUTE FROM OFFICER

8-18-45

The leading chief petty officer of the department in which they work, Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate Vernie E. Sigler, USN, of Winslow, Ind., pays high tribute to both men for the quality of their work, the interest and willingness with which they approach it and for their ability to get along well with their shipmates.

Navy Secretary Names Committee on Negro

Philadelphia Tribune

5-19-45

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Navy Sec'y. James V. Forrestal has appointed a departmental representative of the Marine corps, the Coast Guard and the Navy itself to advise him on problems arising in connection with the recruitment training and assignment of Negro personnel, the Associated Negro Press learns exclusively.

This committee was authorized in a circular letter dated April 30. The personnel has not yet been formally announced but it is known that there are nine persons on the committee. It held its organizing meeting last Monday and met again Friday afternoon to further its program of action. It was expecting shortly to sit with Asst. Navy Sec'y Ralph Bard who, from present indications, will be responsible for the work of the committee out of the office of the secretary.

The plan that is now being followed is one that had been advanced both from within the department and outside. Lester Granger, executive secretary, National Urban league, talked with Forrestal on the subject and on March 19, is understood to have submitted a memorandum covering the conversations and embodying the departmental committee ideas.

The memorandum, however, is understood to have gone further and carried the proposal that instead of appointing a civilian aide, much as the war department enjoys in the services of Truman K. Gibson, that a Negro be made assistant secretary for the department. This approach, it is thought, would serve to dignify the position and the work both in the minds of Negroes and members of Navy department.

Navy Ships Four Medical Officers To Pearl Harbor

Philadelphia Tribune

2-17-45 P2

HONOLULU—(ANP)— The first 4 Negro medical and dental officers commissioned in the United States navy are expected here shortly. Thousands of Negro seamen are gradually being assembled at this point where it is expected the ultimate in permitting Negroes to progress upward in naval ratings will be inaugurated.

Comdr. Daniel W. Armstrong, under whose aegis the training school for Negroes at Great Lakes was launched, is stationed temporarily in this area under the immediate command of Adm. Nimitz, his current duty being to see to it that Negro personnel is properly and effectively integrated into advanced naval operations here in this area.

2-17-45

The four officers, two physicians and two dentists have been stationed at Great Lakes for several months. The men are Lts. Ulysses Wharton and Arthur Thompson, physicians, and Lts. Frazier and Watkins, dentists. Lt. Wharton is from Washington and a Howard graduate. Lt. Thompson is from Detroit and Meharry. Lt. Watkins is a graduate of the dental school at the University of Pennsylvania.

Navy Backs Shore Patrol in Clash with Va. Police

Afro-American 4-14

4-14-45

Special to the AFRO

PORTSMOUTH, Va.—As a result of a clash here last week in which a white policeman sought to arrest a shore patrolman for "jaywalking," Navy authorities, on Saturday, put a senior grade lieutenant in charge.

The action of the Navy makes it clear that it has no intention of removing its shore patrolmen as requested by O. B. Dunn, local chief of police. The patrol was formerly headed by a chief petty officer.

Guns Drawn in Dispute

Last Monday, Herman Beale, owner of the New Horseshoe Grill in the 800 block of High Street, called the shore patrol to stop a disturbance in his establishment.

Two shore patrolmen, A. McWilliams and R. Barco, started across the street in answer to his call when V. L. Davis, white traffic officer, ordered them back to the curb.

When they ignored his request, Davis is reported to have grabbed Barco. Both drew their guns but did not fire.

Police Strikes Patrol

Davis then left the scene but returned with a car of other city policemen, guns drawn, bent upon making the arrest. Shore Patrolmen Points and Ross, hearing the altercation, came on the run and ordered the city policemen to put away their guns.

One of the officers struck at Barco with a blackjack but was quickly disarmed. Chief Petty Officer Joseph Ross, white, in charge of the patrol, came upon the scene and told the city police that he was in charge of the men and would handle the matter.

Warrants for the arrest of McWilliams and Barco were issued on charges of violating the city traffic ordinance and resisting arrest, but the Navy refused to let the men appear in police court the following day.

Officials in Conference

Police Chief Dunn reportedly said: "I am not going to allow the Navy shore patrol to run things here," and on Wednesday the shore patrol was removed. Interested citizens appealed to the mayor for an immediate adjustment, pointing out that the Navy provided the only police protection given colored citizens.

On Friday city officials met with high ranking Navy officials of the Fifth Naval District, among them Rear Admiral C. H. Jones, Capt. C. E. Olsen, representing Rear Admiral David LeBreton, commandant of the district, and Lt. Com. J. M. Bain, in charge of the shore patrol.

The Navy officials cited to the city authorities the ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court on the arrest of military personnel for misdemeanors. The police and other city officials admitted that they were ignorant of the ruling. The patrol was then brought back.

Patrol Rating High

Portsmouth has been the scene of many interracial clashes, most of the "incidents" taking place on public conveyances. In each case, colored defendants have been fined by the judge and also lectured on their "place" in the South.

4-14-45

Colored shore patrolmen are now serving also in Norfolk and Newport News. Their record is excellent, although they work under the handicap, unlike white shore patrolmen, of being empowered to arrest Navy offenders only.

National GRAPEVINE

Chicago Ill. Defender

By CHARLEY CHEROKEE

Pardon Us, Your Cullud Navy Is Showing 11-10-45

"WOMEN," said Lester Granger, "cause most of the trouble between colored and white navy boys in the Pacific." The boys get along pretty well at work, but there is fierce competition for what little recreation there is. The island women who will associate with the sailors are far too few, and not very attractive, but if it has a skirt on it, there's a fight over it. The boys are starved, some of them for months and years, and it is just as well Negro WAVES didn't show up.

Lester, back from his naval tour of the Pacific, reported to Secretary of Navy Forrestal, and didn't pull his punches. He told him that best race relations exists aboard ships, next best at air bases, and God help the rest. Most of the discrimination and prejudice exists because the officers in charge are prejudiced. When they are removed and decent officers substituted, race discrimination and race friction vanish.

He said the Marines are no damn good as far as race is concerned, and that none of the five Negroes admitted for Marine officer training had been "allowed" to graduate. He said more Negro navy officers are needed, Negroes should be allowed to act as shore patrolmen in the Pacific, and there should be a helluva lot more recreation provided for both white and colored boys. He didn't think much of Commander Armstrong as the liaison personnel officer for Negroes, as he is doing nothing much in his Pearl Harbor office. He said some improvement is being made by the navy, but there is room for more. He added for NAACP's benefit, when navy officers, and that he (Lester) is no damn "tool for the navy." The colored newsmen who talked to him felt pretty good afterwards, and went to see a special preview of the navy film, "The Sailor." The boys weren't too happy over the film (which they had) and complained it made 'em dizzy the way it jumped from segregation to semi-integration and back again.

1K-10-45

56k-1945

Navy

NEGRO GRADUATES FROM GREAT LAKES NOW SCATTERED ALL OVER PACIFIC FIGHTING ZONE

The Black Dispatch

Trained Radiomen and Many Other Technicians Can Be Found Along Battle Front

Okla. City - Okla.

WORK ALONG SIDE WHITES

HONOLULU.—(ANP)—It can now be told where the great mass of Negro graduates from Great Lakes Service schools are functioning. The slight haze of mystery which had been thrown around it is disappearing as Negro sailors and craftsmen are being flung into regular navy jobs and having their ups and downs like the rest of the sailors.

Comdr. Daniel W. Armstrong, too, whom everybody remembers as the man who tackled the job of the special service units at Great Lakes in order to get Negroes started into the navy in the early days, is right out here with his boys. He's now attached to the staff of the commander, service force, U. S. Pacific fleet, and that's where most of the colored sailors are functioning. 7-21-45

The story of the participation of Negro units in the naval operations of the Pacific war has followed a normal American pattern. In the earlier stages of development of plans and the execution of them there have been strengths and weaknesses, excellent performances and poor performances. There is no boubt today, however, that the record of Negro naval units in swinging to strength and excellent performances. Many factors account for this trend. Seasoning and experience of the men themselves, some of whom now have from two to three years of nabal service to their credit, have been a great factor.

Form the Pacific coast, where they operated patrol ships and harbor craft as well as men shore facilities, to the beaches and hills of Okinawa and on the high seas between, Negro man of the navy are shouldering their assignments with confidence and ability.

In Hawaiian Island

In the Hawaiian islands, particularly at the many stations surrounding Pearl Harbor, many thousands perform inumerable duties in the operations which carry the war forward. These include naval air stations, naval ammunition depots, and the vast naval supuly depot.

Negro officers carry a large share of the administrative load at Manana Naval barracks where one is the first lieutenant and maintenance officer, another the disbursing officer, another the commissary officer, and others doctors and dentists.

Negro petty officers at many stations are carrying out duties in administration, military leadership and skilled specialties such as work on aviation engines, communiciations and transfer of high explosives. Yeoman handle office management duties, storekeepers concern themselves with the vast quantities of supplies passing through to the fleet, gunner's mate supervise ammunition activities; and machinist's mates keep mechanical devices in operation.

Logistics Support Companies

At Iroquois Points, on the island of Oahu, there is a major training activity through which many now logistic support companies are passing for training on the way to duty in combat areas. Both Negro and white companies are being trained identically and will perform iidentical duties side by side when they reach their destination.

Logistics support companies are among the most versatile organization in service today. They must be able to land with an assault echolon, establish their own field facilities, repel the enemy, operate many kinds of equipment on land and water, and mobe equipment and supplies frim ship to shore. They must be familiar with rifles, sub-machine guns, grenades, booby-traps, gas mask, and decontamination equipment; they learn sentry duty, scouting and patrolling, combat signals and hand-to-hand combat techniques as well as operation of cranes, winches, boats, distillation and refrigeration machinery.

All of this training, including a period of bivouac where they actually practice field conditions, is conducted by the advance base section of service force, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

On High Seas

On the sea, many of the great fleet auxiliaries carry substantial numbers of Negroes in their deck engineering forces. It is no rarity to find a Negro quartermaster or seaman standing a steersman watch on the bridge, or a Negro signalman at the blinkers or flagbag on the signal bridge, or a Negro gunner's mate readying the ship's heavy guns for action.

In numerous "shacks," the hubs of radio communication aboard ship, can be found trained Negro radiomen, carphones over their heads, concentrating on the messages coming in from far over the sea. 7-21-45

In Marianas

In the Marianas islands, at Guam, Saipan and Tinian, units of navy Negroes are carrying on activities of vital importance to the fleet in harrying the enemy. Some of these activities are less dramatic and perhaps less glamorous than those of many of their shipmates mentioned, but they are nevertheless performing essential military duties at the supply depots, ammunition depots and operating bases of that area.

On Okinawa

On Okinawa, nearing the end of the long westward march to the heart of the Japanese empire, American forces include sime Negro navy legistics support companies. Detailed accounts of these units must be withheld until operations can be more completely revealed and details obtained, but early reports give clear indication that they have performed remarkably well under difficult operational circumstances. 7-21-45

The signs of newness, the uncertainty of the recruit, have worn off now and many Negroes, seasoned to the wavs of the navy, are taking their positions beside their white shipmates in the victory drive of our forces in the far Pacific.

NAACP CHARGES HALF STORY NOT TOLD; NO PUNISHMENT METED OUT WHITE SOLDIERS

Omaha Nebraska World Herald

New Orleans Louisiana.

New York, July 19. — NAACP Secretary, Walter White, charged Guam authorities today with conspicuously failing to reveal the long series of unprovoked and unpunished attacks which led up to the courts-martial of 43 Negroes attached to the United States Naval Depot, convicted of charges including rioting and unlawful assembly. Announcement of the sentences, ranging from four months to four years, came on the heels of Mr. White's radio report Saturday over the Columbia Broadcasting System in which he told of what had taken place on a Navy Board of Inquiry on which he served as defense counsel, investigating a clash between white Marine and Negro Navy Base Company personnel. In describing the details leading up to the incidents which occurred December 25 and 26, 1944, Mr. White said: 7-21-45

"For weeks a few Marines had been throwing bricks, empty beer bottles, and upon three occasions, hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by Negro Navy men. When no attempt was made by the authorities to stop the attacks or punish the attackers, the colored men, in despair, determined to defend themselves when next attacked.

"The next assault took place a few days later on Christmas Eve when a group of white servicemen fired upon colored servicemen and ran them out of the main town on the island. Shortly after midnight, a truck load of white Marines went to the Negro camp charging that one of their number had been hit by a stone thrown by a Negro Navy man. The Marines threatened to 'take the matter into their own hands.' On Christmas Day one Negro serviceman was shot and killed and another shot by white servicemen. These and other assaults infuriated the men who had been attacked to the point that twice they went into town to take vengeance. On one occasion they were turned back; on the second they were arrested, charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage." 7-21-45

When the NAACP request for a copy of the transcript of testimony and findings by the Board of Inquiry was turned down by both the Island Commander in Guam and Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, White took the matter up personally with President Truman in his White House conference on May 25th. At that time the President promised, the NAACP would be given the desired information. The first official knowledge however came in a wire service release, July 11. Accordingly the Association has announced renewal of its original request for a full report of the testimony and findings in order that the Legal Committee can determine procedure to be taken in behalf of the 43 convicted Negro sailors. Mr. White declared in commenting on the entire situation that, "while the NAACP makes no defense for any illegal acts which the defendants may have committed, we do charge that these men were goaded by attacks and failure of island authorities to check repeated physical and verbal attacks on Negro sailors or to punish these attackers."

The lone New Orleans sailor involved in the riot was Seaman First Class Joseph Lee Breston, 2916½ LaSalle Street, who was sentenced to 24 months confinement with a bad conduct discharge. 7-31-45

NAACP Takes Issue With Navy in Conviction of 50 In Port Chicago Tragedy

Kansas City, Mo.

Assooiation Asks Permission to File Additional Briefs for Men Who Feared To Load Ammunition After Explosion

The Call

NEW YORK. — The N.A.A.C.P. was advised Friday, July 13, by the Navy department that the sentences of the 50 Negro seamen convicted in October, 1944, for mutiny at Yerba Buena Island, Cal., have been held legal.

Ralph A. Bard, acting secretary of the Navy declared, "the trials were conducted fairly and impartially." He stated further that, "racial discrimination was guarded against."

Through Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, the N.A.A.C.P. has made a formal request to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal for permission to file additional briefs and for opportunity to present the case personally before him.

The Negro seamen were originally charged with mutiny in August, 1944, for refusal to load ammunition at Port Chicago, Cal., where investigation revealed more than 300 of their number had been killed in an explosion the month before.

Under the supervision of white officers the men had received no previous training in the handling of ammunition prior to the disaster. 7-20-45

Prejudice At Proceedings

Race and race prejudice was continuously injected into the proceedings by Lieutenant Commander William F. Coakley, Trial Judge Advocate, during the trial from September 14 to October 24, 1944.

Testimony in the case revealed two of the men were suffering from the effects of broken arms when the alleged order was given to load ammunition. Another, weighing only 104 pounds had a Navy doctor's certificate stating he should not be given hard work.

Despite a Navy psychiatrist's testimony at the trial substantiating certain definite fear reactions which men experiencing an explosion of this kind would have, and despite the testimony of the 50 accused, the Court followed the demands of the Trial Judge Advocate, finding the men guilty of mutiny and sentencing each of them to 50 years imprisonment. Sentences were pronounced after 85 minutes deliberation. Reductions were made later by the Navy.

N.A.A.C.P. Presents Brief

At the request of the men, N.A.A.C.P. Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall presented a memorandum brief and argued the case personally before the assistant judge advocate general of the United States Navy. The brief pointed out there was no legal evidence whatsoever to sustain the charge of mutiny and that the evidence on the charge of a refusal to obey an order was in dispute and grave doubt.

The obvious prejudicial conduct of Lieutenant Commander Coakley, prosecutor, in emphasizing the question of race during the trial, was pointed out in many instances. In addition it was also claimed. had the men been white, the case would not have merited a trial.

Because conviction of these men tends to discredit other Negro seamen, the N.A.A.C.P. urges all persons interested in justice for seamen in general to make their views known to the Secretary of the Navy at once.

This case is the largest mutiny trial in the history of the United States Navy and is the first of its kind during the present war.

Pictures and releases attesting the fact that the largest mutiny trial in history involves Negroes, have been released by the Navy department.

Granger Says Mutiny Case Badly Handled

Kansas City The Call

By HARRY McALPIN Mo.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) —While there was no indication that justice had not been served in the actual trial of the 50 sailors convicted of mutiny several months ago following the Port Chicago explosion, it appeared that mistakes in personnel had helped to precipitate the mutiny, according to Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, who recently returned from an inspection tour of naval installations on the west coast. 7-21-45

Mr. Granger pointed out that immediately after the explosion which killed several hundred enlisted men and officers, survivors who had seen the tragedy were picked up and sent to other bases to continue loading ammunition because of the great need.

According to men left at Port Chicago, with whom he talked, there was a feeling that these young men should not have been picked up and dropped into another job of doing the same thing after having had their relatively peaceful existence shockingly disturbed by seeing their buddies blown out of existence in a twinkling of an eye.

The men involved in the mutiny, Granger said, felt they had been discriminated against. They noted that their detachment was an all-Negro unit. They felt this was so because the work was dangerous. In that situation, he said, someone should have used better judgment. 7-20-45

Among the men left at Port Chicago, Granger said he did not find any feeling that there had been discrimination. However, he said, he feels there is plenty of ground for reconsideration of the severity of the sentence in view of the fact the navy is not entirely without blame for the situation arising. Ten of the men were sentenced to 15 years, 24 were sentenced to 12 years, 11 were sentenced to 10 years, and 5 were sentenced to eight years.

Mr. Granger revealed that since the Port Chicago incident, the navy has adopted a policy of reducing the complement of Negroes in ammunition depots to not more than 30 per cent of the total.

Granger Confirms New Navy Policy

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

The application of the Navy policy of complete integration, adopted more than a year ago without fuss or fanfare, was confirmed Friday by Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League.

Mr. Granger, who recently completed a tour of Navy installations made at the request of Secretary of the Navy Forrestall, told newsmen at the Navy Department that the new program had progressed to the point where "It's no longer the same Navy." 7-21-45

Reporting on the tour which covered 12 Navy installations in all parts of the country where more than 3,000 colored Navy men are stationed, he said that the Navy was far ahead of the Army in its racial policy.

Stated Policy Sound

Crediting the service with "a sincere and honest effort" to achieve full integration in all of its phases, he described the new policy as "admirably sound as officially set forth."

"I found that to be honestly and intelligently administered in the headquarters of all the Naval districts I visited," he continued.

"I found no resistance to the policy, but rather a lively and sincere interest in making the policy successful," he said.

Contrasted with Army Setup

Commenting further on its soundness, he contrasted it with that of the War Department which, he said, is attempting to develop two armies—a white one and a black one.

Discussing its operation he said that the farther down in the ranks of command its administration descended, the more likely there were to be violations.

Personnel Officers Urged

In order to provide for the effective nforcement of the policy, he added, an officer whose duty would be that of checking upon and seeing to the disciplining of violators should be appointed to the Bureau of Personnel.

Despite the "not inferquent" violations, he asserted that the Navy has made "remarkable strides" during the past two years toward achievement of equality of service.

Navy Leaders Commended

"It is a progress," he said, "which reflects great credit upon the integrity and intelligence of the Navy's leaders."

Among specific gains cited by Mr. Granger were:

1. Admission of colored men to general service.

2. The rating of colored men in practically every category and their training as commissioned officers.

One-Tenth of Ship's Complement

3. Assignment of colored personnel to auxiliary craft up to 10% of a ship's complement.

4. Assignment of colored petty and commissioned officers to these vessels to serve in their duties without regard to race.

5. Important elimination of racial segregation in mess and in recreational facilities.

6. Beginning of assigning of colored personnel to combat duties on warships.

he will leave shortly on a three-month tour of Pacific Naval bases to determine whether or not the Navy's one-year-old racial policy is being carried out and to check any conditions that may be threatening the morale of

NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292

SEP 14 1945

South Gets Anti-Jim Crow Lesson

Navy Attitude Not 'Ideal,' but Prober Is Encouraged

Jim Crow cities, like Corpus Christi, Tex., and New Orleans, La., are watching Negro and white Naval personnel, both civilian and military, working side by side without segregation.

This policy, said Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, is contrary to the established social custom of the South and "must have an enduring result."

At a press conference at the organization's headquarters at 1133 Broadway, Granger revealed that Negroes overseas.

This trip will conclude a series of inspections begun by Granger last June as personal representative of Secretary Forrestal.

Among the violations of official policy which he reported were extreme racial segregation, emphasized by such signs as 'For Colored Enlisted Personnel'; segregation of Negro from white personnel in film shows, mess hall and canteen service; rough handling of Negro seamen by white shore police; and, in one case, segregation of Negro seamen in Navy buses transporting them to and from liberty leave.

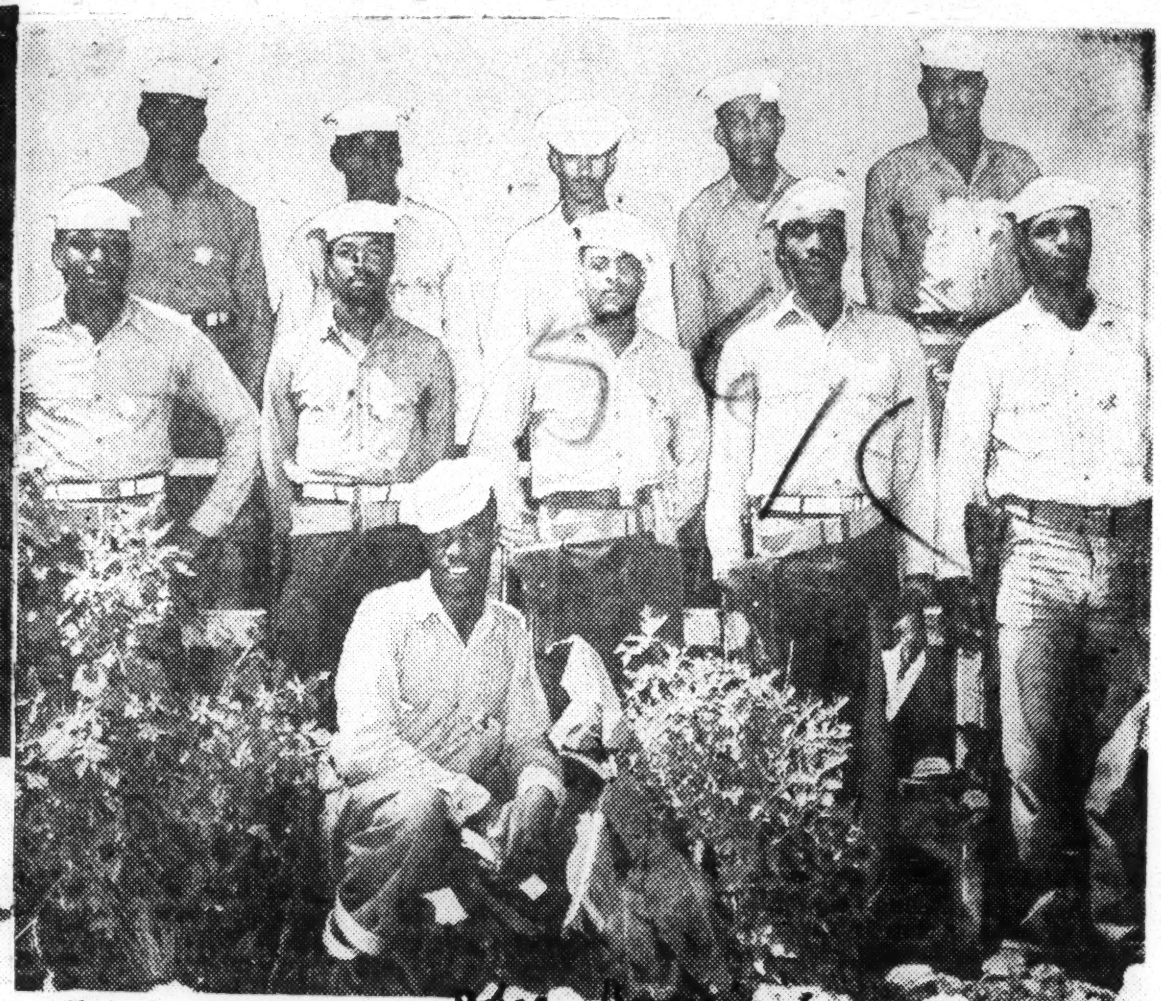
"I do not want to paint the Navy as a little bit of heaven," Granger declared, "but the important thing is the way in which the Navy is headed."

56k-1945 Navy

Tan Tars Fill Important Roles at Naval Supply Depot in Marianas

M. D. McShore, S1/c of Salisbury, N.C., operates a fork lift at a naval supply depot in the Marianas. He has been overseas 16 months, having served at Mare Island, Calif., and at Guadalcanal, and expects to operate a motor mechanics business after the war. Thousands of tan gobs are scattered through the Western Pacific, performing both skilled and unskilled tasks at naval installations.

Afro-American 7-21-45



Charged with maintaining security, order and discipline are, left to right: Kneeling, G. E. Douglas, Pensacola, Fla.; first row, G. H. Gethers, Charleston, S.C.; N. Stovall, Detroit, M. M. Merrill, Chicago; C. H. Litle, Steubenville, Ohio; and E. J. Chapman, Inwood, L.I., N.Y.; back row, W. Andrews, Brunswick, Ga.; W. H. West, Detroit; R. H. White, Cleveland; F. W. Taylor, Chicago, and F. Gibson, Los Angeles.

Afro-American 7-21-45

Guam Officials Mum on Marine Attacks—White

Afro-American

NEW YORK—Guam authorities were charged this week with conspicuously failing to reveal the long series of unprovoked and unpunished attacks which led up to the courts-martial of 43 sailors convicted of rioting and unlawful assembly.

The charge was made by Walter White, NAACP secretary, who served as defense counsel during the trials.

Announcement of the sentences, ranging from four months to four years, came after Mr. White's radio report of the incident on the Columbia Broadcasting System July 7.

In describing the details leading up to the incidents which occurred December 25 and 26, 1944, Mr. White said: 7-21-45

"For weeks a few Marines had been throwing bricks, empty beer bottles, and upon three occasions, hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by the Navy men. When no attempt was made by the authorities to stop the attacks or punish the attackers, the colored men, in despair, determined to defend themselves when next attacked.

Marines Fire on Boys

"The next assault took place a few days later on Christmas Eve when a group of white servicemen fired upon colored servicemen and ran them out of the main town on the island. Shortly after midnight a truckload of white Marines went to the colored men's camp charging that one of their number had been hit by a stone thrown by a colored Navy man.

"The Marines threatened to take the matter into their own hands.' On Christmas Day one colored serviceman was shot and killed and another shot by white servicemen. These and other assaults infuriated the men who had been attacked to the point that twice they went into town to take vengeance. 7-21-45

"On one occasion they were turned back; on the second they were arrested, charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage."

Denied Transcript

When the NAACP request for a copy of the transcript of testimony and findings by the Board of Inquiry was turned down by both the Island Commander in Guam and Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, White took the matter up personally with President Truman in his White House conference May 25. At that time the President promised that the NAACP would be given the desired information.

The first official knowledge, however, came in a wire service release, July 11. Accordingly the association has announced renewal of its original request for a full report of the testimony and findings in order that the legal committee can determine procedure to be taken in behalf of the 43 convicted colored sailors.

Mr. White declared in commenting on the entire situation that, "while the NAACP makes no defense for any illegal acts which the defendants may have committed, we do charge that these men were goaded by attacks and failure of island authorities to check repeated physical and verbal attacks on colored sailors or to punish these attackers."

List Convicted Men

Names of the seamen, their charges and sentences are:

ELLIS SLOAN, S1/c, Meridian, Miss.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S., conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; sentenced to 24 months of confinement with bad conduct discharge.

DOCK BLAND, S1/c, Myrtle Beach, S.C.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S.; sentenced to four years confinement with dishonorable discharge.

EDWARD STEPHENS, S1/c, 514 Gearing Avenue, Pittsburgh; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S.; sentenced to four years' confinement with dishonorable discharge.

HILLARY S. EDWARDS, Jr., S2/c, 1102 Bladensburg Rd., N.E., Washington, D.C., riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S., conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline, breaking arrest; sentenced to 26 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

JAMES STEWART, Jr., S1/c, 1505 H Street, Brunswick, Ga.; stealing arms of the U.S., intended for the Naval service, violation of a lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy, conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; sentenced to 24 months confinement with dishonorable discharge.

WALTER H. RAMEY, S1/c, 1123 S. 12th Street, Louisville; knowingly purchasing arms of the U.S. from a person not having lawful right to sell the same, violation of lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy; sentenced to 18 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

GENARD BRANDYBURG, S1/c, 1926 Massie, Houston; violation of a lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy; sentenced to four months confinement.

ARTHA L. SINCLAIR, S1/c, RFD No. 2, Lumberton, N.C.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S., conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; sentenced to 24 months confinement (with opportunity for 12 months "off" for good behavior) and bad conduct discharge.

ARTIE HULIN, S1/c, Sweetwater, Tex.; riot, applying to his own use

Afro-American

J. H. Crooks, m2/c of Akron, Ohio (left), and H. L. Fitts, QM3/c of Newark, N.J., on duty as junior officers of the day. In this capacity they keep a log of daily occurrences, keep order and handle emergencies at the naval supply depot, from which supplies are rushed in a constant flow to forward areas. 7-28-45

property of the U.S., breaking arrest; sentenced to 24 months confinement and bad conduct discharge.

REYNOLDS FORTUNE, S2/c, 1216 N. 3rd St., Saginaw, Mich.; riot applying to his own use property of the U.S.; sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

ROOSEVELT JOHNSON, S2/c, 1249 McKinley, Beaumont, Tex.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S., sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

RUBEN JOHNSON, S1/c, St. Albans, W.Va.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S.; sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

MERRITT McNEAR, S2/c, 7938 Lyons Ave., Philadelphia; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S.; sentenced to 33 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

JAMES C. MOORE, S2/c, Route 8, Box 377, Edgewater, Ala.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S., sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

THOMAS H. MYLES, S1/c, 3922 Olive St., Philadelphia; riot, applying to his own use property of the U.S., sentenced to 26 months confinement with bad conduct discharge.

Thirty Get Two Years

Thirty of the men were charged with rioting and applying to their own use property of the U.S. and were sentenced to 24 months confinement with bad conduct discharges from the Navy. They are as follows:

RALPH ALLEN, S2/c, 4223 W. Maffitt St., St. Louis, Mo.

JOHN L. BAILEY, S1/c, 1408 Second Ave., Charleston, W. Va.

WILLIAM BENNETT, S2/c, 110 Oakburn Ave., Boston.

ROBERT BISHOP, S1/c, 2520 Avenue E. South, Birmingham.

JOSEPH L. BRESTON, S1/c, 2916½ LaSalle Ave., New Orleans.

JAMES W. BRYANT, F2/c, 945 Sheffield, Indianapolis.

GEORGE CALHOUN, F1/c, RFD No. 3, Box 20, Edgefield, S.C.

L. E. CEASER, S2/c, Route No. 1, Box 38, Vance, Miss.

JAMES T. DUPONT, S1/c, 2906 24th St., Tampa.

SAMUEL FLOYD, S2/c, 1607 E. Monument St., Baltimore.

BERRY HEARN, S1/c, 3303 Southern Ave., Louisville.

CHARLES A. JOHNSON, F1/c, 742 Marchal Heil St., Memphis.

CLEO JOHNSON, S1/c, Route 3, Matthews, N.C.

SILAS KING, S2/c, 138 Mitchell St., Greensboro, N.C.

CHARLIE LEWIS, Jr., S2/c, 59 Park Square, Pratt City, Ala.

SAMUEL LLOYD, S1/c, 233 E. State St., Jacksonville, Fla.

OLIVER D. LOWERY, F1/c, 340 S. Blackford St., Indianapolis

WALTER R. MARTIN, Jr., S1/c, 124 Union St., Elizabeth, N.J.

JAMES MAXWELL, S2/c, 413 E. 17th St., Little Rock.

MELVIN R. NEWTON, S2/c, 79 Hombold Ave., Roxbury, Mass.

JAMES R. NORRIS, Sr., S1/c, 364 N. Mitchell St., Atlanta.

WILLIAM S. PERRY, Baker 3/c, 5 Cape St., Providence, R.I.

WILLIE PITTMAN, S2/c, 308 Franklin St., Helena, Ark.

NATHANIEL RAY, Jr., S1/c, 811 Aisquith St., Baltimore.

JOHN REDDING, S1/c, 112 Crawford St., Griffin, Ga.

ABE RICHARDSON, S1/c, 604 Court "D" Blodgett House, Jacksonville, Fla.

LEROY ROBINSON, S1/c, 519 E. 3rd St., Charlotte, N.C.

ROBERT T. ROBINSON, S1/c, Gainesville, Va.

JOSEPH D. SHEEHAM, S1/c, 1912 N. Taylor Ave., St. Louis.

LEON J. WISE, S1/c, 432 Orange St., Port Arthur, Tex.

Another sailor, Fred R. Evans, S2/c, Fair Bluff, N.C., is now confined to the hospital and will be tried later on one or more of the charges perferred aganist the other defendants.

Says Navy Hides Important Facts

Chicago Defender

Chicago Tribune

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—N.A.A.C.P. Secretary Walter White this week charged navy authorities with "conspiciously failing" to reveal the long series of unprovoked and unpunished attacks which led up to the courts-martial and conviction of 43 Negroes attached to the United States Naval Depot at Guam on charges including rioting and unlawful assembly.

White served notice that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will not relinquish its efforts to get at the bottom of the convictions in which the men were given sentences ranging from four months to four years. 7-21-45

Maj. Gen. Henry Larsen, Island commander, said the convictions growing out of incidents of last Christmas night have been confirmed and are final.

One Negro who is now hospitalized will face trial on one or more of the charges preferred against the other defendants.

These charges, Guam officials say, are based on findings of a board of inquiry which investigated two incidents on the night of December 25, and 26, 1944.

The navy version of the affair attest that from December 25-30 Negroes left the depot without authorization in two trucks. The group was intercepted, the navy goes on to say, by Negro masters-at-arms and white military police who found 15 pistols and an amount of ammunition in the vehicles.

Later in the night, according to the navy version, M.P.'s patrolling men near the base company's area were fired on and one white military policeman was wounded in the leg. 7-21-45

A search of the area, uncovered a store of weapons which were said to have been stolen three days earlier from the naval warehouse.

What Guam navy officials did not say White remonstrated is, that "for weeks a few marines had been throwing bricks, empty beer bottles, and upon three occasions hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by Negro navy men. When no attempt was made by the authorities to stop the attacks or punish the attackers, the colored men in despair determined to defend themselves when next attacked.

Fire On Negroes

"The next assault took place a few days later on Christmas eve," White said, "when a group of white servicemen fired upon colored servicemen and ran them out of the main town on the island. Shortly after midnight, a truckload of white marines went to the Negro camp charging that one of their number had been hit by a stone thrown by a Negro navy man. The marines threatened to 'take the matter into their own hands.'

"On Christmas day one Negro serviceman was shot and killed and andother shot by white servicemen," White continued. "These and other assaults infuriated the men who had been attacked to the point that twice they went into town to take vengeance. On one occasion they were turned back; on the second they were arrested, charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage," the N.A.A.C.P. executive declared.

No public notice of the fracas had been released by the navy until Mr. White, who recently completed a tour of the Pacific theatre of war, reported the incident over the Columbia Broadcasting System last Saturday night. The navy's announcement followed on the heels of White's report.

The N.A.A.C.P. has made every effort to secure a transcript of the testimony and findings by the board of inquiry, to no avail, White said.

Confers With Truman

Both Major General Larsen and Secretary of the Navy Forrestal have been requested to provide this information. White took the matter up personally with President Truman in his White House conference on May 25. At that time the President promised the N.A.A.C.P. would be given the desired information. But, the only official knowledge which the N.A.A.C.P. has received to date, White said, came in a wire service release, July 11.

Accordingly, the association has announced a renewal of its original request for a report of the testimony and findings in order that the legal committee, which is headed by Judge William H. Hastie, can determine the procedure to be taken on behalf of the 43 convicted Negro sailors.

Goading Blamed

7-21-45

Commenting on the entire situation,, White declared, "While the N.A.A.C.P. makes no defense for any illegal acts which the defendants may have committed, we do charge that these men were goaded by attacks and failure of island authorities to check repeated physical and verbal attacks on Negro sailors or to punish these attackers."

Six In Crew On Destroyed Ingram

ON THE DESTROYER TRANSPORT GEORGE W. INGRAM IN JAPANESE WATERS — Six Negro Navy men were among the crewmen who took part in a double celebration on this ship when surrender of the Japanese was announced.

The dual celebration was occasioned by the fact that the surrender came on the second anniversary of the ship's commissioning. In her two years of action, the INGRAM has figured in operations in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Pacific, traveling 125,000 miles, or the equivalent of five times around the world.

The six men are: Worthy McCargo, cook, second class, USNR, of Scottsburg, Va.; Louie H. Webster, steward, third class, USNR, Route 1 Bullard, Texas; Louie G. Gardner, steward's mate, first class, USNR, Route 2, Prospect, Tenn.; Willie Brown, steward's mate, second class, USNR, Beaufort, S. C.; Raymond Hall, steward's mate, first class, USNR, Route 1, Ayden, S. C.; and Johnnie Williams, steward's mate, first class, USNR, 609 Young's Alley, Mobile, Ala.

56k-1945

Navy Court Says Men Stole Guns, Trucks To Attack Island Marines

Journal + Guide

Norfolk, Virginia

Charge Leathernecks Carried On Unprovoked Sniping On Navy Camp Not Considered In Christmas Day Outburst

By Associated Negro Press

GUAM—Firty-five Negro sailors have been convicted by court martial in the Christmas night uprisings between them and white troops, according to an announcement made here last week by Maj. Gen. Henry Larsen, island commander.

7-21-45

Larsen did not involve white troops, although Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, reported in a radio address from the United States that whites were involved. The commander confirmed the sentences against the Negro sailors, varying from four months to four years.

Between 25 and 30 Negro Navy men, atached to the naval supply base companies here, took two trucks without leave from the Naval supply depot and drove toward Agana, court-martial testimony established. White said that they had previously been chased from there by white marines.

NEGROES AID ARREST

These men, court records show, were apprehended in the truck by white military police and Negro masters-at-arms assigned to the depot law enforcement detail. Maj. Gen. Larson did not reveal that any testimony had been introduced to involve the whites in the uprisings.

The NAACP secretary, who served as a war correspondent for a New York newspaper, reported the reason the Negro sailors were in the trucks in serving as a defense counsel for the accused men. Testimony revealed that 14 .45 calibre pistols, a .38-calibre revolver and 18 loaded clips of .45 calibre bullets were found in the trucks.

White reported that the white marines harassed the Negro sailors into a state of desperation. A group of them threw hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps of Negro Navy men in a series of incidents that resulted in a clash, he said. These attacks went on for weeks, he disclosed, and when no attempt was made by the authorities to stop them or punish the attackers, the colored men "in despair determined to defend themselves."

The slaying of one Negro sailor on Christmas Day is said to have been the final torch that infuriated the men to action. They attempted to go into town to seek vengeance, White disclosed. Maj. Gen. Larson, however, did not reveal whether the court martial had admitted this evidence in sentencing the men or whether any effort had been made to arrest the white marines.

7-21-45

SAILOR WOUNDED

Beside the dead Negro sailor, White reported that one was wounded by the Marines in the fracas. A white MP was also wounded in the leg during an exchange of shots between them and the angry Negro sailors.

Further evidence submitted at the court martial hearings revealed that the men had hidden a store of weapons in anticipation of trouble with the white marines. The accused men were charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage, White said.

Maj. Gen. Larson reported that the sentences were final; but did not say that any efforts

Navy

will be made to bring the white marines to trial.

The Navy Department released the names of the men, as follows.

ELLIS SLOAN, S1/c, Meridian, Miss.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S., conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; sentenced to 24 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

DOCK BLAND, S1/c, Myrtle Beach, S. C.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to four years confinement with dishonorable discharge from the Navy.

EDWARD STEPHENS, S1/c, 514 Gearing avenue Pittsburgh Pa.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to four years confinement with dishonorable discharge from the Navy.

HILLARY SPENCER EDWARDS Jr., S 2/c, 1102 Bladensburg road, N.E., Washington, D. C.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S., conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline, breaking arrest; sentenced to 26 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

JAMES STEWART Jr., S1/c, 1505 H street, Brunswick, Ga.; stealing arms of the U. S. intended for the Naval service, violation of a lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy, conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; sentenced to 24 months confinement with dishonorable discharge from the Navy.

WALTER HARRY RAMEY, S1/c, 1123 S. 12th street, Louisville, Ky.; knowingly purchasing arms of the U. S., from a person not having lawful right to seel the same, violation of lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy; sentenced to 18 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

7-21-45

GENARD BRANDYBURG, S 1/c, 1926 Massie, Houston, Tex., violation of a lawful regulation issued by the Secretary of the Navy; sentenced to four months confinement.

ARTHA LEE SINCLAIR, S1/c, RFD No. 2, Lumberton, N. C.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S., conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; sentenced to 24 months confinement (with opportunity for 12 months "off" for good behavior) and bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

ARTIE HULIN, S1/c, Sweetwater, Tex.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S., breaking arrest; sentenced to 24 months confinement and bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

REYNOLDS FORTUNE, S2/c, 1216 N. 3rd street, Saginaw, Mich.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

ROOSEVELT JOHNSON, S2/c, 1249 McKinley, Beaumont, Tex.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

RUEEN JOHNSON, S1/c, St. Albans, W. Va.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

MERRITT McNEAR, S2/c, 7938 Lyons avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to 33 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

JAMES CLEVELAND MOORE, S2/c, Route 8, Box 377, Edgewater, Ala.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentence to 28 months confinement with bad conduct discharge from the Navy.

THOMAS HOWARD MYLES, S1/c, 3922 Olivve street, Philadelphia, Pa.; riot, applying to his own use property of the U. S.; sentenced to 26 months confinement with ba dconduct discharge from the Navy.

30 GET 24 MONTHS

Thirty of the men were charged with rioting and applying to their own use property of the U. S., and were sentenced to 24 months confinement with bad conduct discharges from the Navy. They are as follows:

7-21-45

Ralph Allen, S2/c, 4223 W. Maffit street, St. Louis, Mo.; John Lewis Bailey, S1/c, 1408 Second avenue, Charleston, W. Va.; William Bennett, S2/c, 110 Oakburn avenue, Boston, Mass.; Robert Bishop, S1/c, 2520 Avenue E, S., Birmingham, Ala.; Joseph Lee Breston, S1/c, 2916 1/2 LaSalle avenue, New Orleans, La.; James Wesley Bryant, F2/c, 945 Sheffield, Indianapolis, Ind.; George Calhoun, F1/c, RFD No. 3, Box 20, Edgefield, S. C.; L. E. Caesar, S2/c, Rt. No. 1, Box 38, Vance, Miss.; James Turner Dupont, S1/c, 2906 24th street, Tampa, Fla.; Samuel Floyd, S2/c, 1607 E. Monument street, Baltimore, Md.; Berry Hearn, S1/c, 3303 Southern avenue, Louisville, Ky.; Charlie Alfred Johnson, F1/c, 742 Marchal Heil street, Memphis, Tenn.; Cleo Johnson, S1/c, Route 3, Matthews, N. C.; Silas King, S2/c, 138 Mitchel street, Greensboro, N. C.; Charlie Lewis Jr., S2/c, 59 B Park Square, Pratt City, Ala.; Samuel Lloyd, S1/c, 233 E. State street, Jacksonville, Fla.; Oliver Dudley Lowery, F1/c, 340 S. Blackford street, Indianapolis, Ind.; Walter Reuben Martin Jr., S1/c, 124 Union street, Elizabeth, N. J.; James Maxwell, S2/c, 413 E. 17tht street, Little Rock, Ark.; Melvin Redding Newton, S2/c, 79 Hombold avenue, Roxbury, Mass.; James Rufus Norris Sr., S1/c, 364 N. Mitchell street, Atlanta, Ga.; William Silas Perry, Baker 3/c, 5 Cape street, Providence, R. I.; Willie Pittman, S2/c, 308 Franklin street, Helena, Ark.; Nathaniel Ray Jr., S1/c, 811 Aisquith street, Baltimore, Md.; John Redding, S1/c, 112 Crawford street, Griffin, Ga.; Abe Richardson, S1/c, 604 Court "D." Blodgett House, Jacksonville, Fla.; Leroy Robinson, S1/c, 519 E. 3rd street, Charlotte, N. C.; Robert Thomas Robinson, S1/c, Gainesville, Va.; Joseph Donald Sheeham, S1/c, 1912 N. Taylor avenue, St. Louis, Mo.; Leon Joseph Wise, S1/c, 432 Orange street, Port Arthur, Tex.

Granger Reports On Inspection

Journal + Guide

7-21-45

Says Navy Far Ahead of Army In Racial Integration

Norfolk, Virginia

Special to Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Navy is far out in front on the Army in the matter of racial integration declared Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, in a report made to Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal last Friday after a three-week inspection tour of naval installations as a special representative of the Navy Department.

The Navy is now doing things which the Army insists would be bad for morale, Mr. Granger declared. He accused the Army of trying to build two armies, one black and one white, whereas the Navy has realized that is impractical.

Mr. Granger reported that his tour included twelve naval stations, bases and depots in four Naval Districts, where he found about 3,000 Negroes in the total naval personnel.

He left Washington on June 18 and returned on July 6. The trip took him over a stretch of naval establishments from San Diego to Seattle and across to the Great Lakes Training School and back to New York. He was accompanied by Lieutenant R. P. Roper of the Navy.

Commenting on his impression of the execution of the Navy's policy toward integration of Negroes, he said he considered the policy "adequately sound." His impressions, he stated, were the result of talking to Negro petty officers and seamen, and to their commanding officers.

Said Mr. Granger: "I found

that the policy itself, while being formulated and promulgated in Washington, is being accepted in good spirit by the various naval districts. It is being intelligently and honestly administered in the headquarters of the Districts I visited," he declared. "In no instance did I have reason to suspect resistance to the policy. There was an evident pride in the signs of success."

MUST GUARD POLICY

Everything he found was not rosy, however, Mr. Granger admitted. He said the further down in the ranks of command the policy decended, the more instances there were of deviation from it. He said this was to be expected, for people in the Navy are Americans, and there are many prejudices on racial questions among Americans.

This emphasizes, he said, the need for policing the policy. "Only when such policing is developed will we find adherence to racial policy the same as to other naval policies," he pointed out.

Wherever violations of the policy were found on his tour, Mr. Granger said, he reported them to the commanding officers and to Washington. But despite these violations, he stated that he found the Navy has made tremendous strides in the past few years. This, he said reflects a great deal of credit upon the intelligence of the Navy leadership and upon the strength of public opinion which undoubtedly led the Navy leadership to revise and strengthen its racial policies.

"I don't think any of us is prepared to give the Navy a blank check of confidence," he declared. "But any reasonable person who has been around the country must give it credit for not being the same Navy so far as the Negro is concerned."

LISTS GAINS

Listing the gains Negroes have made in the Navy, Granger pointed to: 7-21-45

(1) Negroes are now admitted to general service assignments. Two or three years ago, only the stewards branch was open. At present, he pointed out, there are two important fields which remain closed to Negroes — aviation pilots and combat posts in the submarine service. These points, he stated, have been called to the attention of the proper officials of the Navy Department.

(2) Negroes are now being rated as petty officers in practically every category. They are being trained at Hampton Institute, which he said is on its way out as a separate training center. In this **same connection, he said the training** of Negro commissioned officers has been a gain. The twelve Negroes commissioned several month ago have been promoted to lieutenants (junior grade).

(3) Negro personnel is now being assigned to auxiliary craft up to ten percent of the ship's complement. They are no longer confined to one or two ships. He said he has been assured that Negroes not only will be assigned to vessels, but that petty officers will be assigned according to their duties on such ships.

(4) Progressive elimination of racial segregation in the Navy. The Navy has realized that you can't run a Navy and keep Negroes and whites separate.

SOME SEGREGATION

On this last point, Granger said there is still segregation in barracks at some places, but a few where there is none whatsoever. There is no enforced segregation in the mess halls and recreation activities.

In some places, however, particularly where separation in barracks exists, a voluntary separation in the mess hall occurs. Negroes will eat at one end of the hall and whites at the other — but in the middle, even under these circumstances, a few tables will be mixed.

Concerning recreation, he said he would h te to have the Red Cross come into the Navy program with the Red Cross segregation programs set up for the Army. Recreational needs are taken care of by the Navy with the assistance of the USO, he declared. "It demonstrates again how far wrong some of the other agencies are in saying Negroes and whites cannot amuse themselves together without riots and friction." 7-21-45

TO TOUR PACIFIC

(5) Assignment of Negroes to war ships. For a long time, he declared, Negroes were resentful of being assigned to shore duties. They felt humiliated at being assigned to loading ammunition instead of being put on ships for which they had been trained. There is every hope, he said, that this program will be expanded.

Mr. Granger, who has had two conferences with Secretary Forrestal since his return from his continental inspection tour, said in the fall he will make a similar tour of naval bases in the Pacific at request of the Secretary.

Mr. Granger returned to his office in New York over the weekend. **He was notified of his election as first vice chairman of the New York chapter of the American Association of Social Workers.**

NAACP Requests Further Review

After American

Questions Legality of Mutiny Convictions

Balt. Md.

JUDGE'S BIAS CITED

Statements of Tars, Doctor Disregarded

NEW YORK — The NAACP was advised Friday by the Navy Department that the sentences of the 50 colored seamen convicted in October, 1944, for mutiny at Yerba Buena Island, Calif., have been held legal. 7-21-45

Ralph A. Bard, Acting Secretary of the Navy, declared, "the trials were conducted fairly and impartially," and that "racial discrimination was guarded against."

Appeal to Forrestal

Through special counsel, Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP has made a formal request to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal for permission to file additional briefs and for opportunity to present the case personally before him.

The seamen were originally charged with mutiny in August, 1944, for refusal to load ammunition at Port Chicago, Calif., where investigation revealed more than 300 of their number had been killed in an explosion the month before.

Under the supervision of white officers, the men had received no previous training in the handling of ammunition prior to the disaster.

Trial Judge Biased

Race and race prejudice was continuously injected into the proceedings by Lt. Com. William F. Coakley, trial judge advocate, during the trial from September 14 to October 24, 1944.

Testimony in the case revealed two of the men were suffering from the effects of broken arms when the alleged order was given to load ammunition.. Another, weighing only 104 pounds, had a Navy doctor's certificate stating he should not be given hard work.

Despite a Navy psychiatrist's testimony, substantiating certain definite fear reactions which men experiencing an explosion of this kind would have, and despite testimony of the seamen, the court followed the demands of the trial judge advocate, finding the men guilty. 7-21-45

Quick Action

Each was given 50 years' imprisonment, sentences being pronounced after 85 minutes' deliberation. Reductions were made later by the Navy. At the request of the men, Mr. Marshall presented a memorandum brief, and argued the case personally before the Assistant judge advocate general of the Navy.

Because conviction of these men tends to discredit other colored seamen, the NAACP urges all persons interested in justice for seamen in general to make their views known to the Secretary of the Navy at once.

Navy Refuses To Review Trials Of 50 Port Chicago Gobs

Chicago Ill.

Chicago Defender

(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK—The navy rejected this week an appeal to review the trials of 50 Negro seamen convicted of mutiny after the famous Port Chicago explosion. 7-31-45

Now serving long prison sentences at Terminal Island, Calif., the Negro seamen were convicted in the largest mass trial in Navy history.

Through Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall the NAACP has made a formal request to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal for permission to file additional briefs and for opportunity to present the case personally before him. The Negro seamen were originally charged with mutiny in August, 1944, for refusal to load ammunition at Port Chicago, Calif., where investigation reevaled more than 300 of their number had been killed in an explosion the month before. Under the supervision of white officers the men had received no previous training in the handling of ammunition prior to the disaster.

Race Bias In Trial

Race and race prejudice was continuously injected into the proceedings by Lieut. Commander William F. Coakley, Trial Judge Advocate, during the trial from September 14 to October 24, 1944. Testimony in the case revealed two of the men were suffering from the effects of broken arms when the alleged order was given to load ammunition. Another, weighing only 104 pounds had a navy doctor's certificate stating he should not be given hard work.

Despite a navy psychiatrist's testimony at the trial substantiating certain definite fear reactions which men experiencing an explosion of this kind would have, and despite the testimony of the 50 accused, the court followed the demands of the Trial Judge Advocate, finding the men guilty of mutiny and sentencing each of them to 50 years imprisonment. Sentences were pronounced after 85 minutes deliberation. Reductions were made later by the navy.

At the request of the men, NAACP Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall presented a memorandum brief and argued the case personally before the Assistant Judge Advocate General of the United States Navy. The brief pointed out there was no legal evidence whatsoever to sustain the charge of mutiny and that the evidence on the charge of a refusal to obey an order was in dispute and grave doubt. The obvious prejudicial conduct of Lieutenant Commander Coakley, prosecutor, in emphasizing the question of race during the trial, was pointed out in many instances. In addition it was also claimed, had the men been white, the case would not have merited a trial.

Acting Secretary of the Navy Ralph A. Bard who rejected the NAACP demands, claimed that "the trials were conducted fairly and impartially," and that "racial discrimination was guarded against."

56k-1945 Navy

Another Step

Chicago, Ill.

Chicago Defender 7-24-45 Lay Lackson

NAACP Asks Reversal Of Court-Martial

Thurgood Marshall, counsel for the NAACP (National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People) has appealed to Navy Secretary Forrestal to set aside court-martial proceedings which last October found 50 Negro seamen guilty of refusing to load ammunition ships at Mare Island Depot, Cal.

7-15-45

The 50 seamen were all survivors of an explosion at Port Chicago last July 17, in which at least 323 persons, mostly Naval and Coast Guard personnel, were killed.

Marshall said the NAACP had several legal grounds for requesting reversal of the conviction. He pointed out:

¶ There was never any evidence of mutiny, as charged by the Navy Dept. None of the 50 seamen had tried to "take over" Naval property.

More than 250 seamen were involved in the alleged refusal to obey orders, but only 50 were court-martialed, and that these were tried simultaneously, rather than separately, for individual charges.

Finds Navy Trying Sincerely To Make Jim Crow Walk Plank

D.M.

Investigator Holds Program Far Ahead of Army's

N.Y.

By John T. Moutoux
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 14.—The Navy is trying sincerely and honestly to wipe out color lines in that branch of our armed forces, and its efforts, already have been so successful that "it's no longer the same Navy," Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, reported here after a tour of 12 Navy installations from coast-to-coast.

The Navy's program to integrate Negroes with white personnel is "so far ahead of the Army's that it's not even funny," he added.

Granger said he made the trip at the request of Navy Secretary Forrestal to observe the actual administration of the Navy's non-discrimination policy and to talk with Negro enlisted men and their officers to see how the program is working out.

He emphasized that he talked with Negroes in the service away from official surveillance and on an off-the-record basis, so that the men could feel free to express any complaint or grievance.

Policy Sound

He reached these conclusions:

¶ The Navy's non-discrimination policy is "admirably sound as officially set forth."

¶ The policy was "honestly and intelligently administered" in the headquarters of all of the districts he visited. He found no sign of resistance to the policy "but rather a lively and sincere interest in making the policy successful." He found the top officers at each of the bases he visited "proud of what they have achieved" in eliminating racial prejudice.

¶ The further down in the ranks he went, "the more instances he found of deviation from the letter of the policy."

7-15-45

Granger said he wasn't surprised at violations of the policy down in the ranks, in view of the widespread racial prejudice in this country, but he added that wherever abuses were found and reported to higher officers, they were corrected.

Lists Gains

He listed six specific gains which have been made in the Navy in the last two years in abolishing racial discrimination:

¶ Admission of Negroes to all but two branches of the Navy. (The last holdouts are aviation pilots and combat posts in the submarine service.) Two years ago, Granger said, Negroes in the Navy were restricted to the stewards branch.

¶ The training of Negroes as commissioned officers. Previously a Negro, no matter what his training or qualifications, was barred from the rank of officer. Now he can go as high as his ability can carry him.

¶ Negro personnel in general service now are being assigned to auxiliary craft up to 10 per cent of the ships' complements. Previously Negroes in general service were restricted to one or two vessels.

¶ Progressive elimination of racial segregation. Granger said that in general Negroes and whites still have separate barracks but that segregation has been eliminated in mess halls and in recreational facilities.

7-15-45

¶ A beginning of assigning Negro personnel to combat duties on warships. He pointed out that prior to the new policy Negroes were pretty much restricted to shore duties. Their job was to load ammunition on a battleship, for example, but they never got to shoot it.

On the question of non-segregation, Granger said he talked to one white sailor "who had an accent as deep as Texas" and his feeling was:

"I'd rather stay with my own people. But I bunk next to a Negro; he leaves me alone and I leave him alone, and so it's all right."

Granger said that while there had been some "squawking" over the non-segregation policy, it was not serious and the general attitude of the men in the service was "we're all in the Navy together."

Asked if the Red Cross had anything to do with the Navy's recreation program, Granger replied:

"Thank God, no." He explained that while the Navy runs its program on a non-discrimination basis, the Red Cross encourages discrimination by providing separate white and Negro clubs overseas.

The National Urban League represented by Granger is an interracial social service organization with headquarters in New York.

Henry A. Martin, Jr., right, is sworn in as an ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve. One of the Navy's first Negro officers, he is a chemical engineering graduate of University of Michigan and first served in Navy as an enlisted man stationed on Staten Island

Bars Down, Colored Tars Serve Throughout Pacific

Balt., Md.

Afro-American

HONOLULU — (ANP) — Following the normal American pattern, colored sailors and craftsmen are now serving through the Pacific from the Coast itself to the beaches and hills of Okinawa and on the high seas between.

Chiefly graduates of the Great Lakes Service Schools, they are still with the commander of the school, Comdr. Daniel W. Armstrong, who is now attached to the staff of the commander, services forces, U.S. Pacific fleet.

Seasoned and experienced as a result of two to three years of Naval service, the seamen, whose original performances evidenced both strengths and weaknesses, now show, according to their records, almost exclusively strength and excellence.

Colored Officers with Men

In the Hawaiian Islands, particularly at the many stations surrounding Pearl Harbor, thousands perform innumerable duties in the operations of the Naval air stations, Naval ammunition depots and the vast Naval supply depot.

Colored officers carry a large share of the administrative load at Manana Naval Barracks, where one is the first lieutenant and maintenance officer, another the commissary officer and still others doctors and dentists.

7-21-45

In addition, colored petty officers at many stations are carrying out duties in administration, military leadership and skilled specialities, such as work on aviation engines, communications and transfer of high explosives.

Trained with Whites

Yeoman handle office management duties, shorekeepers the vast quantities of supplies passing through to the fleet; gunner's mates supervise ammunition activities and machinist's mates keep mechanical devises in operation.

At Iroquois Point on the island of Oahu, others are being trained identically with white sailors for work with the many new logistic support companies being readied for duty in combat areas.

Among the most versatile organizations in service today, logistic support companies must be able to land with an assault echelon, establish their own field facilities, repel the enemy and move and operate many kinds of equipment.

Also Active on Ship

Moreover, they must be familiar with all kinds of weapons and gas and decontamination equipment, scouting and patrolling, hand-to-hand combat techniques, as well as the operation of their essential equipment.

Among those serving in the deck and engineering forces of auxiliaries are quartermasters or seamen who stand steersman watch, signal men who control the blinkers or flag-bag and the gunner's mates who ready the heavy guns for action.

In numerous radio "shacks," the hubs of radio communication aboard ship, can be found trained colored radiomen, earphones over their heads, concentrating on the messages comingin from far over the sea.

7-21-45

Unheralded but Important

While the activities of the units on Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas and at Guam are less dramatic, they are considered vital to the operation of the supply and ammunition depots and other operating bases in the area.

With American forces on Okinawa, nearing the end of the march to the heart of the Japanese empire, are several logistic support companies, incomplete reports of whose work already indicate good performance under difficult operational circumstances.

The signs of newness, the uncertainty of the recruit, have worn off, and many colored sailors, now seasoned, are taking their positions beside their white shipmates in the victory drive of American forces in the far Pacific.

56k-1945 Navy

Navy Beats Army In Wiping Out Race Rule Says Granger

Chicago Defender - Ill.

7-21-45

By VENICE SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON:—The Navy has outstripped the Army in wiping out racial discrimination, declared Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban league this week.

Granger' report came after a tour of 12 naval installations made at the request of Secretary of Navy Forrestall.

After talking to Negro officers and enlisted men in all branches of the naval service in regards to the Navy's alleged policy of non-discrimination, Granger said:

"The Navy's policy for integrating Negroes is so far ahead of the Army's that it's not even funny. The Navy is now doing things which the Army still insists would ruin morale."

Granger told a press conference here that the "Army is still trying to build two armies—one white and the other black—and that's insanity."

Report Violations

"In spite of not infrequent violations of their policy," Granger said, "it is evident that the Navy has made remarkable strides during the past two years toward complete equality of expression in the service."

He exalted the progress observed and said "it reflects great credit upon the integrity and intelligence of the Navy's leaders which should evoke a warm spirit of co-operation from the Negro and white public which is anxious to see our armed services more completely democratized."

On a basis of off-record talks with Negroes in the service away from official surveillance, Granger reached the following conclusions:

1. The Navy's policy of non-discrimination in all phases of the service is "admirable sound as officially set forth."

2. The policy is "honesty and intelligently administered" in the headquarters of all the naval districts visited.

3. More instances of "deviation from the letter of the policy" were found the further down in the ranks he went. This Granger said was to be expected, and emphasized the need for greater effective means of policing that policy so that failure to conform on the part of commissioned officers and petty officers alike may be detected. He said he felt that discipline for such violations should be meted out as easy as would be the case in any other serious breach of regulations.

List Gains

As an outgrowth of the policy pursued by the Navy, Granger was able to list the following specific gains for Negroes.

1. Admission of Negroes to all except two branches of the service. The two fields which still remain closed to Negroes are those of aviation pilots and combat posts on submarines. Two years ago Negroes were restricted to the Setwards branch.

2. Rating of Negroes in practically every category, and training of Negroes as commissioned officers. Previously Negroes, no matter what their training or qualifications, were barred from the rank of officer. Now a Negro can go as high as his ability can carry him. Granger said that on July 1, 1945, the first 12 Negroes commissioned as ensigns were all promoted to the rank of lieutenant (j.g.)

7-21-45

3. Negro personnel are now being assigned to auxiliary craft up to ten per cent of a ship's compliment. Previously Negroes had been confined to demonstration vessels.

4. Negro commissioned and petty officers are assigned to vessels to serve in their duties without regard to rank.

5. Racial segregation in mess and recreational facilities has been eliminated. However, Granger said that in general Negroes and whites still have separate barracks.

6 A beginning of assignment of Negro personnel to combat duties on warships. Prior to the new Navy policy, Negroes were generally restricted to shore duties performing the bulk of menial duties.

On Treasure Island

Commenting on the question of non-segregation in the navy, Granger said that while there had been some "squaking" over the policy, it was not serious and the general attitude of the men in the service was "we're in the navy together." He referred to his observations at Treasure Island where there were 5,000 white and Negro seamen. He said 800 Negroes there are living in tremendous barracks without any regard to color. "We found a white barber cutting a Negro's hair, which some say can't be done, but it is."

Speaking of the integration of Negroes at the Great Lakes naval training station, he said:

"The report of integration at Great Lakes is over simplified."

Amplifying his remarks he said, "Negroes in companies now on their way to graduation have not been broken up. White companies and Negro companies are in the same regiment, but in separate companies. There is no segregation in the schools."

Hits Red Cross

At Camp Robert Smalls Negroes and whites will be assigned to the same companies, Granger said, and no segregation will be considered. "There is no reason why it won't work," he asserted.

Asked if the Red Cross had anything to do with the navy's recreation program, Granger replied: "Thank God, no." This emphatic reply stemmed from the Red Cross' policy of providing separate Negro clubs overseas, long a bone of contention in many quarters here.

The National Urban League executive took time out to scotch rumors that he was quitting the league to accept a position in the navy. Granger stated: "Secretary Forrestal was kind enough to invite me to join the staff of the Navy several months ago. While I felt honored to receive the invitation, I was compelled to decline because of the heavy responsibilities I am now carrying."

Mutiny Convictions Unfair

Afro-American

In upholding the October, 1944, court martial conviction of 50 colored seamen charged with mutiny at Yerba Buena Island, Calif., the Navy Department is establishing, what we believe to be, a dangerous precedent.

The men had been charged with mutiny in August of that year for refusal to load ammunition at Port Chicago, Calif., where more than 300 of their number had been killed in an explosion the month before.

Already, the NAACP has made a request of Secretary of the Navy Forrestal for permission to file additional briefs and for the opportunity to present the case personally before him.

Baltimore, Md.

We urge Secretary Forrestal to set the verdict aside.

We urge such a course of action because there is no evidence of mutiny anywhere in the record. Mutiny, as we know it, involves insurrection, usually accompanied by physical violence on the part of subordinates in taking over constituted authority.

7-21-45

What the evidence did show was that the men, their minds still seared by the terrifying spectacle of having seen their mates blown to bits, were prompted by fear to disobey an order which, to them, was viewed as an invitation to a similar fate.

This seems a normal reaction in view of the facts. Fear is fundamental in all of us. The men used no violence, merely passive resistance to an order which they felt jeopardized their personal safety.

In addition, testimony revealed that two of the men ordered to work were suffering from the effects of broken arms at the time and another, weighing but 104 pounds, had a Navy doctor's certificate stating that he should not be given hard work.

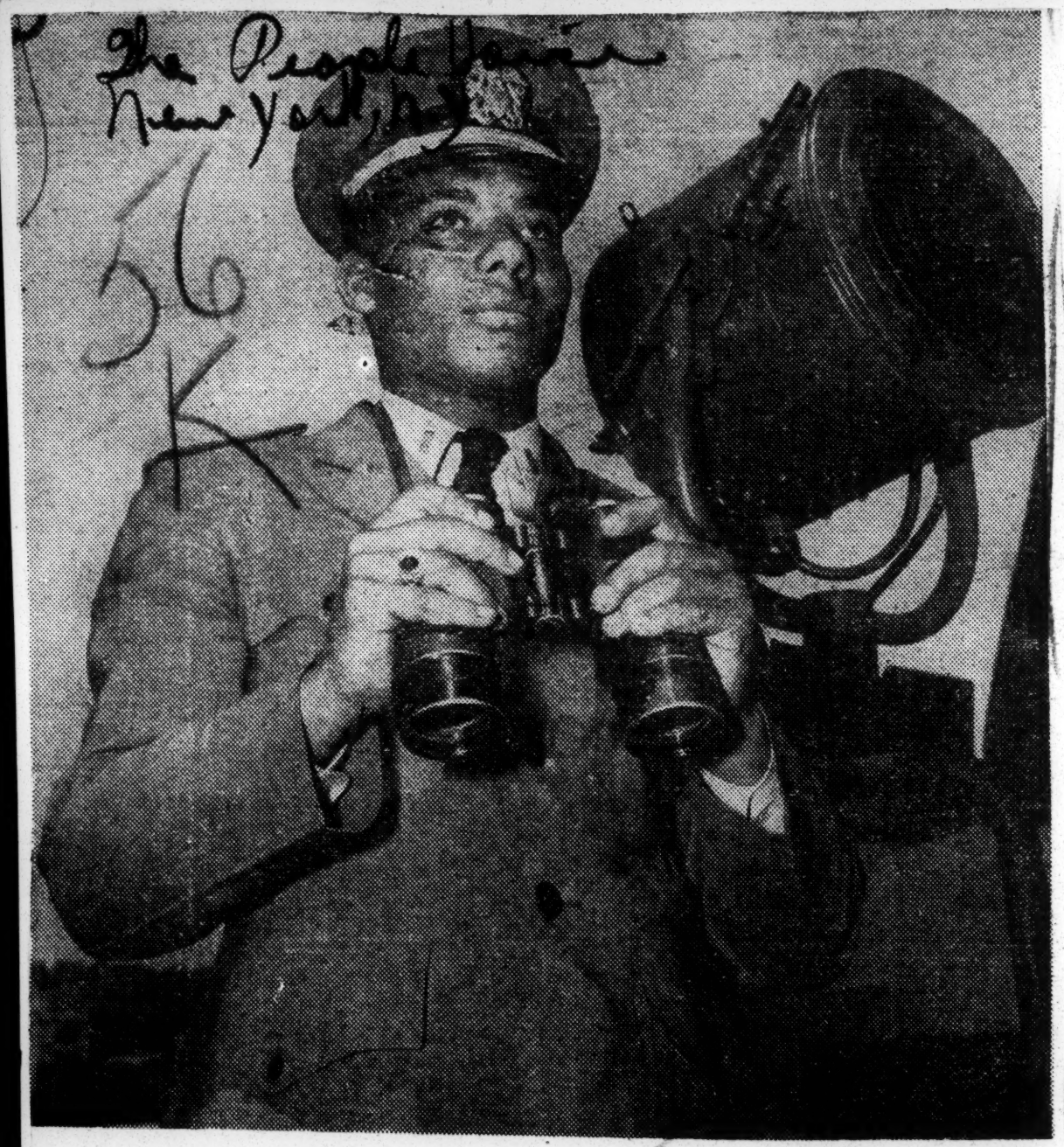
Here we have the largest mutiny trial in the history of the U.S. Navy and the first of its kind during the present war. This fact, plus the fact that all of the convicted men are colored, can only serve to discredit other colored seamen, casting an ugly reflection upon the patriotism and courage of an entire race.

We do not believe that Secretary Forrestal, in the light of the Navy's revised policy toward colored personnel, would want to have this blot remain upon the record. It is within his power to remove it.

Because of the lack of evidence to sustain a charge of mutiny and because there is still a degree of doubt even on the charge that the men refused to obey an order, we urge him to set the convictions aside.

The People's Voice New York, N.Y.

56



ANOTHER FIRST. Ensign Samuel L. Gravely jr, of Richmond, first Negro officer to be assigned to a fighting ship. He is first lieutenant on the subchaser USS PC-1264, the second naval vessel to be manned by a predominantly Negro crew. The first was the destroyer Mason.

Veteran Seaman Tells of Harrowing Experiences

Afro-American 8-4-45

Baltimore, Md.

By RICHARD R. DIER

NEW YORK—A veteran of 27 years at sea, Robert D. McKenzie, boatswain, has just returned to the Port of New York where, for the first time, he revealed his harrowing experiences in this war in an exclusive AFRO interview.

McKenzie, who served in both the British and American merchant marines, had his ships bombed, shelled and torpedoed, and even made the dreaded "suicide" run to Murmansk at the beginning of the war.

9 Ships in Convoy Sunk

It was during his trip to Murmansk that he witnessed the sinking of nine ships in his convoy.

Once, when his own vessel was torpedoed and lost, he took to a lifeboat and was at sea eight days before he was rescued.

He bitterly condemned the British merchant marine as being inferior to our own as far as working and living conditions are concerned.

In Service Since 1918

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, BWI, McKenzie served on American merchant ships from 1918 to 1930, on British ships from 1930 to 1939, and returned to our own merchant marine after Pearl Harbor.

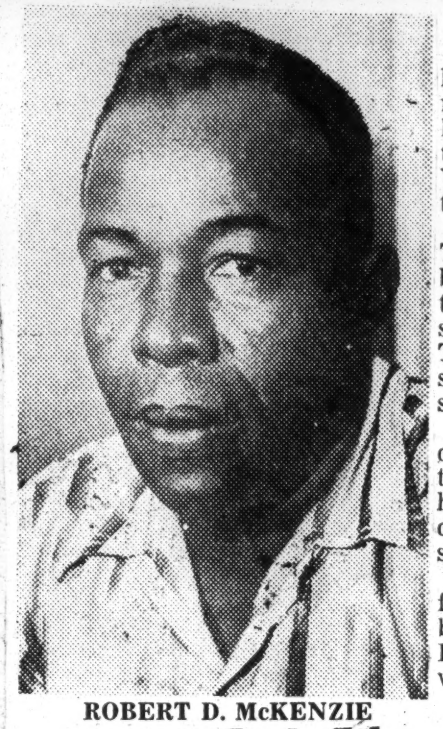
In 1939, he was on a British ship en route to England when war was declared with Germany. Of the 95 ships in the convoy, 25 were lost when attacked by the enemy, he said.

Ship Catches Fire

The day before they reached the English Channel, McKenzie's own vessel caught on fire.

"We fought off the fire until we reached Le Havre," he explained, and just when we reached port, we had an air raid. It was terrific.

"All the workers in the locks ran for cover, leaving our ship at the mercy of the enemy. Four planes came over and machine-gunned us. Luckily, nobody was injured." 8-4-45



ROBERT D. McKENZIE

Drifted for 8 Days

On another trip from England to Buenos Aires, his ship was torpedoed by an enemy sub and seven men in the crew were lost.

"We took to lifeboats and were at sea eight days in the North Atlantic before the British destroyer, HMS Antonio, picked us up," McKenzie said.

"On the day we were returned to England and got paid off for the voyage, 16 other men and I were trapped in a house for four hours during an air attack.

"That night, I took a train to Cardiff and came back to United States where I went into a hospital for treatment and a rest."

Right after Pearl Harbor, he began making voyages again, this time on American merchant ships. On a "suicide" voyage to Murmansk (this run was called suicide at the beginning of the war because of heavy enemy concentration around that area) he saw nine ships in his convoy sunk by enemy action.

6-Day Attack Recalled

"We had close misses on our own vessell from bombs and torpodes," the veteran seaman added. "The attack lasted for six days and was constant both from the air and from subs below the surface.

"Later, we ran into a heavy storm and our ship was almost broken in half. We got lost from the convoy, too, but were lucky to find our way into port."

McKenzie also participated in the D-Day invasion, his ship landing on the Normandy beachhead.

He was in the last American convoy out of New York to the Mediterranean. 8-4-45

One thing that impressed him most was the difference in conditions for merchant seamen on British and American ships.

Disliked British Food

"Food on British ships is bad," he said. "They give you a whole meal in one dish. One tin of milk has to last three weeks. We had to serve ourselves, no messman. We got plenty of food, but sometimes it was not eatable."

Crew quarters were just as bad. They slept 10 to 12 in a room. The bedding was burlap sack mattresses with straw in them, no sheets, no pillow cases, no towels. They received one bar of brown soap every three weeks, no face soap.

"No shower has ever been seen on a British merchant ship for the crew," McKenzie said, "All we had was a bucket and a scrub-down bath. We had to wash with salt water."

He believes that as a result of frequent complaints, things have begun to improve somewhat in the British merchant marine since the war.

Colored Diver Edits Paper on Navy Salvage

Philadelphia Tribune 8-4-45

NEW YORK—The recent appointment of Carl H. Crawford, 26, SF2-c, only colored Salvage Diver in the Navy, to write the Navy Salvage Paper, "Descending Line," has met with the approval of officers and men. 8-4-45

A graduate of the Darcy School of Journalism, Crawford has made two Naval inventions and written two books for Naval use. He was the first colored shipfitter working on th BB buildingways in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and the first Negro placed in a technical position by all-white enlisted men and officers to serve in an executve capacity.

Crawford participated in the Mediterranean salvage operations last winter.

56k-1945

Navy

DARING NEGRO SEAMEN AIDED IN SAVING AIRCRAFT CARRIER

Pittsburgh Courier 5-26-45

A new line of Navy heroes is added this week to the U. S. Navy's Roll of Honor . . . Beneath the names of Dorie Miller, Marion Green, Leonard Roy Harmon, William Pinckney, Joseph Cross and Charles W. David Jr. are written those of daring Negro seamen assigned to the United States Aircraft Carrier Franklin, the big ship that wouldn't sink after going through America's most terrible sea disaster in this war, just sixty miles off Japan.

Heroes of Big Ben were Steward's Mate Willie Cogman of 1912 South Chadwick Street, Philadelphia; Amos N. Shields, cook, S/C, 98 Whiteside Road, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Wesley Tumblin, Steward's Mate, 1/C, Kenner, Ala.; Reuben L. Patton, Steward's Mate, 1/C, Cecil, Ala., and Alvin G. Millen, Steward's Mate, 1/C, 31 Eighteenth Street, Birmingham, Ala.

Amos Shields

BELIEVE TWELVE MISSING

5-26-45

There may have been others, but their names have not been released. It is not known how many Negroes were on the giant carrier.

Among the unnamed heroes were at least a dozen Negroes, listed as casualties.

It happened on the morning of March 19, just an hour after dawn. A Japanese dive bomber swooped from a hanging cloud and dropped two 500-pound bombs on the Franklin, leaving a volcanic chaos of bursting bombs, flaming gasoline, exploding rockets and gun ammunition.

For fifteen hours in the bloody Pacific, Big Ben was a flaming funeral pyre. She left more than 1,000 casualties as the price of her survival. It was the heaviest price thus far paid by an American fighting ship in World War II. It was twice the cost of the entire battle of the Coral Sea.

LAUDS BRAVERY OF NEGRO CREW

Arriving in New York last week, Capt. Leslie E. Gehreas, skipper of the big carrier, repeatedly lauded the bravery displayed by Negro crew members in fighting fires and aiding in the evacuation of the wounded and injured.

Interviewed in New York City, Shields said he had just left his battle station, a 40-mm gun, and had started below decks for morning chow when the bombs hit. He was thrown against the bulkhead and for a moment thought he was trapped there by the fire and smoke. He finally found his way out and went to the hangar deck where the fire was a raging inferno. After doing what he could to help there he went to the flight deck where he worked for hours helping transfer wounded to the light cruiser, Santa Fe, which pulled along side the burning vessel during the hectic hours of disaster.

5-26-45

ONE OF LAST TO LEAVE

Shields, 20, was one of the last to be taken aboard the rescue vessel. The 20-year-old sailor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Shields. His father is an elder of the Church of God on Webster Avenue in Pittsburgh and his sister, Betty, is a lieutenant in the Woman's Army Corps.

Tumblin, another 20-year-old youngster, was knocked unconscious by the first explosion, but regained his senses in three or four minutes and then made his way to the flight deck, where he aided in fighting fires and evacuating the wounded. He has two brothers in the Army, Sam Jr. and Regis. Their father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Tumblin Sr., reside in Kenner, La.

Steward's Mate Millen, operator of a 40-mm gun, was on his way to chow from his station when he was struck senseless by the concussion of the bombs hits. "I quickly regained my bearings," he said, "and made my way to the forecastle."

Pittsburgh Courier 5-26-45

BIG BEN HERO...TELLS OF EXPLOITS—Steward's Mate Willie Cogman of Philadelphia, one of the heroes of the bombed U. S. Aircraft Carrier USS Franklin, tells his family how it felt to battle flames and death on the big vessel in the bloody Pacific. Pictured here with Cogman are his daughter Catherine, sister, Willa Mae Mitchell, and baby Erskine Lorenzo.—Lawson Photo.

BATTLES FLAMES

Later he made his way to the flight deck and battled flames and removed casualties to the Santa Fe. His wife, Ineel, and two children, Alvin Jr., and Morris Edward, reside in Birmingham.

Steward's Mate Patton, 36, was on duty in the officers' wardroom pantry when the Japanese bombs hit the big vessel. "I held onto a dish I was carrying," he said "and didn't spill a drop."

He spied a seaman outside the wardroom who had been overcome by smoke and rushed to his aid. He gave him water and helped him to his feet. He then made his way to the flight deck where he joined his mates in battling flames. Later he transferred two men from the carrier to the cruiser and finally was removed himself.

HEROES TO RECEIVE AWARDS

Steward's Mate Cogman gave his account to a reporter Saturday in Philadelphia. He was singled out by Lieut. Comdr. David Berger, assistant air officer of the carrier, for special commendation. Other heroes also were cited.

"It started early in the morning," Cogman said, "and it was time for breakfast. I had pust left the wardroom and was going into the pantry when the ship shuddered from a tremendous explosion. A ball of flame streaked across the room within six inches of my face.

"For sometime after that I don't know what happened. I was in a daze. Time had lost meaning, so I can't figure how long this period lasted. Next thing I remember I was wanderoug around below deck with great, thick billows of black smoke around me.

"Along with some other men, I made my way up to the deck. All around up there explosions were going off. Our own 50-calibre machine guns, rockets and bombs were blasting away, touched off by the roaring flames that seemed to be everywhere. Men were jumping off the boat, but I elected to be among those who remained.

"The most serious damage to the ship was done by one of our own shells that fell off the side and exploded, blasting a huge hole in the port side of the ship. We began to list terribly, and every man on that ship who knew a prayer said a silent one.

"For hours after that last explosion we drifted toward Japan.

DRAMATIZED ON RADIO

In a dramatic broadcast Saturday on the Columbia Broadcasting System, Negro seamen were given high praise for the part they played at sea on the Franklin.

The commander was hoarse from yelling "heave-ho" and, according to the radio program, a Negro messboy stepped up and said "I think I have a little voice left, commander. Maybe I can do a little yelling."

"Okay. You yell then. And thanks," whispered the commander.

5-26-45

And away yelled the messboy: "All right boys. Let's heave together now. Heave that rope . . . heave that rope."

Big Ben is back in her berth. Unrecognizably seared and battered and mangled, the proud ship will undergo repairs and then be put to sea again. More than likely, the Negro heroes will be with her when she slips out once more.

The men are proud of another thing . . . They shot down the Japanese plane that dropped the bombs.

When we were first attacked, we were only sixty miles from the Japanese mainland. When the Cruiser Santa Fe finally reached us and began to tow us in, we were just a little over fifty miles from Japan."

All that time the men had fought fire and dodged their own bombs without let-up. The ship was taken to Pearl Harbor and is now in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Every man who remained at his post on the ship received a special Navy Award on Monday of this week.

WITNESSED PREVIOUS ATTACK

5-26-45

Cogman has been in the Navy since October 14, 1943. Following his boot training at Bainbridge, Md., he was transferred to Rhode Island and was assigned to the USS Franklin on January 30, 1944.

He served on the Franklin for six months of sea duty until the great carrier was hit by a Japanese suicide plane on October 30, 1944. After repairs on the West Coast, he was again assigned to the ship. He has not suffered a scratch in either engagement.

Cogman attended the Rosenwald High School in Florida, where he lived for ten years before going to Philadelphia. He has a sister, Willa Mae Mitchell, and a daughter, Catherine.

Navy Lists Aides on Color Problem

Afro American 5-19-45

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal has appointed a departmental representative of the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, and the Navy itself to advise him on problems arising in connection with the recruitment training and assignment of colored personnel.

This committee, authorized in a circular letter dated April 30, and consisting of nine persons, was organized Monday, May 7, and met again last Friday afternoon to further its program of action. Assistant Navy Secretary Ralph Bard is expected to meet soon with the committee.

May Still Name Colored Aide

The idea of a colored civilian aide to the Secretary has not been completely abandoned, but such an appointment is unlikely until the departmental committee evolves a pattern of policy and work which might then be handled by the aide.

5-19-45

As one source explained, the group will attempt to "co-ordinate and unify the over-all policy for the various officers and bureas of the Navy Department."

Mr. Forrestal told the ANP last February that he favors the civilian aide idea but was anxious to "fit the man to the job." Lester Granger of the National Urban League recommended the committee idea last March, and appointment of a colored Assistant Navy Secretary.

NAVY HITS JIM CROW THEORIES

Chicago Defender 6-2-45

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Indicative of the efforts being made by the navy department to win wider recognition for Negroes in the service is the pamphlet now being distributed titled "Guide to Command of Negro Naval Personnel," it is learned.

Issued by the bureau of naval personnel, the pamphlet was released within the department on Feb. 12, 1944 over the signature of Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of the bureau.

Intended as an indoctrinator and guide to white officers, the pamphlet discusses the history of Negroes in the navy, "racial theories as a waste of manpower," and takes up ticklish questions such as segregation, promotions, utilization of skills, and sea duty.

Unequivocally it says "ultimate responsibility for working out solutions for specific questions must and does rest with local commanding officers."

"The Navy accepts no theories of racial differences in inborn ability, but expects that every man wearing its uniform be trained and used in accordance with his maximum individual capacity determined on the basis of individual performance," the document says at the outset. 6-2-45

Hit Jim Crow Signs

Poohpoohing the time-worn expression of "separate but equal facilities," the pamphlet makes this forthright statement on racial separation:

"The accomplishment of the assigned mission through the harmonious and efficient use of existing equipment and facilities should always be the objective of the commanding officer. Joint use of facilities is frequently possible and desirable, particularly where the ratio of Negro to white personnel is not high.

"Signs restricting the use of facilities to one or the other of the races are especially offensive to Negroes and under no circumstances should they be used in the naval establishment. . . . If the policy laid down by the commanding officer is impartial, fair, and reasonable, the men, white and Negro alike, are quick to realize it and to accept the situation providing it is clear that the policy will be enforced."

Pointing out the earlier initiation of assigning Negro seamen to sea duty on 25 auxiliary ships of the fleet up to 10 per cent of the general service complement of each ship, and in all ratings, the pamphlet concludes: "This procedure has produced no apparent ill effects and will be continued and expanded."

Not Even a War Can Separate Them

Afro-American

Richard (left) and Raymond Kaiser, 31-year-old identical twins of St. Louis, Mo., who have never been separated for more than a few days at a time. Entering the Navy late in 1942, both received their basic training at the Naval Air Primary Training Command at Kansas City, Kans., where they met and married, respectively, Misses Inez Yergan and Janet Walton. Both are now rated as stewards first class at the Naval Air Station, Glenview, Ill.

Negro Seamen At Navy Pier Radio School

Philadelphia Tribune 6-16-45

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Negro Bluejackets for the first time are attending the Navy's Radio School at Navy Pier, Chicago, Illinois.

The men, Marion Fleming, Radio Technician, third class, 366 Gillespie street, Fayetteville, N. C.; Ernest R. Smith, Seaman, first class, 1931 Second street, Washington, D. C.; Lewis W. Giles, Seaman first class, 4428 Hunt Place N. E., Washington, D. C.; and Robert A. Crowe, 2216 Massachusetts street, Gary, Indiana, in classrooms, chow halls, and sleeping quarters, have been completely integrated with the rest of the students.

At Navy Pier the men are taking the last of a series of three courses which will qualify them to repair and maintain the intricate radar, sonar, and radio equipment now found aboard Navy ships. They successfully completed Pre-Radio Training at Theodore Herzl School, Chicago, Ill., and Elementary Electricity and Radio Material at Radio Chicago, 190 North State street, Chicago, Ill.

Navy Denies Time's Story; "Home Ec" Not Required

Afro-American Md.

WASHINGTON

The Navy Department's public relations office this week denied a story appearing in Time magazine to the effect that a colored applicant for the aerological branch at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station had been turned down because he hadn't studied "home economics." 2-3-45

Under the heading, "Struck Out," Time's story said:

"At Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, a colored seaman found out that color was a bar to advancement, no matter what the books said.

"The station's daily bulletin had announced a call for 'strickers' (person seeking higher rating) in the aerological branch. The requisite: a high school education. A dozen bluejackets applied for admittance to the aerological school. The colored seaman's interview with the personnel officer went like this:

College Graduate

"Personnel Officer: 'Have you had physics?' (Recommended but not required.) The bluejacket had.

"P.O.: 'Have you ever had any calculus?' (Not required.) He had.

"P.O.: 'How much schooling have you had?' He had a college degree. 2-3-45

"P.O.: 'Have you had home economics?' The applicant had to admit that he had not.

"Said the P.O. 'Well, I'm sorry, but that's required here. Rejected.' End of interview."

Says Time Ered

"It was a mistake on the part of Time," Lt. Commander John E. Conley told the AFRO.

"Already the manager of Time's news bureau here has been around to apologize. There is no record of any such incident."

NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUN
Circ. D. 277,172
JUL 3 - 1945

Drop Race Barriers In Navy Training

Great Lakes, Ill., July 3 (A. P.).—Segregation of Negro naval recruits from white personnel in the naval special training program has been discontinued in execution of the Navy's policy of non-discrimination among all personnel, officials of the Ninth Naval District said yesterday.

Induction centers have been directed by the Bureau of Naval Personnel to assign Negroes, except illiterates, to the nearest recruit training command on the same basis as white personnel. Training commands were directed to assign Negro and white recruits to the same companies and make barracks, recreation halls and other training center facilities available to all personnel alike.

CHICAGO, ILL.
SUN
Circ. D. 291,564 - S. 407,050
JUL 4 - 1945

'Jim Crow' Torpedoed Again

STEADILY since the spring of 1942, when the Navy for the first time opened all ratings to Negroes, Uncle Sam's sea forces have removed barrier after barrier to equality. Each step benefited the service. Each augured well for the future of a functioning democracy. Although barriers still remain, another stride for democracy has just been taken at Great Lakes. That station was the first to receive Negro recruits. It has trained the great majority of them to date. But they were segregated in a special camp and in training programs. Now the Bureau of Naval Personnel has ended that segregation. Induction centers will assign Negroes to recruit training on the same basis as whites. Both will be assigned to the same companies. The same living quarters, recreation halls and other facilities will be available to all. This eradication of "Jim Crow barracks" is a truly American action.

56k-1945

Navy

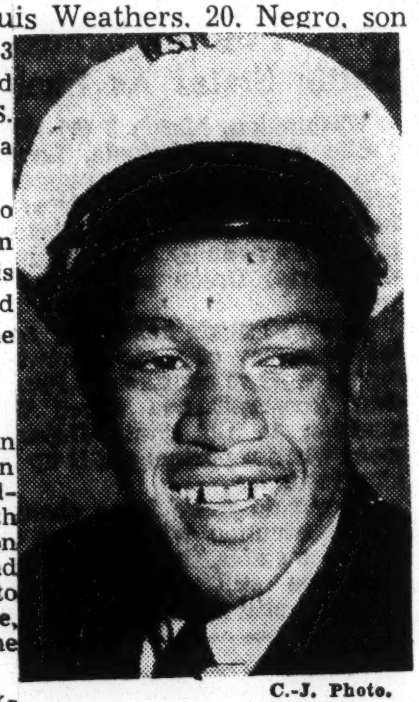
Turkey Dinner Awaited Men Adrift At Sea 3 Days

Courier-Journal, Louisville

By DOROTHY ROSE.

What do men talk about when they've been drifting at sea for three days and three nights with no food and no water and very little hope?

"You don't say anything much—it's better that way," says Petty Officer John Louis Weathers, 20, Negro, son of Mrs. Margaret Weathers, 1613 Prentice, one of 13 who survived the recent sinking of the U.S.S. Hull in the south Pacific after a tropical typhoon.



C.-J. Photo.

PETTY OFFICER WEATHERS. Survived tropical typhoon.

Petty Officer Weathers, who was minus his life jacket when the ship went down, made his way to a raft with 12 others and clung on for dear life, in the most literal sense of the phrase.

Removed to Hospital Ship.

The third day most of the men were delirious but until then spirits were pretty high, according to Weathers, and on the fourth day the U.S.S. Brown arrived on the scene to pick them up and transport them, four days later, to the hospital ship U.S.S. Solace, approximately 13 miles from the Philippines. 3-4-45

The men, still weak from exposure, were taken aboard the Solace, and no turkey dinner ever tasted better than that that which was served aboard ship that evening while the band from a cruiser stationed near by, played seasonal music.

The final homecoming was still happier. Passed from ship to ship until he was finally put aboard a merchant marine vessel, Petty Officer Weathers reached the States February 18, and arrived in Louisville one week later.

Wanted Lots of Milk.

3-4-45

Contrary to popular belief, it wasn't a chicken dinner he wanted that first day back home—it was just milk—and lots of it.

Weathers, a steward in charge of officers' menus aboard the Hull, had been on overseas combat duty 18 months and in the Navy almost two years.

He reports to the Navy recruiting Station in Louisville on March 28 for reassignment, and is looking forward to a return to sea duty. But no more sinkings, please.

ATTY. BANKS FREES FOUR SEAMEN CHARGED WITH STRIKING OFFICER

The Guardian

Three colored sailors and a marine stand freed this week of Naval criminal charges which might have cost them their lives although two of them were convicted on charges lighter than the original charges. 4-28-45

Credit for the investigation and other legal victory in the cases goes to Walter J. Stevens, former New York State investigator, and Atty. Laurence H Banks to whom the cases had been given to try, without a fee by the NAACP. The four defendants were Henry Buffington, Jr. U. S. Marine Corps of Chicago William Chase, Brooklyn, N. Y.; James E. Bryan, New Bern, N. C and Walter Williams of California. 4-28-45

More than three weeks ago it was learned that the four men had been brutally beaten by guards at the Portsmouth Naval Prison and charged with disorder, striking another man in the Navy and striking a superior officer. 4-28-45

Before four courts-martial lasting 2 1-2 weeks, Banks beat down the efforts to paint the four men as bad characters, and in examining witnesses presented by the prosecution, he brought out the true facts in the cases.

Buffington was freed of the serious charges but found guilty of disorderly conduct; Chase was cleared of all charges; Bryan was likewise cleared; Williams was found guilty of striking another man in the navy, but not guilty of disorderly conduct and not guilty of striking an officer.

Portsmouth, N. H. Lined up one day having their shackles removed the men engaged in horseplay. A guard ordered them to stop, and followed his order with a blow of his club. The struck men put his arms around the guard to avoid additional blows. The guard dropped his club and blew the "riot" whistle. Scores of marines rushed in with drawn guns and slinging clubs. This continued until many men were bleeding on the floor. The men were then locked in their cells.

Late that night a dozen armed marines came in and removed the "smart n----rs." They were taken to a basement room and beaten until the skull of at least one of the men was shattered. Stevens states that three metal clamps had to be used to hold it together, in order that the man would not bleed to death. 5-15-45

COUNSEL AT TRIAL

After several days of intensive work Banks and Stevens represented the men at the trial. Charges were lodged against Henry Buffington, James E. Bryan, William Chase and Walter C. Williams, Jr. They were charged with striking one Frank Prusinewski, sentry, and William Garvin, sergeant, and with generally disorderly conduct. Banks succeeded in discounting the prosecution's attempts to prove the four men bad characters, and the true facts in the case developed.

Buffington was found guilty of disorderly conduct and freed of the other charges; Chase was cleared of all charges; Bryan was also freed. Williams was found guilty of striking another man, but not guilty on the other charges.

In the meantime it is understood that a federal investigation has been sought by Congressman Adam Powell and the National NAACP office. It is believed that Attys. Banks and Stevens have sufficient material on which to base a demand for a full investigation of conditions at the prison by the federal government.

Victims Of Naval Prison Brutalities Get Freedom

Memphis World 5-15-45

BOSTON — (ANP) — This week four Negro sailors have been freed of naval criminal charges which might have cost them their lives, and two have been convicted on charges far less than were originally lodged against them. The sailors were facing charges for striking a sentry and an officer. 5-15-45

The case background commences in January and according to Laurence Banks, Boston attorney, and Walter J. Stevens, former special investigator attacked to the New York state law department, the facts are that the four Negro boys were among the several hundred confined to the naval prison at

Navy Graduates Two Torpedo Men

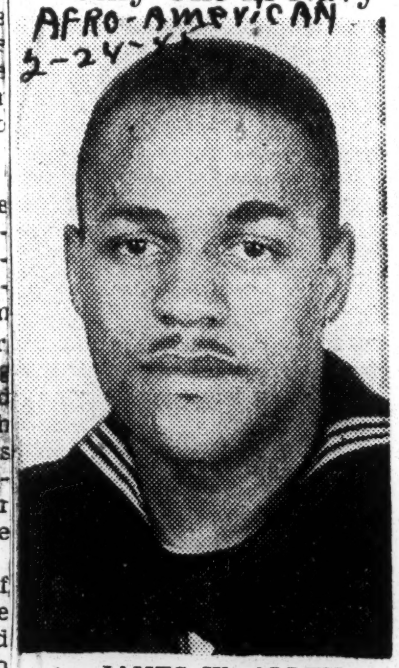
AFRO-AMERICAN 2-17-45 Md.

GREAT LAKES, ILL. (ANP)—The first colored torpedo men to be trained by the United States navy were graduated here last week and given certificates. They were James P. Johnson of Seattle, Wash., and Jasper T. Bolden of Massachusetts. 2-17-45

Johnson, nephew of Phil. A. Jones, first general manager of the Chicago Defender, is a graduate of the University of Washington School of Forestry Bolden is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Both expected to leave for additional training immediately after graduation.

Only One in Navy

AFRO-AMERICAN 2-24-45



2-24-45 JAMES W. ALLEN, the only aerographer's mate in the Navy, who is now stationed at the Naval Air Station, Atlantic City. Allen, who was inducted on July 14, 1943, was given his third class rating on June 1, 1944.

Bostonian Named Naval Engineer

AFRO-AMERICAN 2-17-45 Md.

BOSTON. — James D. Taylor, local architect, has been appointed cartographic engineer assigned to the Naval Hydrographic Office at Washington. Mr. Taylor was formerly with the U.S. Engineers at Fort Banks, dean of mechanical arts at Florida A. and M. College, and remedial and co-operative teacher in the local public schools.

He was educated at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Morgan State College, and did graduate work at Boston University.

Hero of SS Franklin Catastrophe Local Man

Philadelphia Tribune

By Julia Bryant Morris.

5-26-45

Battle-scared, bedraggled, and a wraith of her former self with a casualty list of 341 dead, 431 missing, and 300 wounded. the powerful aircraft carrier Franklin limped into her berth in the Brooklyn Navy Yard a few days ago.

The 27,000-ton Essex Class aircraft carrier is home because of the heroic deeds of a Philadelphia Steward's Mate, Willie Cogman who, in the course of the dramatic emergency, performed the difficult tasks that made possible the ship's return.

Operating just 66 miles off the coast of Japan on the morning of March 19, the Franklin was attacked without warning by a Japanese dive-bomber and within a few seconds was a mass of flames, smoke, and debris. Men were hurdled into the sea, burned beyond recognition, trapped below deck; en-

WILLIE COGMAN

5-26-45

gins sputtered, guns collapsed planes burst into flame, an railings split. 5-26-45

The captain ignored "aban don ship" order and Cogman who remained aboard, was in strumental in rigging the shi so that by the following after noon, the Franklin was ready t take in tow by the cruise Pittsburgh while a security pa trol of fighter planes constan ly circled overhead.

Cogman, whose family resides at 1412 south Chadwick street, was born in Quincy, Florida, and came to Philadelphia during the early part of 1943. Before his induction he was employed at the Frank's Soda Manufacturing Company.

For his heroic deeds, Cogman is scheduled to receive a Navy award.

MULZAC SCHOOL NOW HAS FIRST RACE GRADUATE

Northwest Herald Seattle, Wash.

2-20-45

CHICAGO.—The first graduate of the "Mulzac School of Seamanship" which Captain Hugh Mulzac conducted on the Liberty Ship SS Booker T. Washington, is Captain Clifton Lastic, fourth Negro to be named skipper on an American merchant ship during this war. The story of Captain Lastic, who quit his job as chief mate on a New York municipal tanker to join Mulzac's crew, then later to win a ship himself, the SS Bert Williams, is told by Thyra Edwards in Negro Digest for February.

81 Negroes Were Aboard Franklin

Journal and Guide

6-23-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Navy Department disclosed this week that two colored sailors were killed, one wounded, and that another is missing, as a result of the Japanese dive-bomber attack on the aircraft carrier, USS Franklin, 60 miles off the Japanese mainland on March 19.

The Navy also released at the same time the full list of 81 Negro crew members who survived the attack.

The two Negro sailors, who lost their lives during the epic battle, were Charles I. Ashhurst steward's mate, 1st class, whose mother, Mrs. Beatrice Ashurst, lives at 1426 New Orleans street, Fort Worth, Texas; and Harvard McDonald, steward's mate, 1st class, whose wife, Mrs. Mae F. McDonald, lives in Ridgeway, S. C.

JACKSON MISSING

Missing after the battle was Thomas Jackson, steward's mate, 1st class. This sailor's wife lives at 1931 McCulloh street, Baltimore, Md. The wounded sailor was Floyd L. Gammage, steward's mate, 1st class, whose mother, Mrs. Threacy A. Rakestraw, lives on Route 1 near Streetman, Texas.

After a complete check of the FRANKLIN'S records, the Navy Department listed 81 Negroes as members of the ship's crew at the time of the battle. These men, and their next of kin, are:

SURVIVORS 6-23-45

Joseph Adams, StM1c; Mrs. Lille Chapman, mother, Route 2, Box 222, Tunica, Miss.

Willie W. Anderson, STM2c; Mrs. Lucille Anderson, wife, 2305 Dearborn street, McComb, Miss.

Willie B. Anderson Jr., StM2c; Mrs. Beulah Lee Gill, mother, 505 Denwiddie street, McComb, Miss.

Robert H. Bacon Sr., StM2c; Mrs. Fannie Cobb Bacon, wife, [illegible] Berry street, Athens, Ga.

Fred M. Baker, StM1c; Mrs. Otancia Baker, mother, 1278 Union avenue, Bronx, N. Y.

Albert Bartley, StM2c; Mrs. Martha Bartley, wife, 3503 West Warren street, Detroit, Mich.

Ulysses Boulton, StM2c; Mrs. Martelier Boulton, mother, Tutwiler, Miss.

Floyd Brooks, StM2c; Wade Brooks, father, 119 Pettigrew street, Wilson, N. C.

Arthur E. Brown, StM2c; Mrs. Elnora Brown, wife, Route 1, Golts, Md.

Don G. Brown, StM1c; Miss Mary Katherine Brown, sister, 1346 Wallace Place, Washington, D. C.

Leroy Brown, StM1c; Mrs. Fannie Lee Brown, wife, Route 1, Box 112, De Funiak Sprinks, Fla.

Lewis Brown, StM1c; Will Brown, father, Route 1, Box 9-A, Evergreen, Ala.

David A. Bruce, StM1c; Micleta Bruce, relationship not listed, Hainsport road, and Mooreston road, Burlington, N. J.

Albert Burton Jr., StM2c, Albert Burton Sr., father, Pearlington, Miss.

Gabriel E. Campbell, StM1c; Mrs. Cora Campbell, mother, Route 1, Yantley, Ala.

Walter A. Clement, StM1c; Mrs. Bertha Clements, wife, 1746 Corcoran street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Leon Clowney, StM1c; Herbert Clowney, father, RFD No. 1, Box 115, Spartanburg, S. C.

James Cobb, StM1c; Mrs. Lizzie B. Cobb, Laurel Hill, La.

Thomas Coffie Jr., StM1c; Mrs. Lawn Coffie, wife, Route 1, Box 194, Fayette, Miss.

Willie L. Cogman, StM1c; Mrs. Arlether Cogman, divorced wife, 1412 South Chadwick street, Philadelphia, Pa.

C. H. Craig, StM1c; T. G. Craig, father, Route 3, Box 150, Westminister, S. C.

L. C. Crims, StM1c, Mrs. Lizzie Crims Halsee, mother, general delivery, Halsell, Ala.

Leoza Culberson, StM1c; Mrs. Ina Mae Culberson, wife, Noxapater, Miss.

R. E. Davis, StM2c; Mrs. Julia Wilson, mother, Box 44, Prichard, Miss.

Jeff Dennis, StM2c; Mrs. Martha Dennis, mother, 675 Louisiana street, Memphis, Tenn.

Leslie J. Dicketson, StM1c; Mrs. Pheobe Green, grandmother, Route 1, Box 95, Daphne, Ala.

Henderson Field Jr., StM1c; Mrs. Claudie M. Fields, mother, general delivery, Stockton, Ala.

Edward Francis, StM1c; William Francis, father, Route 2, Grand Bay, Ala.

Thomas J. Frasure, StM1c; Mrs. Matilda Frasure, wife, Route 1, Box 36-D, Pine Bluff, Ark.

Howard Gibson, StM1c, Phillip Gibson, father, Route 1, Flat Shoals road, Decatur, Ga.

William L. Gillespie, StM2c, Espie Gillespie, father, 1322 W. Marsh street, Salisbury, N. C.

Sylvester Glossom, StM1c; Mrs. Clytee Glossom, wife, Inverness, Miss.

Eugene M. Grant, StM2c; Mrs. Nancy Adam Grant, mother, Seneca, S. C.

William T. Gregory, StM1c; Mrs. Sarah Wilson Gregory, wife, 2307 Reservoir street, Norfolk, Va.

Edward A. Grier, StM1c; Joe Nathan Grier, father, 413 Berkele street, S. W., Atlanta, Ga.

Arthur V. Hargrave, StM1c; Mrs. Jeannette Partee Boozer, mother, 528 S. Caldwell street, Salisbury, N. C.

Leonard Hollinger, StM1c; Homer Hollinger, father, 7274 Santiago street, Penn Township, Pittsburgh 6 Pa.

Arthur L. Howard, StM1c; Mrs. Ida Verrick Howard, mother, 222 Jefferson avenue, DeRidder, La.

Raymond J. Jackson, StM1c; Francis Jackson, father, Wilmington, Va.

Evis Jennings, StM1c; Zollie Jennings, father, Route 1, Chunky, Miss.

Simon Jenkins, StM2c; Mrs. Geneva Jenkins, wife, Rosedale, Miss.

John D. Johnson, StM1c; Mrs. Minnie Johnson, wife, Route 5, Box 91, Water Valley, Miss.

Harold O. Jones, StM1c; Mrs. Nell Anderson Jones, mother, Box 90 RFD No. 6, Roanoke, Va.

Harry L. Jones, StM1c; Mrs. Marie Knowles Jones, mother, 809 Grove street, Sarasota, Fla.

Matthew M. Little, StM1c; Hallie Little, father, RFD No. 1, Starr, S. C.

Otis Livingston, StM2c; Mrs. Daisy Livingston, wife, 109 Taft street, Greenwood, Miss.

Leon Marks, StM2c; Mrs. Pearlie V. Frye, mother, 2814 Thomas street, St. Louis, Mo.

James L. Mason, StM2c; Elliath Mason, father, Taylors, S. C.

William E. Matthews, StM1c; Mrs. Veoria Matthews, wife, 808 D street, S. W., Washington, D. C.

Willie McCrary, StM2c; Nettie M. McCrary, father, 1708 Ira street, S. W., Atlanta, Ga.

James McGill, StM2c; Mrs. Pinkey McGill, mother, Rodney, Miss.

Major McMillian, StM2c; Mrs. Estella McMillian, wife, Route 2, Box 134, Clarksdale, Miss.

William Medley, StM1c; Mrs. Jennie J. Medley, grandmother, Route 1, Box 69, South Boston, Va.

6-23-45

Alvin G. Millen Sr., StM1c; Mrs. Inell E. Millen, wife, 7916 Pleasant Hill road, Ensley, Pa.

Leo J. Miller, StM2c; Mrs. Mary L. Miller, wife, 723 Silver street, Alton, Ill.

Harry B. Mills, StM1c; Mrs. Mary Howard Mills, wife, 4448 S. Calumet avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Sam Miller, StM1c; John L. Miller, son, Louisville, Ky.; also, Adam Miller, father, Route 1, Box 45, Stanton, Tenn.

Machel Monley, StM2c; Jesse Monley, father, Route 4, Box 94, Summit, Miss.

James E. Morton, StM1c; Mrs. Indiana Morton, wife, RFD No. 2, Coatesville, Pa.

John L. Parrish, StM1c; Mrs. Lula T. Parrish, wife, 827 Fifth street, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Reuben L. Patton, StM1c; Mrs. Saint Osa C. Patton, wife, general delivery, Cecil, Ala.

Ernest Pearson, StM2c; Mrs. Mamie Patton, wife, general delivery, Madison, Fla.

Harold L. Powell, StM1c; Mrs. Mamie Powell, mother, 1308 North Recust street, Mt. Vernon, Ind.

William M. Reese, StM1c; Jack Reese, father, Route 1, Box 28, Tatum, Texas. 6-23-45

Robert T. Rhodes, StM2c; Mrs. Pauline G. Rhodes, wife, RFD No. 2, Greenwood Lane, Godfrey, Ill.

Dudley E. Shaw, StM2c; Mrs. Emma Jackson Shaw, wife, 3750 South Federal street, Chicago, Ill.

Amos N. Shields, StM1c; Walter R. Shields, father, 98 Whiteside road, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Charlie D. Shields, StM1c; Mrs. Lizzie S. Shields, mother, 144 Love street, S. E., Atlanta, Ga.

Arvine Smith, St2c; Mrs. Mattie Smith, mother, general delivery, Atlanta, Texas.

56k-1945

Four West Indian Ship Masters

Afro-American

Recent appointment of Captain Clifton Lastic to the command of the SS Bert Williams brings the number of Liberty ship masters to four.

Others are Captain John Godfrey, of the SS John H. Murphy, Captain Hugh Mulzac of the SS Booker T. Washington, and Captain Adrian Richardson of the SS Frederick Douglass.

1-16-45

All four are naturalized West Indians of whom we have a right to be exceedingly proud.

History repeats itself. When the Ark and the Dove set out from England to establish a colony in Maryland, it stopped in the West Indies in 1635 to pick up one Matthias Tousa, a mulatto, as a navigator, to bring the ships safely to the mainland and subsequently to do their trading with the Indians.

History and the early records of Maryland show Captain Tousa did a good job with both assignments.

West Indians have been expert seamen for centuries. Is it any wonder that in the emergency expansion of our merchant fleet we can turn to them again for men to command our ships?

Navy

Graduates from Great Lakes Service Schools

Afro-American 1-6-45

Graduates of the Aviation Metalsmith and Radiomen Service Schools at the U.S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, Ill., who will soon be assigned to duty. Radiomen transmit and receive messages between ships or between a ship and a shore activity, while the aviation metalsmiths are usually billetted aboard an aircraft carrier, repair ship, or at a Naval base assisting in the maintenance of aircraft. All seamen, first class, they are, front row, left to right: James A. Lawrence, NYC; Norris Trent, Detroit; James N. Gregory, Detroit; William H. Alston, Baltimore; Ernest D. Davis, Jr., Philadelphia; Frank B. Fernandes, Cape Cod, Mass.; Clarence L. Young, Jr., Baltimore; William F. Smith, NYC; second row, Grandison McGee, Columbus, Ohio; Eddie Hardy, Birmingham; Lewis Varick, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Charles Boswell, NYC; Garrison Robinson, Hershey, Pa.; Walter P. Reed, Washington; Howard D. Rainey, Cleveland, Ohio; Alvin M. Evans, Washington; William W. Holland, Philadelphia; Alphonse Williams, Princeton, N.J.; Morton W. Richardson, Camden, N.J.; Gerald Jones. Salem. Mass., and Jesse Smith, Philadelphia

Medic at Great Lakes

Afro-American

LT. (jg) ULYSSES S. WHARTON of Washington, Navy medical officer, who reported for duty last week at the U.S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes. Dr. Wharton is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the Howard University Medical School. He has been assigned to the dispensaries in Camps Lawrence and Robert Smalls.

New York Age

REPORTS FOR DUTY — Ensign Kenneth A. Robinson, who is a graduate of Alfred University, has reported for duty at the U. S. Naval Training Center, at Great Lakes, Ill. His former rank was Chief Petty Officer, assigned to the Third Naval District.

1-6-45

Mixed Coast Guard Crew Is A Success

Atlanta World 4-28-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (NNPA —Lt. Carlton Skinner, former secretary of the Washington Newspaper Guild, is responsible for an experiment in the Coast Guard to combat racial discrimination at sea, according to an article appearing last week in the Guild Reporter.

Skinner, according to the article got permission from Admiral Waesche to take a mixed crew of Negro and white men and officers on a tour of duty to determine whether abandonment of the segregation policy would work out in actual operation.

4-28-45

GETS HIGH RATING

Commander Skinner took out a mixed crew with the Atlantic fleet on the Sea Cloud, a weather patrol ship. At the end of a year, his ship got a grade AA rating on every operation.

As a result of Skinner's experiment, the Guild Reporter says, the Coast Guard has concluded the experiment was a success and that the team work was first rate. The report was publicized by Drew Pearson in his syndicated column.

The Coast Guard reports the Sea Cloud's duty was unusually rough, and that the ship made every patrol on schedule. The report also stated that Negro members of the crew were like members of any other crew.

LIKE OTHER MEN

"It would be nice to be able to say that she was an outstanding ship and that the Negro members of the crew were all bursting with energy and could be seen at all hours of the day and night wiping and cleaning and studying," the report said.

4-28-45

"Actually, it wasn't so," the report concluded. "The Negroes were just like any other group of officers and enlisted men. Some were bright and quick and some were slow and lazy. Some wanted to advance and be promoted. Some didn't give a damn and wanted to turn in their sacks all the time."

Navy Eases Up On Negro Personnel

Courier-Journal

Washington, April 27 (AP)—The Navy today relaxed further its restrictions on sea assignments of Negro personnel.

4-28-45

A circular letter from Vice-Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of the Bureau of Personnel, said Negro personnel of all general service ratings now are eligible for duty on board all auxiliary vessels of the fleet, up to 10 per cent of the vessels' total personnel.

Navy Relaxes Rulings On Negro Personnel

Birmingham Age Post

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Navy Friday relaxed further its restrictions on sea assignments of Negro personnel.

4-27-45

A circular letter from V. Adm. Randall Jacobs, chief of the Bureau of Personnel, said Negro personnel of all general service ratings now are eligible for duty on board all auxiliary vessels of the fleet up to 10 per cent of the vessels' total personnel.

4-27-45

Negroes first were assigned to 25 auxiliary vessels last August. The latest move broadens the plan to apply to all auxiliaries.

There are approximately 160,000 Negro officers and enlisted men in the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

Four Negroes Command Ships

Pittsburgh Courier 1-13-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—Four Negroes are now in command of Liberty ships, according to the War Shipping Administration, with the appointment of Capt. Clifton Lastic to the command of the new Liberty ship SS Bert Williams. Captain Lastic is now somewhere at sea on the maiden voyage of his ship.

NAVY ACTS TOO

New York Age 1-13-45

ALMOST at the same time that the War Department was cleaning up the WAC court-martial "mess", the Secretary of the Navy announced his approval of the decision of the Navy Department's Board of Review that the discharges of 14 or 15 Negro seabees who were discharged by the commanding officer of the 80th Naval Construction Battalion for either unfitness or inaptitude. These men were sent from an advanced base at which this battalion was stationed to the receiving station in New York, where their discharges were effected.

Shortly after the enactment of the Service-men's Re-adjustment Act of 1944, which has

"undesirable discharges" or "ordinary discharges" or "unfitness" or "inaptitude" be changed to discharges of "under honorable conditions."

4-7-45

In October, 1943, some 19 Negro seabees were discharged with unsatisfactory conditions by reason of Dec. by reason of

a provision therein that discharged men could have their discharges reviewed, the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces demanded a hearing for the men. Attorneys representing the men were: Arthur Garfield Hayes, of New York City, acting for the American Civil Liberties Union and the Lynn Committee; Gerald Weatherly, of the Texas bar and of New York City, acting for the same two committees; Thurgood Marshall, of New York City, special counsel for the Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., of the NAACP; Herbert J. DeVarco, of the American Civil Liberties Union; Nat Klein, of the National CIO War Relief Committee, of New York City. 4-14-45

Of the 15 ex-seabees requesting a review, Clarence O. Clarke, Isaac Glenn McNatt, Robert L. Mims and Harvey Steele, appeared personally to give testimony. The cases of the remaining 11 ex-seabees were reviewed on available records in the Navy Department, documents submitted by the individual petitions and their counsels and on the testimony presented at the hearing.

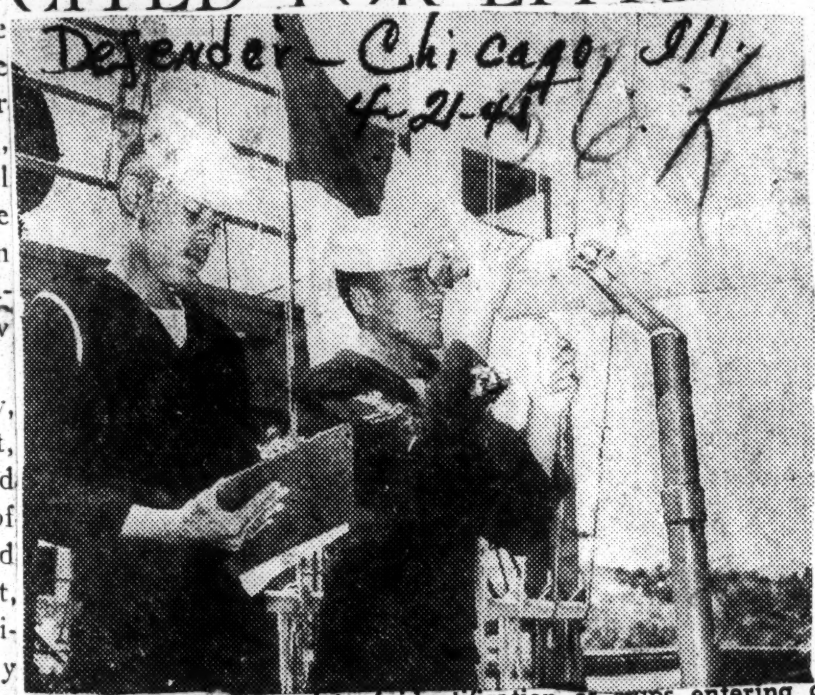
The story behind the discharges is almost incredible. The seabees had been building an airport in Trinidad and had been jim crowed in many ways including promotions. No Negro seabee — and there were Ph.D.s and skilled machinists among them — could get a first-class rating; whites with far inferior qualifications rose easily in the ranks. There was so much grumbling among the men that the commanding officer called a meeting at which he requested a number of the men to come forward and tell their grievances as "man to man." The seabees stated their complaints and got expressions of sympathy from the commanding officer. A few days later, however, 19 of them were shipped back to the New York receiving station and given discharges which branded them.

Some time later the Lynn Committee took up their case and it has now been fought to a successful conclusion. Encouraged by the victory, the committee, through Wilfred H. Kerr, co-chairman, has issued the following statement: 4-14-45

"Our success in this case only confirms our opinion that militant struggle and publicity will bring results even in the teeth of military bureaucracy. We intend to carry on and redouble our efforts to abolish segregation in the Army and Navy, for we believe that segregation is the evil source from which all discrimination flows. We will continue to fight as many such cases of discrimination as come to our attention."

SAN DIEGO BLUEJACKET SIGNALMEN CITED FOR EFFICIENCY

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 4-21-45 L&K



The unit's duties consist of identification of ships entering or leaving the harbor, transmission of messages, maintenance of aircraft lookout and the making and repair of signal flags. QM 2-c Louis Harry of East Providence, R. I., reads a message through the signalman's telescope as Seaman 1-c Moses Taylor of Baton Rouge, La., takes down his observations.

Negro bluejackets manning the lookout station at the U. S. Naval Frontier base at San Diego, Calif., were recently commended by an admiral and a commodore for the efficient way in which they perform signalman duties. Signalman 3-c Thomas Cunningham of Richmond, Va., demonstrates their technique with a "V" flag signal while Seaman 1-c Lawrence Grimes of Detroit records the message.

The majority of the lookout station personnel consists of men who have seen overseas duty and so well have they carried out assignments that they have been ordered by several high-ranking naval officers to make flags for their ships. Signalman 3-c Karl Long of Cleveland sends a searchlight message and Seaman 1-c Manuel R. Justin of New Orleans makes a record of the procedure.—U. S. Navy photos.

56k-1945

Navy- Submarine Crews

Skilled Race Crews Handle Deadliest 'Fish' In Ocean

Atlanta World — Ga. 3-8-45

Feed Mighty Torpedoes Into Our Submarines

OAHY, T. H. — The deadliest "fish" in the ocean is entrusted to the care of skilled Negro crews at a naval ammunition depot on this island in the Pacific.

The mighty torpedo feeds on big game, such as enemy warships, and require skill and delicacy in handling during its travels by land and sea to its short career in the water. To qualify for this work takes time, training and practice, but the men at this station are no novices. Most of them have worked with ammunition for along time and were trained in it before coming here. 3-8-45

Among these men are: Gunner's Mate Second Class Robert L. Wells whose home is at 2001 N. 22nd St., Philadelphia; Torpedoman Third Class Isaiah Murry, 3852 Sylvan St., Detroit; Seaman First Class Edward Burchell, 10 Arcadia Place Vauxhall, N. J.; Seaman First Class Carlton R. Brown, 1608 N. Bouvier St., Philadelphia and Seaman Frist Class Stanley A. Vivens 96 Hull St., Columbus, O.

All of these men, after enlisting in the Navy, went to the U. S Naval Training Center, Great Lakes Ill., for recruit training. After that some of them went to service schools, while others went on to different stations to get their training while working. 3-8-45

After serving at other stations in various parts of the United States they were transferred for duty outside the continental limits and are now applying their skills to vital ammunition work for the fleets at sea.

All-Negro Warship Docks Here, Crew Lauded for Record

Daily Worker New York, New York 10-26-45

By EUGENE GORDON

Submarine chaser PC-1264, whose entire enlisted personnel of 61 men is Negro, docked yesterday at Pier 80 foot of W. 40 St. She was scheduled to leave almost immediately, however, for a midstream berth in the Hudson until after Navy Day, Saturday, when she will go to New London.

In addition to having a full complement of Negro enlisted men, including seven petty officers, first class, and one chief machinist's mate, the PC-1264 has one Negro commissioned officer, 23-year-old, six-foot-two Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., USNR, of Richmond, Va., the sub-chaser's communications and athletic officer.

The crew, representing men from all parts of the country and in no sense a "picked" or "selected" one, is described by their white officers as being among the best in the U.S. Navy. In individual interviews the men spoke highly of their officers and praised the spirit behind the experiment of an all-Negro crew.

PREFERS MIXED CREW

Jarvis E. Guice, of Birmingham, Ala., who enlisted in 1942 while a student at Tuskegee Institute, said that as far as demonstrations in race relations are concerned, he would prefer a mixed crew.

"It has been quite an experience and I've learned a great deal in this chance to associate with white men as their equal," he said. He explained that the ship had white petty officers until recently.

Associations have been pleasant, Guice declared, adding that he knew from experience on both an all-Negro and on a mixed ship that the PC-1264 is as eficiently operated as any.

The 173-foot, trim and compact little sub-chaser was commissioned at Pier 42 on April 25, last year. Assigned to the Eastern seacoast as escort vessel for convoys and for patrol duty, the ship never ranged more than 80 miles off shore, usually operating with two or three

The white commissioned officers aboard, who also are from all sections of the country, get along splendidly with the men, according both to their own and the crew's testimony. Ensign Gravely shares one of the four small staterooms with another officer.

Here is a typical day's bill of fare for the sub-chaser's crew. Breakfast, hot cakes, fried bacon, jam and butter, milk and fruit. Dinner, roast beef, fresh stringbeans, pickled beets, chilled fruit. Supper, spaghetti and meat sauce, buttered spinach, chilled fruit.

Home From the Wars: The PC-1264, assigned here for the Navy Day demonstration, is a 173-foot submarine chaser manned by an all-Negro crew. Its complement of six officers are all white except one, Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, the ship's communications and athletic officer.

PC Boat Licked Nippon Subs and Beat Jimcrow

Daily Worker

BY EUGENE GORDON

Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, 23, of Richmond, Va., six-foot-two communications officer of the submarine chaser PC-1264, is the only Negro commissioned officer among the six aboard. The 173-foot grey-hulled vessel tied up at Pier 80, end of W. 40 St., last Thursday noon and was scheduled to leave the next day. 10-30-45

"If it weren't for the fact that I intend to go back to UCLA to major in physical ed.," the handsome young giant said, smiling, "I'd be willing to stay in the Navy for the rest of my life."

Gravely's father is a postoffice clerk in Richmond. His mother is dead. His two brothers and two sisters are all younger than he.

"How did you happen to go to the University of California at Los Angeles, Mr. Gravely?"

REGULAR ON BOARD

"I went there to study for my commission. Got my boot training at Great Lakes, Ill."

The concensus of opinion, as I

N.Y., N.Y.

ENSIGN GRAVELY

was able to gather it, was that Ensign Gravely is well liked both by the crew and by fellow officers. One of the officers referred to their Negro colleague as having "a good personality and good character." They pointed out that as athletic officer he had organized sports activities aboard the ship, "a definite help to the men's morale, especially in ports where there are inadequate liberty facilities for Negro personnel." I learned that he has been recommended for promotion. N.Y.

Gravely is not due to be discharged for perhaps a year. He feels that he will enjoy being in the Navy in the meantime.

He introduced me to the chief engineering officer, Ensign Donald George Morman. Morman is from Michigan, where he has a farm, a wife and a two-year-old son. Morman was an engineer with the Chevrolet company when he entered the Navy 20 months ago. He plans to return to that work.

"What do you think of the PC-1264, with its all-Negro crew, Mr. Morman?" 10-30-45

He thought it "one of the hottest ships running."

"They do as fine a job as could be expected of anybody," he said.

LIKE THEIR WORK

Morman agreed with Gravely that this ship proved that the system of discrimination would crumble if it were not maintained by authorities at the top.

The enlisted men to whom I spoke all liked their jobs aboard ship. All, however, were eager to return to civilian life. Thomas Perdue, of Birmingham, Ala., wants to go to Morehouse College, Atlanta. He was in charge of a Navy tug with an eight-man crew before he was transferred recently to the PC-1264.

Louis T. Ellison, who entered the Navy from Chicago in 1942, when he was 17, expects to enroll in an engineering school. He thinks Negroes manning ships or working in mixed crews is nothing to get excited about, although it is all very fine, "considering the things we were fighting for."

Jervis E. Guice, from Birmingham, will go back to Tuskegee Institute, Ala., where he was studying vocational agriculture when he was inducted. The white men and the colored men on the PC-1264, he said, have learned valuable lessons to take back to civilian life.

Tan Tars on Sub Chaser

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland

Carries 54 Enlisted Men, One Officer

11-3-45

VESSEL IS SMALL

Warship Was on Duty Along Atlantic Coast

NEW YORK — Among the 51 ships which took part in the Navy Day celebration in New York was the sub chaser PC-1264, with a personnel of 54 enlisted colored men and one colored officer aboard. Smallest of all the ships, she is only 173 feet long and weighs 275 tons.

Anchored in mid-stream off the Dyckman St. pier, the PC-1264 was moored ther all day Saturday and moved to Pier 80, downtown New York, on Sunday where she was available for visitors.

Ensign Samuel L. Gravely Jr., the only colored officer of six on ship, lives at 819 Nicholson St., Richmond, Va. Among the crew, there are four men from New York City, three from Baltimore, four from Philadelphia, one from Newark, one from Washington, D.C., and another from Richmond.

In Navy 3 Years

Gravely told the AFRO he has been in the Navy 3 years and 2 months. He took a V-12 course at U.C.L.A. and later attended the Columbia University Midshipmen's School where he was commissioned on Dev. 14, 1944. He has been on duty with the ship since last May.

"I'm crazy about being on this ship," he explained. "Actually, this is the only one I've ever been on, and I'm very happy about it."

He plans to return to U.C.L.A. after he leaves the service and resume his courses in physical education. "I want to get a football coach's job," he said.

Lt. Ernest V. Hardman, white, is the skipper of the ship. He sated that the ship was commissioned in New York City April 25, 1944.

"I've been on the ship right from the beginning," Lt. Hardman pointed out, "and I want to say we have a very good crew and I'm proud of them.

Operated on Coast

"We've been operating along the Atlantic Coast and have made convoy trips to Coast cities and also to Cuba. We were in Key West, Florida, undergoing a pre-Pacific shakedown, en route to the Pacific, when the news of victory over Japan came. That changed our plans."

The sub chaser has not been engaged in any actual action with the enemy. She did establish contact with enemy subs several times in the Atlantic and dropped depth charges . . . but never was able to confirm news of damage to the enemy.

This is not her first trip to New York since she has operated out of this port before. She is now assigned to the active fleet and may be used for training purposes.

The crew has a ship's dog whom they named "Grismo." He is 16 months old and has spent all of his life aboard ship.

Pup Held Up Ship

"We've had him since he was a pup," Ensign Gravely said. "Once, when we were anchored off Key West, the skipper refused to put out until the dog, which had disappeared on the dock, was found two hours later."

A list of the personnel aboard and their home towns follow:

Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, Richmond, Va.; MoMM3/c Irving T. Alkins, Boston; S1/c Charlie D. Anderson, Albany, N.Y.; GM3/c John E. Atkins, N.Y.C.; RM3/c Cortlandt S. Belton Jr., Florida; GM3/c Richard H. Bennett, Indianapolis, Ind.; RM2/c Cleo J. Black, Ada, Okla.; S1/c Robert E. Blair, Minneapolis, Minn.; CK2/c Elmer C. Bradford, Little Rock, Ark.; F1/c George W. Branch, Oakland, Calif.; F1/c Dudley C. Brown, Chicago; SC2/c Prentell Buckhanna, Texas; F1/c George F. Burgess, Louisville, Ky.; Cox. Nathaniel A. Butler, Richmond, Va.; F1/c Howard R. Carter, N.Y.C.; QM2/c Emmett C. Caul, Wingsboro, Va.; S1/c Howard Clark, Miami, Fla.; EM3/c Allen M. Conner, Philadelphia;

RM2/c George W. Cook, Little Rock, Ark.; QM2/c Adolph R. Cork, Indianapolis, Ind.; GM1/c Louis T. Ellison, Chicago; RdM3/c Alfred Green Jr., Philadelphia; SM1/c Jarvis E. Juice, Birmingham, Ala.; Cox. Willie W. Hawk, Birmingham, Ala.; St.M2/c Ollie Henry, Mississippi; MoMM3/c Robert M. Jackson, 1943 Lauretta Ave., Baltimore; SoM3/c Henry J. James, New Brunswick, N.J.; S1/c Herman E. King, Charleston, S.C.; PhM2/c Marshall King, Indianapolis, Ind.; GM3/c Lee V. Miller, N.Y.C.; RM1/c James A. Mitchell, Sharon, Penn.; EM2/c James M. Myles, Birmingham, Ala.; BM2/c Henry J. Perry, Slamada, Calif.; MoMM3/c Ferdinando Price, Baltimore; SM2/c Irvin Randall, New Orleans, La.;

MoMM3/c Charles E. Randolph, Lynn, Mass.; GM2/c Paul C. Rhinehart, Franklin, Penn.; MoMM2/c Robert A. Richards, Philadelphia; QM3/c Cliff Rogers, Atlanta, Ga.; S1/c Louis Sanders, Mobile, Ala.; S1/c Alcide Simon Jr., San Francisco, Calif.; F1/c Joseph Simpson, 1036 Aisquith St., Baltimore; S1/c Robert M. Smith, West Wego, La.; S1/c Henry J. Taylor, Philadelphia; SF3/c Paul L. Tinsley, Cincinnati; S1/c Pink B. Truitt, Newark, N.J.; MoMM1/c Alfred A. Vanderhoop, Gayhend, Mass.; SM2/c John C. Wade, Chicago;

S2/c John Walker, N.Y.C.; RdM3/c George E. Ware, 1910 11th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; RdM3/c Leroy Washington, Moncks Corner, S.C.; SOM2/c Luther C. Wheeler, Springfield, Ill.; SOM3/c William D. Williams, Kansas City, Kans.; Thomas Purdue, Birmingham, Ala.; B. L. Johnson, Burlington, N.J.

Miss Chartotle Moton Sponsors SS Tuskegee Victory At Launching

Journal & Guide Va.
5-19-45

Special to Journal and Guide

PORTLAND, Ore. — Miss Charlotte Moton, daughter of the late Dr. R. R. Moton, sponsored the S.S Tuskegee Victory, launched at the Kaiser shipyards here Tuesday, May 8, with a Negro school child as maid of honor and an overall-clad colored girl shipyard worker as second attendant.

Eight Negro returned veterans were guests on the launching stand. Miss Moton gave fragments of the launching bottle to one of them.

The customary gift to the sponsor was a large onyx and ebony cigarette humidor with sterling silver mountings and an engraved silver inscription plate.

INVITED TO CHRISTEN

Miss Moton was invited to christen the ship as a tribute to her father, who in 1915, succeeded Dr. Booker T. Washington as the president of famed Tuskegee Institute.

She has been in San Francisco for some weeks making a study of the Negro community for the San Francisco Community Chest. She is a field representative of the Federal Security Administration. This is the first time a member of the federal agency has been made available to a private agency for such purpose. 5-19-45

Miss Moton is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, and Boston University and taught at Hampton Institute, Va., before joining the Federal Security Administration.

Instead of taking a maid of honor with her from San Francisco, as the Kaiser Company suggested, she proposed that a maid of honor be selected from the schools of Portland, awarding the honor to a Negro child with the highest scholastic record.

The Maritime Commission was delighted with the suggestion. Miss Moton spoke briefly during the launching ceremonies, recalling her life at Tuskegee as a student from kindergarten through college. 5-18-45

Miss Moton is considered one of the outstanding recreation field workers in Government service She plans to complete her survey during May and then return to Washington.

Victory Ship R. S. Abbott Given To Soviet Russia

Chicago Defender 5-19-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The Victory ship, SS Robert S. Abbott, named in honor of the late founder of the Chicago Defender, has been turned over to our Russian allies under a lend-lease agreement, the War Shipping Administration revealed this week. 5-19-45

The Robert S. Abbott is one of 18 Liberty ships named for outstanding Negro Americans and seamen who have lost their lives in this war. Four additional ships named for Negro colleges will be commissioned this month.

Thousands of Negro merchant seamen will be honored on May 22 when Maritime Day is celebrated throughout the country, sponsored by the Maritime Commission and WSA.

For the first time since the outbreak of the war WSA has lifted the veil of military security on the itinerary of each of the vessels named for Negroes which has been in service for more than 60 days.

In addition to the Robert S. Abbott the SS Paul Laurence Dunbar was also turned over to the Russians. 5-19-45

The first of these Negro-named ships, the SS Booker T. Washington, mastered by Captain Hugh Mulzac of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been in active service continuously since the fall of 1942 and has carried numerous cargoes to Italy, France and the British Isles.

During its nearly three years of active service, the Booker T. Washington has made stops at 28 different ports. These include: Los Angeles, Calif.; Balboa, Panama Canal; Preston, Cuba; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; New York, N.Y.; Halifax, Nova Scotia; Belfast, Ireland; Cardiff, Barry and Swansea, Wales; Oran, Algeria; Casablanca; Newport News, Va.; Baltimore, Md.; Cape Henry, Hampton Roads and Norfolk, Va.; Naples, Bari and Brandisi, Italy; Palermo an dAugusta, Sicily; Philadelphia, Pa.; Marseilles and Cherbourg, Frances, and Ajaccio, Corsica.

The SS George Washington Carver was sold to the Army after it had made trips to Tasmania, Arabia, Egypt, Malta, Italy, Sicily, Tunis and Algeria.

Two of the other Liberty ships were lost through enemy action. They were the SS Frederick Douglass and the SS Robert L. Vann.

Perhaps the greatest territory has been covered by the SS John Hope, which has been operating in the Pacific. This ship has put in at the following Pacific ports: San Francisco, San Pedro Hueneme and Los Angeles, Calif.; Honolulu, Hawaii; Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, Guadalcanal, Russell and Pacific Islands; Green Island, New Zealand; Treasury Island, Solomons; Noumea, New Caledonia;

Vila, New Hebrides; Langemak, New Guinea; Gremantle, Australia; Colomo, Ceylon, Calcutta, India; Sydney and Cairns, Australia; Jacquinot Bay, Bismarck, Archipelago; Biak, New Guinea; and Morotai, Eastern Archipelago, one of Moluccas northeast of Halmahera.

The SS James Weldon Johnson has been operating in both the Atlantic and Pacific, having made port at Los Angeles, Calif.; Fremantle, Australia; Colombo, Ceylon, Calcutta, India; Lourenco Marques, Portuguese East Africa; Aden, Arabia; Suez and Port Said, Egypt; Augusta and Palermo, Sicily; Naples, Italy; 5-19-45

Bizerte, Tunisia; Liverpool, Portland, The Downs and Southend, England; Belfast, Ireland; New York, N.Y.; Philadelphia, Pa., and Norfolk, Va.

The SS John Merrick has made port at Port Said and Suez, Egypt; Aden, Arabia; Shatt al Arab and Khorramshahr, Persian Gulf; Abadan and Hormuz, Iran; Cochin and Bombay, India; Glasgow, Oban and Clyde, Scotland; Barry, Cardiff and Swansea, Wales; The Downs, Southampton and Liverpool, England; as well as most Atlantic Coast ports in the United States; also Augusta, Sicily; Bari and Ancona, Italy; Oran, Algeria; Santiago and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Antwerp, Belgium.

Others in the group include the SS Toussaint L'Ouverture, which has been operating largely in the Pacific, Central and South America; the S. S. Harriet Tubman, which has made several crossings of the Atlantic; the SS Bert Williams, also operating in the Atlantic; and the SS Edward A. Savoy, which includes a trip to Russia in her itinerary.

The four Victory ships to be commissioned are the SS Fisk Victory, the SS Edward Victory, the SS Lane Victory and the SS Tuskegee Victory.

Ship Honoring Fisk University Launched

New Amsterdam News 5-5-45

NASHVILLE, (ANP) — The SS Fisk Victory ship honoring Fisk university, was launched Wednesday at Richmond, Cal., according to the U. S. Maritime Commission

The university was represented by Attorney Hugh E. Macbeth of Los Angeles, a Fisk graduate in the class of 1905. The ship was constructed by the Permanente Metals Corp., Richmond, Cal.

VICTORY SHIP LAUNCHING—Launching the S. S. Lane Victory at California Shipbuilding Corporation. Left to right: Mrs. Florence E. Evans, granddaughter of Bishop Isaac Lane, founder of Lane College; the Rev. Lane C. Cleaves, representing the college, and Miss Mildred Blount, maid of honor.—Cutler Photo.

SS Lane Victory Ship Launched At Calship

Pittsburgh Courier 6-9-45

WILMINGTON, Calif.—The S. S. Lane Victory, a 10,500-ton Victory Ship, was launched here Thursday night of last week by the California Shipbuilding Corporation. The 455-foot cargo vessell was named in honor of Lane College of Jackson, Tenn., a non-sectarian Negro college founded in 1883 by Bishop Isaac Lane. The co-educational liberal arts institution annually awards $7,000 to men preparing for the ministry. The S. S. Lane Victory is the 444th ship to be launched by Calship.

MRS. EVANS SPONSOR

Mrs. Florence E. Evans, 2740 Glassell Avenue, Los Angeles, granddaughter of Bishop Lane, christened the ship. Her brother, the Rev. Lane C. Cleaves, pastor of Phillips Temple, CME Church of Los Angeles, officially represented Lane College. He is a grandson of the school's founder.

Miss Mildred Blount, 2041½ West Thirty-first Street, Los Angeles, was maid of honor at the launching. Master of ceremonies was John D. Burton, Calship director of public relations. 6-9-45

After her outfitting at the California Shipbuilding Corporation outfitting dock, the S. S. Lane Victory will be delivered to the United States Maritime Commission for service on world sealines. The Victory Ship is the Maritime Commission's standard wartime and post-war cargo carrier, backbone of America's post-war Merchant Marine.

6-22-45 Atlanta Daily World 6-22-45

SPONSOR S. S. TUSKEGEE — When the S. S. Tuskegee Victory was launched on V-E Day at the Kaiser Yards in Portland, Oregon, Miss Charlotte Moton, daughter of the late President Robert Russa Moton of Tuskegee Institute, and field representative of the Federal Security Administration, was sponsor of the vessel. Miss Moton had as her maid of honor the ranking Negro student of Jefferson High School, Portland, Miss Bennie Gragg. Miss Dorothy Crockett, right) an employe at the shipyard served as flower girl. Witnessing the ceremony was a group of 20 Tuskegee graduates, most of whom were shipyard employes. The SS Tuskegee Victory is one of four Victory cargo ships named for Negro colleges.—(Official Kaiser Company photo from OWI.)

TWO OF 18 NEGRO-NAMED SHIPS LOST BY SINKING

Memphis World

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — Only two out of the 18 Liberty ships named for outstanding Negro Americans and Negro seamen who have lost their lives in this war were among the 570 United States flag merchant ships lost from direct war causes between September 1, 1939, and May 8, 1945, the War Shipping Administration announced this week.

Two ships sunk by direct enemy action were the SS FREDERICK DOUGLASS, named for the famed abolitionist leader and editor, and lost in the northwest Atlantic September 20, 1943, and the SS ROBERT L. VANN, designated in honor of the founder and publisher of THE PITTSBURG COURIER, and sunk in the northeast Atlantic on March 1, 1944.

UNDER FOREIGN FLAGS

The WSA report did not include American-owned vessels under foreign flags. Two of the Negro-named vessels are in this category. They were the SS PAUL LAURENSE DUNBAR, bearing the name of the famous Negro poet, and the SS ROBERT S. ABBOTT, the Liberty ship, which honored the founder and publisher of THE CHICAGO DEFENDER.

6-26-45

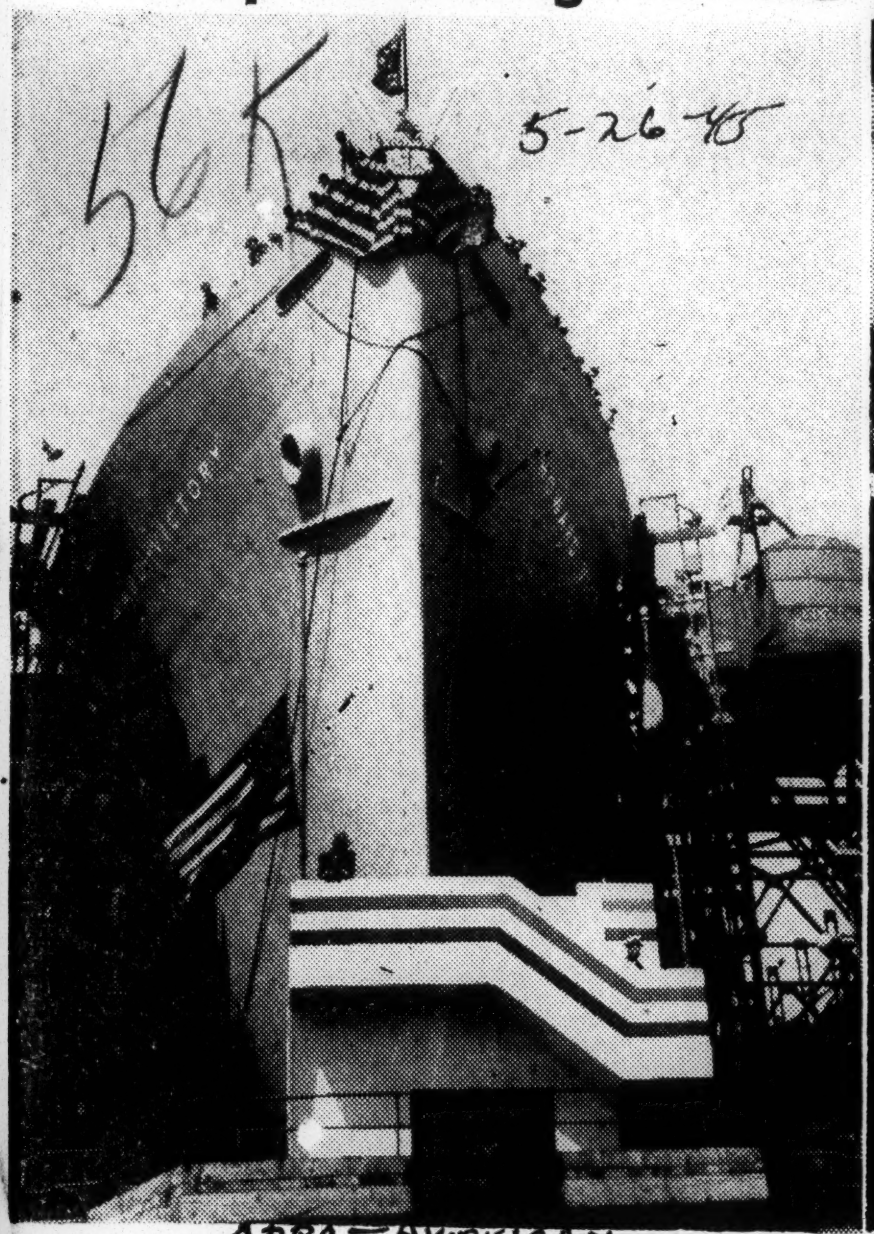
The 570 vessels were parts of 1,554 United States flag merchant ships of 6,277,077 deadweight tons lost from war causes and marine casualties largely due to war conditions between 1939 and 1945.

The destruction of ships by the enemy was accompanied by heavy loss of life. The latest Merchant Marine casualty list reports 5,579 merchant seamen dead and missing and 487 prisoners of war, a total of 6,066 as of May 1, 1945.

An overwhelming percentage of the merchant vessels were destroyed by German or Italian submarines, air attacks and mines, with 68 lost in Japanese areas. The most extensive destruction was in the north Atlantic, where wolfpacks of U-boats prowled against convoys to the British Isles and north Russia until curbed by fast-expanding Allied naval and air power, including the use of escort carriers, such as the 50 designed and built by the United States Maritime Commission for the Navy.

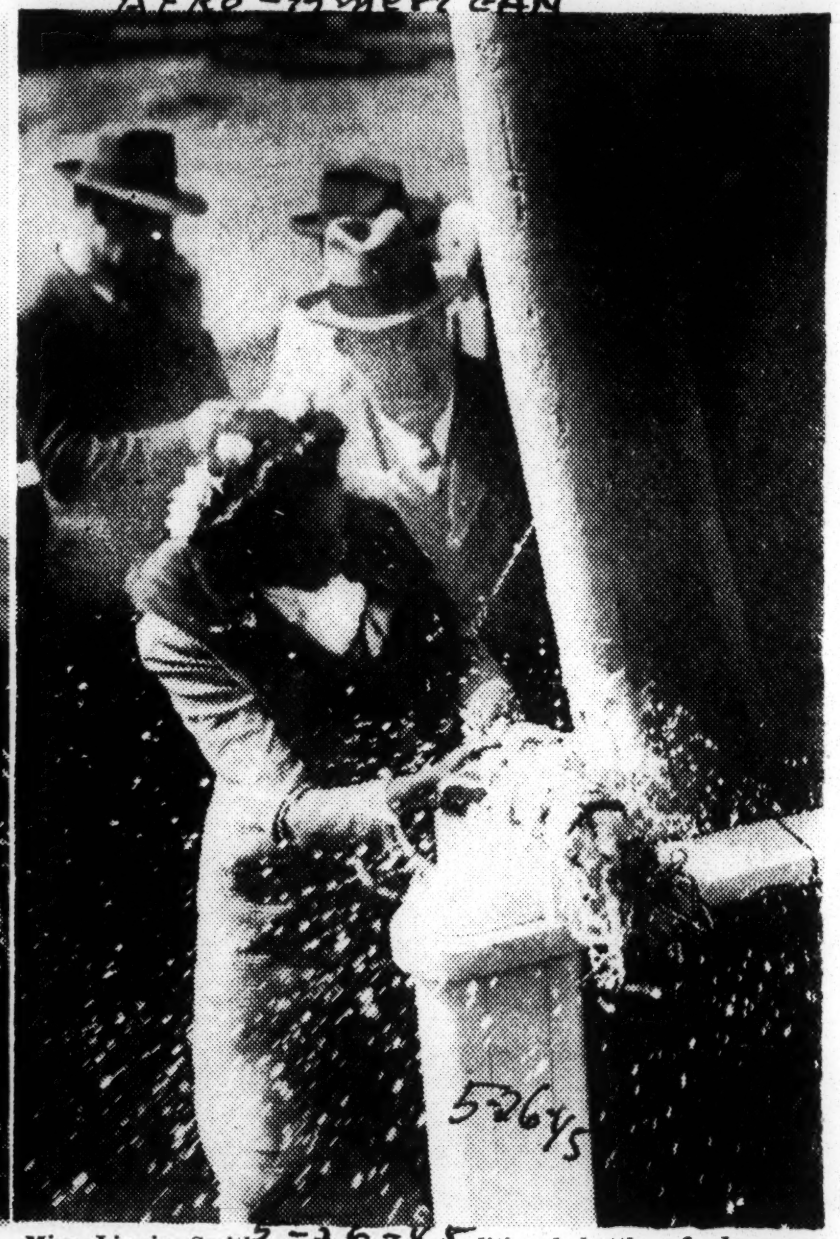
Ship Honoring Howard University Launched at Bethlehem Fairfield Yards

AFRO-AMERICAN



Here is the S.S. Howard Victory before she slid down the ways at Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard in Baltimore Monday. Vessel was named for Howard University.

AFRO-AMERICAN 5-26-45



Miss Linnie Smith crashes the traditional bottle of champagne against the prow as the big vessel inches away from the platform.

5-26-45

Tuskegee Victory Launched in Ore.

AFRO-AMERICAN

PORTLAND, ORE. (ANP)—The SS Tuskegee Victory was launched here on V-E day by the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation and was christened by Miss Charlotte Moton, daughter of the late Dr. Robert R. Moton, former president of Tuskegee Institute.

Introduced by Albert Bauer, general manager of the corporation, Father J. Tobin urged that "the idea of justice and charity to the Negro in economic and public relationships take hold at last."

JC Proponents Scored

5-26-45

Reviewing the principles of American democracy, he condemned not only the labor unions which exclude colored workers but also management for erecting economic barriers and the general public.

56k-1945

Naming and Launching of Ships

Savannah Tribune Ga. 1-11-'45 (Launching of Ships)

Scenes From Launching of S. S. William Cox

Savannah Tribune Ga. 1-11-45

Here are scenes from the launching Saturday night, Dec. 30th, of the S. S. William Cox, the first Liberty ship built by the J. A. Jones Construction company at its Brunswick shipyards and named in honor of a Negro. The launching was largely attended and was highligted by the epochal and interesting christening by Mrs. Arlee Cox of Savannah. wife of the late seaman whose name the ship will bear, an address by Dr. Milton S. J. Wright, Ph. D., of Wilberforce university, and music by the military band from Camp Gordon Johnstone, Florida. The ceremonies were witnessed by a number of Savannahians, led by Undertaker Toland J. Edwards, who motored down to the launching.

The pictures show:

To the left—The late William Cox in whose honor the ship was named. Mr. Cox was born in Cairo, Ga., on March 29, 1898. He lived in Savannah for thirty five years and lost his life, serving as a fireman on the S. S. David A. Atwater, when she was shelled and sunk on April 2, 1942. 1-11-45

No. 1.—The S. S. William Cox as she was about to slide down the ways for the christening.

No. 2.—Mrs. Cox, just before she broke the bottle of champagne, christening the ship.

No. 3. — Warrant Officer N. G. Proctor, director of the 337th ASF (left) and Lt. Ramirez, Camp Gordon Johnstone Florida, right) holding hands with J. A. Jones Jr., (center) director of public relations of the Jones Construction Company. 1-11-45

No. 4. —Miss Henrietta Cox of Cairo, Ga., Rev. John Cox, Mrs. William Cox, Lillie Cox (Detroit, Mich.) Elmary Cox McFadden, relatives of the late William Cox; Dr. Milton S. J. Wright of Wilberforce University, and Toland J. Edwards of Savannah.

No. 5. —A group of Savannahians witnessing the launching, among them Henry Johnson, Miss Annie Mae Bryant, Clifford Sessions Gordon, Mrs. Erma Lane, and Miss Veronica Taylor.

Howard, Lane Atlanta Daily World And Tuskegee 4-21-45 To Be Honored Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ANS) Three Negro colleges are included in a list of 45 educational institutions whose names have been assigned to Victory cargo vessels under construction in five shipyards, the United States Maritime Commission announced this week.

Under construction at the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyard, Inc., Baltimore, Md., is HOWARD VICTORY, named for Howard Univer.

sity, Washington, D. C.

At the California Shipbuilding Corp., Wilmington, Calif, the LANE VICTORY, named for Lane College, Jackson, Tenn., is under construction. 4-21-45

At Oregon Shipbuilding Corp., in Portland, Ore., the TUSGEKEE VICTORY, named for Tuskegee Institute, of Alabama, is under construction.

Launching date may be obtained from the public relations office of the shipyards. Approximate dates for the launchings are around the middle of May.

Although these are the first Victory ships named for Negro institutions, 14 Liberty ships have been named for outstanding Negro Americans, and a like number have been named for Negro merchant seamen who lost their lives during the present conflict. 4-21-45

Heads of institutions whose names have been selected for Victory ships have been invited by officials of the Maritime Commission to contact the yards where these ships are under construction to assist in arranging for the launching program.

Liberty Ships named for distinguished Negro Americans have been the SS Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, John Merrick, Robert L. Vann, Paul Laurence Dunbar, James Weldon Johnson, John Hope, John H. Murphy, Toussaint L'Overture, Frederick Douglass, Robert S. Abbott, Harriet Tubman, Bert Williams and Edward A. Savoy.

"TUSKEGEE" IS LAUNCHED AT OREGON YARD

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 5-10-45

PORTLAND, Ore. (SNS)— The cargo ship Tuskegee Victory named for the Alabama institution, was launched by the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation Tuesday as the end of the war with the Nazis signaled victory over the arch-advocates of racial intolernce.

Miss Charlotte Moton, daughter of Dr. Robert R. Moton, retired president of Tuskegee, christened the ship.

Liberty Ship Named For Negro Launched

Louisville, Ky.

Brunswick, Ga., Dec. 31 (AP)— The Liberty ship William Cox, named for a Negro merchant seaman and finished in time for launching by the voluntary work of 1,500 workers on Christmas day was launched here last night in an all-Negro launching ceremony. 1-1-45

Mrs. Arlee Cox, Savannah, widow of a seaman who went down with the S.S. David H. Atwater on April 2, 1942, christened the newest addition to the U. S. merchant fleet as it slid down the ways of the Brunswick yard of the J. A. Jones Construction Company.

BRUNSWICK SHIP NAMED FOR NEGRO — Daily World — Atlanta, Ga. Mrs. Erma Sessions Lane, Savannah is shown as she presented Mrs. William Cox, who christened the S. S. William Cox in honor of her husband at the J. A. Jones Shipyard, Brunswick, Ga., with a bouquet of American beauty roses at the launching of the Liberty ship. William Cox was a native of Cairo, Ga., and shipping out of Savannah, lost his life on the S. S. David H. Atwater, April 1, 1942. Appearing in the photo l to r are Mrs. Viola Oliver, attendant, Savannah. Mrs. Lillie Cox, co-sponsor; Savannah Mrs. William Cox, Savannah; Doctor Milton Wright, Ph. D., Wilberforce University and Mrs. Lane. Mrs. Lizi Mae James, R. N. of Harris Memorial Hospital, Atlanta, was among the Atlantans invited to attend the launching ceremony. The S. S. William Cox was the first Liberty ship launched in Georgia in honor of a Negro. Cox being the first Georgia Negro so honored — (Official Photo by Ragland.) 1-10-45

56k-1945 Nat'l Maritime Day Naming and Launching of Ships

Negro Seamen, Liberty Ships And Victory Ships To Be Honored On National Maritime Day, May 22nd

New York Age 5-19-45

WASHINGTON, S. C. Thousands of Negro merchant seamen—many of whom have served with mixed crews under Negro masters in all parts of the world—18 Liberty ships named for outstanding Negro Americans and seamen who have lost their lives in this war, and four Victory ships named for Negro colleges, will be honored on May 22 when Maritime Day is celebrated throughout the country, the United States Maritime Commission and the War Shipping Administration said this week.

The nation-wide celebration sponsered by the Maritime Commission and WSA, will pay tribute to more than 200,000 merchant seamen operating more than 2,000 Liberty ships, 450 C-type cargo vessels, 500 fast ocean tankers, 100 Victory cargo ships, and large number of coastal tankers, dry cargo vessels, ocean tugs, and a variety of special and smaller craft. 5-19-45

For the first time since the outbreak of the war, WSA has lifted the veil of military security on the itinerary of each of the vessels named for Negroes which has been in service for more than 60 days, and this information indicates somewhat the contribution Liberty ships have made to the war effort.

The first of these Negro-manned ships, the SS BOOKER T. WASSHINGTON, mastered by Captain Hugh Mulzac of Brooklyn N. Y., has been in active service continuously since the fall of 1942 and has carried numerous cargoes to Italy, France and the British Isles. During its nearly three years of active service, the BOOKER T. WASHINGTON has made stops at 28 different ports. These include Los Angeles, Calif.; Balboa, Panama Canal; Preston, Cuba; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; New York, N. Y.; Halifax, Nova Scotia; Belfast, Ireland; Cardiff, Barry and Swansea, Wales; Oran, Algeria; Casablanca; Newport News, Va.; Baltimore, Md.; Cape Henry, Hampton Roads and Norfolk Va.; Naples, Bari and Brindisi, Italy; Palermo and Augusta, Sicily; Philadelphia, Pa.; Marseilles and Cherboug, France; and Ajaccio, Corsica.

Two of the ships, the SS ROBERT S. ABBOTT and the SS PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR, were turned over to our Russian allies under a lend-lease agreement.

The SS GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER was sold to the Army after it had made trips to Tasmanit, Arabia, Egypt, Malta, Italy, Sicily Tunis and Algeria.

Two of the other Liberty ships rwee lost through enemy action. They were the SS FREDERICK DOUGLASS and the SS ROBERT L. VANN.

SS John Hope Heads List

Perhaps the greatest territory has been covered by the SS JOHN HOPE, which has been operating in the Pacific. This ship has put in at the following Pacific ports: San Francisco, San Pedro Hueneme and Los Angeles, Calif.; Honolulu Hawaii, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, Guadalcanal, Russel and Pacific Islands; Green Islands, New Zealand, Treasury Island, Solomons; Noumea, New Caledonia; Vila, New Hebrides; Langemak, New Guinea; Gremantle, Australia; Colombo, Ceylon, Calcutta, India; Sydney and Cairns, Australia; Jacquinot Bay, Bismark, Archipegiago; Biak, New Guinea; and Morotai, Eastern Archipelago; one of Moluccas northeast of Halmahera.

The SS JAMES WELDON JOHNSON has been operating in both the Atlantic and Pacific, having made port at Los Angeles, Calif.; Fremantle, Australia; Colomboo, Ceylon, Calcutta, India; Lourenco Marques, Portugues East Africa; Aden, Arabia; Suez and Port Said, Egypt; Augusta and Palermo, Sicily; Naples, Italy; Bizerte, Tunisia; Liverpool, Portland, The Downs and Southbend, England; Belfast, Ireland; Antwerp, Belgium; and Mumbles, Wales and such Atlantic American ports as New York, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., and Norfolk, Va. 5-19-45

The SS JOHN MERRICK has made port at Port Said and Suez Egypt; Aden Arabia; Shat al Arab and Khorramshahr, Persian Gulf; Abadan and Hormuz, Iran; Cochin and Bombay, India; Glasgow, Oban and Clyde, Scotland; Barry, Cardiff and Swansea, Wales; The Downs, Southhampton and Liverpool, England; as well as most Atlantic coast port in the United States; also Augusta, Sicily; Bari and Ancona, Italy; Oran, Algeria; Santiago and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and Aantwerp, Belgium.

Others in the group include the SS TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE, which ha been operating largely in the Pacific, Central and South America, the SS HARRIET TUBMAN, which has made several crossings of the Atlantic; the SS BERT WILLIAMS, also operating in Atantic; and the SS EDWARD SAVOY, which includes a trip to Russit in her itinery.

The four Victory, none of which have been yet commissioned, are the SS FISK VICTORY, the SS HOWARD VICTORY and the SS TUSKEGEE VICTORY.

The following Liberty Ships named for Negro seamen who lost their lives in action have not been commissioned 60 days: SS ROBERT J. BANKS, WILLIAM COX, GEORGE A. LAWSON and JAMES KYRON WALKER.

Commander of Seabees Who Staged Strike Moved

AFRO-AMERICAN
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—Commande J. P. McBean, who was in charge of the 1000 members of the 34th Seabee Construction Battalion, who staged a hunger strike in March in protest against discrimination has been officially replaced, the NAACP announced Monday.

Command of the unit based at Port Hueneme, Calif., has been assigned to Commander Lester Marks, the AFRO was informed by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP, which on March 8 asked Secretary of the Navy Forrestal to investigate the situation. 4-21-45

White Petty Officers Moved

At the same time, Mr. Wilkins declared that the unit's executive officer, Lt. Commander C. D. White, had been replaced and that he had learned unofficially that 20 per cent of the white chief petty officers have been transferred.

The request for the removal of the two officers by the NAACP had followed an investigation of conditions leading to the strike by Nrman O. Houston of the Los Angeles branch of the association.

According to Mr. Houston, the Seabees had charged that both Commander McBean and Lt. Commander White manifested their belief that no colored man has any rights that a white man is bound to respect. 4-21-45

Had Prohibited Mixing

Specifiically, they charged that McBean, while they were overseas, had prohibited them from accepting invitation from white units to compete in athletic contests and had ordered white business places not to serve them.

The transfer of the white chief petty officers, it is believed, will bring promotions for some of the men whose chief complaint was that they had been denied opportunity for advancement and that whites had been brought in over them.

17th Seabees Feel Forgotten And Mistreated

Kansas City Sun 11-9-45

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(NNPA Correspondent)

LEYTE GULF, Philippine Islands (NNPA) — Over 400 of the men who with the first Marine division were responsible for victory in the blood battle of Peleliu island in September, 1944, are living today on an over-crowded house boat in the middle of Leyte gulf. They feel they have been forgotten, mistreated and ignored. The men are members of the second section of the 17th Seabee battalion—workhorses of the navy.

They are steve-dores and cargo handlers. Their story came to light during the course of the investigation tour of Lester B. Granger as personal representative of the Secretary of the Navy. Two hours after the marines hit the beach at Peleliu the men of the 17th Seabees were carrying ammunition and supplies to them. The battle line was only 25 yards from the water's edge. At one stage of the battle, the marines were driven back into the water, and were fighting knee deep in the ocean. Still the 17th seabees fed them the needed ammunition and supplies. 11-9-45

Some Killed In Action

Some of the seabees were killed in action. BM 2-c Sinclair King remembers seeing four of his buddies killed by mortar shells just 20 feet from him in the water.

As the fight progressed and defeat for the marines was staved off partially by the steady supply of ammunition, the seabees followed the action on to the island and carried ammunition across the air field under fire. They fought to bolster the dwindling ranks of the hero marines, though they had not been trained for such action.

No Citations Received

Deservedly, the first marine division was given a Presidential citation, their casualties were unusually heavy and their victory a costly one, but the 17th, who were as necessary to victory as were the courage, fighting hearts and "never-say-die" spirit of the marines, have heard no praises ringing in their ears, they have received no citations. They have been accorded no rest. While this situation is not peculiar to this unit and appears to have no racial implications the men are growing sour because of its existence.

Twenty-two months ago, on December 16, 1943, these men began their overseas service. They served four months on the island of Banika, five months on the island of Emerau in the Bismarck archipelago. After helping take and secure the island of Peleliu, they served five months there unloading ships, storing supplies then half of the organization was moved to the island of Guam and the other half sent to the Philippines. This second group is stationed in Leyte gulf. They are still doing stevedoring work and doing it well. Their schedule, though the war is over, calls for round-the-clock service, which they do without shirking. Their duties are performed on shore and on the ships that dock in the spaceous harbor of San Pedro Bay. But they live on a house boat, called by the navy an APL (auxiliary personnel lodging.)

A Tough Life

For eight months these men have lived on an APL twice a week. Sometimes only once, they are given "Liberty" to go ashore for recreation. The rest of their time off from work is spent in the sardine-can crowdness of an engineless ship. Parts of which, even have been declared out of bounds to them. They had completed their 18 months of overseas duty long before the war ended. But they were not accorded the rotation privilege and sent home.

On top of all this, we feel they are victims of racial discrimination. Their quarters on the boat are below deck where the generators hum and add to the stifling heat Over 400 of them live under these conditions top side is reserved for the headquarters and ship's companies—which are predominantly white. The few colored men who re-member of the headquarters company are never the less mehouse below deck with the hest of the Negroes for all Negroes, except those who service the officers quarters. Topside is out of bounds. 11-9-45

According to Mr. Granger, this kind of set up is in line with and descended from a practice common throughout all the seabees outfits he has observed. In his several tours of naval installations most seabees outfits he has visited contain both Negro and white personnel. This would seem to make them racially mixed units. Actually, however, he points out, all the white personnel have been assigned to head quarters and ship's companies which include the "white collar" and skilled duty assignments. The remaining companies in the unit which are responsible for the stevedore work are composed of Negro personnel.

Heavy Work Only

This arrangement puts the Negro in the position of doing the heavy laboring work, while the most sought-after jobs are held primarily by whites. "With this pattern established," said Mr. Granger, "the way is open for all racial different situations to be constructed as racial discrimination by Negro personnel "As an instance, in the movies shown on deck when the mess hall is converted into a move house, the 50 or 60 white enlisted men aboard invariably occupy the front tables and seats, the remaining tables and seats being occupied by the Negroes.

Lt. T. F. Gaffey, officer in charge of the 17th Seabees, told this correspondent that there have been no orders for such separation and segregation and that it is voluntary on the part of the whites. 11-9-45

But the men, because of the pattern cited, above are convinced in their minds that here is another evidence of racial segregation, another of their complaints is that in the eight months of this floating "Hotel," they have had no chaplain. No provision has been made for those who would like to attend and participate in religious services, or for the discussion of their personal problems, with a member of the clergy.

One Negro Officer

One bright spot which has perhaps most to do with maintenance of their minds and prevention of a total collapse on the part of these men, has been the presence of a lone Negro officer, Ensign J. B. Williams, of Annapolis, Md.

Ensign Williams has been with the men for nine months. He has spent the entire period with them since they have been marooned on an APL in the middle of the Leyte gulf. But eight months of such life, 22 months overseas and without rotation of rest, and racial discrimination both real and fancied to boot are dulling the edge of the wholesome effects of Williams' presence and rank. 11-9-45

Today, these 400-odd men, above all their grievances want only one thing—to come home. Their immediate commanding officers agree they deserve such consideration. Because of their exemplary record, it is believed Mr. Granger, who has investigated their situation will discuss their plight with naval officials.

Dr. Jernagin Finds Racial Harmony Is Best Among Seabees

Nashville, Tenn Globe
12-14-45

By CPL. GIL FEINSTEIN

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Atsugi Airfield, Japan (Delayed) —There is less discrimination and better race relations among the Seabees than in any other service unit, according to Rev. William H. Jernagin, director of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches.

The Rev. Jernagin, on his way back to the U. S., has just completed a series of visits among Negro troops in Hawaii, the Marianas, the Philippines, Okinawa and Japan.

Common Mess Helpful

He attributed the healthy relationship among races in the Seabees to better job opportunities and the common use of mess facilities which enable whites and Negroes to become better acquainted.

"This is not true of the sea going Navy," he said. 12-14-45

Declaring himself satisfied that conditions of Negro troops were better than he had anticipated, the clergyman, who is pastor of the Mt. Carmel Baptist church, Washington, D. C., stated: "The morale of Negro units is highest where they are commanded by Negro officers.

56k-1945

Seabees

Heroic Seabees Back From Pacific

Atlanta World Ga. 1-10-45

Protest Rank Race Discrimination

Petition To Be Sent Navy Sec'y Asking Changes

Four Points To Be Covered In Appeal Of Men

1-10-45

PORT HUENEME, Cal. — (ANP) —The secretary of the navy may soon have a petition from Negro members of the 34th U. S. Naval Construction unit, regardless of consequences to the signers, regarding jim crow practices against them.

That revelation was made last week to the Associated Negro Press by Negro members of the outfit who declared that four things must be done to alter the situation withing the ranks of the unit:

1. A new commanding officer should be assigned immediately. He should be a man without the race traditions of the south.

2. The assignment of northern white officers and Negro officers to the outfit. 1-10-45

3. All-Negro enlisted personnel including chief petty officers.

4. The assignment of Negro chaplains rather than white chaplains to the unit.

These four-points will be included in the petition to the secretary of the navy. Blame of the anti-Negro policies and practices against Negro members of the outfit may be placed upon the shoulders of their southern white commanding officer, whom they claim condones by sympathy the various types of racial discrimination and segregation directed by white seamen against Negro seamen.

Charges that the commanding officer violated his trust by his failure to select an all-Negro enlisted personnel were made. "He was supposed to have selected an all-Negro pesronnel but he chose southern white enlisted personnel as 'pushers' for the Negroes," one Negro sailor remarked. "He did this in order to keep any Negroes from becoming chief petty officers."

His staff is composed of all southern white officers, another seaman said, then added that "right now as we are re-organizing, he is getting all southern whites to replace those that have been lost from the battalion." 1-10-45

"The white enlisted personnel in our battalion is responsible for all the segregation and discrimination," the men said. "They get all the promotions which keeps the Negro from being advanced in rating. Not a single Negro has been made a chief petty officer."

Although there are qualified Negroes in the outfit that have been intentionally overlooked for chief petty officer ratings, only a few have been promoted as high as first class petty officer. "We have Negroes with good records in all ratings as low as first class seamen that have not received a single rating since this battalion was organized more than two years ago," the Negro seaman pointed out.

Navy Review Board Changes Status Of Ousted Seabees At Trinidad

New York Age

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Navy Review Board on Monday, with the approval of Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, changed the discharge status of fourteen of the nineteen seabees who were given discharges of inaptitude last December, to discharges "under honorable conditions." Status of a fifteenth Negro seabee who was not identified, remained unchanged on the grounds that he committed several infractions of naval rules and discipline before discharge, the Navy said. 4-7-45

These seabees who were attached to the 80th Naval Construction Battalion, composed of 800 Negroes and 200 whites, at Trinidad, B.W.I., were discharged by their commanding officer under either "undesirable discharges by reason of unfitness" or "ordinary discharges under satisfactory conditions by reason of inaptitude." The cases of the remaining four men were not considered.

A Navy attorney at a hearing last December, contended that the seabees as a body had been guilty of attending "seditious" meetings, refusal to obey orders, attempted sit-down strikes or threatened sabotage." He also mentioned that the charges did not apply to the men individually. 4-7-45

The lawyers for the defendants charged that all misdemeanors were brought about because the seabees were a better-educated group of Negroes.

Commander of Seabees Who Staged Strike Moved

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-21-45

NEW YORK—Commande J. P. McBean, who was in charge of the 1000 members of the 34th Seabee Construction Battalion, who staged a hunger strike in March in protest against discrimination has been officially replaced, the NAACP announced Monday.

Command of the unit based at Port Hueneme, Calif., has been assigned to Commander Lester Marks, the AFRO was informed by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP, which on March 8 asked Secretary of the Navy Forrestal to investigate the situation. 4-21-45

White Petty Officers Moved

At the same time, Mr. Wilkins declared that the unit's executive officer, Lt. Commander C. D. White, had been replaced and that he had learned unofficially that 20 per cent of the white chief petty officers have been transferred.

The request for the removal of the two officers by the NAACP had followed an investigation of conditions leading to the strike by Nrman O. Houston of the Los Angeles branch of the association.

According to Mr. Houston, the Seabees had charged that both Commander McBean and Lt. Commander White manifested their belief that no colored man has any rights that a white man is bound to respect.

Had Prohibited Mixing

Specifiically, they charged that McBean, while they were overseas, had prohibited them from accepting invitation from white units to compete in athletic contests and had ordered white business places not to serve them.

The transfer of the white chief petty officers, it is believed, will bring promotions for some of the men whose chief complaint was that they had been denied opportunity for advancement and that whites had been brought in over them.

Seabees at Leyte

These Seabee chiefs, members of the 17th special Naval Construction Battalion now stationed at Leyte in the Philippines advanced to their present ratings in less than two years. They once held lowest enlisted rating. Left to right, Chief boatswain's mates, Oscar Williams, NYC; Raymond Bledsoe, Birmingham, Ala., and Arthur Gatson, Detroit.

56k-1945

COURT MARTIAL TRIAL HAD PREVIOUSLY Placed A Stigma On Their Dismissals

Savannah Tribune 4-5-45

15th Man's Status Remains The Same

WASHINNTON, D. C. Apr 2 —A navy board of review today changed the discharges of 14 Negro Seabees who were let out of the navy because they were unfit for the service" to discharges "under honorable conditions" of the group, whose name was not mentioned did not fare so well at the hands of the board his discharge retaining the stigma, "undesirable," because he had committed several infractions of naval rules and discipline.

DISRSEhc FIE

These fifteen men along with four other Negro Seabees, were discharged by the commanding officer of the 80th Naval Construction Battalion at Trinidad, West Indies, under either "undesirable discharges by reason of unfitness" or "ordinary discharges under satisfactory conditions by reason of "inaptitude."

4-5-45

A navy attorney at a hearing held in December asserted that the records of the men as a group showed that they attended "seditions" meetings, refused to obey orders, attempted a sit down strike or threatened sabotage.

The defense attorneys, including NAACP lawyers and Arthur Garfield Hayes of the other man stayed with his stuck duck carrying an artillery piece while everyone else was in a foxhole. I could go on and on about the men's brave conduct. I am proud to belong to a colored duck company with the calibre of men that are in his outfit."

Sg. Larry Schulenburg, Marine corps combat correspondent, wrote of Lt. Grove's out-

"The Marines on Iwo Jima will never forget this company of colored boys. Japs on Mt. Suribachi were raking the beaches to plaster Marine units trying to dig in before nightfall on D Day There was no artillery ashore yet. Machine guns were no match for mortars and heavier Jap guns.

"Then early in the afternoon this Negro outfit started for the island in 50 bobbing, swaying ducks, bringing with them the 105mm howitzers, the long-muzzled guns which since swept Iwo with salvo after salvo.

"When the colored boys finished 48 hours later they had lost 29 out of their 50 ducks, but the guns were emplaced and working. In the face of huge odds only two guns were lost.

"One hour after they hit the beach the guns were set up and ammunition ready for firing. The drivers had to stand up, exposed, to unharness the howitzers. The Marines thought the colored boys were crazy, but those boys thought that if the Marines could land on the place, their duck company could give them the stuff to make the landing stick."

12,300 Negroes in the Seabees

Los Angeles Tribune 4-8-45

WASHINGTON — More than 12,300 Negroes joined with other Navy Seabees in celebration of their third birthday Dec. 23 G.I.

Only recently the first battalion of Negro Seabees to go overseas, the 34th Construction Battalion, returned home after 20 months of jungle fighting. They brought with them a unit commendation from Capt. Mark L. Halsey, Jr., commander of the Naval Base at Guadalcanal, for the splendid record they made.

Seabees

Negro Seabees Hail 'Emancipation'

P.M. 4-19-45

By John T. Moutoux
PM's Bureau

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, Apr. 19. —The commanding officer of the 34th Construction Battalion (Seabees) and his first assistant have been removed following complaints from the all-Negro enlisted personnel that the battalion's two top officers had discriminated against them because of their color, PM was advised today by the NAACP (National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People), which had carried the fight direct to Secretary of Navy Forrestal.

'Emancipation'

4-18-45

In addition, the NAACP reported that 20 per cent of the battalion's all-white staff of petty officers had been transferred, thus making room for promotions from the ranks. One of the complaints had been that the commanding officer's Jim Crow policy had prevented any Negro, regardless of his experience and education, from attaining the status of a petty officer.

The removed chief officer, the NAACP said, was Cmdr. J. P. McBean, from Hattiesburg, Miss. With him went his first assistant, Lieut. Commander C. D. White. McBean has been succeeded by Cmdr. Lester M. Marks of New Jersey, White's successor was not given.

4-19-45

A letter from the NAACP's Oxnard, Calif., post, where the battalion's base is located, said that "servicemen are calling the replacement of McBean 'the new emancipation.' There is no doubt that it was a history-making affair."

All that the Navy here would say about the matter was that "the officer in question was detached on April 3 to a Pacific command."

However, NAACP headquarters in New York received a letter yesterday from Rear Adm. William M. Fechteler, assistant chief of naval personnel, which said:

"You are advised that representatives of the Navy Dept. made a thorough investigation of the conditions in the 34th Naval Construction battalion and corrective actions have been taken in accordance with their recommendations. No further changes are considered necessary at this time."

Case Was Pushed

4-19-45

The 34th Seabee battalion first came into the news about six weeks ago when its members went on a hunger strike in protest over alleged discrimination against them.

However, over a period of more than six months prior to that the NAACP offices here and in New York had received numerous letters from enlisted men in the battalion complaining of their treatment. Most of the letters placed the blame on Commander McBean.

The NAACP took up the complaints with Forrestal and assured corrective measures had been taken. When the hunger strike occurred, the NAACP renewed its efforts to obtain relief. Its Los Angeles office made a first-hand investigation and sent its damning report to Forrestal.

The Navy, it was learned, promptly sent an officer from here to Port Hueneme, Calif., where the battalion was quartered after returning from 21 months of distinguished service in the South Pacific.

4-19-45

Later NAACP headquarters in New York heard "by grapevine" that McBean was to be replaced by Marks—but nothing else. The NAACP thereupon wired Forrestal renewing its earlier requests that White also be removed, and that provision be made for the promotion of Negroes to the ranks of chief petty officers.

Roy Wilkins, of the NAACP's New York office, told PM that all three corrective measures urged by his organization had now been put into effect.

Striking Seabees Get New Commander; Ask More Changes

New York Age 4-14-45

Persistent reports from California that Commander J. P. McBean has been removed as commander of the 34th Seabee Battalion which went on a hunger strike March 2-3, led the NAACP to ask James V. Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, for confirmation of the rumor that McBean is being replaced by Lt. Com. Lester M. Mars of New Jersey. McBean is from Mississippi.

4-14-45

"We suggest," said the NAACP wire, "that there are additional sore spots which ought to be erased in this veteran outfit before it is returned to overseas duty. First, the transfer of Executive Officer C. D. White characterized in all reports as "bad as McBean." Others who might be transferred with benefit to battalion are Lieutenants Wiggins, Quillon, Davis, Newsome, particularly Wiggins and Quillen.

We are informed Davis was refused by commander of 80th construction battalion but was assigned to 34th. Second, battalion as demoralized as 34th would seem to require more time to break in new men and infuse confidence into veterans that a new deal is on. Third, there remains uneasiness in battalion over fate of few men singled out for punishment at Port Hueneme. Our information indicates Navy Department has recognized situation fairly and taken corrective action which will go long way toward steering men and civilian population. If at all possible to act on suggestions herewith, especially with regard to White, Department will have done good job. Is it true and will it be announced that new commander is Lt. Com. Lester M. Mars? Will additional opportunities for promotion within the battalion, if any, also be announced?"

4-14-45

The NAACP said it had been informed that the 34th would be sent overseas by April 20.

Four Seabees Flogged; Navy Ousts Commander

Chicago Defender

By RICHARD DURHAM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

PORT HUENEME, Calif.—A 20th Century Captain Bligh, who ordered the flogging of four Negro Seabees members of the famed 34th battalion, was ousted from his command this week, the Defender learned.

In a modern version of "Mutiny on the Bounty," the anti-Negro Dixie-bred battalion commander, C. McBean, who fondly referred to the Seabees as "my niggers," was responsible for one of the most brutal, sadistic floggings in modern naval history.

Pouring back into this race-embattled port after a battalion leave following their recent two-day hunger strike against discrimination, the 1,000 Seabees found their Dixie "boss man" missing.

Also missing, however, were the four alleged leaders of the mass protest, who, thrown in the brig charged with "failure to stand at attention," were thrashed, then released from the navy with "bad conduct discharges."

Beating Revealed

Carefully hidden within the confines of the camp, the story of the Gestapo-like persecution of the Rand and Jesse Pollard, who had been charged with "failure to stand at attention" and placed in the brig, were brought out just this week.

Stalking into the brig They were taken by the strike was Chief guards to the concrete-floored McClellan, attached shower room, had their hands carried out in- cuffed behind their backs and were ing in them smart slugged and beaten for more than 34th." an hour.

They were then forced to kneel d Class Sammie before the enraged white petty Taylor, Harold officers with hands extended Pollard, who had straight into the air, and were "failure to stand slugged whenever they dropped placed in the them.

So vicious and brutal was this attack that one sensitive white petty officer, attached to the brig, could stand it no longer and notified a higher officer, reported to have been Captain William Sihler, to end the beating.

Chief McLellan was himself temporarily locked in the brig, but was later released and placed back on duty as he had, he explained, simply carried out McBean's orders.

Miles, Taylor, Rand and Pollard were treated in the dispensary for body bruises and severely mutilated faces and were released from the navy with "bad conduct discharges."

This last order of the out-spoken anti-Negro commander who had canvinced the navy that his Dixie background gave him superior qualifications for handling Negro sailors, climaxed a three-year attempt to maintain a ceiling against Negro promotions in the 34th battalion, which he and apparently the navy department regarded as normal.

Admiral Whitewashed C.O.

Despite documented cases of three years of systematic race persecution leveled against the battalion by their commander; of near riots on the transport to the Pacific caused by jim crow mess halls and lavoratories; of discriminations which occurred in the midst of Japanese bombings and jim crow orders against the mixing of white and Negro sailors for recreational purposes, all of which were presented to the navy department before the hunger strike, Rear Admiral Louis E. Denfield, assistant chief of bureau, replied with an ivory-tower letter stating:

"The report shows there is no real basis for complaint by Negro members of the 34th Construction Battalion. It does not appear that their rights or privileges have in any way been restricted or prejudiced.

"The commanding officer is most reliable and excellently qualified for the discharge of his responsibility."

Commander L. M. Marx from New Jersey has been promoted from his 57th Seabee battalion to take over this ace unit composed of 800 Negroes and 200 whites which was on the verge of open rebellion one month ago.

Marx's new command is the result of the navy's probe into charges of race discrimination brought against McBean.

The 34th, the first Negro construction battalion and the first of any Negro unit to see action overseas, is now being geared for its second sojourn into the Pacific battleground.

Battalion Had Participated In Hunger Strike

Daily World-Atlanta

Protest Lodged With Navy Sec'y James Forrestal

5-2-45

NEW YORK — (SNS) — Relying upon reports from its observers on the Pacific Coast, the NAACP charged April 27 in a wire to Secretar of the Navy James V. Forrestal, that the 34th Construction Battalion (Seabees), who went on a hunger strike March 2-3 in protest against discriminatory conditions, were herded on to their ship and bound for the Pacific by an "armed guard with drawn bayonets."

The 34th Battalion is a veteran outfit having already served 21 months in the South Pacific. Upon their return to the United States in the latter part of 1944, they flooded the Navy department, their friends, Negro organizations and the Negro press with protests over the treatment they had been accorded by Commander J. P. MacBean of Hattiesburg, Miss., and his executive officer, Lt. Commander C. D. White

CONDUCTS PROBE

Norman Houston of the Los Angeles branch of the NAACP conducted an investigation at the California post where the battalion was stationed on February 27 and recommended the removal of Commander MacBean

As a result of the pressure from all sides the Navy department removed MacBean, but apparently in retaliation for the just complaints of the men, the battalion is being re-shipped overseas was humiliated by being handled like prisoners or criminals. In the wire to Secretary Forrestal the NAACP, through Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary, said:

5-2-45

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is advised from West Coast that 34th Construction Battalion embarked under armed guard with drawn bayonets as though men were criminals or were reluctant to serve their country. This battalion has 21 months overseas service and has proved beyond doubt its ability and loyalty. We are also advised that last minute transfers out of battalion over and above usual replacements have left unit merely a shell of one which made excellent record in South Pacific.

ENTER PROTEST

"Feeling on the West Coast is that 34th is being humiliated and punished because vigorous protest of shabby treatment and discriminatory practices of former Commander J. P. MacBean resulted in MacBean's transfer. We enter vigorous protest against this action. If Navy investigation determined that MacBean should have been transferred men of battalion should not be penalized. If MacBean policies were not harmful to morale as charged he should never have been removed.

5-2-45

"Subsequent treatment of 34th battalion suggests strongly unworthy punitive action by Navy department which has sent battalion morale to a new low. This coupled with high percentage of inexperienced replacements presents battalion with tremendous job to maintain high standard of previous overseas service."

Commander Of Seabees Is Removed

Call-Kansas City

4-27-45

Was in Charge of Base When 1,000 Went on Strike

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA). — Removal of Commander J. P. McBean, of Hattiesburg, and his assistant, Lt. Comdr. C. D. White as commanding officers of the 34th Construction Battalion of Seabees (U. S. Navy) was revealed here last week. Comdr. McBean was in charge of the Port Hueneme Naval base where 1,000 Seabees went on a hunger strike in protest to discriminatory treatment and denial of promotion opportunities. He has been detached to a Pacific command, according to the Navy Department.

Removal of the two officers was demanded last month by the N.A.A.C.P. in a letter directed to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal. At that time the N.A.A.C.P. pointed out that the hunger strike brought to a head the trouble that had been brewing for a long time. Removal of the commander, said the N.A.A.C.P., seemed the only solution.

The Navy instituted a prompt investigation of the charges and complaints through the commanddant of the Eleventh Naval District at San Diego, Cal., Rear Admiral W. L. Friedell.

As a result, not only has the commander of the Seabees been removed, but 20 per cent of the battalions all-white staff of petty officers is reported to have been transferred, thus making roof for promotions of Negroes from the ranks.

4-27-45

Servicemen at the base have referred to McBean's removal as "the new emancipation."

56k-1945

Spars

TWO RECRUITS TO SPARS RECEIVING "BOOT" TRAINING

Two Negro women recruits to the SPARS, Misses Olivia J. Hooker, of Columbus, Ohio, and Aileen A. Cooke, of Los Angeles are now taking "boot" training at the Manhattan Beach, N.Y. Coast Guard Training Station, U.S. Cosat Guard officials here announced this week.

Miss Hooker, a former public school teacher in Columbus, was born in Muskogee, Okla., and holds a B.S. in education from Ohio State University.

Father Is Navy Man

Miss Cooke is the daughter of a Navy man, Allen A. Cooke, steward first class, and attended the University of Southern California for three years, majoring in psychology. Before her induction, she was employed as a clerk-typist at an Army signal post in Los Angeles.

SPARS are women's reserve of the Coast Guard and their recruitment program was enlarged last fall along with other branches of the naval program to include Negro women. "Boot" training courses last six weeks. All SPARS who receive "boot" training at Manhattan Beach are assigned to district Coast Guard units or are sent to specialty schools. The SPAR Officer Training School was discontinued last summer.

Two Negro SPARS Recruits Begin Boot Training At Manhattan Beach

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Two Negro women recruits to the SPARS, Olivia J. Hooker, of Columbus, Ohio, and Aileen A. Cooke, of Los Angeles, Calif., are now taking "boot" training at the Manhattan Beach, N. Y., Coast Guard Training Station, United States Coast Guard officials in Washington announced this week.

Miss Hooker, a former public school teacher in Columbus, was born in Muskogee, Okla., attended Central High School in Columbus and graduated from Ohio State University in the class of June 1937, with a degree of B. S. in Education. She is a member of Colored Teachers Federation and the National Education Association.

Miss Cooke is the daughter of a Navy man, Allan A. Cooke, steward first class, and received her high school education at Pasadena Junior College and attended the University of Southern California for three years, majoring in psychology. Befo' her induction, she was employed as a clerk-typist at an Army Signal Depot in Los Angeles.

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The SPARS discontinued their Officer Training School last summer.

Training at Coast Guard Station for Spars

Afro American

Above are shown the five Spars now stationed at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Station for Spars in Manhattan Beach, N.Y. They are, left to right, Seaman 2/c Aileen A. Cooke, Los Angeles; Seaman 1/c Olivia Hooker, Columbus, Ohio; Apprentice Seamen D. Winifred Byrd, Little Plymouth, Va.; Yvonne Cumberbatch, New York City, and Julia Mosley, Farmdale, Pa.

7-7-45

Spars Attest to Lack of Bias at N.Y. Coast Guard Center

Afro-American

7-7-45

By D. R. RICHARDS

NEW YORK — All five of the colored Spars now stationed at the U.S. Guard Training Station for Spars in Manhattan Beach, told the AFRO this week that they are treated even better than they had expected to be.

Declaring that discrimination and segregation are nonexistant in any form, they said that they bunk together with whites, and enjoy all sports and recreational activities on a truly democratic basis.

All College Trained

The five Spars are:

Yvonne Cumberbatch, apprentice seaman of New York City; Olivia J. Hooker, seaman 1/c of Columbus, Ohio; Aileen A. Cooke, seaman 2/c of Los Angeles; Julia Mosley, apprentice seaman of Farmdale, Va., and D. Winifred Byrd, apprentice seaman of Little Plymouth, Va.

All are college trained, and three were school teachers before entering the service.

A member of the Spars since June 2, Seaman Cumberbatch is still in boot training. A graduate of Hunter College in New York, she formerly worked as an engineering draftsman for a Wall St. firm.

She plans to conduct a chorus and also study surgery after the war.

Among First in Service

One of the first colored Spars to arrive here for training in February, Seaman Hooker has completed her boot training and courses at yeoman school.

A graduate of Ohio State University, she has taught school in Columbus and plans to complete her master's degree in education after she leaves the service.

Daughter of Navy Officer

Seaman Cooke, the daughter of a Naval warrant officer, was the first colored Spar to be graduated from the training school here, completed the general office training course for Spars on June 22.

A former student at Pasadena Junior College and the University of Southern California, she worked in a Los Angeles post office, prior to her enlistment in Febru-

ary. 7-7-43

Declaring that her white bunkmates from Texas and Florida are among her best friends, she said that she would like to become an actress after the war and also complete her courses in college.

Seaman Mosley has been in the Spars since June 4, and is still in boot training. A graduate of Knoxville College, she taught in secondary school in Virginia prior to enlistment.

Has Brother in Army

The sister of Cpl. Archer Mosley, now in France; and Pvt. Coleman Mosley, now in the Pacific theater, she says she will study library science after the war.

Seaman Byrd, also a former secondary school teacher in Virginia, a graduate of Virginia State College, has been in the Spars four weeks.

Especially praising the entertainment given them as being of first-class calibre, she states that she will return to teaching school and also hopes to continue her education and get a master's degree.

56k-1945

Training Program

Notes Progress Made Since Navy 'Lowered Bars' Three Years Ago

New York Amsterdam News 6-23-45

By CHARLES H. LOEB
(NNPA War Correspondent)

GUAM (Via Airmail)—Today marks the third anniversary of the admission of Negro enlistees into the General Service branches of the United States Navy. For the 22 years preceeding June 1, 1942, enlistments had been restricted to the Steward's branch, and except for a few "old timers" whose sleeves were covered with hash marks, Negro sailors were conspicuous by the absence of the prized right arm ratings.

No Formal Observance

That there was no formal observance of the "anniversary" out here in this forward area impressed this observer as a healthy sign of the acceptance of Negro personnel. The Navy is much too busy out here with its titanic job of clearing the sea lanes of Japanese fleet remnants; husbanding the enormous flow of men and supplies to the doorstep of the enemy, and maintaining the aquatic ladder over which our forces carry the fight to Hirohito's homeland, to engage in this sort of extra-curricular activity. The sight of brown-skins in blues is no longer a novelty.

6-23-45

Out here one can see what has happened to the 148,796 Negro seamen who entered such camps as Moffert, Lawrence, Robert Smalls and Hampton Institute since the lowering of the bars. Affecting the rolling swagger of the Navy, speaking the language that is so unintelligible to the landsman, living and working harmoniously with their white mates, they may be observed out here in every type of Navy installation.

Where They're Located

From New York to the Continent, from 'Frisco to Okinawa, at shore installations, on submarines, fleet auxiliary ships, the speedy little PT boats, as well as the destroyers, cruisers, aircraft carriers and battleships of our mighty Navy, they have learned to live, work and fight in accordance with the finest Navy traditions.

They've won their right arm ratings, and the increased pay and respect that accompanies, over the objections and fears of the racial alarmists, and more importantly, over the progress-hampering attitudes of many of their own Negro mates.

Cooperative Officers

In addition to the two Negro commissioned officers, Ensign Jesse Arbor, and Warrant Officer Charles Lear, hundreds of men wear proudly the right arm ratings that indicate the yeoman, coxswain, signalman, machinist mate, motor mechanic, gunners mate, torpedoman and electricians mate, among others. Here at Guam the seamen far outnumber the men in the Stewards branch, and cooperative white officers are enthusiastic in the formation of classes to prepare them for the examinations leading to higher rating.

It was gratifying to talk for several hours with handsome, young Lt. John F. Dille, USNR, who for three years has devoted himself to publicizing the activities of Negroes in the Navy. In addition to revealing that the Navy has enroute to this theatre five Negro enlisted men who will be assigned public relations jobs with Negro units, he passed on much valuable information on Negro units out here which I expect to cover.

6-23-45

A Good Deal

At Pearl Harbor, he revealed, are two Negro physicians, two dentists, a Negro supply officer, a disbursing officer, and many Negro petty officers. He spoke in high praise of Lt. Edward S. Hope, Atlanta, Ga., in the Civil Engineering Corps, who is maintenance officer at Manana Naval Barracks, and of Lt. (jg) Marron W. Fort, Newburyport, Mass., disbursing officer at Manana.

We talked of the "pressure" exerted by the Negro press; the formal opening of Camp Robert Smalls at Great Lakes, Ill., the decision to commission the first Negro officers, and finally of the inclusion of Negro women in the Waves.

We agreed it was a good deal.

Negro Begins Training At Naval Academy

Norfolk Journal 7-8-45

Washington, July 7 (AP)—The first Negro appointed to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., since 1937 reported to the institution June 30, the Navy said today.

He is Wesley A. Brown, New York City, and Washington, D. C. A former student at Howard University, Washington, he was appointed to the Academy by Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Negro member of Congress from New York City.

Five Negroes have been appointed to the academy in its history. There have been no Negro graduates.

Navy Abandons Segregation of Negro Trainees

Daily Worker 7-7-45

GREAT LAKES, Ill., July 6.—The Bureau of Naval Personnel has issued an order, as of July 1, discontinuing the policy of maintaining a special training program and camp here for Negro general service recruits, so that hereafter induction centers will assign Negroes to recruit training on the same basis as white personnel.

All recruits, except illiterates, will be assigned to the nearest recruit training command, which, for both Negro and white, is the Naval Training and Distribution Center, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va. All Negro general service recruits were previously sent to Great Lakes.

Negro and white enlisted personnel will be assimilated alike at the Naval Training Center here, recruits being assigned to the same companies and to use of the same barracks, recreation halls and other facilities indiscriminately.

7-7-45

The Bureau of Naval Personnel directive is intended to obtain the maximum use of Navy training and housing facilities and is said to be in line with "established policy" of non-discrimination and equal handing of all personnel wearing the Navy uniform.

56k-1945 Waves

Negro WAVES Pass Hunter Without Ripple

P.M. N.Y. 2-11-45

Now Assigned to Stations From Coast to Coast

The first contingent of Negro WAVES has completed "boot" training at Hunter College. There were no segregation, no incidents, no protests.

The 31 entered the Bronx training school of the Women's Naval Reserve on Dec. 28. They have now been scattered from coast to coast for further training and assignment, with the largest number, 10, going to San Diego. Four have been assigned to Bethesda, Md., where they will be trained for the Navy Hospital Corps. Five went to the Navy supply depot at Mechanicsburg, Pa.; three to mail school here in New York, and five to the Yeoman School at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Two are assigned to the Third Naval District, and one each was sent to Boston and to the International Business Machine School here. 2-11-45

Their preliminary training concluded, the Negro women will now study a wide variety of specialties, ranging from medical laboratory technique to aviation mechanics.

The 31 were in the last large class—1680—to enter the WAVES training school. Under the present curtailed recruiting quota, only 250 recruits enter the USS Hunter every two weeks.

The school, which is just starting its third year, has given preliminary training to 77,876 enlisted WAVES, 3380 Marines and 1958 SPARS. The latter two women's services now have their own schools.

The first contingent of Negro women was not segregated in the dormitories, mess halls, classrooms or drill grounds. Lt. Harriet Pickens, for example, has been regimental adjutant at reviews of the 5000 plus WAVES on the campus, and Ensign Frances Elizabeth Wills has been giving aptitude tests. 2-11-45

In the reorganization of the school now in progress, both Negro officers are in the training department. Lt. Pickens' most recent lecture was on fleet organization and task forces.

Waves in Hospital School

Washington Post 2-10-45 Post Staff Photo

FIRST IN WASHINGTON—Examining the dummy on which they're going to do a lot of practicing in the next four weeks in the Hospital Corps School at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center are three of the first four Negro Waves to be stationed in Washington. Left to right are Inez Patterson, 20; Ruth C. Isaacs, 21, and Katherine Horton, 24, who arrived early in the week. Jacqueline Benson, 23, the fourth Wave, is not pictured. Upon completing their course they will be Hospital Apprentices 2/c

Report Encouraging.

N.Y. Amsterdam News

All went well for the first Negro Wave graduates who finished their training last week at Hunter College. The girls encountered no jim-crowism, their presence was not protested against and everyone who entered the Bronx training school on Dec. 28 finished up well satisfied with everything.

The girls are now scattered throughout the nation for further training and assignment. Ten have gone to San Diego, four to Bethesda, Md., to study for the Navy hospital corps; five went to the Navy supply depot at Mechanicsburg, Pa.; three to mail school here in New York and five to the yeoman school at Cedar Falls, Ia. Two entered the Third Naval district and one each was sent to Boston and to the International Business Machine school here. The girls now will specialize in some particular field. 3-3-45

The Negro Waves graduated along with the last of the large classes, this one numbering 1,680. According to a recent decree, only 250 recruits will enter the USS Hunter every two weeks.

1st WAVE Graduates

Classmates Say Lt. (J.G.) Pickens, Ensign Wills Fine Navy Material

By MABLE ALSTON

NORTHHAMPTON, Mass. — White classmates training with the two colored WAVE candidates had highest praise for them, this week.

"Lt. (j.g.) Harriet Pickens is one of the best friends," said Ensign Nellie I. Renegar, white, of Florence, Ala., when asked how she liked training with the two colored officers at the Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School (WR), Thursday. 1-6-45

"I really did enjoy training with both Lt. (j.g) Pickens and Ensign Wills they are swell."

Third in Class

"Gee it was swell training with Pickens and Wills, and you bet I am proud of them. Did you know that Pickens stands third with honors in our class of 186?," said Ruth Rose of Chicago, Ill. "I am from a Navy family. My father is at present a captain and I know good Navy material when I see it. Both Pickens and Wills have just what it takes."

"Marvelous is the word to describe Lt. (j.g.) Pickens and Ensign Wills," said Paula Strain of Pittsburgh, Pa., "I most certainly did enjoy my training with the young women." "That goes double for us," said Daisy McClure and Frances Kelly of Chicago.

Brilliant Student

"Harriet is a very unique and brilliant person," said Nancy English, of New Haven, Conn., "and I not only enjoyed training with her but her friendship as well."

Lt. (j.g.) Pickens said:

"I have had to study very hard but when I find myself third on the honor roll of my class of 186, it has been worth every effort that I have put forth.

Engaged to Army Man

"There are many rules and regulations of the Navy that we don't understand. But to be a success one must obey them willingly and cheerfully. I am engaged to Sgt. John B. Horne, Lena Horne's uncle, who is stationed at Camp Lee. Wedding plans are indefinite because I have been assigned along with Ensign Wills to Hunter College. One must put the winning of the war above their own happiness nowadays." 1-6-45

"I enjoyed my training very much, and my only regret today is that my mother could not be here to see me graduate. I am not engaged but am very interested in my career in the Navy," said Ensign Frances E. Wills.

Not only did Lt. (j.g.) Harriet Ida Pickens, Ensign Frances Wills, and other students bid a fond farewell to each other but to the picturesque little town of Northhampton as well, Thursday.

This was the last graduation day for the Midshipmen's School established in August 1942. It has been he training school for almost every officer in the Women's Reserve.

Only a few of the staff and the student officers at the communications school will remain in Northhampton where in a little more than 9,000 midshipmen have been commissioned.

These have included three French girls who were commissioned in Les Services Feminins de la Flotte, the French Navy's women's reserve, and the first two colored women to be admitted to the WAVES.

End WAVE Training at Smith

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

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Lt. (j.g.) Harriet Pickens and Ensign Frences Wills, the first colored women to receive commissions in the WAVES are shown as they packed their luggage preparatory to leaving Smith College at Northampton, Mass., where they underwent training. The two officers are slated to report to Hunter College in New York City, where they will receive their duty assignments.

First Race Waves Get Commissions; One Heads Class

Atlanta Daily World 1-6-45

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Despite the fact that two Negro girls, Harriet Ida Pickens and Frances Eliza Wills, suffered the handicap of entering the Waves school when more than one third of the eight weeks course was over, both were graduated December 21, and Miss Pickens, now lieutenant (jg- in the navy, went over the group. More than 200 were commissioned Wave officers at the exercises.

More than 200 were commissioned Wave officers at the exercises.

Taking the course at Naval Reserve Midshipmen's school (WR), Northampton, Mass., on the campus of Smith college, Lt. Pickens maintained stardom in basketball which she created during her four years at Smith college, as a regular college student.

Fellow Waves were amazed at the skill and precision with which she played the game; her intellect, personality and general background were so widely discussed that Life magazine sent a photographer to the school to make pictures of her. At least one of these photos will be used in a future edition of the magazine. 1-6-45

Present at the exercises was Dean William J. Pickens, the officer's proud father who afterwards commented:

"Hitler and Hirohito ought to have seen it all; they would despair of ever licking our navy, with 'females of the species of that calibre in it."

Lt. Pickens has been assigned to Hunter college, New York, where she will probably train enlisted recruits.

N. Y. WAVE Becomes Hospital Apprentice

New York Age 4-7-45

Inez Patterson, hospital apprentice first class, U.S.N.R., of 502 West 149th street, was one of the first group of Negro WAVES to be graduated from the Hospital Corps School for WAVES, Bethesda, Md. She is shown receiving her diploma from Captain John Harper, MCO USN, Commanding Officer of the school. Hospital Apprentice Patterson is now at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Great Lakes, Ill., where she is receiving further training prior to her assignment to regular duty.

U. S. Navy Photo from OWI

Joins Waves

Chicago Defender

ELLEN C. MOSS, S 2-c

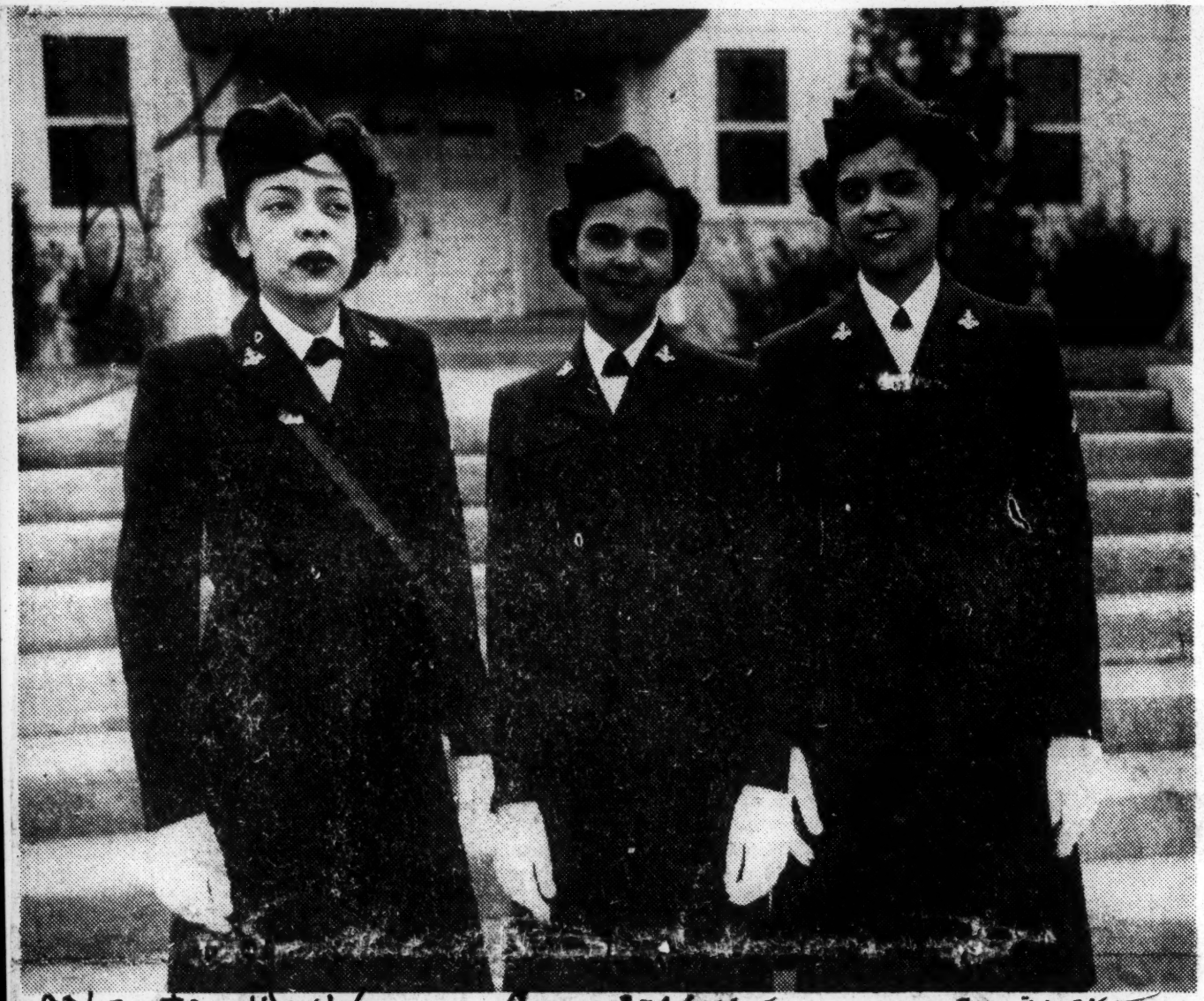
Sister of Mrs. Christine C. Johnson of 4349 South Parkway who joined the WAVES in May, is now stationed at the Fleet post office, Balboa Park, San Francisco. She received her training at Hunter college, New York. Her work consists of priming mail for the boys overseas. She is a former resident of Louisville. 9-1-45

WAVES HAVE 56 NEGRO MEMBERS; MORE ARE SOUGHT BY THE NAVY

St. Louis Argus 7-27-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—July 24—with the great sea offensive under way in the Pacific, and with replacements necessitated for thousands of men whose services are urgently needed on the battlefronts, the Nevy Department this week urged qualified Negro women to join with the two colored commissioned officers and 54 enlisted Waves in playing an active part in a speedy victory. 7-27-45

The Navy is now seeking 20,000 Waves to help support the Pacific offensive and to help care for the increasing number of men being wounded on the battlefronts. Half of those who enlist in the current drive will be assigned to the Hospital Corps, and the rest to shore jobs in communications, supply, radio and aviation and other branches which are vital in winning final victory in the Pacific.



FIRST NEGRO WAVES ENTER HOSPITAL CORPS SCHOOL AT MEDICAL CENTER — Hospital Apprentices (left to right) Ruth C. Isaacs, Katherine Horton and Inez Patterson are the first three Negro WAVES to enter the Hospital Corps School at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md. — (Navy-OWI Photo)

Atlanta World Ga. 3-11-45 3-11-45

Four Negro Waves Assigned To D. C.

Atlanta World 3-4-45 Ga.

WASHINGTON, — (ANP(— The first four Negro Waves to be given duty in this area arrived recently at the Bethesda Naval Medical center, where they are to begin a training period which will qualify them as hospital apprentices 2-c. The course is a four week one which offers intence training in basic hospital work and care. 3-4-45

The four Waves taking the the course are Inez Patterson, Ruth C. Isaac, Katherine Horton and Jacqueline Benson.

San Diego Gets First Negro Waves

Journal & Guide 3-10-45

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—(ANP)— The first draft of Negro Waves assigned to the San Diego area arrived last week and are stationed at the U. S. Naval Frontier base under the command of Capt. Carlyle Craig, USN (ret.).

Arrival of the nine women, all seamen second class, marks the beginning of enlisted WAVES stationed at the frontier base, which is made up of more than 50 percent Negro personnel.

The Waves are taking over clerical duties in the personnel, supply, engineering and captain's offices. Two are studying communications work and two others will operate the telephone switchboard. 3-10-45

Included in the group are Jane A. Freeman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Freeman, of 164 Walnut avenue, Boston; Elizabeth A. Bonner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Bonner of 3652 Vincennes avenue, Chicago; Joy Lewis, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hampton Lewis, reside at 5255 Roosevelt avenue, Detroit; Annabelle Palmer, of 606 Selma street, Mobile, Ala.; Jesse Richardson, daughter of Joseph Richardson, of 4327 Vincennes avenue, Chicago.

Ada Frierson, whose mother, Mrs. Ethel Frierson, lives at 2 East 127th street, New York City; Yolanda Coram, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. U. G. Coram, of 495 St. Anthony avenue, St. Paul, Minn.; Frances Bates, daughter of Mrs. Pearl Bates, of 269 West 138th street, New York City, and Alice A. Chatman, daughter of Mrs. Helen Chatman, who lives at 1174 Pryor street, Southwest, Atlanta.

A WAVE AT WORK

Chicago Defender 7-7-45

Base Hospital at Great Lakes Naval Training Center did not wait for the recent directive to wipe out Jim Crow at the entire base, as issued by the Bureau of Naval personnel last week. Wounded veterans from all branches of the service have been received and grouped not according to their color but according to their type of injury or illness. Brown marines, seabees, and GIs dot the long rows of returned fighting men, to be treated by whatever nurse or aide is assigned to the ward. Here is Ph. Mate 3-c Ruth Issacs of New York, at her duties in Vet, Hospital (73 South), attending Cpl. William Lee Dorrell, a marine hit in battle at Iwo Jima. He shares the room with another soldier, both recovering from abdominal wounds. 7-7-45

Pittsburgh Courier 8-2-45

LAST-MINUTE INSTRUCTIONS — Lt. (jg) Harriet Pickens, New York City, gives last-minute instructions to Wave recruits at the U. S. Naval Training School (WR), Bronx, N. Y., before they leave for advanced training, or a job. Left to right: Betty Edmundson, Detroit; Jacqueline Benson, Chicago; Elizabeth Bonner, Chicago, and Polly Ann Gearin, St. Louis. Ensign Frances Dills, testing officer at the "boot" school, checks drafts with Lieutenant Pickens.—Official U. S. Navy Photo. 2-3-45

In Birthday Celebration

LT. (J.G.) HARRIET PICKENS, who was one of the first two Negro women to be enlisted in the WAVEs. She, along with thousands of Negro women members will celebrate the third birthday of her corps on Monday, July 31.

Atlanta Daily

WAVE APPRENTICE — Inez Patterson, hospital apprentice first class, USRN, of New York City, was one of the first group of Negro Waves to be graduated from the Hospital Corps School for Waves at Betnesda, Md. She is shown receiving her diploma from Captain John Harper (MC) USN, commanding officer of the school. Hospital Apprentice Patterson is now at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Great Lakes, Ill., where she is receiving further training prior to her assignment regular duty. (US NAVY PHOTO from OWI.)

Negro WAVEs Celebrate Corps' Third Birthday

N.Y. Amsterdam News = N.Y.N.Y.

This year's celebration of the third anniversary of the founding of the WAVES, to be observed July 30, will be the first year Negro members of the Corps will join in the celebration over the 100,000, larger than the Women's Army Corps. 7-28-45

It was not until November of last year that the first Negro women were admitted to this branch of the service. Since that time, they along with the thousands of their white co-members have been working for the successful completion of the war.

Their record has been a good one since their admission, both in the ranks and among the officers, as the Navy, having broken the precedent of past bias, now becomes one of the most liberal of the armed forces.

With the observation of this year's birthday, the Corps is seeking 20,000 new members, many of whom will surely be Negro women, to bring the total enlistment well

Women Reserves are badly needed at this time in the field of medicine, and it is thought that at least half of the new women to be recruited for the corps will be used in medical detachments.

Training is being offered in this field with especial emphasis on rehabilitation, and women joining the corps at this time will receive invaluable training and experience in one of the professions which will be of paramount importance in the post war world. 7-28-45

FEW NEGROES IN WAVES AT 3RD ANNIVERSARY

Iowa Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Washington—Following the participation for the first time of Negro women in an anniversary celebration of the WAVES, the Department of the Navy this week renewed its appeal to qualified colored candidates to lend their aid to the growing sea offensive in the Pacific. 8-9-45

The third anniversary celebration of the WAVES was held with appropriate ceremonies on July 30. Only two Negro commissioned officers and 54 enlisted WAVES were included in the 8,000 officers and 70,000 enlisted WAVES then on duty in 900 shore activities throughout the continental United States and in he territory of Hawaii. A few Negro women were included among the 8,000 women now in training or awaiting call to duty.

56k-1945

31 Waves Finish Hunter; No Lines

AFRO-AMERICAN 2-17-45 Md.

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Four of the first class of thirty-one WAVES to complete training at Hunter College have been assigned to the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, just outside of Washington.

They are Inez Patterson, Ruth Isaacs, Katherine Horton, and Jacqueline Benson.

The thirty-one Waves entered training at Hunter College on Decemeber 28, 1944. On graduation they have been scattered from coast to coast for further training and assignment. Ten were sent to San Deigo, five to the Naval Supply Depot at Mechanicsburg, Pa., three to a mail school in New York, five to Yeoman School at Cedar Falls, Iowa, two to the Third Naval District and one each to Boston and to the International Busness Mechanics School in New York. 2-17-45

These women are now studying a wide variety of specialities arranging from medical laboratory techniques to aviation mechanics.

These 31 were in the last large class numbering 1680 to enter the WAVES training school. They were not segregated in the dormitories, mess halls, classrooms, nor drill grounds. Lt. Harriet Pickens, one of the two colored officers, has been regimental adjutant at reviews of the 5,000 WAVES on the campus and Ensign Frances Elizabeth Wills has been giving aptitude tests. 2-17-45

Third to Navy

AFRO-AMERICAN

MISS EULA L. STIMLEY, of Chicago, recently sworn into the Navy Nurse Corps, was the third to be appointed. She was preceded in the service by Phyllis Mae Daley of New York City and Edith M. DeVoe of Washington. 5-26-45

Colored WAVES Graduated At Hunter College

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—Four of the first class of 31 colored WAVES to complete training at Hunter College have been assigned to the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, just outside of Washington. They are: Inez Patterson, Ruth Isaacs, Katherine Horton, and Jacqueline Benson.

The 31 colored WAVES entered training at Hunter College on December 28, 1944. On graduation they have been scattered from coast to coast for further training and assignment. Ten were sent to San Diego, five to the Navy Supply Depot at Mechanicsburg, Pa.; three to a mail school in New York; five to the Yeoman School at Cedar Falls, Iowa; two to the Third Naval District and one each to Boston and to the International Business Mechanics School in New York.

These women are now studying a wide variety of specialities arranging from medical laboratory techniques to aviation mechanics. 2-17-45

These 31 were in the last large class numbering 1680 to enter the WAVES training school. They were not segregated in the dormitories, mess halls, classrooms nor drill grounds. Lt. Harriet Pickens one of the two Negro officers, has been regimental adjutant at reviews of the 5,000 WAVES on the campus and Ensign Frances Elizabeth Wills has been giving aptitude tests.

In the reorganization of the school now in progress both of these officers are in the training department. 2-17-45 Lt. Pickens' most recent lecture was on fleet organization and task forces.

Navy Stands Up on Inspection, No Segregation Among WAVES

AFRO-AMERICAN

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK — When the first group of colored Waves arrived at the U.S. Naval Training Station (WR), formerly Hunter College, in the Bronx, last December, there was much speculation as to whether they would be discriminated against or segregated.

The Navy has done right well for itself. The AFRO is happy to report that the 60-odd colored Waves who have already received their boot training here and been transferred to other assignments, and the 12 who are here at present have enjoyed complete equality. They have messed together, bunked togetherfi and attended classes together.

As far as the Navy policy is concerned, girls, white or colored, are Waves, and they have thoroughly stuck by it. 6-16-45

AFRO interviews with five colored Waves this week revealed that all were happy in having joined this branch of the service and in the work they were doing.

Seaman Anna Lou Markham, 20, an apprentice seaman from 1406 W. 62nd Street, Chicago, Ill., has

Seeks Flight Post

has been here six months foh mam worked in a defense plant, and joined the Waves because she was interested in the Navy.

"I love it here," she asid, "and I would like to get into aviation as a flight orderly in the Specialist V-Branch.

She has four cousins and one uncle in the Army.

Seaman Gloria E. Harris, 21, also an apprentice seaman, lives at 47 Chadwick Avenue, Newark, N.J., and is a regular reader of the AFRO. She also has been here six weeks, and formerly atended Commercial Art School, a course she intends to finish after the war is over.

"They have a wonderful reputation in the Waves," she explained, "and as a woman's organization in the war effort, I think it is tops. It's splendid here: good food, regular hours, and the calithenics and exercise are good for morale."

Has Hero Uncle

She wants to get a Specialist-X rating, doing public relations or advertising work in the Waves. Her uncle, Sgt. George Gordon, was a World War I hero. He rereceived the Croix-de-Guerre for capturing six carloads of German ammunition single-handed. She has three cousins in the service.

There are two colored Wave officers at the school who are doing a splendid job for which they have been praised by high-ranking officials. They are Lt. (jg) Harriet Pickens and Ensign Frances Wills who were among the first to arrive at this trainig school last December.

Lt. Pickens is assistant advanced training officer and lectures to Waves in training. She was graduated third in the last class of officers at the Naval Reserve Midshipmen School, Northampton, Mass. A graduate, cum laude, of Smith Colege, Lt. Pickens also attended Columbia University. She taught at Bennet College, Greensboro, N.C., and was executive secretary of the Harlem Committee of the N.Y. Tuberculosis and Health Association before joining the Waves.

"I lecture on communications and security, task forces in action, distribution of supplies by sea and air, and naval history," she told the AFRO. "I also give morale lessons."

Ensign Wills was one of the first three colored women to be sworn into the Waves, enlisting in New York City on November 13, 1944. She received officers' training at at Northampton, Mass., and was commissioned on December 21 of that year. A graduate of Hunter College, NYC, she has been with the Riverdale Children's Association and was a social worker at the time of her enlistment.

Assigned to the classification department here, Ensign Wills is under the supervision of Lt. Helen Strauss, (USNR), white. She gives new recruits aptitude tests.

"My job is to supervise the testing program," she explained. "and arrange interviews for them with special interviewers."

Ensign Wills lectures on the types of jobs in the Navy.

Segregation Not Practice In Navy Unit

All Goes Well For First Negro WAVE Graduates

NEW YORK — (A N P) — All went well for the first Negro Wave graduates who finished their training last week at Hunter college. The girls encountered no jimcrowism, their presence was not protested against and everyone who entered the Bronze training school on December 28 finished up well satisfied with everything.

The girls are now scattered throughout the nation for further training and assignment. Ten have gone to San Diego, four to Bethesda, Md., to study for the Navy hospital corps; five went to the Navy supply depot at Machinesburg, Pa.; three to mail school here in New York and five to the yeoman school at Cedar Fallas, Iowa. Two entered the third naval district and one each was sent to Boston and to the International Business Machine school here. The girls now will specialize in some particular field.

The Negro Waves graduated along with the last of the large classes, this one numbering 1,680. According to a recent decree, only 250 recruits will enter the USS Hunter every two weeks.

The public is all eyes, wondering if this unbiased policy toward Negro Waves will continue. Lt. Harriet Pickens, one of the first colored girls to enter this branch of the service, since her graduation has served as regimental adjutant at reviews of the more than 5,000 Waves on the campus and Ens. Francis Elizabeth Wills has been directing aptitude tests.

Both young officers are being assigned to the training department in the school's reorganization program. Lt. Pickens also has lectured since her entrance into the servcie. Her most recent speech was on fleet organization and task forces.

The 31 girls who just graduated were not segregated in the dormitories, mess halls, classrooms or drill grounds.

Women Reservists of Both Races Live, Work, Play Together Harmoniously at Virginia Barracks

Seaman 2/c Thelma L. Richards of Roxbury, Mass., is in Communications and Radio Assembly.

Seaman 1/c June Edmondson of Detroit, Mich., striking for yeoman, of the Bureau of Navy Personnel, is shown with Yeoman Ruth Clark of Medford, Mass.

Seaman 2/c Virginia L. Woods, striking for telegraphy, tidies her quarters in true Navy fashion.

Seaman 2/c Esther E. Ashby of Reidville, Ohio, was photographed in the library of the barracks.

Lt. Nelle Schmidt, in charge of the WAVE barracks, dictates to Seamon 1/c Clementine B. Forsythe of Roxbury, Mass., who is stationed in the Bureau of Navy Personnel. Women reservists fill jobs formerly held by man.

56k-1945

Waves

No Segregation for WAVE Apprentices at Bronx Training School

After American 2-13-45

LUBERTA WATERS is getting fitted for GI shoes at the U.S. Naval Training School (WR) Bronx, N.Y., where she is a "boot" WAVE Apprentice Seaman. Seaman Waters's home is 513 E. Oklahoma Street, Tulsa, Okla.

U.S. NAVY CHOW" is good, judging from the inroads made on a tray in the mess hall at the U.S. Naval Training School (WR) Bronx, N.Y., by new "boots." Navy, often accused of being hotbed of racial prejudice, isn't allowing it here, where colored WAVES are undergoing six weeks' training.

GETTING FITTED for her new WAVE uniform at the U.S. Naval Training School (WR) Bronx, N.Y., where she is a "boot" is WAVE Apprentice Seaman Jessie Richardson (left), 4327 Vincennes Avenue, Chicago. Ill.

Reminds Her of Civilian Work in YWCA

Lt. Harriet Pickens Says Life in WAVES

Kansas City Call Mo. 4-20-45

NEW YORK.—(ANP) — Life aboard the U.S.S. Hunter, as seen by the Wave Lt. Harriet L. Pickens, is not very different from her life in the Y.M.C.A. There is the same absence of race prejudice, the same stress on appreciating a viewpoint different from your own job, according to the lieutenant, bears a distinct resemblance to some Y.W.C.A. programs, in which she used to take part, notably that of the public affairs committee.

Lt. Pickens is an assistant in advanced training for Wave recruits, and her particular responsibility is indoctrination. It is her job to see that the recruits assimilate thoroughly the history, organization, recent exploits, ratings and personnel of the navy. They must learn to know the difference between a cruiser and a battleship and between military and naval insignia. Studying what the navy knows as the "documents in her group discussions with her fellow members of the Y.W.C.A. National Business and Professional council.

4-20-45

"The Y.W.C.A.," said the Wave officer, "got me interested in public questions, and it also got me the habit of stating my opinions simply and quietly on controversial issues. That has been of enormous help in my work."

There is one great point of difference between the Waves and the Y.W.C.A. according to Lt. Pickens. Whereas in the former, the discipline is of necessity imposed from outside, in the Y.W.C.A. it is self-imposed. So far as conduct is concerned, however, the net result is the same, in the lieutenant's opinion.

"Habit is great teacher, too," she said. "Military courtesy and consideration are the order of the day and become a habit with the Waves." 4-20-45

Lt. Pickens, who was born in Talladega, Ala., has spent most of her life in New York, which has been her home since 1920. She joined the Y.W.C.A. in 1923 and, thanks to the experience she got there in camping, swimming and other exercise, she found her strenuous officer's training easy.

"It seems to me," Lt. Pickens said, "that the Waves are setting new standards for women in physical health. They didn't happen to be new to me because of my camping and gym work, but I shouldn't be surprised to see a great increase in the Y.W. physical education classes, when the war is over and the former servicewoman return to their old sedentary occupations."

COLOR COMMUNIQUE

Chicago Defender

First Negro Women Finish Wave School

1-6-45

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Despite the fact that two Negro girls, Harriet Ida Pickens and Frances Eliza Wills, suffered the handicap of entering the Waves school when more than one-third of the eight weeks' course was over, both were graduated Dec. 21. Miss Pickens, now lieutenant (j-g) in the navy, went over the top by finishing as one of five honor students and ranking third in this small group. More than 200 were commissioned WAVE officers at the exercises.

Taking the course at Naval Reserve Midshipmen's school (WR), Northampton, Mass., on the campus of Smith college, Lt. Pickens maintained the standom in basketball which she won during her four years at Smith college, as a regular college student.

Present at the exercises was Dean William J. Pickens, the officer's proud father who afterwards commented: 1-6-45

"Hitler and Hirohito ought to have seen it all; they would despair of ever licking our navy, with 'females of the species' of that caliber in it."

Lt. Pickens has been assigned to Hunter college, New York, where she will probably train enlisted recruits.

WAVE PIONEERS MAKE 'DEBUT' AT GREAT LAKES

4-14-45 Chicago Defender

The first group of Negro WAVEs assigned to the U.S. Naval hospital at Great Lakes, Ill., includes Katherine Horton of Brooklyn shown going about her duties as hospital apprentice.

Preparing a hypodermic injection is Ruth C. Isaacs, hospital apprentice, first class, former postal worker of New York City. HA1-c Isaacs states that her work at the Great Lakes U. S. Naval hospital is one more step toward a life-long ambition to become a full-fledged nurse. When the war is over, she intends to continue study at a nurses training school. She resided at 474 West 150th street, New York City, before enlisting in the WAVEs.

Racial discrimination, often associated with the U.S. Navy, is absent as Inez Patterson, hospital apprentice, first class, and co-WAVEs Lillian Miller of Hazelton, Pa., left, and Virginia Herman of Chicago, center, go about their business of bringing the war's end closer. HA1-c Patterson, a native of New York City, was a file clerk for a Manhattan real estate company prior to entering the service of her country. She qualified for her present rating by attending the National Naval Medical center at Bethesda, Md., as did WAVEs Horton and Isaacs. —Official U.S. Navy photos.

561-1945

Negro Officers Serve As Judges In Army Court Martial In Britain

Chicago, Ill.

Chicago Defender 1-6-45

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

AT AN ARMY COURT MARTIAL IN BRITAIN—Watching an Army General Court Martial like any civilian criminal trial is not exactly a pleasant scene.

But to anyone who remembers the long U. S. Supreme Court battle to outlaw systematic exclusion of Negro jurors in criminal trials, witnessing an Army Court Martial with Negro officers sitting on foreign soil as members of a court trying white and black offenders becomes bearable.

An interview with able, pleasant Colonel E. J. Kotrich, former Minnesota lawyer, member of Judge Advocate Section, European Theatre of Operations, U. S. Army, revealed new methods of issuing Army justice.

"Negro officers are serving as members of army courts-martial in France and England," said Colonel Kotrich. "Following the Articles of War, basic American military code, all officers in military service of the United States are competent to serve on courts-martial for trial of any person lawfully brought before such court for trial."

GI's Go "Over The Hill"

It was a cold Thanksgiving morning when I reached this clapboarded frame building in the center of this Army Post to watch the quality of mercy meted out to recalcitrant GIs. Ushered into the courtroom, ten members of the court, including one Negro captain, faced me seated around a rectangular "U" shaped desk. Three trials awaited their disposal.

All involved the violation of the 61st Article of War; each accused had been AWOL "over the hill" for various lengths of time. Two Negro lads had been away for periods totalling collectively one year; the white lad was a nine-day AWOL but there was the serious charge of having deserted his package shipment detachment after having been alerted for the continent and the charge of having assaulted a taxi driver with intent to do bodily harm.

A hush falls over the courtroom as the prosecutor, a young lieutenant, member of the Judge Advocate General's staff, stands up. The accused took his seat by his appointed counsel, an army captain. 1-6-45

Plead Guilty

Two white-helmeted MPs with drawn guns stand guard at the only exit; one GI reporter takes down the testimony. They are the only other occupants in the courtroom besides myself.

The President opens the court. The prosecutor reads the charge. The accused is asked whether he is satisfied with his present counsel and whether he is satisfied with the members of the court to try his case.

With no objections the prosecution and the court swear themselves to uphold the law. The accused stands and without the trace of any emotion pleads guilty to charges of being absent without leave.

The President advises him that he is still subject to a life sentence and asks him whether he still wishes to plead guilty. The accused nods his head in assent.

Remains Silent

The prosecutor offers into evidence the length of time and circumstances of the absence and rests his case. The accused is asked whether he wishes to make a statement; three options are available to him. He could take the stand and testify under oath, in which event he would be open to cross examination; he could give an unsworn statement without any cross examination; or he could remain silent. The accused elected to remain silent.

The court is closed to all but the members of the court, then opened again to hear other evidences of convictions. This is the first time that the court hears of any other crimes of the accused—after he has been found guilty—and then only for the purpose of determining sentence!

The accused stands before the court, his face a ghost-like mask, almost as though he knew in advance what the sentence would be. The President's words came quickly ending with "fifteen years at hard labor, dishonorable discharge and forfeiture of all pay."

All Cases Reviewed

The second case was the same as the first and in the last case, the white lad was found guilty of all charges and his sentence was twenty-five years.

Contrary to popular notions, this is not the end of these cases for these sentences and the entire proceedings will be reviewed by a board of review composed of three senior officers acting as an appellate court. This is an automatic appeal that the convicted soldier receives without his voluntary action which reviews the matter for irregularities which may result in an order for execution of sentence, setting aside of sentence, or rehearing.

In one case tried recently where the accused received life for an AWOL charge, the automatic appeal won a remission of sentence to ten years and a suspension of the dishonorable discharge.

By the latter method the army is trying to reclaim men, and the soldier is given another chance at a rehabilitation center. Here, the soldier's reorientation proceeds in a setting of understanding and helpfulness; if the soldier makes good both his sentence and the dishonorable discharge are remitted and after in some instances, six months, the soldier goes to a new outfit with a clean slate. Some 600 men have been restored.

Some Returned To States

However, men convicted of felonies such as murder and rape are sent to Federal penitentiaries in the states; some 315 have been returned. The army tries hard to keep its valuable men that have cost taxpayers so much in equipment and training, to say nothing of allotments. In the three cases heard, their allotments to their families continued without interruption while they were AWOL. However, on conviction, they are discontinued.

The trial over, I talked to Captain Wilbur W. Sewell, 2147 East 24th street, Kansas City, Mo., who was the only Negro member of the court. The captain is the ranking Negro officer of an Engineering regiment and has had much experience in trying all types of courts-martial, summary, special, and general.

Military justice, while it lacks much of the time-worn aspects of the justice of civilian courts, however, is fair, impartial, and speedy. With Negro members acting as members of the court and as defense counsels, Negro GIs who are unfortunate enough to have to face a court, are meted justice.

Going through the Judge Advocate General's section I saw no Negro members of this staff. However, there are four Negro members of the Judge Advocate General's staff stationed elsewhere in the states. They are: Captains James A. McClendon, Lycurgus J. Connor and First Lieut. Robert W. Ming, all of Chicago, Ill. Second Lieut. William McClain of Cincinnati, Ohio, is the fourth member.

In connection with Negro offenders, a prosecutor told me that "the proportion of cases involving Negro soldiers aren't any greater than any other soldiers and the same applies to the types of offenses."

Court Martial Board Gets 1st Colored Member

In Farmer

Houston Texas 1-6-45

MEMPHIS.— (ANP) — The appointment of their son, Capt. Henry L. Twigg, now with the American Expeditionary forces in the European Theatre of Operations as a member of the general court martial board, was learned Wednesday by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Twigg Sr., pioneer residents of this city.

1-6-45

Capt. Twigg, it was learned, is the first Negro officer in the European theatre to receive such an appointment. His board is identified with the Third U. S. army. He volunteered for service with the armed forces more than three years ago and was promoted to the commissioned rank at Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyo., when he finished officers' candidate school. Subsequent promotions have advanced him to the rank of captain.

1-31-45

CAPT. RICHARD PULLAM, LT. RICHARD GROVES RETURNED PILOTS, VISIT K. C. WAR PLANTS

Northwest Enterprise

Seattle

Kansas City, Mo.

Although rest, peace and quiet are what they wanted most when they came home from the wars, Capt. Richard C. Pullam and Lt. Wildon K. Grovs, fighter pilots, have been kept "on the go" ever since they came to the city from ovrseas. 1-31-45

Lt. Grovs is a cousin of Robert Groves, son of Kansas Potato King and manager of Elks Club, 662½ Jackson street, Seattle, lives in Edwardsville, Kans., and has been busy traveling back and forth from his parents' home there to meet the demands of his friends and the public.

The social events arranged for the returning flyers have shared the flyers' calendar with more serious activities, but time has been found for social affairs, too.

On Monday afternoon, Capt. Pullam and Lt. Grovs were taken to the offices of the board of education by Earl D. Thomas, for the Industrial Arts and Vocation-al club, the Industrial teachers

Visit City Officials

On Tuesday, the pilots visited Mayor John B. Gage and City Manager L. P. Cookingham at the city hall. They were escorted by a group of citizens including the Rev. D. A. Holmes, pastor of the Paseo Baptist Church; Thomas A. Webster, executive secreatry of the Urban League; Lewis W. Clymr of the War Manpower Commission; and Lucile H. Bluford and Dowdal H. Davis of The Call.

After chatting with Dr. Hunt and Dr. Hayes A. Richardson of the city welfare department participated in the conference in the city managerse' office.

After the city hall visit, the flyers were guests at the North

wanted Dr. Herold C. Hunt and O. H. Day, superintendent of the vocational education department, and Mr. Day in the two pilots were introduced to the two young men from ment's office, the other school board talked to the pilots in Italy and the war. All were High school and has a trade certificate into auto mechanics.

American bomber plant where after lunch in the plant cafeteria, the spoke to workers assembled at the noon hour. North American officials warmly welcomed the flyers as the P-51 Mustang planes in whicr Capt. Pullam and Lt. Groves flew their missions over Italy are made by the North American plant in California. 2-31-45

After touring the plant, the flyers visited the Pratt & Whitney Aircraft plant where airplane engines are made.

Last Friday, Captain and Mrs. Pullam and Lt. Groves were special guests at the Alpha-Kappa party and on Saturday were the guests at a cocktail party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer C. Jackson, Jr., in Kansas City, Kans. 2-31-45

They attended a party at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Williams Saturday night and later, a smoker at Elks Rest. Sunday evening, Captà Pullam spoke to the Kansas Citians Club at the home of Dr. and Mrs. L. V. Miller. The flying officers were guests at a Beau Brummel Club smoker Monday nights and on Wednesday night attended a meeting of th Elks lodge and a buffet supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Warren.

Lt. Groves will leave Friday morning for a redistribution center in California.

First Court-Martial Officer Named Abroad

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore 1-6-45

MEMPHIS — The first colored officer in the European Theatre of Operations to receive such an appointment, Capt. Henry Twigg was recently made a member of the general court-martial board of the Third Army there.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Twigg, Sr., of this city, Captain Twigg volunteered more than three years ago and was promoted to lieutenant at Fort Francis Warren, Wyo., when he finished officers' candidate school.

Detroit Pilot a Prisoner

AFRO-AMERICAN

Lt. Robert Gaiter, fighter pilot, who was reported missing in action over Hungary following a mission on November 19, is a prisoner of war in Germany, the War Department announced this week. He is the husband of Mrs. Doris L. Gaiter of Detroit. 1-13-45

ARRESTED FOR REFUSAL TO SIGN JIM CROW ORDER

Chicago Defender 4-21-45

Six Big Transport Planes Take Pilots To Ky. Field

SEYMOUR, Ind.—Because they refused to sign a jim-crow order, 101 more Negro airmen were arrested at Freeman Field here this week. 4-21-45

The mass arrest came just one week after 61 colored officers of the 477th Bombardment Group were imprisoned for attempting to enter a "white only" Officers' club. All but three of the 61 were later released.

On Thursday 101 Negro officers were arrested and transferred to Godman Field Ky., after their refusal to sign a discrimination order released by base officials on Tuesday.

In an unprecedented mass arrest by air, six C-47 cargo planes swooped down on the field and pilots, navigators and bombardiers were bundled into them and flown to Godman Field on Friday. On arrival there they were placed in two barracks under armed guards.

Refused To Sign Order

Base regulation 85-2, by order of Col. Robert Selway, and signed by Lt. Col. David H. Thomas, director for maintenance and supply, designated separate recreational buildings, mess buildings, club buildings and tennis courts to be used by Negro and white personnel. 4-21-45

Maintaining that this order was a direct violation of army regulation 210-10, paragraph 19, which specifically bars discrimination in officers' clubs, the men bluntly refused to sign the jim crow order.

Eight men of the 619th squadron of the 477th signed with reservations after being intimidated. A board was created, which included two Negro officers, and one by one, the men were called up and ordered to sign.

Basing his authority on the 19th Article of War, Col. Selway ordered the men who refused to sign arrested and confined to quarters at Godman Field.

The jim crow setup at Freeman Field was apparently planned before the arrived on March 5 of the 477th Bombardment Group, the Air Forces' lone Negro bomber squadron. Negro officers were assigned the small inadequate non-commissioned officers' club formerly used by white cadets. White officers were allowed to use the commodious Officers' club. Colored enlisted men have no recreation club at all.

"Segregation Reduces Accidents"

Queries concerning the jim crow setup were answered by Col. Robert Selway Jr., widely known for his Dixie-like rule at Selfridge Field, Mich., with the statement, "If we do not allow Negro and white officers to mix, the accident rate will go down two and two-tenths per cent."

The colored officers refused to even enter their assigned club, which they named "Uncle Tom's Cabin." In an effort to test the jim crow edict which barred air forces officers from an Officers' club, the colored airmen decided to enter the restricted recreation hall last week.

Successive groups of pilots, navigators and bombardiers attempted to enter the club. Each group was stopped at the door by Lt. J D. Rogers, assistant provost marshal. Maj. A. M. White, officer in charge of the club, proceeded to list the names of all Negro officers who tried to enter the club.

3 Officers Held

The following day 61 men were placed under arrest. All but three were later released. Held on charges of "jostling" the post provost marshal were Lt. Marsden A. Thompson, Los Angeles, a trainee adjutant, Lt. Shirley R. Clinton, Camden, N. J., a trainee intelligence officer and Lt. Roger C. Terry, Los Angeles, trainee co-pilot.

Capt. Robert W. McIntosh, public relations officer at the base stated that the recreation hall was not assigned to he men for reasons of "highest morale and efficiency."

In a wire to the White House this week, the N.A.A.C.P. urged prompt revocation of the order barring Negro officers from the "white only" Officers' club at the field.

Ask Removal of Col. Selway

"Order barring Negro officers from club said to have been issued by Col. Robert Selway Jr., who issued and enforced a similar order at Selfridge Field, Mich., in 1943, when some of the men now under arrest were completing their flight training preparatory to entering combat service in the Mediterranean," the telegram stated.

Howard Gould, secretary of he National Urban League aviation committee formed to assure jobs for Negroes in air transportation, declared, "There can be little doubt that the problems that develop under the command of Col Selway raise serious questions regarding the future of Negroes in the field of aviation."

Since there is reason to believe that Selway is responsible for many of the difficulties, Gould announced that he will get in immediate touch with Lester B. Granger of the National Urban League to ask that an investigation be made to determine whether the War Department might be asked to replace Col. Selway.

The 477th Bombardment Group, the only colored bomber squadron in the air forces, has established a creditable record of safety and performance.

Bomber Unit Officers Protest Biased Order

AFRO-AMERICAN - Md. 3-24-45

Unrest Continues as Group Gets Settled at New Base in Indiana

FREEMAN FIELD, Seymour, Ind. — In protest to the establishment of a separate club for them, the 350 officers of the 477th Bombardment Group, recently moved here from Godman Field, Ky., are boycotting all jim-crow facilities at the base.

The establishment of the club was announced to them during a meeting at which Lt. Col. Patterson read to them an army order signed by Gen. O. B. Butler, barring them from the white officers' club. 3-24-45

Liable to Court-Martial

Not only does the order confine them to the separate club, formerly used to house white non-commissioned officers, but it also makes them liable to arrest and court-martial proceedings if they enter the white clubhouse.

Meanwhile, although their commander has ordered that the building be kept warm and open all day, they refuse to enter the inferior clubhouse which they have termed "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Transferred here from Godman Field on March 5, the men express belief that the order was inspired by their commanding officer, Col. Robert Selway, Jr., a West Pointer, who reportedly has the support of ranking officers in Washington.

J.C. Permeates Town

Although considered an expert in training and handling colored airmen, Colonel Selway has been frequently and severely criticized for his enforcement of a segregation policy first at Selfridge Field, Mich., and then at Godman.

The officers say further that he has issued orders to local merchants and service establishments to bar all colored soldiers and that the post commander, Maj. Wilmer E. McDowell, has concurred heartily with the orders.

As a result, they add, one laundry concern which washes the clothing of Nazi prisoners of war has refused to do any work for either the officers or enlisted men.

Nothing for Enlisted Men

The plight of the latter, it is said, is even worse, for they are denied any recreational facilities although a large building suitable for social activities is not being used. 3-24-45

Members of the first and only colored bombardment group, men of the 477th have an almost perfect safety record and declare that records prove their proficiency standard the highest attained by any group in training during the history of the armed forces.

However, they maintain, the enforcement of a segregation policy is tantamount to sabotage inasmuch as lowered morale can impede their progress and affect their work and records.

Army Clears Negro Officers

PM - New York, N.Y.

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Apr. 26.—The War Dept. has dismissed charges against 101 Negro flying officers who had been arrested at Freeman Field, Ind., for refusing to sign a Jim Crow order issued by the commanding officer, the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) reported today. 4-26-45

At the same time, Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas (D., Cal.) wired Secretary of War Stimson urging that charges also be dropped against three additional Negro officers who were arrested earlier for "jostling" a superior officer who sought to deny them admission to the officers' club.

Mrs. Douglas said in her wire that a total of 162 Negro officers had been arrested at the field since Apr. 5, with "all arrests predicated upon an invalid and wrongful order of the field commander." She added that the arrested men had not been furnished charges or permitted to consult counsel.

Leslie Perry, Washington representative of the NAACP, said the release of the 101 officers "is clear proof of the fact that the War Dept. has been able to see through the flimsy attempt of Col. Robert R. Selway, Jr., commanding officer, to segregate Negro officers at the field." 4-26-45

He added that the War Dept. should now take "the next step by removing Col. Selway and his superior officers, Maj. Gen. Frank O. P. Hunter, from command."

561-1945

Army

N.Y. Singer Heads Unit in Pacific

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

CAPT. JOHN D. BATTLES

HOLLANDIA, N.E.I. — Capt John D. Battles, former radio and concert singer of New York, is now commanding officer of the 3740th Quartermaster Co. here.

In the Army since Sept., 1942, Captain Battles finished field artillery officers' candidate school at Fort Sill, Okla., in July, 1943, and then took advanced pilot training at Tuskegee. 12-22-45

Overseas 1 Year

Due to an excess of pilots in the field artillery, he was transferred to the 3536th Quartermaster Co. at Fort Sill and came overseas with that unit in Nov., 1944. He was transferred to his present outfit six months later.

A baritone soloist, Captain Battles was in charge of the Casual camp's orchestra here and has assisted in producing stage shows. He plans to continue voice study and thtrical work on his return to civilian life. In New York, he lives at 450 W. 149th St.

Among the company's other officers is First Lt. Ernest C. Tate of Atlanta, Ga., and New York.

What Negroes Are Doing

Birmingham, Ala. News

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

Negro officers who have served long periods in the same grade will receive promotions before discharge from the Army under a new promotion policy announced last week by the War Department. Such officers will receive promotions under this new policy the first day of their terminal leave period.

The new promotion policy applies to second and first lieutenants who have served in one grade 18 months; captains and majors who have been in grade 24 months, and lieutenant colonels who have been in grade 30 months. In computing the necessary service, 50 per cent additional credit is given for time served overseas.

In order to qualify for the promotion, officers must have an efficiency index of 40 or higher.

12-30-45

561-1945

Officer Re-United With Parents

AFRO-AMERICAN 7-14-45
Md.

Home after nearly four years in Australia, Capt. William Glover, Jr. of 64 N. 34th St., Philadelphia, is shown reunited with his parents, Mr and Mrs. William Glover on the front lawn of their home.

Capt. William Glover Back Overseas Nearly 4 Years

AFRO-AMERICAN 7-14-45

PHILADELPHIA

His home at 64 N. 36th St., decorated with flags, bunting and welcome signs, Capt. William Glover Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Glover Sr., returned to the United States, Monday, after nearly four years overseas.

The captain, who had three narrow escapes from bombs while overseas, said upon his return from Australia that he had caught up on his sleep but that he has not regained his pre-war appetite.

Captain Glover, who enlisted in the Army in 1937, and was discharged after two years of service, re-enlisted in 1940.

Stopped at Pearl Harbor

He received his commission as a second lieutenant from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., and in 1941, was assigned to the 367th Infantry at Camp Claiborne, La.

7-14-45

Going overseas in Nov., 1941, Glover said that his ship en route to Australia left Pearl Harbor one week before the Japanese raid.

Captain Glover was the exchange officer in charge of an all-white civilian and military group whose duty it was to supply the front lines with provisions.

Served in New Guinea

Following his assignment in Melbourne, in New Guinea, he served with the 394th Port Battalion, an all-colored outfit, on New Guinea.

Commenting on the MacArthurs, the captain said, "Mrs. MacArthur is a very charming woman; she would come to the canteen often. I was at Melbourne when the general himself arrived from Corregidor."

Army

To Enter Business

A former member of athletic teams at Overbrook High School and Pennsylvania State College, Captain Glover expects to enter business when the war ends. Following his 30-day furlough, he will report to Atlantic City, N.J.

His brother, Samuel, is a medical student at Howard University, under the Army Specialization Program, and his sister, Elizabeth, is the second colored girl to be admitted to the Philadelphia General Hospital under the Nurse Corps Program.

Negro Officers Get Recreation Lounge

~~Courier and Journal~~

Believed to be the first of its kind in the country, a community-sponsored lounge for Negro Army officers yesterday was being equipped to take care of the recreation needs of more than 600 officers within a range of 65 miles of Louisville.

The lounge, at 471 S. 11th, is being completed at a cost of approximately $3,500, including funds for operation. The center is on the property of the Negro Church of Our Saviour.

The lounge consists of four rooms, a main lounge equipped with easy chairs, radios and magazines; a combination library and writing room; a game room equipped with pool tables, table tennis sets, and a shower room.

The Rev. George A. Fisher, pastor of the Church of Our Saviour, said the lounge would be especially beneficial to Negro Army officers traveling to and from Godman Field at Fort Knox. Soft drinks and sandwiches will be served and traveling officers may make full use of equipment to shave, bathe and relax.

Centrally located near Beecher Terrace, the lounge will be open from noon to 1 a.m. The lounge will be cleared for dancing at night.

7-14-45

Plans for the center were made by the Beecher Terrace Officers' Lounge Committee, of which the Rev. Lawrence Davis is president. Approximately $2,500 was donated by the War Fund and $1,000 by the Episcopal Church and Diocese of Kentucky and the Presbyterian Church of the United States.

Several officers arriving in this country from fighting in Italy already have made use of the lounge, Fisher said, and more overseas officers are expected to be accommodated.

Berger Promoted to Captain

Capt. Mortie M. Berger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Louis Berger of Savannah, was recently promoted from first lieutenant. The captain's parents live at 507 West Thirty-sixth street.

Captain Berger enlisted in the army May 12, 1942. After graduating from officer candidate school at Miami Beach, Fla., in October, 1943, Captain Berger was attached to the supply section at Harding Field, Baton Rouge, La. Since July, 1944, Captain Berger has been attached to the Seventy-third Bomb Wing Headquarters, B-29 division, at Saipan, Marianas islands.

Captain Berger has two brothers in the Pacific theater of war, Lt. (jg) Israel Reuben Berger, (M.C.), United States navy, who is on Okinawa, and Ensign Albert A. Berger, naval Hellcat night-fighter pilot.

8 Enlisted Men of Tank Unit Earn Commissions

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

AUSTRIA—Eight enlisted men of the 761st Tank Battalion, first American armored unit to enter combat with colored soldiers manning its tanks, have earned battlefield commissions as second lieutenants during 1945.

The group included 2nd Lts. Warren G. H. Crecy of Corpus Christi, Tex., Silver Star winner, and Frank C. Cochrane of Beacon, N.Y., whose heroism brought him the Bronze Star Medal. They were commissioned on May 16 and Jan. 20 respectively.

7-28-45

Unit Commended

The 761st, which spearheaded the 465-mile drive of the 71st Division from the Rhine to the Em River in Austria, has been commended for its "superior" performance by Maj. Gen. Willard G. Wyman, division commander.

The commendation to the 761st commanding officer said in part:

"The combat missions which were assigned your battalion were performed magnificently which unquestionably made possible the rapid advance of the entire division, and you share generously in the honors which are ours through the phenomenal progress which was made across Germany and Austria.

"The splendid way in which you and the members of your command responded to the tasks assigned you is worthy of high praise.

"The excellent combat record of your unit as veterans has been further sustained while operating closely with this command. Please extend to all members of your battalion my congratulations and my sincere thanks for a job well done."

7-28-45

Md., D.C. Men Get Bars

Others commissioned on the battlefield during 1945 follow:

Lt. William Kitt, Milstead, Ala., a former Tuskegee Institute student; commissioned January 20; Moses E. Dade, 1808 First St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; commissioned February 10; Horace A. Jones of Detroit; commissioned March 23.

Lts. Theodore A. Weston, 613 Harvard St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; former Cardozo High School student; commissioned March 23; Joseph A. Tates, 702 Brune St., Baltimore; commissioned April 17; and Leonard J. Holland, Detroit; commissioned May 28.

The Weak Link In the Chain

Black Dispatch

We are in full agreement with General Lewis H. Brereton, commanding general of the Third Air Force, Tampa, Florida, in his demand that civil custody of Lt. Edward H. Davis be vacated and the murder charges lodged against this officer be dismissed. A military court, legalized by congress, has passed judgment upon Lt. Edwards and found him without blame in the unfortunate accident that took the lives of two of Oklahoma City's citizens, and under the Constitution, the life of a citizen cannot be twice placed in jeopardy.

In his letter o the county attorney, General Brereton, among other things, said:

Oklahoma City, Okla.

"In time of war the interest of the U. S. army in military personnel is paramount to other considerations. Any attempt to withhold from the service of the U. S. such military personnel is necessarily considered as interference with the prosecution of the war in which the United States of America is engaged."

We are in hearty agreement with the above statement and feel that nothing of civil nature should interfere with the prosecution of the war. If the civil authorities can arrest one army lieutenant the same authority can jail a battalion, and one can easily see that Congress was wise and exercised good judgment in setting up a judicial process by which this type of civil interference can not pester and perhaps demoralize military operations.

But even though we feel this way about army license, we wonder whether or not army officials have not seriously impaired their right to guard military personnel across a long period, and especially in the South, where civil authorities have for many moons, and with the connivance of the military, thrown Negro soldiers into jail on the slightest provocation. We suspect when General Brereton files his writ in the federal court, seeking to free Lt. Edwards, he will be faced with innumerable citations which expose the army as having agreed to the prosecution of army personnel (Negro soldiers) in almost every section of the South. This will not relate solely to privates. The citations reach on up into the commissioned officer class, when the officer's uniform happens to cover a black hide.

We recall one particular case with which this writer was personally connected in 1918. A young Negro officer from back East was passing through Oklahoma on his way to Fort Sill. Between Oklahoma City and Chickasha this Negro officer was ordered out of his Pullman reservation, and upon refusal to do so was taken from the train at Chickasha and thrown in jail. We stuck by that lad and got him out of jail, later making a report to the War Department respecting the incident.

Civil custody was taken of that Negro officer, and no attempt was made in any form by higher authority, to do anything about the matter. The state even fined him by appropriating the amount of a fine from the funds taken from the young officer. He refused to plead guilty, so that night they took what they wanted from his wallet and told him that he had been fined in that amount.

Civil authorities have clubbed and beaten Negro soldiers for the past three years, and up to this week, higher military authority had suffered these things to happen with such regularity, we did not assume the army had original jurisdiction in such cases. The army cannot make bones of one and flesh of another. Surely there is no valid argument to the effect that Negro officers and Negro privates are not "military personnel."

7-28-45

We are hoping that Lt. Edwards will not twice be placed in jeopardy for the offense with which he is charged, but would you not characterize the presentation of cases to the court, where the army has stepped back and allowed civil courts to prosecute and persecute Negro officers and privates, as retributive justice? Perhaps the mills of God are today grinding out information that says, "Unless all soldiers are safe from civil jurisdiction no unit of the military personnel can dodge double jeopardy. In the case of Lt. Edwards we have convincing proof that "no chain is stronger than its weakest link."

NEW YORK, N. Y.
POST
Cir. D. 182,292

JUL 25 1945

Negro Officer Gets Job on Combat Ship

The first Negro naval officer to be assigned to a fighting ship is Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, 23, communications officer and first lieutenant of the sub-chaser PC-1264, the Navy announced today.

The ship is one of two naval vessels to be manned by a predominantly Negro crew. The other four officers aboard are white.

Gravely lives in Richmond, Va., where he attended Virginia Union University for three years before entering the Navy. He was commissioned in Dec., 1944.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
JOURNAL-AMERICAN
Cir. D. 641,194—S. 1,067,857

Navy

JUL 25 1945

Assign Negro Ensign

Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., USNR, 23, of Richmond, is the first Negro officer to be assigned to a fighting ship, the 3rd Naval District announced today. Gravely has been aboard the PC-1264 since May 2 as communications officer.

Expect Gen. Davis To Retire Soon

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, who has been on duty overseas for more than a year, returned to this country Thursday of last week. He was met in New York City by his son, Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer of Godman Field, Kentucky, and of the 477th Composite Group, who flew him to Washington.

Gen. Davis was wearing two French decorations—the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre with palm. In addition he also wears the Distinguished Service Medal awarded to him for exceptionally meritorious service as an inspector of troop units in the field and as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to colored troops.

MAY RETIRE SOON

It is expected that Gen. Davis will be retired soon. He was retired on July 31, 1941, and recalled to active duty the next day. He was promoted to brigadier general on Oct. 25, 1940. He was 61 years of age on July 1, last.

10-27-45

Gen. Davis has been overseas since July 11, 1944, except for a brief visit here last summer.

Clemency Asked For Negro Captain

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6.—A petition for clemency has been filed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on behalf of Leroy A. Clay, formerly a captain in the 92nd infantry division. Clay was convicted of disobedience of orders while overseas and was sentenced to dishonorable discharge and 50 years' confinement at hard labor. Later the sentence was reduced.

11-7-45

The NAACP pointed out that the record of the trial discloses a deliberate intent on the part of authorities of the 92nd Division to discredit Clay and ruin his military career by assigning him to duty for which he had no training or background; further, since this assignment was intended as a form of punishment, it was illegal and therefore could not be the basis of a trial by court-martial.

The NAACP attorneys are Thurgood Marshall and his assistant, Robert L. Carter. Counsel have requested permission to appear personally before the Clemency Board in Clay's behalf.

Negro Officer Commands Vet 761st Tankers

Daily Worker
Atlanta, Ga.
12-2-45

Captain Harrison First Of Race To Command Unit

WITH THE 761st TANK BATTALION, TEISENDORF, Germany—Capt. Ivan H. M. Harrison, 26, 3399 Scovel Place, Detroit, Michigan, on November 3, became the first Negro commander of the 761st Tank Battalion, when he succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Paul L. Btes white, of Booton, New Jersey who has been ordered Stateside.

The youthful commander of the veteran Negro tankers was born in Detroit on April 19, 1920. He is married to the former Miss Juanita Edwards of Detroit, and is the father of a son, Ivan, Jr., aged 18 months. Prior to coming into the Army, he served as a postal employee at the Cleveland Post Office.

Captain Harrison graduated from the Armored Force Officer Candidate School at Fort Knox, Kentucky on July 4, 1942, joining the 761st Tank Battalion, (then a light tank battalion), at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana as a tank platoon leader, on July 16, 1942.

On October 30, 1943, he became the second Negro to ever become a company commander in the battalion, when he assumed command of Headquarters Company. It was in this capacity that he came overseas with the 761st, and entered combat. A month before the end of hostiltiies in Europe, he took command of the Service Company, holding this post from that time until September 4, 1945 when he became the Executive Officer.

Then, on November 3, orders came for the transfer of the former commander, Lieutenant Colonel Bates, and Captain Harrison, whose promotion had already been recommended to the Third Army Headquarters, rose to the position of commanding officer of the most storied Negro combat unit on the Western Front, the first of is kind to ever enter combat in the American Army.

561-1945

Army

Survivor of 'Death March' Talks for AFRO

Officer Who Lost 112 Pounds in Jap Prison Camp Recuperating on Coast

WHAT VETERANS EXPECT—*Capt. Chester Sanders says returning soldiers are expecting a great deal out of life—marriage, a home, and security. Urges church and civilians to work intelligently with veterans.*

A native of Indianapolis, Ind., and a veteran of many wars, Captain Sanders, 67, spent one year in solitary confinement in a prison camp where, he says, food was nil and the men ate snakes, rats and grass. He was one of 200 men who escaped when a ship carrying 15,000 prisoners to Japan was bombed by Allied planes. Of his suffering he says, "Perhaps in the horrors of prison and terrors of battle I have found God. I am not alone."

By LESLIE COLLINS

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Years before Pearl Harbor, there was one brown American soldier who had declared his allegiance to the flag and who fervently sought to represent American armed forces abroad. That man was Chester Sanders, soldier and gentleman by inclination. Today Chester Sanders—Captain Chester Sanders, R-6021942 T41R—is one of America's true heroes, an unsung hero, whose only desire is that his Army record and those of other courageous Americans will serve to foster racial solidarity and to inspire all Americans toward a co-operative brotherhood.

At a convalescent hospital here known as Birmingham, Captain Sanders, resting and basking in the sun, is modest and retiring, despite the many citations and ribbons he has won: three Presidential citations, eleven stars (for participation in eleven major battles), and one palm.

With hesitancy he admits having received France's coveted medal, the Croix de Guerre, and that he has been decorated by America, France and Italy. He is entitled to wear 21 ribbons!

The life of Captain Sanders is an odessey. It is the story of a boyhood spent in Indianapolis, Ind., where he was born; of study for a medical career which was interrupted in May, 1898, when he enlisted with the First Indianapolis Volunteers for service with the U.S. Army during the Philippine Insurrection.

He served under Arthur MacArthur, father of Gen. Douglas McArthur, of the present conflict.

Officer in World War I

When the smoke cleared above the battlefield of this insurrection, Chester Sanders had become a seasoned soldier and had decided to make a career of Army life.

He fought in Alaska (1900); the Philippines (1906, with Pershing and Wood); and in Mexico (1916, against the villain, Pancho Villa).

In 1917 he was one of a group of men sent to Officers' Training School at Des Moines, Iowa, who later became part of the famed 92nd Division.

With the entry of the United States into World War I, he went to France with the 370th Infantry. After the Armistice he served for some ten months in the Quartermaster Corps in a camp for German prisoners of war at Brest.

Assigned to Manila

The year 1919 marked his assignment to Manila and to various other parts of the Orient where he was when a declaration of war on the Japanese was ordered by Congress in 1941.

When Pearl Harbor was being bombed, he could hear the din of the shelling over his amateur radio set, radio being his major hobby in recent years.

Captured in Bataan

The fighting in the Manila area prior to the fall of Bataan brought Chester Sanders, who in 1932 had been commissioned captain in the Quartermaster Corps, back to Bataan, where he had lived for five years before hostilities began.

There he was in charge of all food for the Americai soldiers in the Philippine Islands.

When the 17,000 American warriors surrendered to the Japanese on April 9, 1942, the enemy took control and formed the notorious "Death March" to prison camps.

Among the prisoners was Chester Sanders who plodded the continuous, 48-mile journey with little food, no shade, no rest, no ministers to give comfort to those who were shot because they fell prostrate from the heat.

6 Colored Men in Group

Captain Sanders suffered the heat, the hunger, the hurt of surrender, and the sight of cruelty and savage dishonor. But his courage and his physical health sustained him.

When the Japanese, who were inclined to be less cruel to the six colored men in the prison camp, recognized the former position of Captain Sanders, they sought to force information from him by placing him in solitary confinement without light, without a bed.

Loses 112 Pounds

Here he remained, stoicly endured the bestial treatment of the Japanese guards for one year, never divulging any military secrets he knew.

In his cell he lost 112 pounds. When he was cast into prison, he weighed 235 pounds; when he left his cell, he weighed 123 pounds.

In the camp the prisoners were separated into groups of one hundred men with one person appointed as leader. Chester Sanders was named leader of his group.

For the slightest infraction of a rule a prisoner was beaten by his guard. The most practiced method of punishment was the breaking of the collar-bone and the nose.

Ate Snakes, Rats

Sanders was never beaten, but he was kicked once — for what reason, he never knew.

Food was almost nil. He said that the men ate snakes, rats and grass. There was no medicine. They simply died or survived dysentery, malaria and diphtheria.

After a time — a long trying time in the prison camp — Sanders with 15,000 other prisoners were put aboard a ship bound for Japan. The ship was bombed by Allied planes and only 200 men escaped.

With these, he too escaped and turned guerrilla. He was recaptured and was finally liberated by MacArthur's valiant fighters.

Unable to Walk

And now after the years of battles, of bombardment, of excruciating hurt, of slavery, and finally of liberation, Chester Sanders, now 67 years old, has returned to the United States, the only colored man out of six in the prison camp to do so.

He returned a tired, ill man, unable to walk; he has come home for rest, for sun, water, food, and companionship, for company, for talk. The hundreds of hours spent in a Japanese cell are not forgotten; they tell him he must not be alone.

Says Japs Have Failed

Captain Sanders, soldier, has turned philosopher. Of the war he says:

"The Japanese failed in their plan to bring the peoples of the East into the sphere of 'prosperity' because of their means toward an end: brutality, force, subjugation. They used no reasoning, no sane urging.

"This is a racial war. This is only the beginning of things to come!"

What Veterans Expect

He pleads for a complete understanding between the returning veteran and the civilian. "The 950,000 colored soldiers who return," he says in his soft, quiet voice, "are expecting a great deal out of life — primarily marriage, a home, and security. Here is au opportunity for the church in guidance and for the civilian to work intelligently with the veteran."

This is Chester Sanders, a man home from the wars. He likens himself to the Arab who went into the desert to learn to appreciate civilization and to know himself.

He has by fire, by water, and by pain itself seen the glories, the ills of civilization, and through them he has learned to find an interpretation of himself. Through them he has found a kind of peace.

"Perhaps," he says, "in the horrors of prison and the terrors of battle I have found God. I am not alone."

Major Distinguishes Himself In Air Force

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

BERLIN. — (ANP) — There still remains plenty to be told about the invasion on D-Day leading up to the defeat of the Germans. Besides the combat units, the QM truck battalions have done a job that no one can adequately describe. What I have seen on these QM units in the ETO makes me feel that their remarkable achievements have not gleamed brilliantly enough.

Take for example, the 1516 QM battalion, mobile aviation. Of this battalion, it is said that it was the background of the 9th Air Force Service command. The morale of this battalion is the highest I have seen in any Negro unit in the ETO.

This is due to the influence the commander, Lt. Col. Roy L. Roberts has over his men. But the successful operation of the battalion is due to the Negro executive officer, Maj. B. Taylor from Hartford, Conn. He is reported to be the best operational officer in the 9th Air Force Service command.

Major Taylor is perpetually stimplated by an influx of new ideas. The commanding officer never mentions himself alone in speaking about the battalion but instead it is always "Taylor and I." They think alike and are inseparable.

"We worked together side by side since January, 1943," said the commander. "When I came into the battalion, I discovered that Maj. Taylor had the confidence and respect of all the men. Thereupon I gave him full authority to run the battalion. Moreover, I believe that an executive officer should run an outfit."

When the major was a first lieutenant, he was doing the work of an executive and operational officer when the job called for the rank of major. From Sept. 1, 1943, to March, 1945, his work was second to none. During that period he was directing the operation of 200 trucks hauling bombs and air force supplies. In June, 1943, the four companies under his control carried over 27,000 tons of valuable material for the preliminary build-up of the invasion. On Jan. 1, 1944, he was made a captain, and Dec. 15 of the same year promoted to major, due to his outstanding knowledge of affairs. He was subsequently recommended for the Bronze Star medal.

When the commanding officer was about to return to America on leave, higher headquarters asked whom would he like to command the battalion in his absence. Categorically the answer was Maj. Taylor. Col. Roberts pointed out that with Maj. Taylor in command, the battalion would remain at the same high level as he had left it. But with a new commander in the saddle, it would be exceedingly unlikely that the battlaion would maintain its prestige.

On the eve of the commander's departure for America he was obviously saddened and depressed. This aroused the attention of his officers at dinner one evening. They questioned the reason. In reply he said he was afraid lest some high authority might unduly upset Maj. Taylor's equilibrium during his absence. "If he can be left alone to work as he knows how, I am sure that the battalion would live up to the high reputation that it has established," said Col. Roberts.

British Promote Two Negroes To Majors

LONDON—(ANP)—Two Negroes have been elevated to the rank of major in the British army. Harold Moseley, eldest son of Dr. Harold Moseley, president of the League of Colored Peoples, who joined the forces in July, 1944, is serving with the Royal Army Medical corps. He was recently promoted to acting major. Dr. Moseley's second son, who is serving with the First Caribbean regiment in Egypt, has also been promoted to major.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

RENEWS PRACTICE—Capt. William Kenneth Allen, flight surgeon assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group, recently returned from twenty-one months of overseas duty in Italy. His wife is the former Lillian White of Nashville, Tenn. During Captain Allen's military service overseas, Mrs. Allen was instructor of biology as Fisk University. He plans to practice in Columbus, Ohio.

First Negro divisional psychiatrist in Army is promoted to major

The Los Angeles Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.
10-29-45

MORATAI — First Negro appointed a divisional psychiatrist in the United States Army is Major Theodore D. Phifer, of Baltimore, who was recently promoted to his present rank after distinguished service with the 93rd Infantry division in the combat zone.

Major Phifer, former associate in medicine at Provident hospital, Baltimore, has been with the 93rd since 1943, when it was stationed on the desert at Camp Clipper near Needles. For the past 15 months, he has devoted his time to the prevention of nervous breakdown among troops serving in the tropics.

695,264 Negroes In Army On V-J Day; 7,768 Officers

The Call Kansas City, Missouri

WASHINGTON, D. C.—On Aug. 31, 1945, two days before VJ-Day, (Sept. 2) the total Negro strength of the army stood at 695,264, the War Department announced today.

This figure comprised 8.67 per cent of the total army strength. Since VJ-Day the number of Negro troops receiving discharges has kept abreast of this figure.

An increase totaling 1,220 in commissioned personnel is shown for the May-September period. As of August 31, the total commissioned personnel in the army was 7,768. 11-9-45

The number of soldiers of color re-enlisting for service in the regular army amounts to better than 10 per cent of total accessions.

A partial breakdown of Negro strength in the army as of Aug. 31, 1945, follows:

Total	695,264
Commissioned Officers	7,768
Including:	
Dental Corps Officers	116
Nurses	479
Other Medical Corps Officers	576
Chaplains	257
Serving Overseas	475,950
Including:	
Pacific Theater	206,512
China and India-Burma Theaters	23,892
Alaskan Department	4,726
European Theater	181,620
Mediterranean Theater	43,747
Africa-Middle East Theater	585
Persian Gulf Command	80
Caribbean Defense Command	2,763
Including:	
Women's Army Corps	820
Infantry	48,861
Coast and Field Artillery	19,819
Engineers	135,584
Air Corps	80,606
Transportation Corps	89,540
All Others	320,854

35 Officers Released at Fort Huachuca

The Afro American Baltimore, Md.

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—Thirty-five medical administrative officers have been released from active duty through the separation point here, Colonel Smith, commanding officer, recently announced.

These officers served over two years with the Army Service Forces, most of the time located at the Station Hospital under the command of Col. Edwin B. Maynard, who commended them for their excellent service.

The officers receiving certificates of service were as follows:

Second Lieutenants Thomas T. Green, Robert J. Shehee, New York; Orlando B. Pino, Bronx, N.Y.; George D. Merrick, Baton Rouge, La.; George A. Hall Jr., Mobile, Ala.; James D. Barnett, Grindsone, Pa.; Henry W. Joyner, Atlanta, Ga.; Jacques B. Cox, Chillicothe, O.; Thomas J. Coote, Detroit; Raymond E. Jackson, Philadelphia; 11-17-45

Second Lts. John H. Monthero, Roxbury, Mass.; Edward M. Holley, Edenton, N.C.; Oliver L. Norrell Jr., Richmond, Va.; Clarence V. Henderson, Roxbury, Mass; Charles Kirkland, Gary, Ind.; James L. Bruce, Oakland, Calif.;

Second Lts. William J. Kennedy 3rd, Durham, N.C.; Robert R. Gibson Jr., Clarksville, Tenn.; Theodore M. Jackson, East Orange, N.J.; Walter S. Payne, Washington; Lemuel M. Rosemond, Pickens, S.C.;

Second Lts. Christopher M. Roulhac, Memphis, Tenn.; William J. LaMaster, Ned M. Stanfield, Los Angeles; Eugene G. Russell, Des Moines, Iowa; Oliver T. Shannon, Wheeling, W. Va.; Spencer G. Snaw, Hartford, Conn.; Calvin R. Stevenson, Baltimore;

Second Lts. Morrel C. A. Talbert, Cheney, Pa.; Garry F. Washington, Thomas S. Watson, Cleveland, O.; Nathaniel Wright, Cincinnati, O.; Verson Walter, Amityville, N.Y., and Henderson J. Williams Jr., Washington.

Three Elevated To Captain

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

93rd Division Men Serve In Infantry

11-30-45

WITH THE 93rd INFANTRY DIVISION ON MOROTAI. — The promotion of three Field Artillery officers, serving on Morotai in the Netherlands East Indies and Mindanao in the Philippines, to the rank of captain has been announced by Major General Harry H. Johnson, Commanding General of the 93rd Division.

On Motorai, the promotion of Terrance A. De Beal to the rank of captain followed a long period of superior service, arduous study and performance. He has been overseas 19 months, wears the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, two Battle Stars and the Bronze Star Medal.

The 93rd profited by the military adroitness of Captain De Beal which was demonstrated during his service in combat on Bougainville when he served as assistant communication officer of the 593rd Field Artillery Battalion. He rendered valuable service in action against the enemy. His adjustment of Artillery fire on the enemy contributed much to the success of that campaign.

Also promoted to captain was Ellis J. Diggs of the 596th Field Artillery Battalion. Captain Diggs has been with the 93rd Division for the past three years and is now one of five Negro Captains in the Division Artillery.

Not long ago Captain Diggs was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meteoric service against the enemy. He is the son of Mrs. Carrie Diggs, 2105 Bland Place, Indianapolis, Indiana, and is now a Battery Commander in his battalion. 11-30-45

Captain Diggs has seen service on Bougainville, Finchaven, the Netherlands, Morotai, and the Philippines. He wears two Battle Stars on an Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon and a Bronze Star.

Robert S. Copeland, Tulsa, was the third officer to be promoted to the rank of captain.

Captain Copeland enlisted as a private on January 3, 1941. He completed his basic training at Fort Custer, Michigan with the famed 184th Field Artillery Regiment. He was quickly promoted to sergeant and was sent to Officer Candidate school at Fort Sill, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant in June, 1942. Before his induction into the Army of the United States, he served three months with the Illinois National Guard. 11-30-45

Overseas for 19 months, Captain Copeland wears the American Defense Ribbon, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, two Battle Stars and the Bronze Star Medal. He served as executive officer of a firing battery of 105-mm howitzers, Battery "A," 593rd Field Artillery Battalion an element of the 25th Regiment combat team during the Bougainville campaign in March, 1944.

561-1945

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis

Retirement Coming Soon

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Returns to France After Capital Visit

TESTIFIED IN D.C.

11-17-45

Will Get Command of Troops in Europe

WASHINGTON

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., will be made a major general within the next few weeks or months and given a command somewhere in France before being retired, it was revealed here Tuesday.

General Davis returned to France last week after having been flown to Washington to testify before a committee appointed by War Secretary Robert Patterson, to determine the Army's future racial policy.

Wears Two Decorations

General Davis, who wears two French decorations — the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre with palm, in addition to the Distinguished Service Medal — was 61 years old last July 1.

Except for a brief visit here last summer, he has been overseas since July 11, 1944. He was promoted to his present rank on Oct. 25, 1940.

Recommendation to the high rank is expected to be included in the next War Department recommendations to the Senate which must approve such promotions. Although no official statement has been made regarding the proposed promotion, it is understood from hitherto reliable sources that the elevation of Gen. Davis is forthcoming. 11-17-45

Simultaneously with the promotion to command post, Gen. Davis will be given the post of commanding officer of the Cherbourg port, in France. Gen. Davis rose from the ranks of a private to his present position.

He has served with the Inspector General's Office throughout the war period. 11-17-45

Rose from the Ranks

The father of Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer at Godman Field, Ky., the general served in the AUS as a first lieutenant during the Spanish-American War from 1898 to 1899.

Following his release from active duty on March 6, 1899, he reenlisted in the Regular Army as a private, attaining rank on merit until he became brigadier general.

General Davis Retires

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Our first and only one-star regular Army officer, General B. O. Davis Sr., will be relieved from active duty on Dec. 31.

General Davis, at 68, can look back on a long Army career which he began as a private in the old 9th Cavalry back in 1898. He received his first commission in 1901 as a second lieutenant of cavalry, advancing steadily to his present rank after 40 years.

His assignment as an assistant to the Inspector General during World War II took him all over the U.S. and to Europe, where in 1944 he was made special assistant to the commanding general, European Theatre of Operations, with headquarters in Paris. 12-22-45 561

Frequently misunderstood in the past because of his strict adherence to Army tradition regarding interviews, General Davis has, through performance of duty, lived to shame his detractors.

He passes the Davis Army tradition to his son, Col. B. O. Davis Jr., West Point graduate and presently commander of Godman Field, Ky. Recently he was reported to be in line for promotion to major general, but according to unofficial sources he did not fancy the assignment which went with his advance in rank.

General Davis came up the hard way. He knows the Army inside out, and his counsel has been sought regarding the Army's future racial policy. His retirement is well-earned and we're glad that he will still be around as a source of inspiration and advice.

General Davis To Be Relieved Of Duty Dec. 31

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 12-12-45

WASHINGTON— (NNPA)— Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis will be relieved from active duty December 31 under plans of the War Department to reduce its general officer strength which reached peak on July last.

The War Department plans calls for all general officers who have returned to active duty from retirement to be relieved as soon as possible. Those who have been retired for age will be relieved from active duty for December 31.

General Davis was retired in 1940 on account of age but was immediately called back to active duty because of the national emergency. Since his return to active duty he has commanded the Second Calvary Division and served in the Inspector Generals Department and in the European Theater of Operations. 12-12-45

568-1945

AUGUSTA, GA.
HERALD
Cir. D. 22,519 — S. 22,242
JUN 2 - 1945

Chaplain Douglass Hall Meets Augustans Overseas

ED. NOTE: These articles are written by Douglass Hall, formerly connected with The Herald's Negro news department, now a chaplain, with the rank of captain, in the U. S. Army. They come direct from the European theatre of war.

I know at least two persons who are doing in the army what they would like to be doing now in civilian life, if the draft board had not interfered with the normal flow of things. It so happens that both soldiers are from Augusta. One is a native Augustan and the other an adopted child. Both got the "kickoff" into their profession at Haines Institute and often that name is upon their lips. They are Sgt. Jimmy Strong and Cpl. Roscoe Murray, both working with Special Services, but in different departments.

There is not a person in Augusta who attended basketball games at Haines during the past recent years who hasn't heard the name of Jimmy Strong. There were some who figured he was taking a lifetime course at the school—that might have been because opponents of the school desired him to hurry away so that they could have the satisfaction of licking the Haines quintet. Strong lived sports in general and basketball in particular when he was there, and is doing the same here as a key figure in the recreation and athletic department of the 92nd Infantry Division.

"I owe it all to Coach Tutt of Haines," Strong told me a few days ago, as his team was running a close second for the championship of Italy. "I believe he is the best coach in the world." He cut his remarks short because he had to go in and replace an injured player.

The basektball teams which are coached by Sgt. Strong are top morale builders. They have class and color and came within one point of winning the championship of this area. Strong desires to return to college when he finishes his hitch in the armed forces. "The rest of my life will be as close sports as I can possibly get," he told me.

Possibly Cpl. Roscoe Murray did not come in for as much publicity back in civilian life as Sgt. Strong, but he has acquired all in the army that he missed back home. It so happens that Murray is a key man on the staff of "The Buffalo", combat newspaper printed by this division right under the nose of the enemy and often while shells whiz over the place where it is now quartered.

Back in Augusta, Roscoe dabbled in photography because that is about all his limited financial income would permit. But since being conmnected with the Buffalo staff, Roscoe has developed into a photographer who is able to go the rounds with some of the best in the business. I have watched his action on the field and in the darkroom and it shows what some persons will do when given the rope. His pictures have also appeared in other publications and he is in constant demand.

Since being in combat other duties have forced Murray to push photography once again back into the hobby classification. While at Fort Huachua, Ariz., he learned a great deal about the press on which the paper is printed. They needed a "pressman" and Murray put down his camera and started the press a-rolling. That's where he is now and the publication has not missed a single issue.

I have not seen Sgt. George Duncan, former classmate at Paine College, but he is still around. He was around my place the other day, but I was out. When he returned later, I was visiting hospitals. So we missed each other, but he is doing fine. That's the word he left me and I am passing it on to you.

I talked with Sgt. Eugene Gardner. He asked me to send regards to his family and friends. He is still a good soldier. He was dressed neatly even on the frontline. I don't see how he does it. His health is good.

Pfc. Harvey Jefferson sends greetings to his parents, William M. Jefferson and wife, 1568 Linden street. He stated that he was in his heyday around Augusta about the same time as Ike Washington, of the public school system there. (Or has he been drafted?) I told him that Ike was still in his heyday. Jefferson was drafted in New York. He formerly attended Walker Baptist Institute.

Pfc. Linard McDay, Griffin, Ga., says "hello" to his parents and friends.

Chaplains Army

SAGINAW, MICH.
NEWS
Cir. D. 30,344 — S. 30,237
JUN 23 1945

Old Intolerance Bad For All America

By DR. DANIEL A. POLING.

While in Europe recently, I renewed and strengthened my friendship with the deputy theater chaplain, Lt. Col. Edwin R. Carter, jr.—"Nick" Carter to his friends. The chaplain is the peacetime rector of St. Luke's Episcopal church, Richmond, Va. When he entered the service his resignation was not accepted by the congregation but he was given a leave of absence for the duration.

In 1934 Negro clergymen were given votes in the diocese of Southern Virginia, with equal membership. Prior to that date there was a colored convocation that elected two representatives to the council. "Nick" Carter is the father of that act and the quality of his courage is indicated by the fact that he first introduced the matter in his first council meeting in 1930. The story associated with the campaign of this young clergyman is worthy of a longer telling.

Opportunities Must Be Equal.

The principles which undergird the attitude of Chaplain Carter toward his brothers of other races and colors are indicated by what he said to me a few weeks ago when we sat together in a Paris hotel. "I have never felt," he said, "that the Negro as a race gets a decent break in the United States and throughout my ministry I have sought to get for him equal privileges and equal opportunities. I believe that, if we are to have a country with even a semblance of democracy we must take care that each child born into that country, or coming into it receives equal opportunities and equal privileges.

"I was ordained in 1929 and my interests in this field began with my ordination. When I reached England with the troops, I found a perfect setting for both races to learn what the other was and through mutual effort to build two races into one army representing our great land. It was to be expected that there would be trouble and misunderstanding, but steadily we went ahead to solve problems as they arose. Some of us were determined that we would not cross an ocean to fight a so-called 'superior race' only to come back to America with the same old prejudices, the same old intolerance that has hurt and hindered us at home.

A Proving Ground.

"Negro chaplains, other Negro officers and Negro enlisted men have regarded Europe as their proving ground. They have worked together and with us in what is, I believe, a winning effort to make the Negro in uniform a worthy representative of America. They believe that over here they are building a better life for their children back at home."

And then this Virginian, this clergyman of the South, added, "We must do our part to see that they are not disappointed." Chaplain Nick Carter is doing his best to fill that assignment, and the particulars of what he has done would make another column.

Chaplain Says Cavalrymen Resented Unit's Conversion

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE

Declaring religion played a major role in the morale of troops, Chaplain (Capt.) Hyason V. C. Diggs, veteran of 16 months' service in Italy, this week, warned ministers that soldiers will be looking to the church for guidance upon their return to the States.

"Many soldiers attended religious services for the first time while overseas, but we will have to make our services more attractive if we expect to make them regular churchgoers," Chaplain Diggs emphasized.

7-14-45

CAPT. H. V. C. DIGGS

The chaplain, former assistant pastor at the Union Baptist Church, is in Baltimore on a 30-day leave. He will report to White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., soon for reassignment. He wears two battle stars on his theatre ribbons.

Was with Cavalry

Originally chaplain with the 10th Cavalry Regiment, Chaplain Diggs was assigned to the 1334th Engineers when the 2nd Cavalry Division was converted into labor units after its arrival in North Africa in March, 1944.

He served with the 1334th, now back in the States, throughout the Italian campaign, and later was assigned to the 98th Engineers.

Commenting on the break-up of the 2nd Cavalry Division, Chaplain Diggs declared the men literally shed tears when it was learned they would not see action. He explained that they did not want to die, but simply felt that they were being denied the right to die for their country.

Many of them proved their sincerity later, as 200 from his former regiment volunteered as replacements for the 92nd Infantry Division. 7-14-45

Thankful for V-E Day

Asked about V-E Day celebrations in Italy, Chaplain Diggs, who was in Leghorn at the time, asserted there were no hilarious celebrations among GI's. "They were more thankful than excited," he added.

It is the chaplain's belief that three-fourths of the men now overseas would like to return to Europe in peacetime mainly because of the hospitality accorded them and the democratic way in which they were received.

"My observation is that colored soldiers were well liked and well received in both high and low circles. The only seeds of prejudice were sown by white officers who sought to transplant their individual ideas in a foreign country," he recalled.

Want Mixed Army

He said the Italians were never able to understand the divided organization of the American Army, colored and white units, and added that many white soldiers had expressed a desire for a mixed army in conversation with him.

Chaplain Diggs visited the historic cities of Oran, Naples, Rome, Florence, Pisa, Viareggio and Leghorn, but the most significant incident to him was the baptism of 39 soldiers, one a 295-pound sergeant, in the biblically famous Tyrrhenian Sea.

Directed White Choir

Returning to the States May 30 by hospital ship, Chaplain Diggs, during the voyage, directed the ship's choir composed of three sergeants and six nurses, all white, a daily incident that served as a lesson in democracy to all aboard.

Recalling Baltimoreans he saw in Italy, Chaplain Diggs had especial praise for John Rich, Red Cross field director in Naples; Capt. Charles Brown, postal officer with the 92nd Division, and Lt. Ulysses Glover, also of the 92nd. 7-14-45

The chaplain is married to Mrs. Laura A. Diggs, teacher in Eastern Shore schools.

The New York Age
New York, New York 9-22-44

TAAF Gets New Chaplain

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Chaplain (Captain) Gerald L. Hayden, former noted minister and civic leader of South Bend, Indiana, was recently assigned to Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, replacing Chaplain Douglas L. T. Robinson now at Godman Field, Ky. With a distinguished overseas record to his credit, Chaplain Hayden is well known for his religious and civic work in Indiana where he was instrumental in integrating Negroes into defense industries in 1942. Prior to entering the service he was president of the South Bend NAACP,

92nd's Douglass Hall Does It

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore Md.

Camera in Hand, He Is Received by His Holiness and Is Asked to Stay Awhile; Long Lines Kiss Pontiffs Hand; Others Break into Tears

By DOUGLASS HALL
(Chaplain, 92nd Div., Italy)

2-24-45

ROME, Italy — In a dimly-lighted chapel, one of the 321 in the historic Saint Peter's Basilica, the Holy Father Pius XII, shook my hand and gave me a message for the soldiers in my outfit and for "Americans everywhere."

Stately dressed in a robe of royal white, the Pope put aside the usual formality and mingled freely with service men and women of all nations, faiths and races.

The route I took to get a few minutes with the Pope was not an easy one. I was told that a private audience with the Pope was rare during "these trying days of war."

In fact, my guide inquired concerning an interview and was told that "the Pope is dated up for weeks."

I was given the consolation that I could see him with a group of service men at 12:30. In the meantime I contented myself with a tour of the Vatican City.

Never Been Bombed

2-24-45

The religious State, smallest in the world, has never been bombed, but it feels daily the hell and hardship of the war that has passed by its doorsteps.

On every hand, persons are grateful that the city still stands with its many treasures of art — still stands as the "highest moral authority in the world, the only one who can fraternize all spirits disunited by earthly competitions," a souvenir booklet states.

Did I say that war had passed the doorsteps of the Vatican? That's not exactly true. Some elements have missed it. No artillery fire has touched it but I was told that there is less food there than elsewhere in italy.

Usually the twenty-odd candles around the grave of St. Peter, which is in the center of the church that bears his name, burn all the time, but not since the war! Only three burn.

Just out in front of the church stands a huge fountain which usually has a beautiful flow of water, but since the war, it has just a mere sprinkle. All about the great city, the guide constantly apologized for this and that "because of the war."

Foot Kissed Away

An outstanding and imposing figure in the church is the bronze statue of Saint Peter which was built in the Fifth Century. It is the custom of all who visit the church to kiss the feet of the statue.

This has been done for thousands of years and today several toes of the right foot have been kissed away.

I could go on indefinitely telling you about sights within and without of this great monument to catholicism, but let me explain how I managed to see the Pope and actually became a member of his visiting party. 2-24-45

I was quite disappointed when they advised me to check my camera at the door of Saint Peter's. I asked them why, but no one was able to answer — not even some of the high officials. They said only that it was a custom that no cameras be carried within the place.

Rush Act

Finally, I decided to shake off my guide and take matters into my own hand. I checked out my camera from the loudly dressed guard and started for the Pope's quarters. Opening my camera so that it could glitter, I put on the old "rush act" that I learned while a newspaper reporter.

Persons just stepped aside for me as if I had a photographer's permit for the Vatican, and for all any of them knew, I might have.

But no one stopped me, and I plunged right ahead until I came to a small room and the guard informed me that the Pope was inside giving his blessings to service men and women.

As a service man I qualified for entrance. Once inside, several hundred persons were between me and the Pope. I started the old rush act again when Lt. Lacey Irving, Washington, D.C., who was with me, advised me that he thought I had gone far enough and that he was not going to be a partner in any more advancing.

I collected my equipment from him and pushed right up to the rail that separated the Pope from the people.

Swiss Guard

Well, things had to stop somewhere. I weakened a bit when I caught the friendly eye of a member of the Swiss Guard. I asked him for permission to come back of the rail. "Ah," he stated, "that can only be done by special permission from the Pope."

"Well, ask him," I requested, pointing to the Pope several feet away.

He did not ask the Pope. He asked the last person in the long line that followed the Pope and the request went right up through channels, like a grapevine telegram.

The Pope gave a quick look at me, smilled and bowed permission. The guards moved back like machines and persons in the audience wondered what kind of "pull" I had. I was wondering the same thing.

Once back of the line I got out my equipment and started to work. I put one of my SIX flashbulbs into the gun and it went off without my touching the trigger. The same thing happened to three more. No picture and two bulbs to go. 2-24-45

Blessed Rings, Crosses

All during this time the Pope was walking up and down the line greeting the service men. They were having him bless necklaces, rings, crosses, etc.

"So you are an American?" the Pope inquired of a soldier from the 92nd Division. "That's great! Glad to meet you."

That went on for about ten minutes and I decided to give my camera the final trial. It worked perfectly on the last two bulbs.

My photographer's work finished, I started to leave when the Pope recognized my insignia.

"Oh, you're an American chaplain," he stated as he grasped my hand. "Well, give my blessing to all the members of your outfit and to all Americans. I see quite a few of them each day here."

I told him I would and started to leave but one of the members of the Pope's party asked me to remain. I set my camera down and stood with them for about fifteen minutes and looked at expressions on hundreds of perons as they met the Pope.

Most of them shook his hand and then followed the custom of kissing it. Others broke down in tears. All seemed to be deeply touched.

Personally, I like the Pope. He has a way of dropping the bar and putting you at ease. As one soldier stated as he left the chapel, "That man makes you feel like a brother."

Once outside of the chapel and back on the St. Peter's Court I was suddenly surrounded by several hundred persons. They all asserted that they were in "just the right spot and you just couldn't miss me." 2-24-45

I explained the difficulty I would have in filling the demand — maybe after the war.

That was all right with them. They gave me their army and home addresses and I gave them mine. Their addresses were: South Africa, America, Canada, England, Italy, France and several other countries.

University of Rome

I was warmly received at the University of Rome, today. I visited classes, had lunch with them, and even lectured to one class. The students are just like any college students in the States. The girls outnumber the boys, but there were plenty of boys.

The students were primarily interested in social conditions in America. They gave me a written invitation to return and lecture for a week. 2-24-45

Did It Again

Remember T/4 George H. McKenney, of Atlanta, Ga., who delivered a baby for an Italian mother, several weeks ago? Well, he has done it again. I have not seen "Kenney," but it is correct dope.

Colored Chaplain Preaches To Men Of All Races Overseas

Nashville Globe Tenn.

1-26-45

Washington, D. C.—Chaplain Fred E. Stephens, with an Air Service Group, has described to the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains, Washington, D. C., certain unusual experiences during the Italian Campaign.

How gifted was the Glee Club of his Service Group was shown by its being selected by the Commanding Officer to make a concert tour of American posts in Sardinia. Chaplain Stephens accompanied the Glee Club and conducted religious services en route. The Chaplain has conducted worship under many situations but none more dramatic than those while Vesuvius was in eruption. 1-26-45

Chaplain Stephens was born in Potesville, Kentucky and spent his boyhood at Owensboro, Kentucky. He was graduated from high school at Evansville, Indiana, and received his A. B. degree from Indiana University and his theological training at Gammon Theological Seminary and at Turney Seminary at Atlanta, Georgia.

Chaplain Stephens taught at Morris Brown College and for the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in Denver, Colorado, and was a Y. M. C. A. secretary in St. Louis. He was ordained a minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and has held pastorates in Atlanta, Georgia; Tucon, Arizona, and was minister of St. Paul's A. M. E. Church, Columbia, Missouri, when appointed Chaplain. The Chaplain is married and has three children.

Chaplain Stephens has sent the following account of his services in Italy:

"I came overseas with an Air Service Group and have preached to men of various races and faiths since my arrival. I find that religion is being taken seriously by more men than ever before, and I have seen many soldiers weeping with humble faces seeking the strength of God in these trying times. A frequent sight is of Americans of all races and faiths sitting side by side at religious services in a practical demonstration of real democracy.

"In one Italian town where we were stationed, a large group of Italian civilians attended the Protestant services. Though they could not understand the language, yet being lovers of song and music, they seemed to enjoy the congregational singing. 1-26-45

"Another fine experience was the baptizing of soldiers in the Tyrrhenian Sea over which the Apostle Paul sailed on his way to Rome. Another large group of men was baptized in the Adriatic Sea. On our way to Naples in the spring of 1944, some men and I were caught in the midst of an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. It seemed as if the heavens were raining down black hail which was scattered for miles.

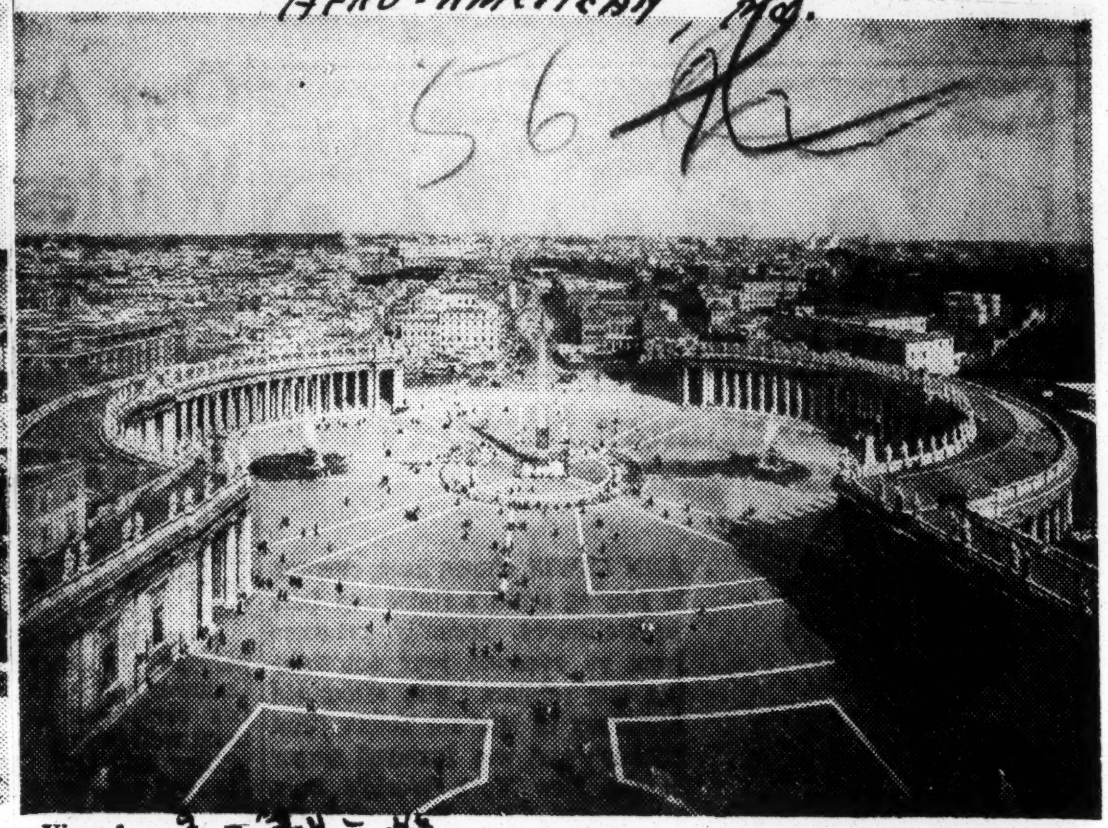
"On another occasion, I held services on a hill at the outskirts of Naples over against Vesuvius. It was near dusk. The sun was setting like some gigantic ball of fire sending off a deep orange glow which spangled the whole of the horizon. To the east, Mt. Vesuvius was erupting great billows of fire and down the side of the volcano ran a red river of molten lava. It was a beautiful and breath-taking sight. To the strains of music coming from the portable organ, the men were singing 'On Christ the Solid Rock I stand.' 1-26-45

"In our unit was an Air Service Group Glee Club, one of the best glee clubs that came overseas. It was the first organization of its kind to give a concert in the American Theater in Naples. Such favorable opinion was evinced that we were sent to tour Sardinia by order of the Commanding General of our Service Command. During our Sardinian tour of ten concerts in fourteen days, we were given a most enthusiastic reception. At one of the concerts we had as special guests several American, French and Italian generals and Mlle. Curie, the daughter of the French radium family."

AFRO-AMERICAN

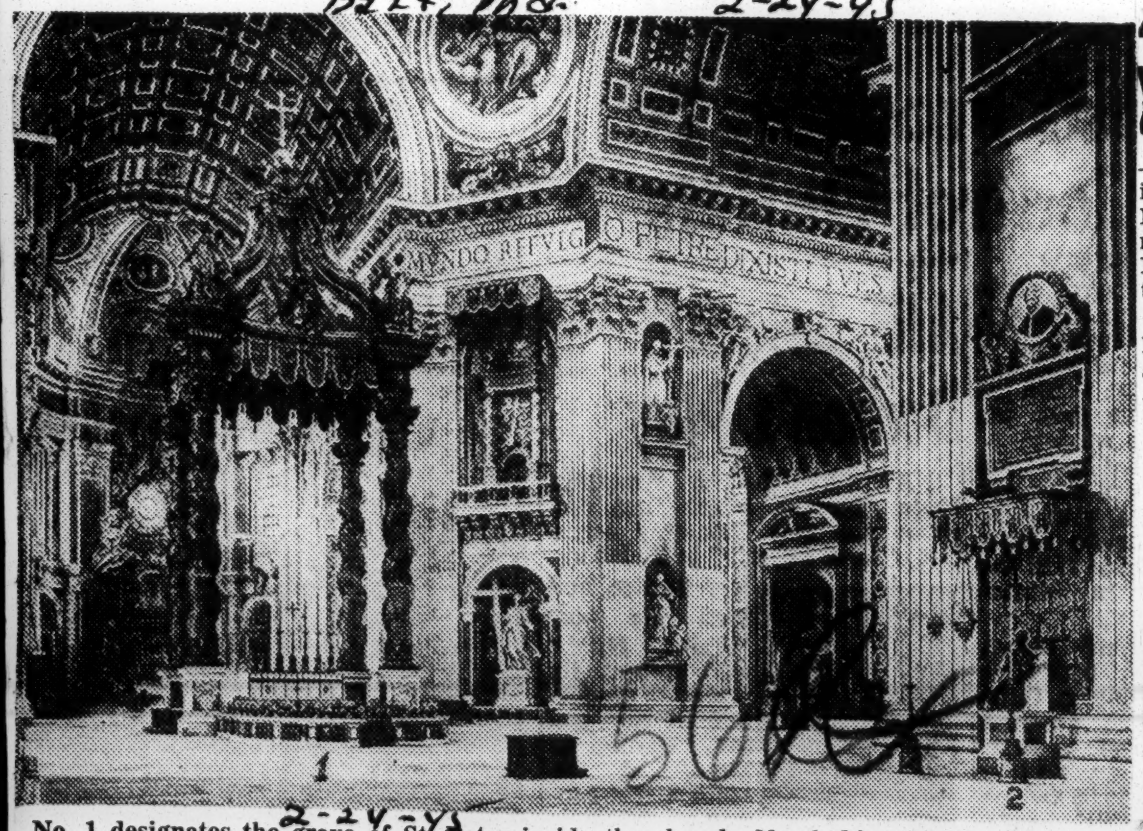
Here is the exterior view of St. Peter's Church in Rome, Italy, where service men and women of all nations come to shake hands with Pope Pius XII. Some asked the Pope to bless their crosses and other jewelry.

AFRO-AMERICAN



View from the front door of St. Peter's in Italy, the largest Christian church in the world. Note the semi-circular colonnade, with statures on top; the Egyptian obelisk and the fountains in the center of the square.

Balt. Md. 2-24-45



No. 1 designates the grave of St. Peter inside the church; No. 2, his stature. Correspondent Hall says it is the custom to kiss the feet of St. Peter, and that some toes have been kissed away. See story below.

41st Chaplain Wins Promotion

N.Y. Amsterdam News

WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE —Chaplain Wesley B. Nash of Washington, D. C., assigned to the 41st Engineer Regiment, has been promoted to captain, Headquarters, U. .S Forces, European Theater, reported this week. N.Y.N.Y.

The 41st Engineers, first Negro Engineer Regiment assigned to overseas duty in this war, is now located at the Delta Base in Marseille, France.

Chaplain Nash has been with the unit since July 1944, when he joined the outfit which had not had a chaplain in 18 months. The 41st has been overseas three years, with service in North Africa, Corsica and France. 7-28-45

A former minister of the Weston Chapel A.M.E. Church, Greenwood, South Carolina, Chaplain Nash is a graduate of Allen University, Columbia, South Carolina and Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga.

His wife, Mrs. Eloise Nash, lives at 1520 Third Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Veteran Chaplain at Fort Benning

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

FORT BENNING, Ga.—A 28-month overseas veteran and possessor of the Purple Heart, three battle stars and the European Theater ribbon, Capt. Lewis M. Durden of Washington has been assigned to the infantry school as service battalion chaplain. 7-21-45

In the service since May 6, 1942, he landed in North Africa with the 263rd Quartermaster Battalion 10 days after the invasion there and went on to Anzio.

Wounded in Italy

He was wounded in Italy with the Fifth Army November, 1944, by a strafing German plane.

Chaplain Durden was graduated from Clark University in Atlanta in 1934, from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta in 1937. He received a master's dgree from Howard University in 1940.

He was pastor of the Pleasant Rule Baptist Church in Washington from 1938 to 1941, and did special work at Union Seminary in New York and at the chaplain's school at Harvard University.

Pittsburgh Courier 7-28-45

NEW CHAPLAIN AT 3RD STR.— Capt. Lewis M. Durden, who has been assigned to the Third STR, The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga., as chaplain of the Service Battalion. — Official U. S. Army Photo—The Infantry School.

561-1945

Officers

Drop Charges Against 101 Negro Air Officers

Daily Worker

4-27-45

The War Department has dismissed charges against 101 of the 104 Negro officers arrested at Freeman Field, Ind., for defying a Jimcrow edict, it was learned here yesterday.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in announcing the dismissal, said that Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas (D-Cal) urged Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson to drop charges against the three remaining officers. The whole group of 104 Negro flying officers had been arrested for refusing to leave a "for whites only" clubhouse on Freeman Field when ordered by Col. Robert R. Selway Jr., the commanding officer.

The three remaining officers were charged also with having "jostled" a superior officer who had attempted to bar them from the clubhouse.

4-27-45

Rep. Douglas said in her wire to Secretary Stimson that the arrests were "predicated upon an invalid and wrongful order of the field commander." The American people now logically expect the War Department to remove this man, Col. Selway, who, evidently has never heard of the Army's official instructions on combatting fascism at home. Those instructions were issued March 24.

Col. Selway's order, according to the Negro officers, deprived them of "full rights as officers" and made it "unwarrantly difficult to maintain morale," a fact of which he could not have been ignorant. The War Department's instructions on combatting fascism make a point of declaring that, though fascists in America may "differ slightly from fascists in other countries," there were "a number of attitudes and practices that they have in common."

One of these, the instructions say, is the "pitting of religious, racial and economic groups against one another in order to break down national unity as a device of the 'divide and conquer' technique used by Hitler."

Major Davenport Gets Lieutenant's Rating

Courier 4-28-45 Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The Senate last Wednesday confirmed the promotion of Second Lieut. Clarence M. Davenport Jr. to be a first lieutenant with rank from Jan. 15, next. He holds the temporary rank of major in the Coast Artillery Corps. Major Davenport graduated from West Point in 1943.

With The 92nd Division

Officers Request Transfers Because Of Racial Strife

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

5-5-45

By COLLINS GEORGE, Courier War Correspondent

WITH NINETY-SECOND DIVISION, Italy—(By Cable)—Following the request of First Lieut. Bert Cumby to be relieved of duty as an assistant in the Adjutant General's office of the Division and in line with the tenor of several other recent requests, First Lieut. Jacob Smith, assistant battalion surgeon with the 370th Infantry Regiment, has requested relief from his new assignment because of "racial policies of the Division."

Requests for relief from duty are by no means common to the Ninety-second Division, but in the Ninety-second such requests are based mainly on two premises: (1) That the officer finds policies of the Division are completely opposite to his opinions on race, and (2) that an assignment to a rifle company without adequate training for such a command would endanger the lives of enlisted men.

GIVES REASONS FOR REQUEST

Lieutenant Smith says in his request for relief from duty that "I have recently been assigned to the third battalion of the 370th Infantry as assistant battalion surgeon. Knowing well that I cannot satisfactorily perform my duties in this organization, I request that I be transferred to any other unit. The reason for my request follows:

"I am unable to adapt myself to the role required of me in this organization with its stereotyped policies of race. My feelings as to the race policies of this type are bitter and leave me psychologically unprepared to serve here. My failure to work successfully with other officers of the command can be too often detrimental to sick and wounded men dependent upon me. I much prefer that I make the sacrifice now.

5-5-45

TELLS OF DISCRIMINATION

"My primary aim since being a member of the U. S. Army has been to serve my country with the best I have. My records of efficiency, if examined, will prove this. I request that I may be allowed to continue to serve my country in sincerity and that I not be engulfed in this present racial and political strife which covers this organization and inhibits its functions. I am determined not to become one of the many Negro officers of this organization who find it impossible to perform their duties because of the unique environment of race and rank.

"In my former battalion I successfully served my country, my superior officers and my unit in the midst of less than ten per cent white officers. At present it is necessary that I be evacuated for surgical operation. I request immediate action in order that upon my return from the hospital I may be allowed to continue to pursue my duties as an officer. I do not wish to return to the 370th Infantry where results of my hopeless racial Army experience will be vulnerable to the enlisted men of my command. I conclude that I am unqualified to serve in the 370th Infantry Regiment."

C. O. ENDORSES REQUEST

Col. R. G. Sherman, commander of the regiment to which Lieutenant Smith was assigned, added a note of endorsement to the lieutenant's request. He wrote:

"In view of Lieutenant Smith's attitude as expressed in the basic communication, I consider him worthless as far as any further duty with this organization is concerned and therefore recommend approval for transfer."

An example of the other type of request is contained in the letter written to the Commanding General of the Ninety-second Division by 2nd Lieut. L. C. Lucas:

"In as much as I have been assigned to a rifle company and taking into consideration the responsibility that it implies, in that I must make decisions that will have direct bearing on the lives of men directly under my command and those in close proximity to me, I realize that I am not prepared for this position.

"I request that I be given an assignment that I am more familiar with, having not had necessary training to command a group of riflemen. I think it is a letdown for the men concerned and disappointment for me in that I believe the men in combat should have the very best in leadership for their own safety as well as leaders.

5-5-45

"I make this request not in effort to shirk my responsibility as an officer or soldier, for I have taken my chances along with the rest since entering combat and done my job to the extent that I suffered only five casualties in six months tenure as communications officer, but I was serving in the capacity in which my entire Army career has been spent.

"I request that my present assignment as a rifle platoon leader be changed and that I be given an assignment that I am more qualified for."

Difficulties of a fluid front at the present moment prevent checking official reactions.

List Officers Of AAA Unit

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-28-45

WITH U. S. TROOPS IN NEW GUINEA—Lieut. Colonel De Maurice Moses, New York City, March 6 assumed command of the 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, a crack all-Negro outfit Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, it was announced this week.

Capt. Clarence M. Davenport Jr. a 1943 graduate of West Point, and a native of Arkansas, comes to the battalion as its new executive officer.

Other members of the new staff are: Capt. William H. Taylor, New York; Capt. Sylvester R. Bly, Galesburg, Ill.; 1st Lieut. Alexander Pitts, Jersey City, N. J.; 1st Lieut. Buford Gordon, Memphis, Tenn.; 2nd Lieut. Wesley M. Jacobs, New Orleans, La.; Chief Warrant Officers Laydell Buckmon, Detroit, Mich., and George Greene, Jamica, Long Island, N. Y., and Russell T. Crawford, Philadelphia, Pa.; Warrant officer (Junior Grade) Walter P. Tate, Washingqton, D. C.; Capt. William H. Wilson, battalion surgeon, St. Louis, Mo.; and Capt. Kenneth R. Williams, Chaplain, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Captains James F. Veal, New York City; George A. Adcox, Rome, Ga.; Guy M. Fultz, Brooklyn, N. Y.; and First Lieutenants Frank A. Nicholson, Davenport, Iowa; and Leon J. Penny were assigned as battery commanders.

4-28-45

Battery officers include: 1st Lieuts. Robert Byrd, Baltimore, Md.; Neville Harper, and Lester Davis, both of New York; Evans S. Walker, Chicago, Ill.; David J. Smith, Syracuse, N. Y.; Richard S. Bennett, Macon, Ga.; 2nd Lieuts. Bernard S. Phillips, New York City; Owen Jefferson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Warrant Officers (Junior Grade) Russell T. Brager, Springfield, Ill.; Edward F. Carpenter, New York; Andrew Hayden, Birmingham, Ala.; and Chester Reavis, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Who's Guilty?

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

It is reported that 103 Negro bomber pilots are in arrest of quarters at Godman Field for the "crime" of having violated orders or custom by invading the officers' club at Freeman Field, Indiana, some days ago instead of patronizing a jim-crow officers' club which had been set aside for them.

4-28-45

Are these 103 Negro officers guilty, or is their commander guilty for having violated an Army regulation or is their outlawing color discrimination issued over a year ago?

If the Negro officers are guilty of violating any Army order they should be punished, but if the Army order, commanders are guilty of violating an Army order, should they not be punished?

Army Regulations 210-10, paragraph 19, reads as follows:

USE OF PUBLIC BUILDING BY OFFICERS' CLUBS, MESSES OR SIMILAR SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

a. No officers' club, mess or similar social organization of officers will be permitted to occupy any part of any public building, other than the private quarters of an officer, unless such club, mess, or other organization extends to all officers on duty at the post, camp or station the right to full membership, either temporary or permanent in such club, mess or similar organization, including the right equally with any and all other members to participate in the management thereof, to hold office therein, and to vote upon any and all affairs thereof in which the officers concerned have an interest.

b. (1) Whenever permanent membership in any officers' club, mess or other similar organization, with the right to acquire an interest in military property thereof, is limited to the members of a particular military organization, such club, mess or similar organization, in order to be permitted to occupy any part of any public building other than the private quarters of an officer, must extend the right of temporary membership to all officers on duty at the post and on such reasonable terms as to initiation fees, dues and charges as should be satisfactory to the temporary members.

(2) In the event of a disagreement as to the reasonableness of any such terms, the post commander will require the parties in disagreement to submit written statements of their respective recommendations for the decision of the corps area commander, except that at exempted stations they will be forwarded to the Adjutant General for the decision of the Secretary of War.

If this order means anything at all, it means that the Negro officers on duty at Freeman Field had the right of patronizing the post officers' club.

It also means that the post commander, instead of

arresting and confining the Negro officers who were doing what they had a perfect right to do, should have merely submitted the controversy to the Adjutant General and the Secretary of War. 4-28-45

It seems to us that the post commander at Freeman Field was far more guilty than the arrested Negro officers, and yet he is apparently at liberty, and there has been no suggestion that he should be arrested and confined to quarters.

There can, it seems to us, be only one interpretation of this Army order.

If the Negro officers were wrong, then the order is meaningless.

If the Negro officers were right, then their arrest and confinement was meaningless, and a great wrong is being committed.

It is difficult to see how the Administration can expect military and naval contractors to obey the dictates of the Fair Employment Practices Committee when it permits its own departments to wilfully disobey them.

It is even more difficult to see how the Administration can claim to be prosecuting a war to bring democracy to all of the world when it will not enforce its own orders supposedly establishing democracy in its own country.

We do not want to see any officer arrested, confined, tried or convicted simply for obeying the letter and spirit of Army orders, but if anybody is to be punished as a result of this incident, it certainly should NOT be the 103 Negro officers.

The Secretary of War should order their immediate release and return to duty.

Anything less will be a travesty on justice.

Negro Officers At Freeman 'Disciplined'

Courier-Journal Ky.

3 Accused of 'Jostling' Post Provost Marshal

4-12-45

Seymour, Ind., April 11 (AP)—Three Negro officers stationed at Freeman Field, Army air base, have been "subjected to routine disciplinary action" for "jostling" a post provost marshal on duty, Capt. Robert W. McIntosh, public relations officer at the base, announced tonight.

Captain McIntosh identified the men as Lt. Marsden A. Thompson, Los Angeles, a trainee adjutant; Lt. Shirley R. Clinton, Camden, N. J., a trainee intelligence officer, and Lt. Roger C. Terry, Los Angeles, trainee copilot.

In a statement, Captain McIntosh said charges had been preferred against the three men, but refused to specify the charges.

Discrimination Claimed.

The statement said Thompson, Clinton and Terry allegedly had jostled the provost marshal while entering a recreation hall "not assigned to them." He did not identify the marshal.

Captain McIntosh said that the recreation hall was not assigned to the men for reasons of "highest morale and efficiency." He said it was a tradition of long standing in the armed forces "all over the United States" to keep students and instructors apart while off duty.

The New York Post in a dispatch from Washington said the three officers were being helf for court-martial proceedings after they had protested against what they termed discrimination at the base.

Other Officers Also Protest.

4-12-45

The newspaper said the three officers, identified as leaders of a group of 61 Negroes at the field, attempted to enter the field's Officers' Slub last Thursday and were banned.

"They protested immediately, saying a War Department regulation had outlawed such segregation of colored troops," the Post continued. "A few hours later they were placed under quarters arrest.

"During the succeeding 24 hours, 58 other officers joined in the protest. They, too, were arrested but were freed later."

The Post said the three officers facing trial were involved in a similar incident at Selfridge Field, near Detroit, Mich., two years ago. At that time, the newspaper added, they protested against bans on Negro use of officers' clubs and were arrested but later released.

GENERAL DAVIS IN PARIS—Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer, now advisor to the Commanding General of the European Theatre of Operations, is shown shaking hands with Leon Henderson, former Price Administrator, when the two men met in Paris, France, recently.—(U. S. Signal Corps Photo from OWI)

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 1-24-45

Third Godman Officer Fined

Atlanta Daily World

LOUISVILLE, Ky.— (SNS)— Lt. Roger Terry, of Los Angeles, last of three Negro officers to be tried on charges of disobedience in connection with their attempt to enter a white officers' club at Freeman Field, Ind., last April has been cleared by court-martial at Godman Field, Fort Knox, Ky.

The all -Negro court-martial at the same found Terry guilty of 'offering violence to a military police officer." He faces a $150 fine on this charge. 1-8-45

Two other lieutenants were acquitted earlier in the week in a similar trial and 98 others, detained after the incident, were released earlier after a protest to the War Department by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which assisted in the defense at the Louisville trials.

Three Promoted To Captain In 93rd Division

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va.

11-24-45

WITH THE 93RD INFANTRY DIVISION ON MOROTAI — The promotion of three Field Artillery officers, serving on Morotai in the Netherlands East Indies and Mindanao in the Philippines, to the rank of captain has been announced by Major Gen. Harry H. Johnson, commanding general of the 93rd Division.

On Motorai, the promotion of Terrance A. De Beal to the rank of captain followed a long period of superior service, arduous study and performance. He has been overseas 19 months, wears the Asiatic-Pacific Theater ribbon two Battle Stars and the Bronze Star Medal.

Capt. De Beal's wife lives at 410 White street, San Bernadino, Calif. He is the son of Mrs. Armede Robinson of 14 School street, Corona, Calif. He has one brother, Cpl. Glen De Beal who is in the 855th Aviation Engineer Battalion now in Manila.

Also promoted to captain was Ellis J. Diggs of the 596th Field Artillery Battalion. Capt. Diggs has been with the 93rd Division for the past three years and is now one of five Negro captains in the Division Artillery. He is the son of Mrs. Carrie Diggs, 2105 Bland place, Indianapolis, Ind., and is now a battery commander.

Capt. Diggs has seen service on Bougainville, Finchaven, the Netherlands, Morotai, and the Philippines. He wears two Battle Stars on an Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Ribbon and a Bronze Star.

Robert S. Copeland, Tulsa, Okla., was the third officer to be promoted to the rank of captain.

Overseas for 19 months Capt. Copeland wears the American Defense Ribbon, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, two Battle Stars and the Bronze Star Medal. He served as executive officer of a firing battery of 105-mm howitzers, Battery A, 593rd Field Artillery Battalion, an element of the 25th Regiment combat team during the Bougainville campaign in March, 1944.

561-1945

Officers

Receive Officer Commissions

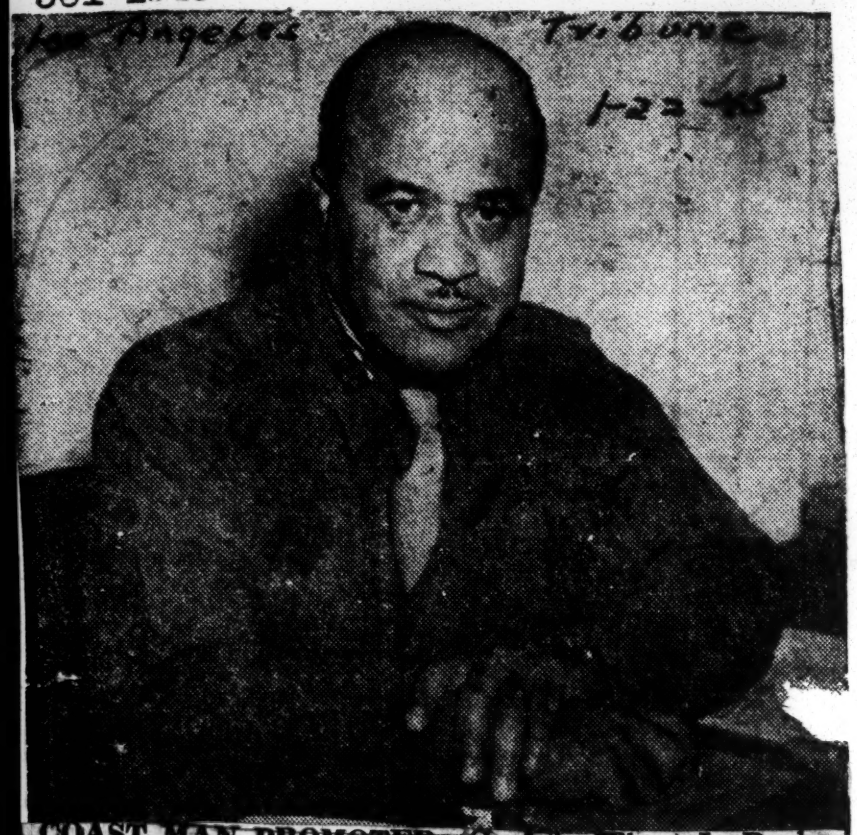
2 Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Lt. Alfred D. Derricotte, left, of 781 19th St., N.E., Washington, and Lt. Elbert Shields Alston of Huntington, W.Va., were among 53 commissioned as second lieutenants, Saturday, at the Ordnance Officer Candidate School at Aberden Proving Grounds, Md. Lt. Alston, who served a year in the Pacific Theatre, was voted the outstanding man in the class. 12-22-43

561-1945

Officers



Los Angeles Tribune 1-22-45

COAST MAN PROMOTED—Captain Elbert L. Booker is one of the most recent officers promoted at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Captain Booker was born in Seattle, educated at Howard and Northwestern University. He was formerly a Lieutenant of Infantry in World War I. His present assignment is as Chief of Operation Section, Dental Infirmary No. 2, Fort Huachuca.

Commissions Made Easy

Pittsburgh Courier p2.

There are only 6,000 Negro commissioned officers in the Army and Navy, although the number of colored Americans in uniform is close to 1,000,000. 3-3-45

If officers were commissioned on racial quotas, all other things being equal, there would only be a total of 60,000 officers in the Armed Forces, whereas the actual total is around 800,000.

It has been difficult even to get commissions and promotions for the most qualified Negro officers, and some commanders have openly stated that they would promote no Negro officers where they would outrank white officers, frequently transferring them from combat to labor outfits.

But it seems very easy for some white Americans to get a commission, and we read every day of businessmen, actors, football players, band leaders and such, becoming captains, majors, lieutenant-commanders, etc., although their military or naval knowledge is nil.

Consider the case of Major Walter H. Marlin, commander of the 718th Railway Battalion, which operated an extensive black market in France with Army supplies, and which was called "inefficient, unorganized and a disgrace to the military service," by the courts-martial prosecutor.

Explaining how he got his commission, Major Marlin testified, "I wanted to serve in the war, so I wrote the War Department, outlining my railroad experience and requesting a commission. Right away they wrote me, making me a major. I had four weeks of training at Camp Stoneman, California." 3-3-45

Major Marlin, fifty-four years old, boasts of an eighth grade "education." He was acquitted of the charges of neglect of duty.

One can imagine what consideration the War Department would have given the application of a colored American with similar qualifications, and yet there are hundreds of Marlins commanding Negro officers and men who are in every way their superiors.

We wish Secretary of War Stimson would concern himself less with trying to have permanent conscription adopted and more with establishing justice and fair play in his own department, where nothing is stopping him from doing so.

Lost Arm in Last War' Vet Now Guides GI Education

Afro-American Balt., Md. 2-24-45

GUNTER FIELD, Ala.—A veteran of World War I who lost his left arm in the battle of the Meuse-Argonne, William Clark is now back in uniform as a major and information and education officer of the 4th Service Command.

MAJ. WILLIAM CLARK

Major Clark, who also fought at St. Mihiel in the last war, was wounded when he went miles behind the enemy lines to gather information with a combat intelligence unit. 2-24-45

After his return from overseas, he studied at Hampton Institute, won a Ph.D. degree at Yale and went to Tuskegee Institute, where he was dean of the School of Education until he re-entered the Army as a reserve officer two-and-a-half years ago.

For GI Development

Now head of the Army re-orientation program here, he says, "Our job is to keep the soldier aware of the advantages of this Army . . . Our leaders know the advantages of a well-trained Army and high morale." 2-24-45

Placing the orientation progam at "the top of the list" of the Army's training programs, he declares, "Generally speaking, the colored troops are reacting favorably toward the entire program.

First Education for Many

"So many of them find they have an opportunity they didn't have in their local communities. Many are learning to read and write for the first time, others are obtaining high school educations and some college credits."

The program of the Information and Education, he explained, includes, in addition to general subjects, war films, information about the war, the enemy and the nation itself.

The major is married, his family now residing in Tuskegee. He has one son, Gerald S., 16, and a daughter, Wilhelmina, 13.

Upped To Captain

N.Y. Amsterdam News 5-19-45

JESSE R. LISCOMB of Jamaica, L. I., stationed somewhere in Germany, was recently promoted to the rank of Captain. He enlisted as a private in the 369th Infantry under Col. B. O. Davis and continued his service in this regiment after it had been changed to the 369th Coast Artillery (A. A.) under Col. Chauncey Hooper. Before going overseas, Capt. Liscomb received his training at Fort Ontario, Camp Edwards and then saw service in Hawaii. He returned to Fort Benning, Ga., where he attended OCS and completed two major courses — Motor Transport and Mess Officer. Capt. Liscomb's four-year-old son, Tony, resides with relatives in Jamaica, L. I.—G.B.

Atlanta Daily World 5-4-45

NOW A CAPTAIN—Captain Sheppard D. O'Neal of Atlanta, who has recently been promoted from the rank of first lieutenant. The captain is serving in the capacity of Air Corps Supply Officer with the only Negro air service squadron overseas. Before entering active service, Captain O'Neal was a theatrical manager and attended the Butler Street AME Church of Atlanta. He is a graduate of the Booker T. Washington High School Atlanta.

2-21-45

Free Press Photo

CAPT. ROY SPENCER TOLEKA
Courting haunts serve best for pilot's honeymoon

Fighter Pilot and Bride in Detroit on Honeymoon

Detroit Free Press

Mich

After completing 76 missions in the European theater, Capt. Roy M. Spencer, former Selfridge Field fighter pilot, was in Detroit Tuesday on his honeymoon.

Capt. Spencer, 26, was married last Friday to Toleka Johnson, of Detroit. They met in 1943 when Capt. Spencer was stationed at Selfridge Field.

* * *

HIS BOMBING missions took him over Munich, Vienna, the Ploesti oil fields, Southern France and scores of other places.

Capt. Spencer's most harrowing mission came when he and three other fliers got separated from his squadron over Germany and were in heavy flak for nearly a half an hour. 2-21-45

* * *

"WE FINALLY got back to our base," he said. "I had 15 gallons of gas left and one of the others had only five gallons. If we had been out much longer it would have been just too bad."

The captain wears the Air Medal and four oak leaf clusters.

Capt. Spencer has been visiting his sister-in-law Mrs. Jessie Swain, of 643 Leicester Ct.

Two Colonels Now On Review Board

Chicago Defender

5-19-45

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Washington now has more high-ranking Negro Army officers than at any time during the history of the war. Although Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis is assigned to the European Theatre of Operations now, there are three full colonels assigned to duty in the nation's capital.

They are Col. Campbell C. Johnson, special assistant to the Director of Selective Service, and two more recent assignments, Col. West A. Hamilton and Col. Chauncy Hooper.

Capt. Davenport Now Major in S.W. Pacific

Afro-American 6-2-45

NETHERLANDS, East Indies—Capt. Clarence M. Davenport, 1941 West Point graduate, has been promoted to the rank of major.

He is executive officer to Col. Maurice Moses of New York, now commanding the SWPA's second all-colored anti-aircraft battalion.

372nd INF. AT FT. HUACHUCA

The Guardian, Mass.

2-24-45

Col. Edwin O. Gourdin of Boston and commanding officer, 372nd Infantry Regiment, now stationed at Fort Huachuca Arizona. Col. Gourdin recently addressed a large group of military personnel at the Fort.

Louisiana Weekly

Captain Emile J. LaBranche Jr. was promoted to his present rank from that of First Lieutenant on May 6, 1945. Captain LaBranche, 26-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. LaBranche, 919 N. Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, is stationed with the Medical Administrative Corps of the 93rd Division in the Southwest Pacific. 6-9-45

Captain LaBranche was inducted into the Army as a private on Janury 22, 1942. He graduated from the School of Pharmacy of Xavier University in 1939, and passed the Louisiana State Board of Pharmacy in the same year. In 1941 he received his Master's Degree in Business Administration from Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia. From then until the date of his induction he was assistant manager of La Branche's Drug Store, New Orleans. 6-9-45

Captain LaBranche is married to the former Miss Elfreida Ferguson of Lynchburg, Virginia. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and of the New Orleans Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association.

Afro-American

CADET MARK RIVERS, JR., son of Dr. and Mrs. Mark E. Rivers, of 146-56 Bayside Avenue, New York City, who is listed among the cadets to be graduated June 5 from the United States Military Academy at West Point. Rivers, a graduate of the George Washington High School, attended Columbia College, and the Brooklyn Academy prior to going to West Point. He was a Cadet Sergeant and turned out for track. Upon graduating, he will be commissioned in the Field Artillery. (U. S. Army Signal Corps.) 6-27-45

Tenn. Sergeant Commissioned To Lieutenant

Philadelphia Tribune

6-2-45

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—First Sergeant Christopher M. Roulhac, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Roulhac of Memphis, Tenn., and former All-American halfback, has been commissioned a second lieutenant at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

Lt. Roulhac entered the Armed Services three years ago and has seen action in North Africa and Italy. Following his return to the States in 1944, he was given a reassignment which subsequently led to his acceptance as an Officer Candidate at Carlisle Barracks.

The young officer is a graduate of LeMoyne College, Memphis, and holds a Master's Degree from Springfield College, Mass.

Plane Crash Kills Pilot

Philadelphia Inquirer

WALTERBORO, S. C. — (ANP)— Second Lt. Lloyd A. Carter was killed instantly last week when the pursuit plane he was piloting crashed about 15 miles from the army air force field here. 6-30-45

Lt. Carter was on a routine combat training flight when his plane crashed. A board of qualified officers has been appointed to investigate the cause of the crash, said Col. Guy Kirksey, field commander.

The young pilot was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Carter of York, Pa. They have been notified, Col. Kirksey announced.

561-1945 Officers

Additions to Army Legal Staff Welcomed to Paris

6-16-45 Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

The first colored officers to join the Judge Advocate General's office in Paris are shown being greeted by Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, special advisor to the theater commander, ETO. They are Capt. Willard B. Ransom, Indianapolis (left) and Capt. James A. McLendon, Chicago.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

1st Legal Officers Join Paris Staff

6-16-45

PARIS.—The first colored officers assigned to the Judge Advocate General's Department, European Theatre of Operations, Captains James A. McLendon of Chicago and Willard B. Ransom of Indianapolis, have reached this city, SHAEF has announced.

The husband of the former Miss Elnora Davis, daughter of Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, on duty with the Inspector General's Department, Capt. McLendon practiced law in Chicago before entering the Army in June, 1941.

First with the 184th Field Artillery, he was later with the Army Regulation Restatement Branch at the Adjutant General's School, then at Fort Washington, Md., receiving commendation for his work on Army regulations there.

Harvard Law Graduate

A graduate of Talladega College and Harvard Law School, Captain Ransom entered the Army in June, 1941, and was commissioned in the Chemical Warfare Service in July, 1942.

Transferred to the Judge Advocate General's Department in May, 1944, he served as assistant trial judge advocate at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. He has been assigned to duty in the Normandy Base Section.

Capt. Tresville, Missing Flier, Presumed Dead

Norfolk, Va. Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The War Department has made a presumptive finding of death as of June 23 in the case of Captain Robert B. Tresville Jr., son of W. O. and Mrs. Robert Tresville Sr., who was reported missing in action since June 22, 1944. 7-7-45

Captain Tresville was a graduate of the United States Military Academy, which he entered in 1942. He was commissioned a second lieutenant on Jan. 19, 1943. About a month later he was transferred from the infantry to the Air Corps. He was promoted to first lieutenant on May 19, 1943, and to captain on May 19, 1943. He was born in Texas on May 9, 1921.

CAPT. TRESVILLE

At the time he was reported missing, he was a squadron leader with the 332d Fighter Group based in Italy.

SURVIVED BY WIDOW

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Robert B. Tresville Jr., 50 Lyta avenue, Buffalo, N. Y., to whom a daughter was born while the father was in combat. Capt. Tresville's father, W. O. Robert Tresville Sr., is a veteran Army band leader.

Can't "Sit Out War" Says Thos. W. Young

Norfolk, Va. Journal and Guide

Guide War Correspondent Who Reported Original 99th Fighter Squadron In Battle Baptism Addresses 29 New Pilots

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—"You cannot fight the battle at home by refusing to fight or neglecting the battle against the common enemy abroad," Thomas W. Young, business manager of the Journal and Guide, told the most recent aviation cadets to receive their wings and commissions at the Army Air Field here. 7-7-45

"We have much to aspire to here at home, many things which we must yet attain by perserverance and determination," Mr. Young added in his address to the graduating class on June 27.

CAN'T "SIT OUT" THE WAR

"That struggle will require all the will-power and strength of character that we can develop in the fulfillment of our obligations now as soldiers in our country's Army."

The speaker declared that Negroes could not afford to "sit out this war" and be the only racial group in the total population privileged to escape the rigors and sacrifices which are the price of victory.

On one of two assignments as a war corespondent, Mr. Young reported the combat performances of the original 99th Fighter Squadron, in 1943.

NO OTHER CHOICE

Nor could the race afford the status of second class soldiers in wartime by accepting relegation to service units alone, Mr. Young added, because then it would have to accept in peacetime the status of second class citizens.

"There is no other choice," he concluded, "but to seek and accept billets in every one of the available types of services, and to keep boring from within and from without until it shall be obvious to even the most skeptical of the other race that the Negro is carrying manfully and patriotically the full weight of his burden in this war."

THREE ANSWERS

Observing that a great many people, in uniform and out, have asked, "What have we got to fight for?" Mr. Young offered these answers: 7-7-45

"(1) So that no one will ever say, let alone believe, that we as a race either cannot or will not fight as readily, as tenaciously, and as courageously as any other group.

"(2) Because the enemies of white America are also the enemies of black America.

"(3) Because the shibboleths of the United Nations are and have been our own shibboleths since we first aspired to full citizenship in this nation. Our choice was between our fellow countrymen who loudly preached but shabbily practiced the things we most passionately believe in and earnestly strive for, on the one hand, and a gang of fascist despots who neither preached nor practiced those principles, on the other hand."

Introducing the speaker, Col Noel F. Parrisl., commanding officer of the base, said that Mr Young was the first person invited to address two graduating classes. He previously had spoken to the February, 1944, class. 7-7-45

HONOR STUDENTS

Musical numbers were given by the post band and glee club. Maj. Fleetwood M. McCoy, post trial judge advocate, administered the oaths of office to the newly commissioned pilots.

Col. Parrish presented letters of appointment while Maj. Gabe C. Hawkins, director of training and operations, presented the pilots with their "wings."

Capt. Thomas J. Collins, commandant of students, made presentations of awards to the three honor students: Grady Edwin Bryant, Robert Lee Robinson Jr., and Robert Gordon Trott.

GRADUATES' NAMES 7-7-45

Invocation and benediction were by the Rev. Charles W. Kelley, pastor of Greenwood Baptist Church in Tuskegee. Others receiving wings and commissions were:

Walter Gilbert Alexander II, Reuben Burkie Bilbo, Joseph H. Blaylock, James Osborn Bryson, Clarence Jesse Carter, Wilson Nimrod Cobbs, Victor Livingston Connell, Matthew James Corbin, William Vincent Francis, Ivie Vernon Giles, Leonard Collins Hall Jr., James Edwin Harrison.

Also, Clarence Johnson, William Allen Johnston Jr., Thomas Andrew Kelley, Calvin Mullen Knight, George Lott Prather, Joseph Anthony Prince, Frank Rapheal Raymond, Albert Bernard Simeon Jr., Robert Cecil Smith, Walter Hightower Thomas Jr., Emmett Julius Wilhite, Raymond Lawrence Williams, Phillip Carroll Yates and Leo Wesley Young.

CAMDEN, N. J. POST

Circ. D. 15,967

JUN 27 1945

Action Was Wise

To the Editor:

The action taken by the War Department in regards to the conflict between white and Negro officers at Godman Field is indeed one which will enlighten the hearts of many Negro officers stationed there.

The Negro trainees were unjustly discriminated against when they were barred from the officers club which is maintained by the Army and is available for ALL officers on the post.

This is but one incident of the many which occurs frequently and is bringing racial hatred to a dangerous head. When discrimination is practiced among our service men—the very men who are fighting to preserve our true American life, which guarantees freedom for all, regardless of race, creed or color—it is a serious problem. It is a problem which cannot be overlooked or avoided by any true American.

The War Department's action in placing Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., in charge of the field was the best way to overcome the unfair segregation of Negroes. It is believed Colonel Davis will select an all Negro staff. The best way to avoid further conflict would be to select a staff composed of both white and Negro officers. However, this move remains to be seen.

The action shows that the War Department is well aware of the evils of discrimination in any way, shape or form—and is constantly fighting to overcome it.

We at home, black, white, Catholic, Jewish and Protestant, who all have men in the service can do our part too in overcoming the prejudices which endanger our future generations.

GENEVIEVE C. SOOY.
117 Lehigh avenue, Gloucester Heights.

Honorable Discharges For Ex-Yank Officers

Philadelphia Courier 6-22-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—LeRoy A. Clay, former captain, and Roland R. Brooks, former second lieutenant, both of the Ninety-second Division, who were given dishonorable discharges, and sentenced to fifty years at hard labor after Army trials in Italy, have been permitted to re-enlist in the Army of the United States, and will then be given honorable discharges. The unexecuted portion of their sentences have been remitted. 12-22-45

First U. S. Negro General Attends Installation of Unit At Son's Post

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky

Ceremony Held At Godman Field

9-8-45

By SANDY WOOD.

Thundering Billy Mitchell bombers, flown by Negro pilots, swooped low in close formation over Godman Field.

A brigadier general and a colonel, both Negroes, stood at attention, watching. There was a trace of tears in the white-haired general's eyes.

It was a new day for Godman Field, a new day for the Davises, father and son, and a military precedent.

First Negro Gets Command.

This was the first all-Negro troop review, marking the official installation of the 477th Composite Air Group of the First Air Force at Fort Knox and the first time a Negro officer had been placed in charge of a U. S. military base.

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, 62, the only one of his race ever to rise to such a distinction in U. S. military history, flew from Washington in a C-45 transport plane to attend the first review of Negro troops for his son, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., first Negro base commanding officer.

As the roaring bombers faded into the distance, General Davis looked admiringly at his son, smiled and said:

"Those boys can really fly."

General Davis was answering, indirectly, some of the criticism directed at the performance of Negro troops during this war.

Wac Company Arrives.

Established at Godman Field with the 477th Composite Group are the 387th Service Group and the newly arrived Company A of Negro Air Wacs. The units passed snappily on review for General Davis and his son.

Afterward General Davis said: "The performance I have witnessed today and the establishment of these units at Godman Field are clear evidence to us who have followed the Negro's performance in this war that the War Department feels the Negro soldier is making a distinct contribution to the war effort.

"Otherwise," he added, "the department would not go to the time, trouble and expense of using the taxpayers' money to establish these Negro troops here."

C.-J. Photo.

FATHER AND SON, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis and Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., meet at Godman Field, Fort Knox, to install all-Negro air group.

Entered Service In 1898.

General Davis said the War Department already is on record through the Air Forces with the promise that when the units at Godman Field are trained they will be sent into combat "and I can promise you that they will make a definite contribution to final victory."

General Davis, born in Washington, first entered military service in July, 1898, during the Spanish-American War as a temporary first lieutenant of the Eighth Infantry. He re-enlisted as a private in the Regular Army after the war, was corporal and squadron sergeant-major, and in 1901 was commissioned a second lieutenant of cavalry.

The general taught military science and tactics at Wilberforce University in Ohio, and at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He was promoted to brigadier general in 1940 and was retired in July, 1941, but recalled to duty the day after his retirement.

Flies 200 Combat Missions.

Colonel Davis, a West Point graduate of 1936, was commander of the 332d Fighter Group in Italy. He won his pilots' wings at the Tuskegee Army Airfield in 1942, and was assigned to command the 99th Air Group in the North African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns.

The Negro flight officer took command of the 332d Fighter Group in October, 1943, was its chief overseas in bold strafing sorties against the enemy, and figured in low-level skip-bombing at Cassino and Anzio.

Colonel Davis' group completed 200 combat missions with the 15th Air Force by February, 1945, and served as escort to heavy bombers without the loss of a single bomber to enemy fighters. Members of the 332d received 63 Distinguished Flying Crosses and completed 8,000 sorties, destroying 200 enemy aircraft.

Colonel Davis, a tall, wiry soldier, wears the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf clusters.

The new Godman Field commandant said the Negro trainees for his base "are the finest of our race that could be selected for this duty" and he expressed "my sincere belief that they will make us proud of their war performance."

New Yorker Raised To Rank of Major

Pittsburgh Courier
Black Dispatch

By Conrad Clark

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC. — (ANP) — Among the Negro officers here in the Pacific area to be promoted this month are Capt. William H. Cuffey, of New York City, a former member of Harlem's 369th regiment now disbanded, Reanw W-O (jg) Theodore M. Holmes of Petersburg, Va.

Both officers are with the Pacific's first all-Negro anti-air-craft artillery automatic weapons battalion, commanded by Maj. Cato L. Baskervill, Now York, which is a part of the 14th Anti-air-craft command, under Maj. Gen. William F. Marquat, with headquarters in the Philippines. 9-1-45

Capt. Cuffey was promoted to the rank of major, and becomes the third major in the battalion and the second to be made within the past 12 months and Mr. Holmes was promoted to the rank of warrant officer, senior grade, the battalion's first, and one of the few Negro senior grade warrent officers in the Pacific. Oklahoma

The plans and training officer of the battalion, Maj. Cuffey was a former battery commander until eight months ago, when he replaced Capt. William Taylor of New York City, the former battalion's S-3 officer, who was transferred to another all-Negro ack unit with Lt. Col. DeMaurice Moses who is the commanding officer. 9-1-45

PACIFIC PROMOTIONS FOR TWO

The Pittsburgh Courier. 9-18-45
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — (By ANP)— Among the Negro officers here in the Pacific area to be promoted this month are Capt. William H. Cuffey of New York City, a former member of Harlem's 369th regiment now disbanded, and W/O (jg) Theodore M. Holmes of Petersburg, Va.

Ex-Defender Editorial Man Made A Major

Chicago, Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Dan Day Now Chief Of Negro Interest Section Of PRO

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—A product of the Chicago Defender rose to the highest news position occupied by a Negro in the War department today when Maj. "Danny" Day, Field Artillery and former assistant city editor, was advanced to the position of chief of the Negro interest section, Bureau of Public Relations. 10-20-45

Major Day succeeded Maj. Homer Roberts, now retired from that position. A resident of Chicago, Major Day was one of the first Negro officers assigned to the bureau, where he steadily advanced from the rank of first lieutenant to his present rank and position.

He entered the army as a sergeant in 1941 as a member of the old Eighth Illinois Regiment, redesignated as the 184th Field Artillery Regiment. Prior to that time, Major Day had for 14 years worked for the Chicago Defender, advancing from the post of the "world's youngest cartoonist" at the age of 12 to assistant city editorship of the paper.

The major will be assisted in his present position in the War Department by Capt. James L. Hicks, Quartermaster Corps, of Akron, Ohio, veteran of 34 months' service in the Pacific, returning to the States last December. Captain Hicks was formerly attached to a Cleveland weekly as columnist.

Major Day's father, Thomas Day, now resides at 3638 S. Wabash avenue. Major Day received his majority on Sept. 15, 1945. When he came to the War Department in 1941 he was made a captain.

The St. Louis Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

NEGRO CAPTAIN IN COMMAND OF MIXED UNIT

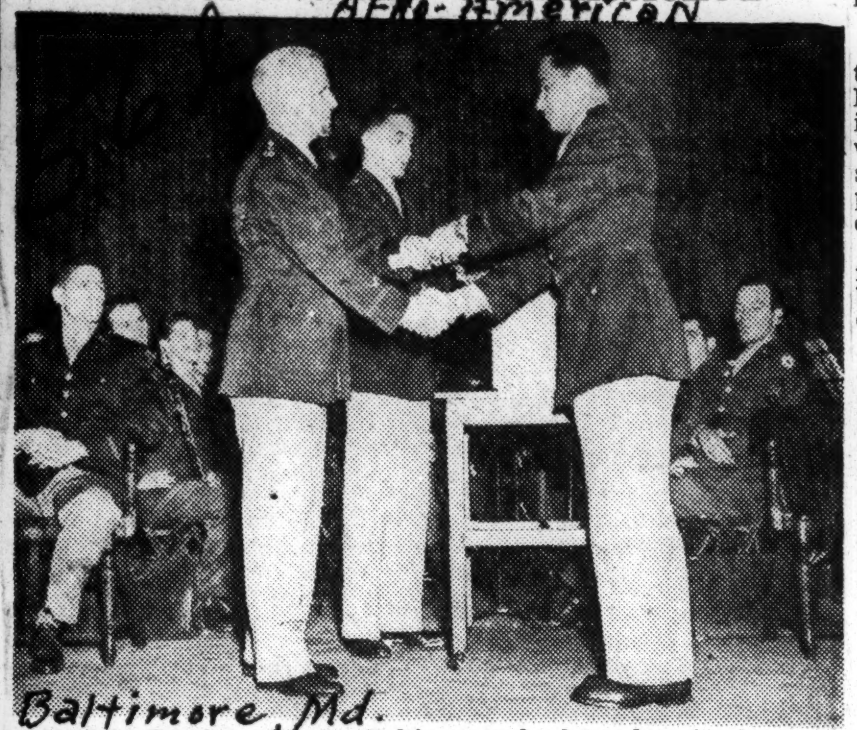
OAHU ISLAND, T. H.—Captain Harry L. Pettrie, commander of Anti-tank Co. of the 772nd Inf. Regiment, has been given command of a prisoner of war compound on this island. This is the Army's nearest approach to a democratic setup to date. 10-26-45

561-1945

Officers- Army

Former Teacher Commissioned

AFRO-AMERICAN



Baltimore, Md.

Lt. Earl L. Bundara, former Baltimore school teacher, is shown receiving his commission as a second lieutenant from Col. Willis R. Slaughter, commandant of the Ordnance School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., recently. The new lieutenant, husband of Mrs. Betty T. Bundara of 1522 Harlem Avenue, is a graduate of Morgan State College and attended the Franklin Institute at Rochester, N.Y. He is at present on a fourteen-day furlough and will return to Aberdeen for specialist training. 4-28-45

Commands Given Two at Camp Lee

AFRO-AMERICAN

Balt., Md. 1-6-45

CAMP LEE, Va.—The appointment of two new company commanders in the Army Service Forces Training Center here, the Quartermaster Corps' largest installation, has been announced by Col. Whitfield W. Watson, commanding officer of the First Quartermaster Training Group.

They are First Lts. Dorsey E. Lane of Washington, who now commands the 25th QM Training Company, and Joseph E. Hall of Philadelphia, who heads the adjoining 26th QM Training Company.

Lieutenant Lane, who was commissioned a second lieutenant, January 29, 1943, graduated from Dunbar High School in Washington and Hampton Institute, Va., and later studied at Howard University. Prior to induction he was associated with a Washington real estate and insurance firm.

Rose from the Ranks

Lieutenant Hall, the son of Mrs. Bertha Hall, 1827 Wharton Street, Philadelphia, is a 1941 graduate of the New Jersey State Teachers' College at Glassboro, like Lieutenant Lane, served here before being commissioned on May 27, 1943.

Members of their staffs included 2nd Lieuts. Irwin R. Holmes, Reidsville, N.C.; John E. Mason, Portsmouth, Va.; Theodore R. Hudson, 117 Heckman Street, Southeast, Washington, and Lewis Giles, Jr., Spartanburg, S.C.

Action Against Officers Halted

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-21-45

61 Ignored Color Bar at Officers' Club

3 FACED TRIAL

War Dept. Probe May Hit Biased Policy

Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Punitive action against 61 Air Force officers accused of violating jim-crow regulations at Freeman Field, Ind., has been suspended pending the outcome of an investigation now under way, the War Department announced Monday. 4-21-45

The announcement was construed as indicating that the officers might be sustained in their defiance of a post regulation which itself violates a War Department order against segregated recreational facilities.

It is understood that all the men involved are to remain at liberty during the investigation.

Attorney Retained

Meanwhile, Dr. William H. Hastie has been retained by the NAACP to represent the officers in any court-martial proceedings which may be held, with the assistance of Theodore M. Berry, president of the Cincinnati branch of the association.

Their assignment to the case followed a personal investigation by Leslie S. Perry of the NAACP's Washington Bureau.

Mr. Perry reported that, in addition to the thee officers under technical arrest at Freeman Field, 101 were facing charges at Godman Field, Ky., for refusing to sign an order barring them from certain facilities on the post.

Mr. Perry's report will form the basis for representations to be made by Walter White, executive secretary, to the War Department and President Truman later this week. 4-21-45

SEYMOUR, Ind.—(ANP)—Of 60 officers arrested recently because they defied a ban on colored personnel at an officers' club at Freeman Field, 3 were held for trial by court-martial and 57 were released last week.

All are members of the 477th Bombardment Group.

The three were charged with "jostling" a post provost marshal on duty. They were Lts. Marsden A. Thompson, Los Angeles, a trainee adjutant; Shirley R. Clinton, Camden, N.J., a trainee intelligence officer, and Roger C. Terry, Los Angeles, trainee copilot.

According to Capt. Robert W. McIntosh, public relations officer at the base, all three were involved in a similar incident at Selfridge Field, Mich., two years ago.

Army Rule Violated

According to reports, the officers, arriving at Freeman Field Thursday night, went over to the officers' club to spend the evening.

At the door of the recreation center, they were met by Major A. M. White and Lt. J. D. Rogers, assistant provost marshal, who told them that the club was operated for "white only" and ordered them to leave.

The officers, however, refused to leave on the grounds that the order, issued in the name of Col. Robert Selway, Jr., commander of the outfit, was in direct violation of Army regulation 210-10, paragraph 19. The men were then placed under arrest, pending formal charges.

Captain's Alibi

4-21-45

An explanation by Capt. McIntosh stated that the recreation hall was not assigned to the men for reasons of "highest morale and efficiency." He said that in accordance with military practice, they sought to "keep students and instructors" apart while off duty.

The three officers, said to be leaders of the protesting group, stated that jim-crow practices alone banned their entrance into the officers' club.

The entire list of those involved in the effort to break down jim-crow practices follows:

Second Lt. Marsden A. Thompson, Los Angeles, Calif.; Second Lt. Robert S. Payton, Jr., Boston; F/O Roland A. Webber, Boston; Second Lts. Coleman A. Young, Detroit; David J. Brown, Baton Rouge, La.; Leonard E. Williams, Knoxville, Tenn.; Robert L. Hunter, Tennessee; Clifford C. Jarrett, Columbus, Ohio; Cyril P. Dyer, New York City;

2 BALTIMOREANS IN GROUP

F/O Marcus E. Clarkson, Pittsburgh; F/O Frank V. Pivalo, New York; Second Lts. Shirley R. Clinton, Camden, N.J.; Lester S. Norris, Baltimore; F/O Howard Storey, Detroit; Second Lt. Clifton Barnett, West Virginia; F/O's Charles R. Taylor, Lansing, Mich.; Edward R. Tabbaner, New York; Norman A. Holmes, New Orleans; James C. Warren, Chicago;

Second Lt. Argonne F. Harden, First Lt. Carl O. Roach, New York; Second Lts. Robert B. Johnson, Nashville, Tenn.; Leroy A. Battle, Brooklyn; F/O Wendell C. Freeland, Baltimore; F/O Clarence C. Conway, Tarrytown, N.Y.; Second Lt. Roger V. Pines, Detroit; F/O Edward R. Lunda, Ohio; F/O Lloyd W. Godfrey, Boston;

4-21-45

Second Lt. Victor L. Ranson, New York City; F/O Connie Napier, Jr., Hartford, Conn.; F/O Robert T. McDaniel, Fort Worth, Tex.; Second Lt. George H. O. Martin, Denver, Colo.; F/O Adolphus Lewis, Jr., Philadelphia; Second Lt. Roger C. Terry, Los Angeles; F/O Ollie O. Goodall, Jr., Second Lts. James V. Kennedy;

MEN FROM PHILLY, D.C., N.J., N.Y.

First Lt. Robert O'Neil, Detroit; Second Lts. Wilbert H. Johnson, Los Angeles, Calif.; Herbert S. Harris, Philadelphia; Smith W. Green, Los Angeles, Calif.; F/O Walter H. Miller, Cincinnati; F/O Harry S. E. Lum, Charleston, S.C.; Second Lt. Edward V. Hipps, Jr., Chicago;

F/O Albin B. Steele, Jr., Ohio; F/O Sidney H. Marzette, Birmingham, Ala.; First Lt. Clarence E. Lewis, Dayton; F/O David J. Murphy; F/O Clayton F. Lawrence, Brooklyn, N.Y.; F/O Maurice Jackson, Jr., Cincinnati; Second Lts. Leonard A. Altemus, St. Louis; Frank B. Sanders, Los Angeles; George W. Prioleau, Jr., Los Angeles;

F/O Clarence Williams, Second Lt. Edward W. Watkins, Bluefield, West Virginia; First Lts. William B. Ellis, Washington, D.C.; Spann Watson, Hackensack, N.J.; F/O Harry R. Dickenson, New York; Second Lt. Leroy F. Gillead, Cincinnati; First Lts. Paul T. Anderson, Ocean City, N.J., and Arthur B. Polite, Jr., Asbury Park, N.J.

Soldier Given 50 Years; May Get New Trial

N.Y. Amsterdam News 4-28-45 N.Y.N.Y.

Capt. Leroy Clay of 92nd Dishonorably Discharged; Said He Didn't Obey Order

By MAX JOHNSON

(War Correspondent Amsterdam News and Afro-American)

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—Capt. Leroy A. Clay, staff officer of this famous all-Negro fighting outfit, who recently was sentenced to 50 years in prison and dishonorably discharged following a trial, will have his case reviewed next week, if the accused officer's plans work out all right before the Judge Advocate in the Mediterranean Theatre.

Capt. Clay, court-martialed for allegedly failing to carry out an order, was convicted and held for transfer to a military prison in the United States after Major General Edward Almond had reviewed the military court's findings.

The current appeal in Capt. Clay's behalf is regarded as a last resort.

Specifically, testimony showed that Capt. Clay, while serving as an assistant divisional operational officer last February, was ordered to take charge of several disorganized units of the command and reorganize them to carry on the attack. 4-28-45

The order required immediate contact with the commanding officer up in front. Instead of going there in person, it was said, Capt. Clay contacted the commanding officer by radio on the grounds that the Germans were shelling the area heavily.

Subsequently, Capt. Clay was ordered to take command of a rifle unit in the field. He failed to obey, the charges stated, and argued with a superior officer for more time to familiarize himself with the new command. The next day Capt. Clay was arrested.

In court, the defendant argued that the second order came as a punishment for failure to carry out the first order in the manner his white superiors figured it should have been. 4-28-45

While awaiting final decision on his appeal, Capt. Clay is confined to the Fifth Army stockade here. He was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in 1931 after completing ROTC at Howard University.

EX-H. U. TEACHER MADE CAPTAIN

Washington Tribune D.C. 4-21-45

Lt. Frederick Watts, Ph.D., of 3012 Park Place, former instructor of phychology at Howard University, has been promoted to captain at the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pa., it was announced this week.

Captain Watts entered the service on December 23, 1942, with a direct commission as first lieutenant. He had been a reserve officer, specializing in the Adjutant General's Department.

Before his assignment at the Gap, he was stationed at the induction station in Baltimore as a pre-induction classification and assignment officer. He is now an assistant personnel consultant in the Personnel Branch. 4-21-45

The officer received his B.A. from Howard and his Ph.D. in phychology from the University of Pennsylvania. He is married and has four children.

Captain In Flight Unit

Kansas City Times Aug. Mo.

15TH AAF IN ITALY — youngest pilots in the group, has flown more than 50 successful missions against the enemy. His St. Louis youthfulness has had no apparent effect upon his assumption of Pilot-the dutiges and responsibilities of a fighter pilot. He serves in the Fighting capacity of Flight Commander and by Col. been promoted as such has the full responsibility for all the pilots within Captain, his flight. Situations have often

Bradford, Mo., P-51 Mustang, the All Negro Mustang Group commanded by Clarence H. B. O. Davis, Jr., has been promoted to the rank of Captain.

arisen that called for split second decision and keen judgment. Capt. Bradford has met each situation with skill and commendable calmness. 4-13-45

He has been awarded the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters for "meritorious achievement in aerial flight as pilot of P-51 type fighter aircraft during sustained operational activity against the enemy."

OFFICERS DEFY ARMY JIM CROW

St. Louis Argus — Ind.

4-20-45

CHICAGO, Ill., April 16. (Special)—Leslie S. Perry of NAACP Washington Bureau spent Friday and Saturday at Freeman Field, Indiana. He reports three men are under technical arrest at Freeman Field under formal charges, but that for the time being no court martials are scheduled against 101 additional men held at Godman Field, Kentucky, who refused to sign order barring them from certain facilities on the post.

Perry's detailed report will form basis for representatiions by Walter White to the War Department and President Truman later this week. Judge William H. Hastie has been retained by NAACP to defend men in any court martial which may be held and Theodore M. Berry, president of the Cincinnati Branch NAACP, will be the associate counsel.

A representative of the press received the following report from the field: 4-20-45

Fall Ordeal

We are here at Godman Field again. We are among the 101 officers who are here "under arrest" for refusing to sign an order at Freeman Field that would Jim Crow us, and keep us out of the officers club (white).

We were flown here in six transports and such a greeting; you should have thought we were "Jap Prisoners". A big crowd gathered; they stared and leered as if they had never seen us before. There were also many armed guards on hand.

We are living in the same barracks that we occupied before we left here. They have placed a string of M. P.'s all around the area with sticks to watch us. We can only go to the Gym (across the street) and to mess hall. We are allowed no visitors. All of this is in direct violation of Military Law which even allows men in the guardhouse to have visitors and we aren't prisoners. There aren't supposed to be any guards for we are supposed to remain under arrest on our honor as officers. This is really "confinement" and without any charges having been preferred either. If this isn't "Fascism" we wonder what is?

We will be here for from two weeks to three months pending the decision of the War Department. We may be court-martialled on some "Framed-up" charge. We were given "direct orders" to sign these orders which would segregate and discriminate against us, and when we refused we were placed under arrest. We refuse for if we are to make the world safe for Democracy, then we can use a little of it here at home. 4-20-45

The club they want us to use is a second rate place that used to be a "Non Com's Club." The white officers' club is very swanky. We are not only allowed no visitors, but while we are under guard by M. P.s, there are "German Prisoners of War" walking around our area free, working on their "Honor". Yes, a white German P. W.'s honor is better than a "Colored U. S. Army Officer's." 4-20-45

If they can keep all these highly trained men idle while the war goes on it is a definite indication of which is more important—winning the war or attending theofficers' club.

Negro Officered Unit Wins Commendation

Pittsburgh Courier

3-17-45

WITH ADVANCE U. S. FORCE IN HOLLAND—After completing its first mission with direct contact with the enemy, the 83rd Chemical Smoke Generating Company was lauded by Maj. Gen. Charles H. Gerhardt of the 29th Infantry Division, Headquarters, European Theatre of Operations, has announced.

The 83rd, composed entirely of Negro officers and enlisted personnel, successfully laid smoke screens to confuse the enemy prior to a drive made by the 29th Division on the northern end of the front in Germany.

Moving out before the infantry, the men of the 83rd kept up harassing operations against the enemy, making it possible for the combat troops to move in and take over.

"Since this was the men's first assignment, naturally I was glad they made good," said Capt. George B. Warren Jr., Chicago, Ill., commanding the 83rd.

Second Lieut. Richard A. Gales, Urbana, Ohio, and Second Lieut. Curtiss E. Knighton, Detroit, Mich. showed the same enthusiasm.

104 NEGRO OFFICERS HELD

N. Y. Times

They Refuse to Agree Not to Enter Club at Indiana Army Field

4-21-45

WASHINGTON, April 20 (AP)—The War Department said today that pending an investigation no further disciplinary action would be taken against Negro officers involved in a controversy at Freeman Field, near Seymour, Ind.

A spokesman said that three Negro officers accused of jostling a provost marshal when they entered a white officers' club April 5 were under arrest and 101 others were confined to quarters because they refused to sign an agreement not to enter the club.

The 101 officers have been transferred to Godman Field, near Fort Knox, Ky.

The club to which the Negroes sought entry had been set aside for base personnel and instructors, all white. Another club is operated for the officers in training, all Negroes in a bombardment squadron. 4-21-45

The spokesman said that separate clubs for instructors and trainees were customary in the training command whether or not there was any racial difference between the two groups. The aim, he added, is to discourage social contacts between instructors and trainees and prevent any possible favoritism toward students.

Va. Army Officer Wins Promotion at TAAF

3-24-45

Afro-American

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — First Lieut. Trent S. Russell of Richmond, Va., commissioned at the Army Air Forces Administration Officers' Candidate School, Miami Beach, Fla., on June 26, 1943, was recently promoted to his present rank at the Army Field, here. Before induction, Lieutenant Russell was director of the health and physical education department, Prairie View State College. He is a graduate of Virginia Union University and received his master's degree from New York University.

Lieut. Russell

20 Graduated From Carlisle Army College

Philadelphia Tribune

4-14-45

CARLISLE, Pa.—Twenty colored officers comprising one of the largest groups, were graduated Thursday from the Medical Field Service School, here.

The officers, all First Lieutenants, were part of the 65th Officers Training Class, graduated at exercises in the War Department Theater after completing six weeks training for duty as Medical Officers with troops in the fields.

Among them were: 4-14-45

1st Lt. Odell H. Shumate, DC, of Washington, D. C.; 1st. Lt. Dupuy H. Anderson, DC, of Baton Rouge, La.; 1st Lt. John C. Woodland, DC, of Baltimore, Md.; 1st Lt. Warren Bryant, DC, of Springfield, Mass.; 1st Lt. Clinton Canady, Jr., D. C., Detroit, Mich., and 1st Lt. John W. Thompson, DC, of Detroit, Mich.; 1st Lt. Wrex A. Weaver, Jr., DC, of Flint, Mich.; 1st Lt. Donald A. Thigpen, DC, of 92 Atlantic street, Jersey City, N. J.; 1st Lt. Daniel W. Roman, DC, of 84 Sloan street, South Orange, N. J.; 1st Lt. Gordon M. Williams, DC, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

1st Lt. Edwin G. Wells, DC, of New York City; 1st Lt. Alfred I. Robinson, DC, of Rochester, N. Y.; 1st Lt. Squire W. Heard, DC, of Wilberforce, Ohio; 1st. Lt. PETER J. SMITH, DC, of 822 Smith street, Norristown, Pa.; 1st Lt. Robert I. Woods, DC, of Memphis, Tenn; 1st Lt. James M. Morris, DC, of Nashville, Tenn.; 1st Lt. Byron Biscoe, DC, of Tyler, Texas; 1st Lt. William E. Shelton, DC, and 1st Lt. Elbert H. Pogue, MC, of Bedford, Va.; and 1st Lt. Leon A. Reid, Jr., DC, of Richmond, Va.

Drop Charges Involving 61

Chicago Defender

Air Officers

Department Withholds Action Pending Full Investigation

WASHINGTON (Special)—The War Department announced this week that no further action will be taken in present disciplinary cases involving Army Air Forces officers at Freeman and Goodman Fields, Indiana, pending completion of a War Department investigation that is now in progress.

The cases involve 60 officers in the Air Force who were arrested when they entered the white officers' club on those fields. The War Department, it is expected will thoroughly investigate the case and then rule on the legality of barring officers of any race from an officers' club.

No Action Planned Now

A high war department spokesman told the Amsterdam News that no court martial proceedings will be instituted against these fliers but that further infractions of the rules, should the Army decide that Negro officers may be barred, would result in court-martial action.

SEYMOUR, Ind., (ANP) — On charges of "jostling" a post provost marshal on duty, three Negro officers stationed at Freeman field, army air base, are awaiting "routine disciplinary action." The officers are said to have refused to leave a "white only" club house.

According to reports, the officers, arriving at Freeman field Thursday night, sauntered over to the officers' club to while away the evening. At the door of the recreation center, they were met by Maj. A. M. White and Lt. J. D. Rogers, assistant provost marshal, who told the colored men that the club was operated for "white only" and ordered them to leave. The Negro officers, however, refused to leave on the grounds that the order, issued in the name of Col. Solway, was in direct violation of army regulation 210-10, paragraph 19. The colored men were then placed under arrest, pending formal charges. 4-21-45

All the Negro officers are in training along with the 477th bomber group. 4-21-45

The entire list of those involved in the effort to break down jim crow practices includes:

2nd Lt. Marsden A. Thompson, Los Angeles, Calif.; 2nd Lt. Robert S. Payton Jr., Boston; F/O Roland A. Webber, Boston; 2nd Lts. Coleman A. Young, Detroit; David J. Brown, Baton Rouge, La.; Leonard E. Williams, Knoxville, Tenn.; Robert L. Hunter, Tennessee; Clifford C. Jarrett Columbus, O.; Cyril P. Dyer, New York City; F/O Marcus E. Clarkson, Pittsburgh;

561-1945

777TH FIELD ARTILLERY MEDIC PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN REVEALS UNUSUAL LEADERSHIP ABILITY

Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla. 2-10-45

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FANCE.—(ANP) When I visited the 777th Field Artillery battalion Christmas, I was informed that the promotion of Lt. James H. Robinson jr. to the rank of captain was a foregone conclusion. Therefore I took the liberty to address him as captain in my last dispatch when in fact he had not been officially notified of his promotion.

Lt. Robinson was notified of his promotion to captain on Jan. 1 and immediately wrote me a letter informing me of the fact as well as expressing thanks for visiting his outfit.

"You were much missed after you had gone," he wrote. "Since you left, the tension has not been nearly as great. You should have been with me on New Year's eve when I celebrated the occasion by popping open two lovely and delicious bottles of champagne. Putting it in good old American slant, we had a 'wow' of a time."

Captain Robinson is indeed a remarkable young man. His reliability of conduct, honesty and intense devotion to duty have been a source of inspiration to the men under him. He is the doctor in command of the medics of the 777th and it is perhaps the most impressive and praiseworthy section of the battalion. When he gives an order, it is executed with precision and speed. 2-10-45

Captain Robinson comes from Cincinnati, received his medical training at Meharry Medical college where he won the highest honors in his 1943 class. He joined the 777th when he completed his internment at Harlem hospital in March 1944, and had only been a member of the outfit 10 days before leaving for overseas duty. Captain Robinson's wife is serving as a nurse on the Burma front. Captain Robinson's father is the dean in the college of liberal arts at Wilberforce university and if the senior Robinson had included divinity to his scholastic attainments he might have easily become one of Wilberforce's presidents. 2-10-45

The personnel of the medics is composed of a group of young men who are a model of propriety. Captain Robinson is fortunate to be in command of young men with such high standards. Most of them have a college education and plan to return to their studies after the war. These are the men who are making history along with Captain Robinson:

Staff Segt. W. B. Hosey, 23, Houston, Texas. Sgt. Hosey is a graduate of Samuel Huston's college and is an Omega Psi Phi.

Cpl. Harold Land, 23, Cleveland an outstanding athlete. Cpl. Lane was taking a science course at Baldwin Wallace college before he entered the army.

T-5 Robert L .Martin, 22, Wharton, Texas. T-5 Martin was taking his premedical at Huston college before joining the ERC. His chief interest was surgery. Martin's father is an outstanding physician in Texas.

Pfc. Brown L. Brackens, 22, San Antonio, Texas. Pfc. Brackens was studying veterinary science at Prairie View college when America entered the war. He volunteered for ERC service after three years of college work.

Pfc. Willie James Hoosier, 21, Galveston, Texas. Pfc. Hoosier was taking a pre-medical course at Prairie View State college. He volunteered, like the most of his buddies, but his great ambition is to become a plastic surgeon.

T-Sgt. Hilton Thomas, Jackson, Miss., plans to go into business with his brother, He worked for the state hospital before joining the ERC. His wife works for the State of Mississippi in Jackson.

T-5 Mitchell Brunson, New Rochelle, N. Y., was a shipping clerk and first-aid instructor at Queens county hospital before the war. Another aspirant to the medical profession is Pvt. Veeiland Thompson, Newport News, Va. He was tkaing his pre-medical training when he joined Captain Robinson's outfit. He plans to return to his studies after the war.

Officers-Army

Pfc. Hartsell Pryor, Nashville, Tenn., was engaged in construction work with the Rush Building Company before joining the ERC. He intends to study embalming after the war. His uncle is an outstanding embalmer. Pvt. Marion Collins jr. does not disclose his future plans to anyone. He is from Saginaw, Mich.

Working with Headquarters in Italy

AFRO-American Baltimore, Md. 2-13-45

CAPT. LEROY CLAY,
husband of Mrs. Monterey Clay of 1800 N. Carey Street, Baltimore, who, as executive officer for the 92nd Division in Italy, is one of two colored officers attached to the headquarters staff of Maj. General Edward M. Almond, division chief. The other officer is Lt. Colonel Louis J. Beasley, chaplain.

Courtmartial Awaits Officer Assaulted By White Soldiers

N.Y. Amsterdam News 2-3-45

Red Cross Worker From New York Makes Deposition About Incident In London

LONDON (ANP)—Copies of an affidavit, executed in Washington, D. C., by Miss Camille K Jones of Chicago and New York, former Red Cross worker here in England, have just been received here and are casting light on the mystery which has surrounded the court martial action said to be pending against Lt. Lance Jeffers of the 740th Medical Sanitation Company who has been on overseas duty here.

Lt. Jeffers, when entering a park at Basingstroke, a town in south England, a section by the way which is much like the South in the United States in its racial attitudes, had an altercation with three white enlisted men who spoke disparagingly of a Miss Jones, whom he was escorting. His remonstrance led to a fight, in which the three soldiers attacked him, giving him the worst of it.

3 Bring Charges

Lt. Jeffers got little sympathy when he reported the matter at military police headquarters or when he sought to prefer charges against the men. As soon, however, as Miss Jones was returned to America for reassignment and could no longer serve as the sole witness to the fracas, the three soldiers preferred charges against Lt. Jeffers.

Miss Jones, who was a social worker in New York before she joined the Red Cross, and who is now in New York City, pending reassignment, said in her deposition which was made in Washington, D. C., January 11th. "I, Camille K. Jones, American Red Cross, was entering the park in Basingstroke, England, with Lt. Lance Jeffers, 740th Medical Santitation Company, about 9 p. m. on August 25, 1944. Standing at some distance near a kiosk, were three enlisted men, S Sgt. Rioux, Cpl. Nichols and Cpl. Grimes.

"As we passed, Cpl. Grimes said loudly, 'That's the nigger I was talking to the other night,' directing the remark to me. Lt. Jeffers and I walked over to the men, Lt. Jeffers calling them to attention, but only Sgt. Rioux responded. At that point, a local policeman was passing, and Lt. Jeffers called him. The policeman refused to take action, saying he had no authority in the matter. 2-3-45

"Lt. Jeffers then addressed the three enlisted men, ordering them to come to the military police station with him. All refused. Lt. Jeffers again called them to attention, when Cpl. Nichols, who had been lolling in the background, stepped forward belligerently as though he was going to fight, saying '——you.' At the same time Cpl. Grimes closed in on Lt. Jeffers. Lt. Jeffers swung at Cpl. Nichols but did not hit him. Cpl. Nichols struck Lt. Jeffers and Cpl. Grimes jumped Lt. Jeffers from the rear."

"The altercation lasted only a few minutes. I retrieved Lt. Jeffers' hat and glasses, which had been knocked off and we left. I was extremely upset by the incident and requested Lt. Jeffers to take me home, which he did. After I had regained my composure we went to the military police station, Basingstoke, where I reported the incident. I also requested that charges be pressed against these men, Sgt Rioux, Cpl. Nichols and Cpl Grimes."

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

Fighting Campbells All In Uniform For Uncle Sam

Chicago Defender 2-10-45

WITH SEVENTH ARMY IN ALSACE—It is unusual to have all of the men in a family overseas but more unusual to have practically all the women members in the services too, but that is exactly the case of Captain Thomas M. Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala., physician and medical officer with a tank destroyer battalion here.

His father, Thomas M. Campbell Sr., extension field agent U. S. Department of Agriculture, is in Africa as a member of an Anglo-American committee making a survey of education, agriculture and rural life. Captain William Campbell, a brother, is in command of the famed 99th pursuit squadron in Italy.

2-10-45

Captain Noel Campbell, member of the WAC, a sister, is serving at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. Another sister, Virginia, is at the Lincoln School for Nurses, New York City, where she will receive her commission in the U. S. Nursing Corps under the government's training plan for nurses.

Captain Campbell was uncertain about sister Elizabeth, who is at the University of California's School of Physiotherapy, where she's studying for her master's, but he thinks that she might come on in too.

Mrs. Thomas M. Campbell Sr., is the sole member of the Campbell menage at Tuskegee where she is keeping the homefires burning like thousands of other waiting families.

The "medics" have had a lot of work with injuries and casualties since coming into action in November. Captain Campbell was up front with his medics when "C" company made a heroic stand at the gateway into Germany. He wasn't there for the fighting but he came hours later with much needed aid. A Meharry graduate in 1941, he entered the army after his interneship at Durham.

Other "medics" with the unit were: Sgts. John J. Lee, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Julius C. Highe, Ashville, N. C.; Calvin Williams, Ashville, N. C.; Robert Harris, Pittsburgh Pa.; Cpls. Lonnie Thompson, Hillsboro, N. C.; Selesta Whitehead, Tarboro, N. C.; Jethro Thompson, Mebane, N. C.; Rockie Williams, Louisberg, N. C.; Pfcs. Dale Richardson, Chicago, Ill.; Joseph Wynn, Roper, N. C., and Aubrey Rollins, Huntington, W. Va.

Pittsburgh Courier Pa. 2-17-45

FLIERS RETURN HOME FOR REST—First Lieut. Willard Woods (left) of Memphis, Tenn., and First Lt. John Briggs, both members of the 332nd Fighter Group stationed in Italy, have returned from their theatre of operation, and are resting at the Santa Ana Army Air Base Rehabilitation Center, Santa Ana, Calif.—Cutler Photo.

In Former Houston, Texas 3-3-45

ST. LOUIS' AERIAL HERO—After months of service with comrades in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operation, Captain Wendell O. Pruitt, former aviation cadet at this station, has been returned to the States and assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field. The veteran fighter pilot formerly attended Lincoln university, Jefferson City, Mo., and is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. He is the son of Mrs. Melanie C. Pruitt of 4569 Garfield avenue, St. Louis, Mo.—Official U. S. A.A.F. Photo by A. A. F. Training Command

NEGRO OFFICERS IN PACIFIC UNIT
Chicago Defender 7-14-45

[illegible] PACIFIC-([illegible])- The 291st Port company is one of the few Negro units now serving in the Pacific with all Negro officers. This unit activated in [illegible], served at Indiantown Gap, Pa., and also at the Norfolk army base prior to being assigned to an overseas theater.

The outfit played an outstanding part in the Philippine campaign keeping front line troops well supplied with the various necessities of modern warfare, and is still doing an excellent job to terminate the war. The company was also active in the Okinawa campaigns.

Officer personnel includes capt. Samuel [illegible] Smith, company officer; 1st Lt. Walter [illegible] Gibson, executive officer; 1st Lts. Oswald [illegible] Glaze, Lycutis [illegible] Jones, Samuel [illegible] Lynn, and 2nd Lt. George [illegible] Robertson, platoon leaders.

Gen. Eisenhower Awarded Haiti's Highest Medal

Chicago Def.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—The Great Cross of the Haitian National Guard was pinned on the breast of General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower on Saturda afternoon at an impressive reception held at the Haitian embassy and attended by many notables. 7-9-45

The cross is an honor heretofore reserved for kings and presidents, but was made to Gen. Eisenhower for his herculean efforts in bringing the war to an end for the allied nations.

The presentation, with gold plaque, was made by Gerard Lescot, Haitian secretary for foreign affairs who is en route to Port Au Prince from the San Francisco conference. Words of friendship and appreciation were expressed by the recipient and the Haitian government.

With General Eisenhower was Mrs. Eisenhower, having just returned from their second honeymoon at White Sulphur Springs. In the receiving line at the embassy were Ambassador and Mme. Andre Liautaud. They welcomed the British ambassador and the countess of Halifax, French Ambassador Henri Bonnet, Chinese Ambassador and Mme. Wei, and the chiefs of the diplomatic missions of the Latin-American nations.

A Negro Takes Command of First U.S. Base

Chicago Daily Tribune

Fort Knox, Ky., July 18 (AP) — A brigadier general and a colonel, both Negroes, stood at attention today as Mitchell bombers, flown by Negro pilots, swooped low in close formation over Godman field.

They were watching an all-Negro troop review, marking the official installation of the 477th composite air group of the 1st air force at Fort Knox, and the first time a Negro officer had been placed in charge of a United States military base.

Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., was the first Negro base commanding officer. His father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, 62, first and only Negro general officer in United States military history, had flown from Washington, D. C., to attend the review. 7-19-45

Negro Air WACs

Gen. Davis said:

"The performance I witnessed and the establishment of these units at Godman field are clear evidence to us who have followed the Negro's performance in this war that the war department feels the Negro soldier is making a distinct contribution to the war effort."

Established at Godman field with the 477th composite group are the 387th service group and the newly arrived company A of Negro air WAC's.

Gen. Davis said the war department had promised that when the units are trained, they will be sent into combat "and I can promise you that they will make a definite contribution to final victory."

Recalled to Active Duty

The general, born in Washington, D. C., entered military service in July, 1898, during the Spanish-American war as a temporary 1st lieutenant. He reënlisted as a private in the regular army after the war, served as a corporal and squadron sergeant-major.

In 1901 he was commissioned a second lieutenant of cavalry.

He was promoted to brigadier general, temporary rank, in 1940, was retired in July, 1941, but recalled to active duty the day after his retirement.

Col. Davis, a West Point graduate of 1936, was commander of the 332d fighter group in Italy. He won his wings at the Tuskegee army air field in 1942 and commanded the 99th air group in the North African, Sicilian, and Italian campaigns. 7-19-45

He wears the legion of merit, silver star, distinguished flying cross, and the air medal with four oak leaf clusters.

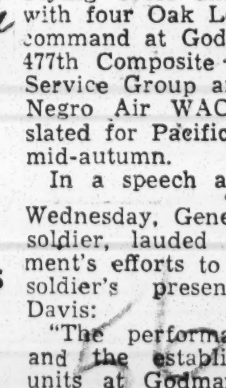
Gen. Davis Sees Son Elevated To Air Base Head

Chicago Defender Chi., Ill.

7-28-45

Other Negro Officers Take Over Posts At Godman Field

GODMAN FIELD, Ky. -- Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis realized "by proxy" this week part of the reward which, despite his proven ability, the jim-crow U. S. Army he has served so faithfully has never seen fit to give him.



Col. B. O. Davis

In a colorful all-Negro troop review here on Wednesday, as B-25 bombers flew in close formation over Godman Field, the 62-year-old general saw his son, Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., officially installed as the first Negro commander of a U. S. military base.

General Davis flew from Washington, his headquarters as a member of the Inspector General's staff, to be present as his heir took over the reins at Godman.

The younger Davis graduated from West Point in 1936 and won his wings at Tuskegee Army Air Field in 1942. He later became commander of the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron which participated in the North African, Italian and Sicilian campaigns after which he was chosen to head the 332nd Mustang Fighter Group in Italy. With the 332nd, he personally led his fliers on more than 20 missions. 7-28-45

General Optimistic

Colonel Davis wears the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. His command at Godman includes the 477th Composite Group, the 387th Service Group and a company of Negro Air WACs. The 477th is slated for Pacific combat duty by mid-autumn.

In a speech at the installation Wednesday, General Davis, a true soldier, lauded the war department's efforts to better the Negro soldier's present plight. Said Davis:

"The performance I witnessed and the establishment of these units at Godman field are clear evidence to us who have followed the Negro's performance in this war that the war department feels the Negro soldier is making a distinct contribution to the war effort." 7-28-45

General Davis said the war department had promised that when the units are trained, they will be sent into combat "and I can promise you that they will make a definite contribution to final victory."

WITH OUR BOYS

Washington Sentinel Washington, D.C

RECEIVES WINGS AT TAAF

Flight Officer Phillip C. Yates was recently awarded his wings and commission from the Aviation Cadet Corps at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. He hails from 302 R Street, Northwest. His brother, John N. Yates, is a Sergeant in the armed forces. (Official U.S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.) 7-21-45

Capital Soldier Gets Bars in Field

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

WESTERN PACIFIC—Because of leadership displayed with a port company, S/Sgt. George A. Robertson, Washington, D.C., has been commissioned second lieutenant on the field.

A veteran of 18 months in the Pacific, he was a student of Miner Teachers' College before his induction. 7-28-45

Lt. Lee R. Perry was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery above and beyond the call of duty. Before entering the service he attended Bluefield State College, Bluefield, W.Va., where he captained the football team.

The following men have been awarded the Purple Heart:

Sgt. Raymond Smith, Philadelphia; Sgt. Alphonzo Brice, Washington, D.C.; T/4 Eugene J. Talbert, Washington, D.C.; T/4 Raymond R. Davis, Pittsburgh; Pfc. Henry Adams, Washington, D.C.; Pfc. Harry Anderson, Chester, Pa.; and Pfc. Anderson J. Cotran, Philadelphia.

Lt. Col. Contee Handles Tan Yanks at N.Y. POE

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 7-28-45

By HERBERT M. FRISBY
(AFRO War Correspondent)

BROOKLYN — Overseas veterans debarking in New York for ultimate furlough, discharge, or redeployment for the Pacific Theater of Operations, pass under the supervision of Lt. Col. Raymond E. Contee, special assistant to the chief of staff, New York Port of Embarkation.

He hears their gripes, studies their problems, makes recommendations, and visits communities where colored soldiers and workers go on pass or off duty.

Colonel Contee, a Washington resident, is on leave as athletic coach and instructor of military science at Cardozo High School in the capital and as executive officer and assistant commander of the Howard University ROTC.

Organizes Communities

Members of his staff include M/Sgt. Prince A. Childers of Abbeville, S.C., graduate of Benedict College; Sgt. Elvin Smith of Atlanta, a Morehouse College graduate; and Miss Elaine Green, a stenographer of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Colonel Contee studies health, housing, morale, training and discipline of the personnel and recommends improvements to the commanding general. 7-28-45

He sets up organizations for wholesome religious and recreational activities in communities where soldiers visit.

Californian promoted to captaincy

Los Angeles Sentinel (Calif.) 7-23-45

WITH U.S. FORCES IN SOUTH PACIFIC—Lieutenant Nathaniel S. Colley, of Sacramento, commanding officer of a chemical processing company in the South Pacific area has been promoted to the rank of captain, the War dept. announced this week.

Inducted into the Army in June 1942 at Fort Benning, Ga., Capt. Colley received basic infantry training at Fort McClelland, Ala., but because of prior experience entering the Army served as supervising teacher in a laboratory school under the direction of Tuskegee Institute School of Education.

His wife and infant daughter live at 2754 Second avenue, Sacramento.

in the field of chemistry warfare officer candidate school at Edgewood Arsenal, Md., where he was commissioned a second Lt. in the Chemical Warfare Service.

A graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Ala. Capt. Colley was chief student assistant in the chemistry department and before

Negro Officer Heads Ga. Recreation Area

Chicago Defender 7-15-45

ATLANTA. — (ANP) — For the first time, a Negro has been assigned commanding officer of the Washington Park recreational area, Sub-Post Fort McPherson in this city.

He is 1st Lt. Booker W. Carter, who took over his assignment at the one base of its kind in the Southwest for Negroes.

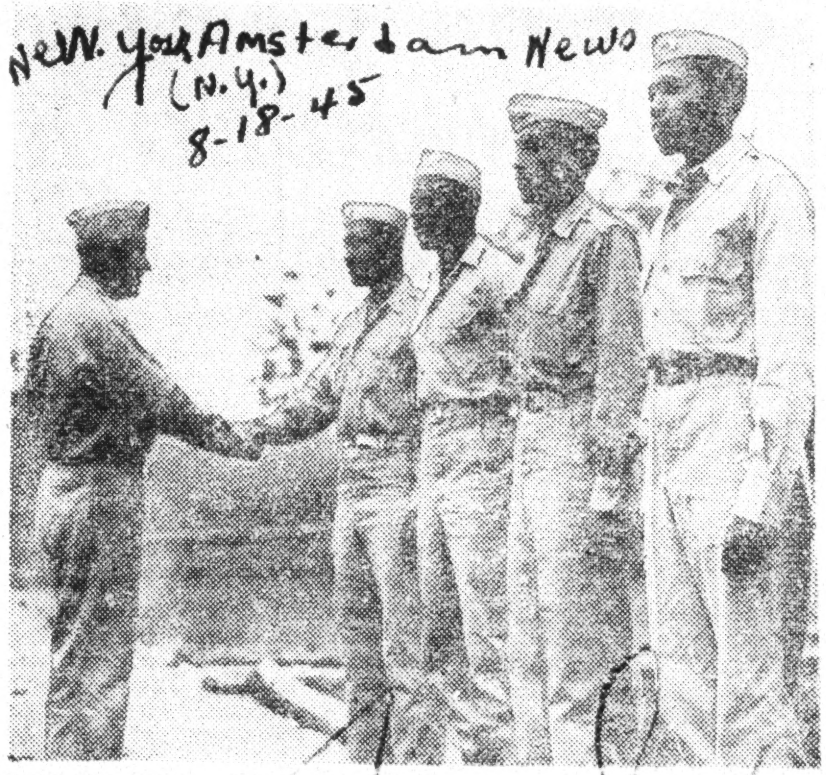
Lt. Carter was previously at Ft. McPherson, reputedly as the first and only Negro officer ever at that base. The assignment of Lt. Carter culminated persistent agitation on the part of Atlantans who had requested that a Negro be placed as commanding officer of the recreational center. Since the beginning of the war, the former executive officers were two lieutenant colonels, one captain and several lieutenants, all white.

where in the Netherlands East Indies" this week.

Also joining the Battalion this week was Capt. James D. Phillips, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips, 1320 Swatara street, Harrisburg, Pa., who assumes the duties of battalion surgeon.

Congratulates New Officers

New York Amsterdam News (N.Y.) 8-18-45



WITH THE 14TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT COMMAND IN NEW GUINEA—Four of the first Negro soldiers ever to be given direct appointments as second lieutenants in the 14th AA Command, are being congratulated by Colonel Carl F. Tishbein, Washington, they are, left to right: 2nd Lt. James W. Griffin, 4124 McGraw Avenue, Detroit, Michigan; 2nd Lt. Russell T. Barger, 1707 E. Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Illinois; 2nd Lt. Iverson O. Mitchell, Jr., 1701 13th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C.; and 2nd Lt. Edward T. Carpenter, 156 Manhattan Avenue, New York City. The four are performing duty with the 742nd AAA Battalion.—(U. S. Army photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

Twenty-Five-Year-Old Major Is Commander Of Reborn 99th Pursuit Squadron At Godman

N.Y. Age

GODMAN FIELD, Ky.—Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. announced last week that the famed 99th Pursuit Squadron, first Negro squadron to blast the Luftwaffe from the skies, has been reborn here as part of the 477th Composite Group. The crack unit will be commanded by Major William A. Campbell and will fly the hard-hitting P-47 Thunderbolt. Many of the pilots will be former members of the original 99th and holders of several combat ribbons and decorations.

N.Y. N.Y.

Maj. Campbell, of Tuskegee, Alabama, is a veteran of 106 aerial combat missions over Europe, and holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross with nine Oak Leaf clusters. He fought with the original 99th and later saw action with the 332nd Fighter Group, the well-known "Red Tails" who were highly praised by the bomber fliers they escorted on raids into the heart of Germany. For eight months he was commanding officer of the 99th in action overseas.

A graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Campbell was a civilian pilot instructor before joining the Air Corps. He won his wings July 3, 1942. The 25-year-old Major, wearer of the Air Medal with one cluster, has combat flying experience in the P-40, P-51 and P-47. He is swiftly shaping his new command into a formidable fighting machine for early action in the Pacific. 7-28-45

Two Men Are Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant

The Informer and Herald

By CONRAD CLARK

NETHERLANDS, East Indies.—(ANP—Three weeks ago, by order of general of the army, MacArthur, Commander of the Army Forces in the Pacific Theatre of Operations, two more Negroes were commissioned as second liectenants directly from the field. 8-11-45

The men, members of the 466th Antiaircraft Artillery Semi-Mobile battalion were, Warrant Officer James W. Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Collins, 4124 McGraw avenue, Detroit, and S-Sgt. Iverson O. Mitchell, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. I. O. Mitchell, Sr., 1701 13th street, NW, Washington, D. C.

Both men were commissioned at Finchhayen and were assigned to the Pacific's first all-Negro ack ack battalion now stationed "Some-

Two Complete OCS, Receive Commissions at Fort Des Moines

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 8-25-45

FORT DES MOINES, Iowa—Two colored women were commissioned second lieutenants in the Army with the 59th class of Officer Candidate School at First WAC Training Center here on Aug. 18.

They are Lt. Alta E. Sims, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Sims of Hampton, Va., and Lt. Gloria H. D. Nelom of 1243 Walter Pl., S.E., both of whom entered OCS in May.

Lieutenant Sims who enlisted in the WAC in April, 1943, has been stationed here since then.

A Member of Band

Joining the 404th ASF Band in Aug., 1943, she played clarinet with them until March, 1944, when she was transferred to the Special Training Unit. She also served with the post special services office for five months.

A 1939 graduate of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskege, Ala., she taught at Tuskegee for two years before enlisting in the WAC.

Former D.C. Teacher

Lieutenant Nelom, a native of Dutch Guinea, enlisted in the WAC in January, 1943. After basic training at Fort Des Moines she was stationed on the post as a cadre member for nine months.

Transferred to the New York Port of Embarkation, she did supply work and was an instructor in the adult education program there for 17 months. 8-25-45

A 1941 graduate of Miner Teachers' College in Washington, she was a teacher in public schools in Washington for a year before she enlisted in the WAC.

561- 1945

Officers- Army

D.C. Officer, 1st on Leyte, Returns

AFRO-American

WASHINGTON

Lieut. Elbert R. Bishop of this city, the first colored officer to enter the Philippines, returned home last week for a twenty-one-day furlough. 1-27-45

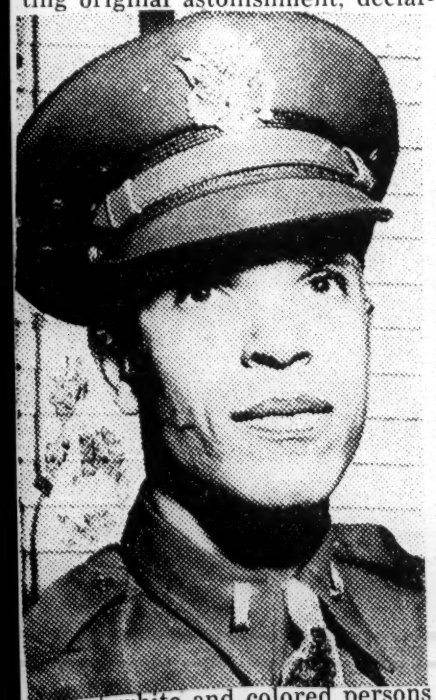
Commanding officer of a transportation corps under the general command of General Krugter, he landed with his unit only four hours after the initial wave of infantrymen at Leyte.

Leiutenant Bishop's unit bore the blunt of the herculean task of getting supplies to the front that made victory in the now historic batle possible.

Went In With Southerners

As they prepared to board the LS8's for the invasion, they found that they wtre "going in'" with a white company of infantrymen from the South. However, the white commander had a conference with Lieutenant Bishop and they agreed to refrain from the use of obnoxious names.

In an exclusive AFRO interview, the young veteran, admitting original astonishment, declar-



ed that white and colored persons can get along together if they agree to. 1-27-45

Such ties of friendship were made en route, that long after the landing the white infantrymen, and the colored trans-portation unit exchanged scarcities and souvenirs.

U.S. Disorders Disturbing

The morale was very high, the officer revealed, but such things as the Detroit riot and major strikes caused considerable discussion.

Among his more interesting experiences, Lieut. Bishop recalls the Philippino's rection when the colored troops landed.

Seeing the darker men land and observing the general direction from which they came, the natives concluded they were Indians. Only after much persuasion were they willing to accept the colored soldiers as Americans.

Hower, when they were finally convinced, the reception was almost too good. Many of the men were attracted to the native women, and at the time of Lieutenant Bishop's departure, he said, many marriages were under consideration. 1-27-45

Entertainment Appreciated

The officer had nothing but praise for the Red Cross and USO shows. Some of the shows were not up to par, but the gesture was highly appreciated, he said.

There was no segregation at all in the Philippines, reports Bishop, and none existed in Australia until sufficient numbers of whites came to spread the evil practice.

On his first day of his return, Lieutenant Bishop received his first taste of race hatred here.

He entered a department store in a West Coast city and overheard a whit woman from Texas refer to the colored people from her section as "n---r". However, upon seeing him, he added, she turned and apologized.

Lieutenant Bishop graduated from Armstrong High School and Virgina State College. He received his training at Edgewood Arsenal, Md., and was commissioned in Brisbane, Australia.

Capt. C. F. Gandy's Death Confirmed

AFRO-American

Balt., Md.

WASHINGTON

The War Department last Saturday confirmed reports that Capt. Charles F. Gandy of Washington, who had previously been reported missing in action since October 12, had been killed in Italy on that day. 1-27-45

Newspaper reports from the theatre said Captain Gandy had been mortally wounded by enemy machine-gun fire while leading units of the 92nd Division on the side of a mountain.

Shortly before his death Captain Gandy had received a battlefront promotion to that rank from Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark, then commander of the Fifth Army. Captain Gandy had shown exceptional heroism at the battle of Lucca.

Other Officer Casualties

At the time Captain Gandy was first reported a casualty, three other officers of the 92nd were similarly listed as missing in action during the heavy fighting near Seraverza.

They were Lts. Alonzo M. Frazier of Boston, Lionell Ladmirault of New Orleans and Ralph G. Skinner.

N.Y. Officer Heads College for Men of 332nd in Italy

Afro-American

6-16-45

15TH AAF IN ITALY — Naptha University, headed by 1st Lt. Bayard C. Colon of New York City, opened here recently for service men of the 332nd Fighter Group commanded by Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

While the courses are designed to refresh those whose education was interrupted by the war and are open to both officers and enlisted men, some of the students are taking courses preparatory to attending college after the war.

Curriculum Varied

The curriculum ranges from higher mathematics to business administration, and includes such courses as Bible study and elementary radio.

Classes are held in a white brick building, which has been divided into several classrooms on either side of a wide corridor, and the campus is the beautiful rolling Italian countryside.

The university dean is 1st Lt. Marshall S. Cabiness, 26, of Gastonia, N.C., who also teaches courses in psychology.

The registrar's post is held by S/Sgt. Clifford H. Moorehead, 26, of Rahway, N.J. The college president is the 332nd's information and education officer.

Two win promotions to major

Los Angeles Tribune

6-18-45

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Captain Clarence M. Davenport, Jr., of Detroit, a 1943 graduate of West Point and executive officer of the 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun battalion in New Guinea, and Captain Lee V. Futrell, of Sylvania, O., commanding officer of an all-Negro Engineer General Service battalion in the Philippines have been promoted to the rank of major, the War Dept. announced today. Both officers rose from the rank of second lieutenant in a little more than two years.

Major Davenport was the first Negro from the state of Michigan to receive an appointment to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point after maintaining a brilliant scholastic record at the University of Detroit, where he was a pre-medical student. 6-18-45

Major Davenport was erroneously reported as killed in action at Bougainville several months ago, as a result of being confused with Lt. James Davenport, who was killed in action during a beach assault in the Solomons. The mistake was not discovered until the family and friends of Major Davenport had held memorial services in his honor.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
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Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUN 22 1945

Col. Davis Gets Post Command

Heads Mixed Group After Jim Crow Protest

By United Press

WASHINGTON, June 22.—A recent conflict between white and Negro Army Air Force officers over use of an Officers' Club at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind., prompted the War Dept. to place Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., a Negro, in command of the 477th Composite Group, it has been disclosed here.

Largely composed of Negroes, the 477th formerly was commanded by Col. Robert B. Selway, Jr., and other white staff officers. It had been stationed at Freeman Field until its recent transfer to Godman Field, Ky.

Davis, accompanied by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, flew from here to take over his new assignment.

He formerly commanded the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, which flew as part of the 12th Fighter Command under the overall command of Eaker. A West Point graduate, he is 32 and the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., the only Negro officer of star rank in the Army.

The Freeman Field incident arose when the Officers' Club was reserved for use of the base staff and instructors. This, in effect, restricted it for white officers and barred Negro officer trainees.

Three trainees who attempted to enter the club were arrested for jostling a provost marshal, and 101 of the trainees were confined to quarters for a short time—tantamount to technical arrest.

Negro trainees who attempted to visit the club pointed out that

Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr

Army regulations require that any such quarters maintained on Army property must be available for all officer personnel on the post.

Eaker instructed Davis to choose his own staff. He will take command of Godwin after a brief transition interval.

D.C. West Pointer Marries N.Y. Girl

AFro-American

6-30-45

WASHINGTON

Lt. Ernest J. Davis, Jr., who was commissioned last Tuesday following his graduation from West Point, was married the following day, it was revealed this week by his father, Ernest J. Davis, of 1202 Irving St., N.W.

His marriage to Miss Frances Johnson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Johnson of Highland Falls, N.Y., took place at the Highland Falls Episcopal Chapel.

Classmate Best Man

Lt. Mark Rivers, a classmate of the bride, served as best man. The newlyweds are honeymooning in northern Massachusetts.

A native Washingtonian, Lt. Davis, who is 28 years old, finished Dunbar in 1939 and attended Howard University for three years before being appointed to the U.S. Military Academy by former Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell.

Although he had planned a medical career prior to his appointment to West Point, Lieutenant Davis now plans to remain in the Army, his father said.

He is scheduled to report to Tuskegee Army Air Base for his initial tour of duty.

The Call 6-22-45

56 L army

SMILE OF SATISFACAION.—Captain Donald L. Drye conducts the Tuskegee Army Air Forces band in the courtyard of the Pentagon building, Washington, in a special performance given for War Department employes on June 11. —U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.

Two Officers Made Majors

The Voice

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Captain Clarence M. Davenport, jr, of Detroit, Mich., a 1943 graduate of West Point and executive officer of the 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion in New Guinea, and Captain Lee V. Futrell, of Sylvania, Ohio, commanding officer of an all-Negro Engineer General Service Battalion in the Philippines have been promoted to the rank of major, the War Department announced. Both officers rose from the rank of second lieutenant in a little more than two years.

Major Davenport was the first Negro from the state of Michigan to receive an appointment to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point after maintaining a brilliant scholastic record at the University of Detroit, where he was a premedical student. 6-23-45

FIGHTER PILOT RELEASED

The Call 6-22-45

PHILADELPHIA. — (ANP) — One of the first officers in this area to be released from the Army under the new point-rating system was Lt. Edward Smith. A former member of the famed 332nd Fighter group in Italy, Lt. Smith amassed a total of 92 points in order to be discharged.

Col. Loving's Son Is Commissioned in Ga.

7-2-45 Afro-American

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP) —Walter J. Loving Jr., son of the late Col. Walter Loving, famed military bandmaster who was killed in the Philippines as a prisoner of the Japanese, was commissioned a second lieutenant here on June 26.

Mrs. Edith Loving, who had not seen her son in three years, and who returned to this country after liberation of the Philippines, came from her home in California for the ceremony. Lieutenant Loving is assigned to Fort McClellan,

Atlanta Daily World

RANKING CHAPLAIN — Lt. Col. Louis J. Beasley, of the 92nd division is the highest ranking Negro chaplain in the Army. A former Atlanta pastor, he is shown here offering invocation during the Christopher Columbus Memorial ceremony on June 6 at Genoa, Italy. During the service the urn bearing the remains of the great navigator were restored to their resting place prior to the war.—(Photo by Sgt. "Griff Davis.)

6-23-45 N.Y. Age

FATHER AND SON

The appointment of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., as Commanding Officer of the 477th Composite Group (bombers and fighters) of Army Air Corps, marks another first for the precedent-breaking Davises, father and son. Colonel Davis is the son of Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. of the Inspector General's Department. The father, who rose from the ranks, is the first Negro to wear a general's star. The son, a graduate of West Point, is the first to hold such an important command in the Army Air Corps. 7-7-45

It is officers like the Davises who have done much to break down prejudice within the Army officers' corps. There are few places in the Army where they are not welcomed as equals. A classmate of Colonel Davis at West Point, in discussing the discriminaton practced against him in his early days at the Academy, said that when Ben Davis graduated, there was no man in the corps more respected. The story in this newspaper of the 1936 graduation said that when he stepped up to receive his diploma, there was "prolonged applause" from his classmates and spectators, even more than was given that year's First Captain.

The Davises, father and son, are a credit to their race. More than that they are a credit to the Army and to their country.

—New York Times

Colonel Loving's Son Commissioned

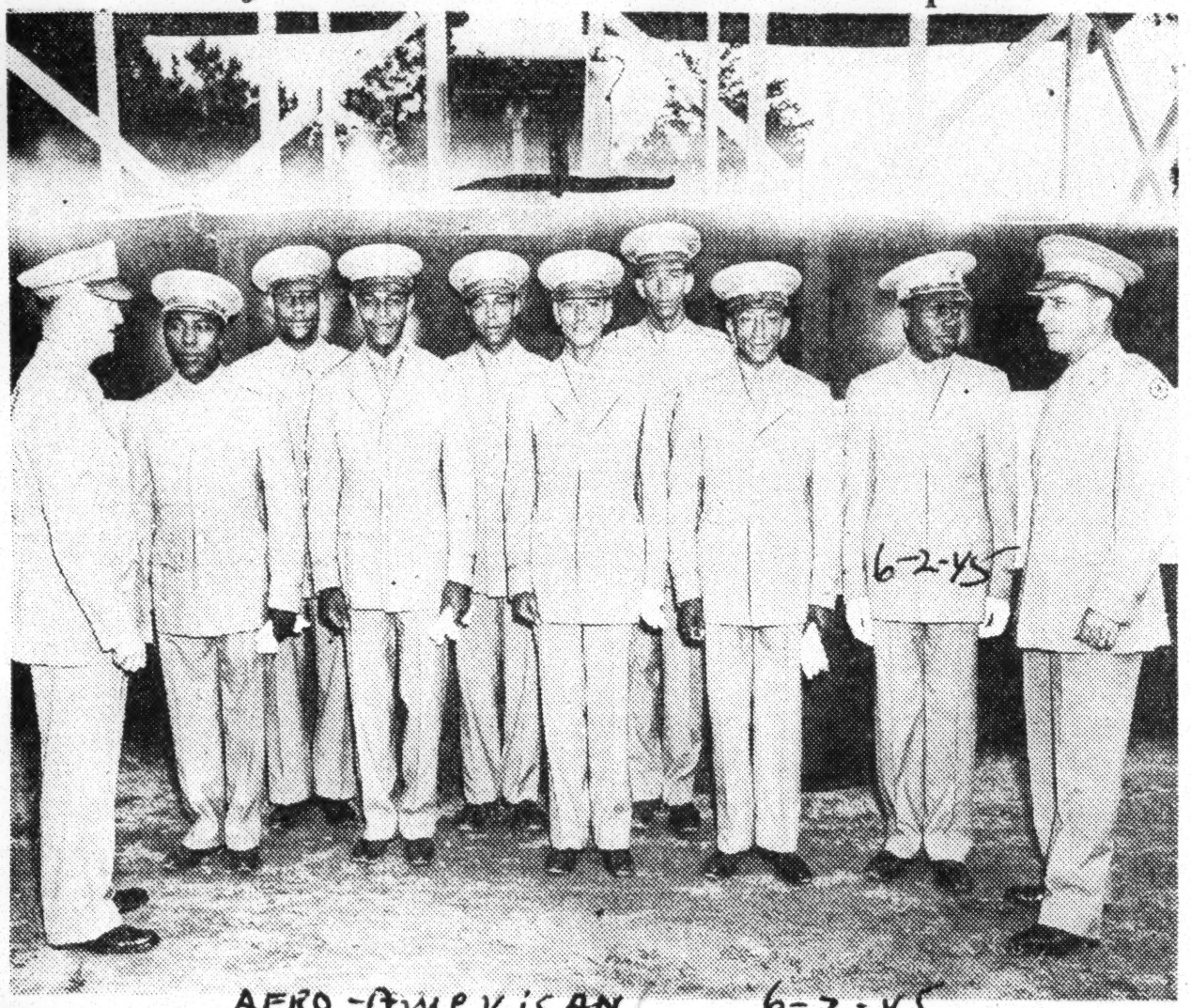
7-7-45 Weekly Review

FORT BENNING, Ga. — (ANP) Walter Loving, Jr., son of the late Col. Loving, Japanese prisoner of war who was killed in the Philippines, last Tuesday received his commission as a second lieutenant here. Mrs. Edith Loving, widow of the famed, military band master, traveled from California to see her son, whom she had not seen for three years, become commissioned. She returned to this country after the liberation of the Philippines. 7-7-45

Tall, slim, auburn-haired Mrs. Loving showed little of the strains of her interment in a Japanese prison camp as she pinned the gold bars on her towering son. Shortly after the ceremonies, Lt. Loving and his mother left by plane for their California home where he will spend a 10 days leave. He will return to Fort McClellan, Ala., to assume duties as an infantry training officer. 7-7-45

561-1945 Officers Army

Newly-Commissioned Officers at Camp Lee



AFRO-AMERICAN 6-2-45

Brig. Gen. Harold A. Barnes (extreme left), deputy to the Quartermaster General, who was principal speaker at graduation execises of office candidate class at the quatermaster school at Camp Lee, Va., last week, and Col. L. L. Cobb, school commandant, offer best wishes to new second lieutenants. Shown with the general and colonel are ,left to right (front row), Ralph J. Rodgers, Jr., San Bernardino, Calif.; George W. Jordan, Langston, Okla.; John A. Hand, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Harry T. Kelley, Englewood, N.J.; John C. Eichelberger, Dallas. (Back row) Horace E. Thompson, Newport News, Va.; Garland M. Pack, Louisville, Ky., and William B. Ramsey, 3rd, Philadelphia.

Port Company Officers Promoted

AFRO-AMERICAN 6-2-45

6-2-45

Capt. Alexander R. Honore of Corona, N.Y., and 1st Lt. Shelton B. Granger of Brooklyn, N.Y., congratulate each other on promotions from first lieutenant and second lieutenant, respectively. Captain Honore, formerly of the Regular Army 10th Cavalry, is company commander and Lieutenant Granger is supply officer of the 444th Port Company at Fox Hills Terminal, New York Port of Embarkation.

Philadelphian Commands Medical Det. Corps

New York Me 6-2-45

At Ft. Huachuca, Lt. R. L. Jackson commands the Medical Detachment SCU 1922. Lt. Jackson finished the Officers Candidate School, Medical Administrative Corps, in Oct., 1944. Lt. Jackson is a native of Philadelphia and a graduate of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

York, Pa. Pilot In Fatal Crash

6-2-45

WALTERBORO ARMY AIR FIELD, S. C.—Second Lieut. Lloyd A. Carter, fighter pilot trainee, was killed instantly Thursday evening when the pursuit plane he was piloting crashed about 15 miles east of this field. The young flying officer was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Carter of York, Pa.

Lieutenant Carter was on a routine combat training flight at the time of the crash, according to Col. Guy Kirksey, field commander.

Tells How He Got Nazi

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-27-45

Capt. Elwood T. Driver of Trenton, former fighter officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron (right), tells Lieut. Ferd Suehle of Irvington how he destroyed a Jerry in combat over Italy. Both officers are speaking at assemblies in Essex, Houston and Union Counties with the Newark area WMC plan in recruiting 20,000 for war industries.

Veteran of 123 Missions Aids in Job Recruiting

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

1-27-45

NEWARK, N.J.—Capt. Elwood T. Driver, a veteran of 123 missions as a fighter officer of the 99th Squadron in Italy, arrived here on Tuesday for special service with the Newark Area War Manpower Commission.

Capt. Driver will speak at various assemblies in Essex, Hudson and Union counties on the WMC plan for recruiting 20,000 workers for war industries.

Captain Driver, a native of Trenton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Driver of that city, has been out of combat service three months. 1-27-45

His station is at Tuskegee Army Air Base where he has recently been assigned as blind flying instructor.

Captain Driver was wearing a foreign service bar with four stars in four major campaigns and an Air Medal with cluster.

He told the AFRO that he destroyed one enemy plane in combat and probably destroyed one.

His command was strafing and dive-bombing which was a reason for not engaging in aerial combat, he said.

Captain Driver's closest escape came in the explosion of an enemy anti-aircraft shell in his cockpit while he was on a mission.

Another was while he was trapped in concentrated fire until members of his squadron knocked out their positions, he said.

Capt. Driver said he has never had to bail out or make a forced landing, although his plane sometimes had to be junked after landing because of damage by enemy action. 1-27-45

He volunteered for air service in April, 1942, but was not accepted until February, 1942, for training at Tuskegee Army Air Base.

He will resume instructions at the base following his mission here on January 27.

GET'S PILOT WINGS

Philadelphia Inquirer

6-30-45

Flight Officer ROSCOE C. PERKINS, JR., of Canonsburg, Pa., was commissioned a fighter pilot from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field recently. He is the son of Mr. Roscoe C. Perkins, Sr., 365 Ridge avenue, Canonsburg, Pa.—Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command. 6-30-45

Vet Who "Flies 'Em and Fixes 'Em" Back at TAAF

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

1-27-45

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Capt. Herbert Carter, who is known by his flying comrades of the 99th Fighter Squadron as the officer who "fixes 'em and flys 'em," is now back at the Tuskegee Army Air Field after sixteen months of aerial combat duty. During the entire time that Captain Carter was flying P-40s and P-51s over three theatres of combat operation, he also served as the engineering — keeping the planes on the ground fit for their strenuous performance in the air; along with making ninety-eight missions in the air. 1-27-45

Captain Carter

Since returning to the States, he has been assigned to this station to supervise first and second echelon of aircraft maintenance.

Wants to Stay in Air Corps

A native of Amory, Miss., and son of George W. Carter, Captain Carter was one of the first students to earn his commercial pilot's license at the CPT setup at Tuskegee Institute—just prior to volunteering for cadet training here. 1-27-45

He is married to the former Miss Mildred Hemmons of Tuskegee and plans to stay in the Air Corps after the war is over.

Officers-Army

60 Bomber Pilots Under Arrest For Entering Field Officers Club

Journal & Guide 4-14-45

BULLETIN!!

ONLY TWO UNDER ARREST SAYS WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The War Department announced on Tuesday morning that all but two of 37 officers of the 477th Bomber Group placed under arrest last Friday had been returned to duty. Names of the two men held were not given. Officials said that the number of arrests was not 60 as reported in a press release.

By Associated Negro Press

FREEMAN FIELD, SEYMOUR, Ind.—Sixty Negro officers were placed under arrest at this field last Friday for defying a ban on colored officers at the swanky and modern officers' club at this post by order of Col. Robert Selway Jr., post commander.

The mass arrest, which is believed unprecedented in the history of the Army, has this post in an uproar and has disrupted the entire training program of the 477th Bombardment Group. This group is the first all-Negro Bomb unit—that is, all Negro for training but whites for command and promotion.

SOME HOLD DFC 4-14-45

All of those arrested are members of the base unit which is a replacement group for the 477th now in the final stages of their overseas training. The names of those arrested are not available at this time. However, they include captains, lieutenants and flight officers, several of them overseas veterans and proud wearers of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Col. Selway's move in setting up a separate officers' club and denying admittance to Negro officers is termed a direct violation of Army Regulations 210-10 Par. 19, which specifically states that membership shall not be denied to any officer on any Army post. This regulation is further substantiated by executive order of President Roosevelt on July 6, 1944, banning any such discrimination.

4-14-45

At this date charges have not been filed but were expected momentarily. Meanwhile the officers involved are restricted to their quarters and inspected by armed guard every two hours.

Twenty Negroes Graduate From Medical Field Service School

Atlanta World 4-13-45

CARLISE, Pa., April 5.—Twenty Negro officers comprising one of the largest groups, today graduated from the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., increasing the number of Negro officers to receive diplomas from this National Training Center.

Other Negroes have been commissioned as Second Lieutenants following their graduation from the Medical Administration Corps Officer Candidate School. Negro enlisted men also have completed a Sanitary Technician course at this Service School.

The 20 officers, all First Lieutenants, were part of the 65th Officers training Class, graduated at exercises in the War Department Theater after completing six weeks training for duty as Medical Officers with troops in the fields. The Colored Officers who graduated were: 4-13-45

1st Lt. Odell H Shumate, DC, DDS Howard University

1st Lt. Dupuy H Anderson DC, Baton Ruge, La DDS. Meharry Dental School

1st Lt John C. Woodland, DC Baltimore, Md., DDS Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry

1st Lt. Warren Bryant, DC, Springfield, Mass., graduated from Howard University Dental School

1st Lt Clinton Canady, Jr., DC, Detroit, Mich DDS Meharry Medical College.

1st Lt. John W. Thompson, DC, Detroit Michigan DDS Meharry Medical College

1st Lt. Wrex A. Weaver, Jr., DC Flint, Mich., DDS Meharry Medical College.

1st Lt Donald A Thigpen, DC, Jersey City, N. J. DDS Howard University.

1st Lt. Daniel W. Romans, DC, South Orange, N. J. DDS Meharry Medical School 4-13-45

1st Lt Gordon M Williams, DC Brooklyn, N. Y. graduate of Meharry College Dental School.

1st Lt Edwn G. Wells, DC, New York City, N. Y. DDS Howard University Dental School.

1st Lt Alfred I. Robinson, DC, Rochester, N Y DDS. Howard University School of Dentistry.

1st Lt. Squire W. Heard, DC, of Wilberforce, Ohio. DDS. Howard University.

1st Lt. Peter J. Smith, DC Norristown, Pa., DDS. Meharry Medical College.

1st Lt. Robert I. Woods, DC, Memphis, Tenn. graduate of Meharry College School of Dentistry.

1st Lt. James M. Morris, DC, Nashville, Tenn., DDS. Meharry College.

1st Lt. Byron Biscoe, DC, Tyler, Texas, DDS. Howard University School of Dentistry.

1st Lt William E. Shelton, DC, Bedford, Va. DDS Howard University. 4-13-45

1st Lt. Elbert H Pogue, MC, Bedford, Va., graduate of Howard University Medical School.

1st Lt. Leon A. Reid, Jr., DC Richmond, Va. DDS. Howard University School of Dentistry.

Capt. Driver Succeeds Martin

Norfolk Journal & Guide

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala. — Captain Elwood T. Driver, of Trenton, N. J., was recently appointed director of the cadet ground school at the Tuskegee Army Air Field. He succeeds the late Major Harold Martin who was recently killed in a plane crash. 4-21-45

Capt. Driver is a graduate of New Jersey State College with a bachelor of science degree in mathematics. He was among the first to volunteer for the cadet training program at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, reporting to this station on March 6, 1942. He received his commission in October of the same year, and was among the first replacements for the famous 99th Fighter Squadron in the Mediterranean theatre of Operations.

In his new assignment Capt. Driver will coordinate and direct academic phases of training of future pilots for America.

MULZAC RECEIVES WINGS — Lt. John Ira Mulzac (center), of Brooklyn, New York, nephew of Capt. Hugh Mulzac, Captain of the "Booker T. Washington," was recently commissioned from the Aviation Cadet Corps at Tuskegee Army Air Field. The officer, a former corporal with the 332nd Fighter Group, is shown with (left to right) Capt. Frank Dryc, of TAAF; Miss Beatrice Hamilton, of Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Mrs. Ophelia Pearson and Mr. Thomas Hamilton, both of Tuskegee, Ala. While an enlisted man, Lt. Mulzac received an honor diploma as a radio operator at Scott Field, Ill. He was formerly the captain of a high school basketball team which won the City Championship at Madison Square Garden in New York City. (Official U. S. AAF Photo by AAF Training Command.)

Daily World 4-13-45

confirmed reports that Capt. been mortally wounded by Charles F. Gandy, of Washing- my machinegun fire while ton, who had previously been re- ing his units on the side ported missing in action since mountain. October 12, had been killed in RECEIVED PROMOTION Italy on that day. Shortly before his death Newspaper reports from the Gandy had received a battle- wounds in the South Pacific on Saturday theatre said Capt. Gandy had front promotion to that rank, October 25

d by ene- hile lead- side of a

Capt. Gandy's Death Confirmed In Italy

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The ar Department last

3-17-45

THREE MOTHER MUST BE PROUD—The mother of these boys, Mrs. M. R. Welch, of Tuskegee, Ala., must be a proud soul for all three of her boys are U.S. Army officers in succeeding ranks. There, however, is sorrow in the Welch camp for Captain George Franklin, extreme right, was recently killed in Italy. At left end is Lt. Col. Ernest Rivers Welch, and in the center is Major John Welch. When this picture was made they were from left to right, Lieutenant Colonel, Captain and First Lieutenant. John and George have been promoted to their present ranks since that time.

Captain Welch Killed Just Prior to Returning Home

Washington Tribune

3-17-45

By WOODY L. TAYLOR

Fate and the horrors of war heated another Washington family from a last visit from their loved one. Captain George Franklin Welch of the 366th Infantry, 92nd Division, was killed in action in Italy just before he was scheduled to return to this country March 1, with Maj. James Fowler, to spend some-time at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Captain Welch, whose wife, Mrs. Wendella Welch and two children, George, Jr., 5, and Lynda, 2, reside at 600 Gresham Pl., N.W., was a graduate of Dunbar High School and held two B.S. degrees in engineering from Howard University. Before going into the Army he was electrical engineer in the power plant at Howard, a position which he was given upon graduation. He had worked his way through the institution in the plant and was rewarded with the job upon graduation. 3-17-45

Brothers in Army

The Captain was the son of Mrs. M. R. Welch, an 8th grade teacher in the Tuskegee Institute Junior High School department, and the late William Welch. The mother must indeed be proud of her sons, for George and his two brothers, Ernest Rivers and John are all Army officers. Their ranks were in succession. George was the Captain, John a Major and Ernest a Lieutenant Colonel.

Maj. John is commanding officer of the ROTC Unit at Tuskegee Institute and Lt. Col. Ernest is assistant executive officer of the Infantry school at Ft. Benning, Ga. 3-17-45

Captain Welch is also survived by two sisters, Mrs. Wilhelmina Burrell, a Tuskegee teacher, and Mrs. Margaret Wilson, a teacher in the Lincoln Academy, Kings Mountain, N.C.

Wives Here

The officer has been a member of the National Technical Association, the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and the Berean Baptist Church. He was well known in and around Washington and will be sadly missed. 3-17-45

Captain George's wife and those of his two brothers reside and work in Washington. His wife is a nurse in the Public Health Department, John's wife, Mrs. Margaret P. Welch is secretary to the treasurer of Howard University and Ernest's wife, Mrs. Margaret D. Welch, is a teacher in the Phelps Junior High School.

Virginian Goes To Bed P. F. C.; Wakes Up 2nd Lieutenant By Eisenhower Order

Journal & Guide Va.

WITH U. S. FORCES IN GERMANY—To go to sleep at night as a private first class and wake up the next morning a second lieutenant and executive officer of Headquarters Company sounds like a dream to most GIs, but it really happened in Germany to Private First Class William Thomas Carter, now Second Lieutenant William Thomas Carter, of Petersburg, Va.

3-17-45

LT. CARTER

Assigned as a private first class in the 29th Signal Battalion operating "somewhere in Germany," Carter was commissioned on the field as a second lieutenant in his old outfit as the result of direct orders from General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Inducted as a private in 1943 from his post as head of the language department at Virginia State College, Lieutenant Carter is the holder of a Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan where he was a sprint star in 1931.

He has already taken up his duties as executive officer of Headquarters Company in his old battalion.

His wife, Mrs. Hermione Carter, is a teacher in Petersburg, Va., where they reside. Both Lt. and Mrs. Carter formerly lived in Norfolk, Va. 3-17-45

Lt. Carter went overseas in the spring of 1944.

Officer in Belgium Believes Negroes Status No Better Than in World War I

The Kansas City Call Mo.

SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM.—(ANP)— The status of American Negro soldiers in World War 2 over those in World War 1 was questioned recently by a Negro officer in this area. 3-9-45

The answer may be definitely in the affirmative, he said, but contended that "with the meager facts before me, it seems that in proportion to the number of our group participating in the armed forces we have lost ground.

"In World War 1, we had the bulk of colored troops in the services (quartermaster, pioneers and sanitary corps), with white commanders and colored officers in the junior grades of lieutenant," he pointed out. "This is true today." 3-9-45

"In World War 1, we had a few combat units, with mixed officers who got to the front lines. This is also true today." But when World War 2 is over, the Negro must face the "old cry that the colored soldier is a good soldier when ably lead by white officers."

There appears to be a conflict of opinion as to the use and the "place for colored troops. "I have had regular army officers admit to me that there are two current theories about colored soldiers," he revealed. "One is that they are not worth a damn and the other is that they are excellent when properly lead."

The American social caste system, he said, made the colored officer somewhat of a problem if not a nuisance. To be an asset instead of a liability, the colored officer must be superior. He must be a student of the art of war, able to handle and lead any type of men, be a diplomat, proud but not arrogant, "and able to keep the big picture before him."

He showed how fate often plays its part in undoing wrong. "The units officered entirely by colored officers have been in quiet sectors sometimes became very hot," he said. "Then by accident we got a chance to shine."

He said that both of the Davises, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis and his son, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., have been a credit to their country and race but gave the opinion that the junior Davis was following in the footsteps of his father. 3-9-45

Negro citizens, he warned, can not afford to forget about the armed forces if they are to become thoroughly integrated into every phase of American life.

1st Lt. Parker on Army's Three Courts

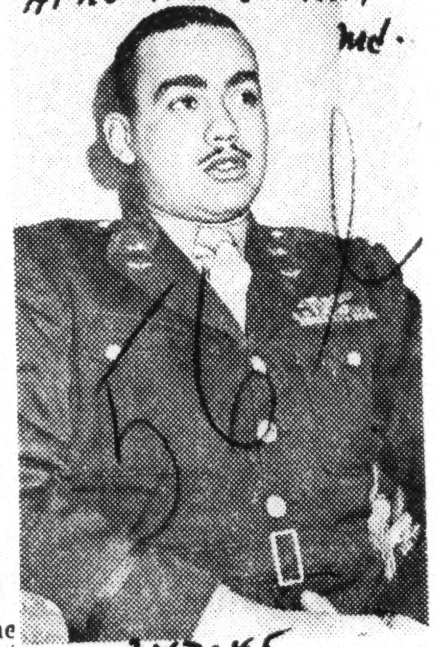
AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md.

EUROPEAN THEATRE — First Lt. Lafayette Parker is serving on all three of the Army's courts—summary, special and general.

He has been on many cases since his name first appeared last September on general court, and casts his vote impartially on cases involving both races. As many white as colored soldiers have appeared before him for capital offenses.

Home from Italy

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.



3-17-45

MAJOR LEE RAYFORD, of Washington, third ranking officer in the 332nd Fighter Group, who recently returned to the States from Italy.

D.C. Soldier Gets Bars at Aberdeen

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-27-45

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MD.—Myron E. Beasley of 526 Twenty-first Street, Northeast, Washington, was recently commissioned a second lieutenant upon his graduation from the Ordnance Officers Candidate School here.

Lieutenant Beasley was employed by the Post Office department prior to his induction into the service. 1-27-45

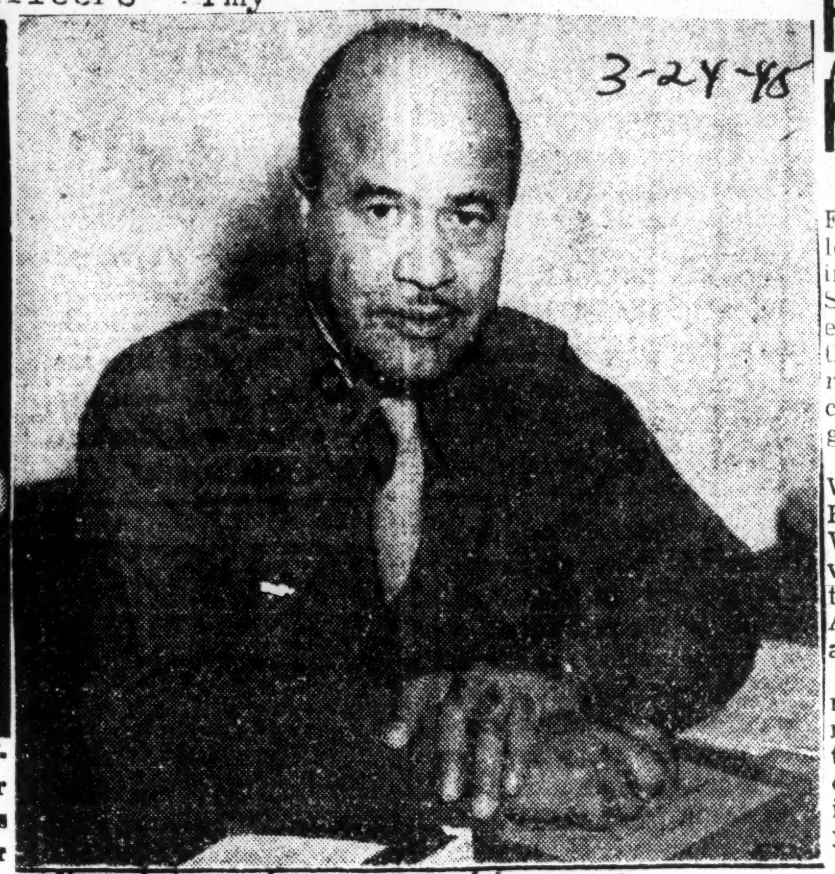
He was formerly a staff sergeant with the 4112th Quartermaster Truck Company in Fort Riley, Kans.

Lientenant Beasley is on a fourteen-day graduation leave following which he will return here for specialist training.

Douglas Army Air Field (Ariz.) Feb. 24—At recent graduation ceremonies for B-25 transitional class 44-2-J, deputy air base commander Lt. Col John D. Wynne (left) extended his personal congratulations to Lt. Robert O'Neal, 249 Palmer Street, Detroit, Michigan, a member of the graduating class. 3-3-45 Detroit Tribune

Lt. O'Neal served overseas with the 15th Air Force's 332nd Fighter Group from June to September, 1944, and has been awarded the Air Medal for his achievements. When a P-40 pilot in Italy, he was shot down over southern France shortly before the American invasion of that territory. He thinks that he shot down the German Messerschmidt who downed him. O'Neal parachuted safely to the ground and was found by a friendly French family who looked after him until American forces arrived. After his return to the United States he was sent to Douglas Army Air Field, an Air Forces Training Command installation, for bomber pilot instruction. Four other Negro officers, all combat veterans, graduated with him. 3-3-45

Son, of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Brewington of Detroit, the 23-year-old flyer graduated from Northwestern High School in Detroit in 1939. He was a member of the school band and the ROTC. In March, 1943, he enlisted in the Air Corps as an aviation cadet. He received his pilot wings and commission as a second lieutenant at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, in January, 1944. He was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in August, 1944, while overseas.



3-24-45

Washington Tribune

PROMOTED—Capt. Elbert L. Booker, shown above, is one of the most recent officers promoted at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Captain Booker was born in Seattle, Wash., educated at Howard and Northwestern Universities, and is a resident of New York City. He was a lieutenant in World War I. His present assignment is that of chief of operation section, Dental Infirmary No. 2, Fort Huachuca. 3-24-45

Bombardier To Pilot

Philadelphia Tribune

4-7-45

Second Lieut. ARTHUR C. SMITH, who was commissioned from the Bombardier School, Midland, Texas, on January 27, 1945, was recently assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field, to take up pilot training. He is a resident of Philadelphia, Pa. —(Official U. S. AAF pho-

Va. Medic Killed on Italian Front

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-28-45

MARTINSVILLE, Va.—Lt. Robert L. Screene, a former practicing physician here, was killed in action somewhere in Italy on April 8 while with the 92nd Division, his wife, Mrs. Evelyn Screene, reported this week.

Lt. Screene and his wife, the former Miss Evelyn Green, were natives of Augusta, Ga., and had been married seven years.

He was a graduate of Meharry Medical College and did his interneship at Kate Billings Hospital, Winston-Salem, N.C. He was a member of the local St. Paul Church, member of the Round-Table Men's Club, and a staff member at St. Mary's Hospital.

Flight Officer Killed In Action

Norfolk Journal & Guide 1-20-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Flight Officer Leonard R. Willette, who was reported missing in action over Germany Sept. 22, 1944, has been reported killed in action, according to the War Department, through reports received by the American Red Cross from the German government.

Son of Lt. and Mrs. Lawrence Willette, 137 Stephen street, Belleville, N. J., Flight Officer Willette graduated from Belleville High School and at the time of his enlistment in the Army Air Corps was a student at New York University.

Prior to his enlistment he was named by the late Senator Warren Barbour as one of his selectees to take the West Point examinations. Wishing more immediate action, however, young Willette enlisted in the Air Corps, and received his wings at Tuskegee in February, 1944. By July he was in active service as a fighter pilot of the 99th Fighter Squadron of the 332nd, under Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. 1-20-45

WON MEDALS

Said Major Gen. Twining, commander of the 15th Air Force in Italy, "Flight Officer Leonard Willette was an able and experienced pilot whose courage and skill have been important factors in the success of operations in which he participated. His country has seen fit to recognize his services by the award of the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster. The order promoting him from flight officer to second lieutenant came through on the day he was reported missing, but he was not present to sign the oath of office." 1-20-45

Flight Officer Willette had also been awarded the Purple Heart, for his courage and supreme sacrifice in the defense of his country.

HIS SURVIVORS

He is survived by his parents, two sisters who are students at Howard University; two younger brothers attending Belleville High School and an older brother, Lawrence Willette Jr., also in the Air Corps serving as a technician at Tinker Field Air Base in Oklahoma. He was engaged to Miss Gussie Turner of Summit, N. J., senior at Spellman College, Atlanta, Ga.

Dashing Captain Says Oklahoma City Looks Good

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City
2-3-45 Okla.

Oklahoman Home On Furlough Tells of Oversea Experiences

"Oklahoma City looks good to me," declared Captain Joseph DuBois Elsberry, 23, when he arrived in Oklahoma City last week from the European theater of war.

Capt. Elsberry, who is the son of Mrs. Beulah Elsberry, principal of the separate schools at Pauls Valley, arrived in the city from Langston last Wednesday evening, along with Dr. G. Lamar Harrison and Bishop Gregg, in time to attend the testimonial banquet staged by the Oklahoma City Negro Chamber of Commerce in honor of Editor Roscoe Dunjee.

Has Distinguished Awards

The dashing, and very athletic young plane hero, who has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the air medal of six oak leaf clusters, also carries three battle stars. His deadly aim has brought down three German planes and a probable fourth. He is the nephew of J. E. Meeks, 1200 Northeast Sixth street. 2-3-45

Young Elsberry, who is only 23 years old, talked interestingly of his experiences overseas. He was in air operations around Anzio beachhead in Italy during the first three months of 1944. His second baptism of fire came with the invasion of southern France late in July, and he was in the cover forces of the U. S. army during the invasion of Greece. He is connected with the 301 fighter group squadron of the 332 Fighter Group, commanded by Col. Ben. O. Davis. 2-3-45

Likes Col. Davis

"Our commander is a grand fellow and we all idolize him," said Capt. Elsberry in discussing what the boys think of Col. Davis. The soldier visitor said that it was about 30 flying hours from Europe to America, although he said his unit was tied down two days because of bad weather at an undisclosed point.

Segregated at Miami

"There was no segregation during passage from Europe and the island stops we made," said Capt. Elsberry. "We saw nothing of American jim crow until we reached Miami, Fla.

"We were a mixed group returning, and the white buddies were infuriated when they discovered we were being segregated in Florida. 'Hell! We fought together. Why can't we eat and sleep together?' said a white Texan who was in the party," according to Elsberry.

"I just did not think they should have done such a thing, but they sent the whites to a permanent barracks with showers and every modern convenience, while I was shunted off to a temporary arrangement where we slept one place and took our showers some distance away. One of my white friends with whom I had developed a fine friendship said, 'My God! They will not even let me talk to you now,'" said Elsberry.

No Prejudice On Battle Front

"There's no prejudice on the battle front," said the youthful captain. "Perhaps one day a white air force will cover a Negro ground unit and the next day our air unit will be covering a white ground force. It's only behind the lines in some of the supply depots where one finds some snotty whites," said Elsberry.

The doughty captain said his most exciting moment came when he shot down his fourth plane July 20.

"I happened to look around and discovered a 'Jerry' right on my tail. I went into a steep bank and out-turned him, landing on his tail. He started diving away and my windshield frosted. We were up in the Alps, so I had to pull up to dodge the mountains. My wingman said I barely missed a mountain top. Another pilot got credit for shooting down the 'Jerry' who was giving me so much trouble."

Italians Likable People

Capt. Elsberry said the Italian people, and all the races in Europe, are extremely hospitable and exhibit no signs of prejudice. "In fact, the Italians are unusual in their fellowship with Negro soldiers and in their social contacts," Elsberry said.

"They are crazy about our skin color and hair. Not once but many times I have had them look at my skin and say 'multi bella' (very beautiful), and then at my hair to exclaim 'multi bona.'"

Black Dispatch
Okla. City, Okla.
2-3-45

The Big Parade

Detroit Free Press
1-26-45

CAPT. CHARLES L. Thomas, 24, of 5877 Beechwood, member of an all-Negro tank destroyer unit, was wounded while taking part in the assault on the Siegfried Line, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Thomas, have been notified by the War Department.

Capt. Thomas

A graduate of Cass Technical High School, Capt. Thomas attended Wayne University and was employed in the Rouge plant of the Ford Motor Co. before entering the service in January, 1942. 1-26-45

For his part in the fighting around Metz and the Saar River, Capt. Thomas has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, his mother said.

Commissions to Men of 92nd Division in Italy

The Call
5-4-45

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY. — Ten enlisted men, members of the 92nd Division, four of them easterners, were among the graduates in the second class last week of the newly established Officers Candidate School in the Mediterranean theater.

The newly commissioned second lieutenants are: Milton B. Sheppard, Baltimore, brother of Joe Sheppard, staff writer of the Afro-American, Washington; David W. Perkins, Washington; Clyde Bryant Jr., Montclair, N. J.; Thomas L. Gaines, New York city; Howard E. Mitchell, Indianapolis; Henry C. Cody, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Arthur McClain, Rosedale, La.; Albert Berringer, Birmingham; Clarence W. Burks, Anniston, Ala.

These new officers, all former ranking sergeants in regiments throughout the 92nd Division, won commissions after completing the required six-week course at OCS.

The 92nd had no entries in the first graduating class six weeks ago and no colored from other outfits. 5-4-45

Some idea of the intensity of the training can be gathered from Second Lt. Sheppard, former Morgan college student, who in answering my query to this effect said simply, "Those instructors at that OCS don't know what sleep is."

Three combat promotions to rank of second lieutenants were awarded during the past week to members of the field artillery units with the 92nd Division.

Commissions were not for specifications but for "leadership qualities displayed over a long period." 5-4-45

These new officers are William Hobson, Homestead, Pa.; Robert T. Simpson, Anderson, S. C.; Thomas Bailey, Chicago.

These officers as well as the OCS graduates will continue service with their respective units.

561-19455

Navy

NAVY NEWS CENTER STAFF CHECKS COMBAT STORIES—Officers of the Fleet Home Town News Center checking over combat stories on Navy personnel are, left to right: Lt. Thomas H. Collins, editorial officer; Lt. Charles W. Payne, officer in charge; Lt. Morton Frank, executive officer; and Lt. (jg) William Sylvester and White, Jr., staff officer for Ninth Naval District, Great Lakes, Illinios. (Navy Photo)

at Lanta (Ga) Daily World 8-9-45

First Negro naval officer in combat sfudied here

Los Angeles Tribune

Los Angeles California

RICHMOND, Va. — This city is proud to have given the country its first Negro officer of a Navy fighting ship, now in action in the Pacific.

He is Ensign Samuel Lee Gravely Jr., 23, son of a local man. He was here just prior to boarding his PC boat in Florida, spending his 20-day leave with his family.

Ensign Gravely was the first Negro to graduate from the midshipman's school. He was commissioned at Columbia university, graduating 349th in a class of 1,022.

8-13-45

Standing six feet, two inches tall and weighing 210 pounds, young Gravely played in the backfield on the University of California at Los Angeles football team and center field on the baseball nine while studying there under the Navy V-12 program.

He is studying the Japanese language in his spare time. His fellow officers on the PC boat, for which he is communications officer, are white men from Texas, Oklahoma, Michigan, and New York.

First Negro Chaplain Comes To The Pacific

the INFORMER Houston, Texas

By CHARLES H. LOEB

NNPA War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN JAPAN.—One day before the Japanese decided to call its quits unconditionally, the several thousand Negro bluejackets on Guam got the answer to a fervent prayer in the person of Lt. (jg) James Russell Brown, USNR, of Witchita, Kans., the first Negro Navy chaplain to come to the Pacific.

9-22-45

Unfortunately the pell-mell rush Japanwards by the Correspondents Corps prevented more than a hurried half-hour talk with the former pastor of St. Luke AME church, Kansas City, but the new chaplain seemed filled with his mission, and exceptionally capable.

A former dean of the Bishop Williams School of Religion at Western university, Kansas City, Kansas, he is the husband of the former Melba Ruth Long of Wichita.

Chaplain Brown

Chaplain Brown, one of the two Negro chaplains in the Naval Reserve, is a graduate of Friends university, Wichita (AB, 1932) and Howard University School of Religion (BD, 1935). He entered the Chaplains School at Williams and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., in June, 1944, and was assigned after graduation to temporary duty at Washington, D. C., Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and New York City Naval installations before going to Great Lakes in September, 1944.

In June of this year he was transferred to Hollywood, California, on tempporary duty, where he appeared in the motion picture, "The Negro Sailor."

He arrived on Guam August 14 and will serve bluejackets at U. S. Naval Barracks No. 1.

Chaplain Brown preached his first overseas sermon aboard the L[illegible] transport that brought him to Guam and reported an enthusiastic reception from white troops en route to Okinawa.

His mother and her present husband, William E. Taylor, formerly dean of the Howard University Law School and more recently of the Lincoln University Law School, St. Louis, Mo., live at 1845 Kalorama Road, Northwest.

CARL F. FLIPPER BECOMES ENSIGN

Washington Tribune 9/15/45

Carl F. Flipper was one of the two Negroes in a class of 600 members of the twenty-fifth graduating class of the U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School in New York, last week, who received the rank of ensign.

Ensign Flipper will be remembered as a graduate of Dunbar High School and the son of Mrs. Pearl Christmas Flipper Taylor. The exercises were held in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

Ensign Flipper holds his master's degree from the University of Kansas, and is married to Mrs. Maureen Garrett Flipper, teacher at Wiley University, Marshall, Texas. He is the son of the Rev. Carl Flipper and the grandson of the late Bishop Flipper, prominent in the AME denomination.

9/15/45

Former Private Promoted

Informer Houston, Texas 11-24-45

CAMP LeJEUNE, N. C. (NNPA)—The Marine Corps commissioned its first Negro officer on the 170th Anniversary of the Corps, Saturday, November 10, when former Pfc. Frederick C. Branch, 23, of 305 West Second street, Charlotte, N. C., graduated a second lieutenant from the First Officers' Reserve Class, of the Officers' Applicant Battalion, at Hadnot Point here.

Enlisting in May, 1943, Branch trained at Montford Point Camp, Camp Lejeune, and was assigned to duty in the classification section of Montford's headquarters battalion for five months. In January, 1944, he joined the 51st Defense Battalion and served seven months overseas. He started V-12 training, at Purdue University in September, 1944, and completed the course with high scholastic honors.

On V-J Day, Branch was among the Marines given the alternative of being discharged immediately or attending the six-week Reserve Officers' Class.

He attended Frederick E. Bellows high school, Mamaroneck, N. Y., and Johnson C. Smith university, where he won the freshman award for scholastic achievement. He was a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Branch was a student at Temple university when he was drafted.

The Marine is married to the former Miss Camilla Robinson of 2518 North 22d street, Philadelphia, Pa. A graduate of Philadelphia's Girls' High, Mrs. Branch also attended Temple university.

Lt. Branch's parents, Rev. and Mrs. James Matthew Branch live at the Charlotte address. Rev. Branch, a minister for 30 years, is pastor of the Clinton Chapel AME Zion church of Charlotte.

Two brothers of the Marine are in service. Second Lt. Matthew D. Branch is serving with the 372d Army Infantry in the Pacific and Army First Sgt. Milton C. Branch is in Europe. William B., youngest of the four brothers, is a student at Northwestern university.

Senatr C. Wayland Brooks, junior senator from Illinois, addressed the class of 186 newly commissioned second lieutenants which included Lt. Branch. These officers are the first to complete the six-week Reserve Officers' class, inaugurated here in October. The course of instruction, a contraction of the regular Officers Candidate School at Quantic, Va., included weapons, tactics, law, administration and public speaking.

11-24-45

Lt. Branch plans to continue his studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Negro Navy Officer Heads Supply Educational Program On Okinawa

Atlanta Daily World

11-13-45

By R. E. Johnson, Y2c
Former Assoc. Editor of The Masterhead
12ND Press Assn. Correspondent

OKINAWA — It's "M-Day" on Okinawa!

War-hardened veterans of General Stilwell's tough Tenth Army, courageous conquorers of Jap-held Okinawa, and members of the first and second marine divisions who are stationed at Chimu Wan, Tengan, Okinawa have begun a large scale war on monotony.

Rapid expansion of recreational, educational and athletic programs are underway, designed to help fleet bluejackets and those stationed at island bases use profitably their duty-off hours. 11-13-45

Many cargo planes and supply ships, which are not needed to transport war weapons, are now bringing athletic gear, photographic equipment, radios, radio-phonographs, musical instuments, books and educational materials to replace and enlarge stocks which have been on hand throughout the war.

Lt (jg) S. F. Barnes of Oberlin, Ohio, supply and educational officer for Logistic Support Co. 64, one of hte first Negroes to be commissioned in the Navy, has charge of the educational program. Detroit "Lions' former football star Lt. (jg) S. N Belichick, welfare and recreation officer has appointed Wm P. Honey, Sp (A) 1c, of Camden, N. J., acting director of his company's athletic activities.

Typhoon-wrecked baseball fields are being rebuilt by some able, experienced colored Seabees who were attached to the 10th Army. Among them are John Browskaw, Fle (motor machinist striker,) of Somerville, N J.; John Jiles, S2c, of Birmingham, Ala.; Keith Anderson S 2-c of New York City; James Bright S 2-c Chicago; James Antley S2c, of Columbus, Ga.; Sylvester Curley, Cox, of Baltimore, Md.; Armour Stamps, S 2-c of Hattiesburgh, Miss.; and Eligah Fields, S 2-c of Alexandria, La. Willie Johnson, CM3c, of San Francisco, Cal. is a key man in the carpentry gang.

Veterans here of many Pacific campaigns agree that the staging of "M-Day" (Morale Day) marks the beginning of the end of monotony while they are "sitting it out on the rock"-a-stone throw from Japan awaiting discharge from the armed forces.

Hampton Grad, First Seabee Officer, In Pacific Theatre

Sun Journal & Guide 3-10-45

AN ADVANCED BASE, Western Pacific—The first Negro officer to report for duty with the Seabees, Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, recently reached this Pacific base. Ens. Williams, a civil engineer corps officer, takes up his duties as a member of a predominantly Negro Seabee battalion which has distinguished itself as a working and fighting organization. 3-10-45

Ens. Williams was graduated from the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, Long Island, in 1943 and served as third mate aboard a merchant ship, the SS Booker T. Washington, under Captain Hugh Mulzac, the first Negro skipper in the maritime service. 3-10-45

COMMISSIONED IN JULY

On July 3, 1944, Williams was commissioned a Navy ensign and reported to the Seabee base at Davisville, R. I., for further training. On Dec. 30, 1944, he joined his present outfit.

Williams, who is 23, is a graduate of Hampton Institute, Va. After finishing school he was a project manager for the National Youth Administration in Hampton, and, for a while taught school in Annapolis, Md.

Ens. Williams was married shortly before embarking. His wife, Hazel, resides at 422 Chester avenue, Annapolis.

Journal & Guide 3-10-45

Ensign Joseph Banks Williams is the first Naval officer of his race to report for duty with the Seabees. A graduate of Hampton Institute, he recently reached an advanced base in the Pacific. 3-10-45

Navy Commissions First Race Woman Ensign In Nurse Corps

Journal & Guide 3-17-45

NEW YORK—"I hope I am only the first of a large number of members of my race to join the Navy Nurse Corps," said Miss Phyllis Mae Daley, R.N., as she was commissioned an ensign, along with four other young women, Thursday morning, March 8, at the Office of Naval Officer Procurement, 33 Pine street, by Commander Thomas A. Gaylord, U.S.N. (retired), director of the office. She is the first Negro to become a member of the Navy Nurse Corps.

Miss Daley bore the limelight modestly, but confessed she was "proud and excited." She was born in New York and was graduated from the Lincoln Hospital School for Nurses in 1941. After her graduation, she worked at the Lincoln Hospital and Home, and at the New York Department of Health as a public health nurse. Immediately prior to her induction, she was taking a course in public health nursing at Teachers College, Columbia University. 3-17-45

FIVE OTHERS APPLY FOR COMMISSIONS

Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, who witnessed the commissioning ceremony, said that five other colored young women applied for commissions in the Navy Nurse Corps at the same time Miss Daley did, but she had not heard whether or not they had been accepted.

Miss Daley's mother, Mrs. Mary Daley, and aunt, Mrs. Rita Morris proudly looked on as she was worn in by Commander Thomas A. Gaylord, U. S. A., director of the office. 3-17-45

The new ensign will be assigned to duty within a few days at one of the two naval hospitals in the vicinity of New York—at St. Albans, Queens, or the New York Navy Yard, Brooklyn. She will receive six months' training in Navy hospital procedure before assignment elsewhere.

Miss Daley said, in answer to a question after the commissioning ceremony, that one did not ask for a specific assignment in the Navy, but that she "would not mind" going overseas.

34 Navy Negro Officers Now

Atlanta Daily World 1-30-45

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The Navy Department revealed Thursday that there are now 34 Negro commissioned officers in the Naval service 31 of them are on active duty status and three on inactive status.

Other Negroes are being trained for commissions in the Navy's V-12 Program, it was revealed. The original number of Negroes commissioned in the Navy a few months ago was 13.

It was also learned that a number of combat vessels of the Navy have Negro personnel integrated into all ratings, a fact which previously has not been announced.

First Negro Grad Of Columbia University Midshipman's School

New York Age N.Y. 1-20-45

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — Ensign Samuel Lee Gravely, 819 Nicholson street, Richmond Va., the first Negro graduate of the Navy's Midshipman's School at Columbia University has been assigned as Assistant Commander of the 29th Battalion in Camp Robert Smalls of the Naval Training Center here. 1-20-45

The new officer entered the Navy in 1942 as an apprentice seaman, and rose within the enlisted ranks to Motor Machinist's Mate, Second Class. In July 1943 he took a competitive examination and was admitted to the University of California at Los Angeles under the Navy's V-12 program. There he studied until July of 1944. After six weeks further training in the Pre-Midshipman's School at Asbury Park, New Jersey, he entered the Columbia University Midshipman's School. In December, 1944, Ensign Gravely became the first Negro to graduate from this Midshipman's School and upon graduation was commissioned.

34 Navy Officers Receive Training

Afro American 3-24-45

WASHINGTON (ANP)—The Navy is now training some thirty-four colored officers as ensigns and as lieutenants in the Naval Reserve, it has been revealed here.

Fou rare enrolled at the Naval Training school at Miami receiving instruction in general line officers' work, while the others are in V-12 programs being conducted in colleges in several parts of the country. 3-24-45

Those at Miami are Ensigns Thedore T. Chambers of Indianapolis; Samuel L. Graveley, Jr. of Richmond; Carl T. Rowan, Mc Minnville, Tenn., and Clarence P. McIntosh, Lake Forest, Ill.

34 Navy Officers

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-28-45

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The Navy Department revealed last week that there are now 34 colored commissioned officers in the Naval service, 31 of whom are on active duty status and 3 inactive.

Others, it was said, are being trained for commissions in the Navy's V-12 program. The original number of colored commissioned in the Navy a few months ago was 13.

The Marine Corps, a part of the Navy Department, has no colored officers, though it has colored enlisted men.

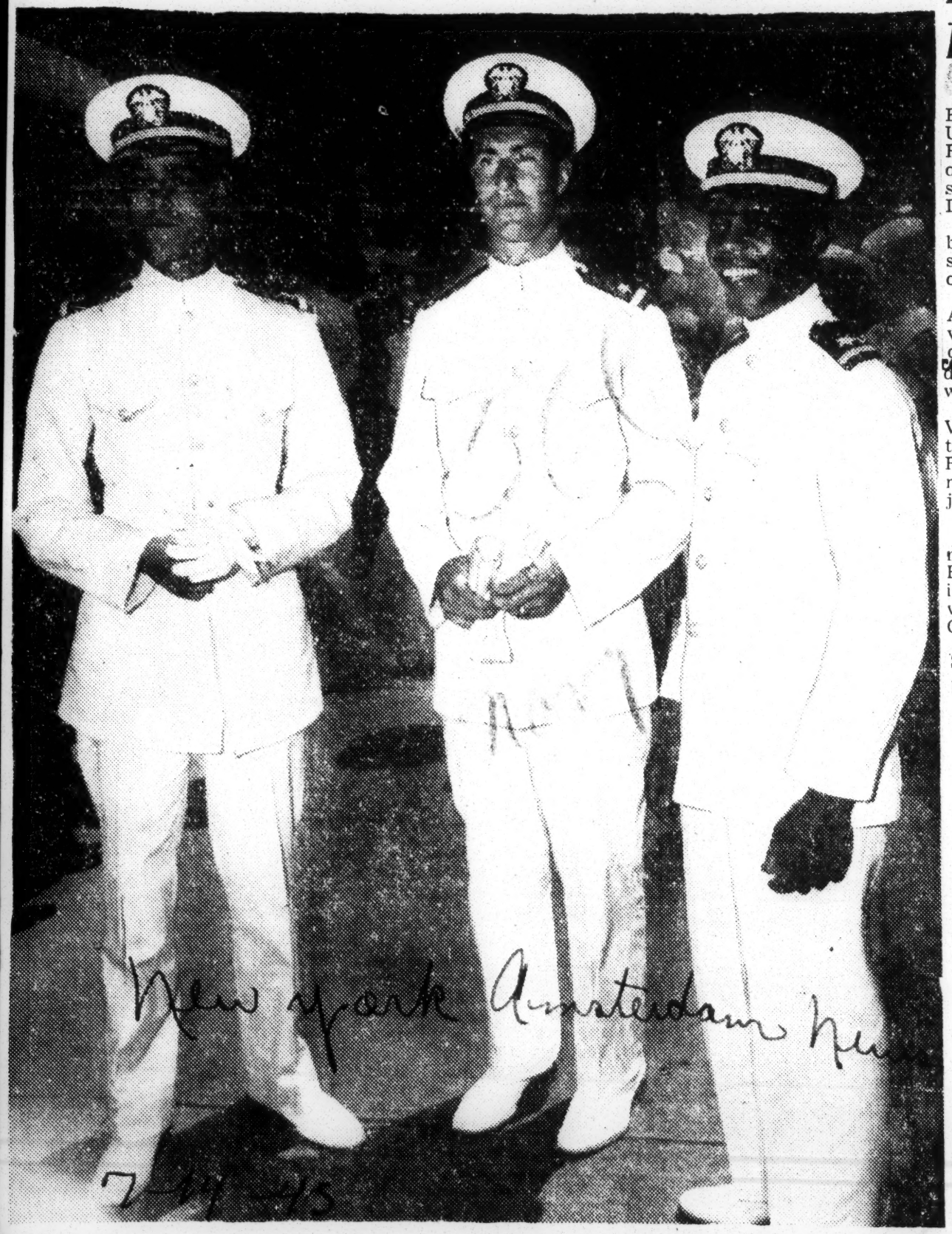
Powell's Appointee Enters Annapolis

Pittsburgh Courier

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Wesley A. Brown of New York City and Washington, D. C., a former Howard University student, entered the Naval Academy here July 1, it was announced Monday. 7-14-45

Appointed by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., of New York City, Brown is the first Negro to enter the Academy since 1937. Five Negroes have been appointed to the Academy during its history. None was graduated.

Navy Gets Two More Negro Ensigns



ENSIGN HOWARD D. JETER JR., of Chicago, left, and Ensign J. L. Pierce, right, of Atlanta, Ga., the two Negroes who were graduated from Fort Schuyler and received their credentials at ceremonies last week at the Church of St. John, the Divine, are shown with another member of their class immediately after the services. Young Jeter is the son of Attorney Howard D. Jeter Sr., of Chicago, who was here for the ceremonies.

First Negro Officer to Join Fighting Ship Is Richmonder

Richmond Va
Richmond Times Dispatch

NEW YORK, July 24 — (AP) — Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., USNR, 23, of 819 Nicholson St., Richmond, Va., is the first Negro officer to be assigned to a fighting ship of the navy, the Third Naval District announced today.

It was stated that Gravely has been aboard the USS PC-1264 since May 2 as communications officer.

R. Times Dispatch

The sub chaser, commissioned April 25, 1944, is the second naval vessel to be manned by a predominantly Negro crew, the naval district said, adding that the first was the destroyer escort Mason.

Gravely entered the navy from Virginia Union University in September, 1942. He has a brother, Robert W. Gravely, steward's mate second class, USNR, who has just completed recruit training.

7-25-45

Gravely at one time was a carrier for The Times-Dispatch in the Fulton section, and later worked in the post office during college vacations. His father, Samuel L. Gravely, Sr., of the Nicholson Street address, is employed in the post office here.

561-1945

Officers-Navy

First Negro Officer With Seabees Reports For Duty

Atlanta World 3-6-45

Ga.

AN ADVANCED BASE, WESTERN PACIFIC — The first Negro officer to report for duty with the Seabees, Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, recently reached an "advanced base" in the Western Pacific. Ensign Williams, a Civil Engineer Corps officer takes up his duties as a member of a predominantly Negro Seabee battalion which has distinguished itself as a working and fighting organization in the Pacific area. 3-6-45

Ensign Williams was graduated from the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, Long Island in 1943 and served as third mate aboard the merchant ship Booker T. Washington, under Capt. Hugh Mulzac, the first Negro skipper in the maritime service. On July 3, 1944, Mr. Williams was commissioned an ensign in the Civil Engineer Corps and reported to the Seabee base at Davisville, Rhode Island, for further training. On December 30, 1944, he joined his present outfit at this Western Pacific base. 3-6-45

Williams, 23, is a graduate of Hampton Institute in Virginia. This background includes a wide variety of experience. After finishing school he worked as a project manager for the National Youth Administration in Hampton, Virginia and for a while taught school in Annapolis, Maryland.

Ensign Williams was married shortly before embarking overseas for his present tour of duty. His wife resides at 422 Chester Avenue in Annapolis.

1st Negro Naval Officer With CB's

Philadelphia Tribune 3-10-45 P2.

An Advanced Base, Western Pacific — The first colored officer to report for duty with the Seabees, Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, 23, a Civil Engineer Corps officer, has reached an "advanced base" in the Western Pacific. 3-10-45

Ensign Williams, a graduate of the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, Long Island, once served as third mate aboard the merchant ship Booker T. Washington, under Captain Hugh Mulzac.

Fourth Negro Skipper Mans SS Bert Williams

Kopke's Voice 1-13-45

When Blidberg Rothchi'd Steamship Company, Inc., accepted delivery of the Liberty ship S.S. Bert Williams, the Recruitment and Manning Organization of War Shipping Administration suggested Capt. Clifton Lastic to be its master. Blidberg Rothchild accepted this suggestion thus making him the fourth Negro skipper in the American Merchant Marine to be in command of his own vessel.

Capt. Lastic, who had served as chief mate on the SS *Booker T. Washington* under Capt. Hugh Mulzac, another of the Negro skippers, is now somewhere at sea on the *Bert Williams*' first voyage to one of the war zones. The *Bert Williams*, built by the New England Shipbuilding Corporation and launched at South Portland, Me., was named after the late famed Negro comedian. 1-13-45

Capt. Lastic obtained his master's license last September after having spent about 30 of his 45 years at sea. Born in the British West Indies, he went to sea in the British Merchant Marine on a schooner at the age of 14 and served as an able seaman on British vessels during the last war. He began shipping on American vessels when he became an American citizen in 1937 and at that time was ready to sit for his chief mate's ticket.

WAS ON BOOKER T.

Captains Lastic and Mulzac are old friends, the two having sailed together as long ago as 1920 when Capt. Mulzac was chief mate and Capt. Lastic an able seaman. They had made seven trips together on the *Booker T. Washington* when Capt. Lastic came ashore for examination for his master's license. 1-13-45

Another Negro officer on the *Bert Williams* is Vernon Dunlap third mate, of Providence, RI.

CAPT. CLIFTON LASTIC

There is also a Negro able seaman in the crew, and a New Yorker, Boatswain Herbert Marley. 1-13-45

The Negro Actors Guild was instrumental in the naming of the SS *Bert Williams*, as a result of war bond sales organized by the guild toward the financing of a vessel for the American war-time merchant fleet. Hanging in the ship's salon is a framed biographical sketch and photograph of Mr. Williams, presented to the ship by that organization.

The captain took out the *Bert Williams* on her maiden voyage at a time when the National War Advertising Council was swinging into its present national newspaper and radio campaign to bring back to the industry more experienced former seamen and officers now working ashore. He gave enthusiastic approval to the campaign and spoke of the increasingly greater advantages in the industry, not only with respect to opportunities to contribute to final victory over the fascist powers, but postwar opportunities as well.

Four Negroes Now Command Vessels

Atlanta World Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (NNPA) — Four Negroes are now in command of Liberty Ships, according to the War Shipping Administration with the appointment of Capt. Clifton Lastic to the command of the new Liberty Ship SS Bert Williams. Capt. Lastic is now somewhere at sea on the maiden voyage of his ship. 1-11-45

He was previously chief mate of the SS Booker T. Washington commanded by Capt. Hugh Mulzac the first Negro to command such a vessel. Lastic obtained his masters' license last September, after spending 30 of his 45 years at sea He was born in the British West Indies, served with the British Merchant Marine at the age of 14 and as an able seaman on British vessels during the last war.

The crew of the SS Bert Williams is mixed. Another Negro Vernon Dunlap, is third mate, and there is a Negro able seaman in the crew.

2 Naval Officers Arrive in Hawaii

Afro-American 3-17-45

OAHU, Hawaii — Lt. Marron W. Fort, Newburyport, Mass., and Ensign Giles D. Smith, Gainesville, Texas, arrived at the Manana Naval Barracks here recently, where they will serve as disbursing officer and assistant disbursing officer, respectively.

Enlisting in April, 1944, Lieutenant Fort was a chemical engineer and manager of A. and G. J. Caldwell, Inc., Newburyport. Commissioned at Great Lakes Training School, Ill., he took a special supply corps course at Harvard School of Business Administration. 3-17-45

Ensign Smith enlisted on March 16, 1944, and was trained as a storekeeper at Camp Perry, Va. He served with the Seabees in the Admiralty Islands before going to Great Lakes Training Center, where he was assistant commissary officer. He was commissioned November 3, 1944.

Commission Ensigns Under The Navy V-12

New York Age 4-7-45

Plan At Great Lakes

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—Two Negro ensigns, Thomas Rowan, 110 Edgefield avenue, McMinnville, Tenn., and Theodore Chambers, 2116 Highland place, Indianapolis, Indiana recently commissioned under the Navy V-12 program are among the officers on temporary active duty under instruction here at the U. S. Naval Training Center. In the intensive course of indoctrination, the newly commissioned ensigns will receive training in the actual operation of 20mm. and 40mm. guns, fighting oil and gasolinefires under simulated battle conditions, and the supervision of recruits. 4-7-45

Ensign Chambers, age 24, had attended Howard University in Washington, D. C., for one and a half years when he volunteered for service in the U. S. Navy on October 16, 1943. Since he had been studying to become an architect he entered the SeaBees. When his recruit training was completed, he was assigned to the 80th Construction Battalion and sent to Trinidad in the British West Indies. On the basis of a competitive examination he took there, Chambers was chosen to return to the States and study in the Navy V-12 Program.

Seabees Get First Colored Officer

Afro-American 3-10-45

WESTERN PACIFIC. — The first colored officer to report for duty with the Seabees, Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, recently reached an "advanced base" in the Western Pacific.

Ensign Williams, a Civil Engineer Corps officer, takes up his duties as a member of a predominantly colored Seabee battalion which has distinguished itself as a working and fighting organization in the Pacific area.

The new officer was graduated from the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, L.I., in 1943, and served as third mate aboard the Liberty ship, Booker T. Washington, under Captain Hugh Mulzac, the first colored skipper in the maritime service. 3-10-45

Commissioned Last July

On July 3, 1944, Mr. Williams was commissioned an ensign in the Civil Engineer Corps and reported to the Seabee base at Davisville, R.I., for further training. On December 30, 1944, he joined his present outfit here.

Williams, 23, is a graduate of Hampton Institute in Virginia. After finishing school, he worked as a project manager for the National Youth Administration in Hampton, Va., and for a while taught school in Annapolis, Md.

He was married shortly before embarking overseas for his present tour of duty. His wife, Hazel, resides at 422 Chester Avenue in Annapolis.

Negro Chemical Engineer Commissioned An Ensign

New York Age

A 37-year-old Negro enlisted specialist in the Naval Reserve, Staten Island, N. Y., has been commissioned an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve. He is Henry Ambrose Martin, Jr., a 1933 graduate of the University of Michigan with the degree of B. S. in Chemical Engineering. An enlisted specialist in the oil laboratory at the Naval Ensign Martin was sworn in at Frontier Base, Tompkinsville, Friday, March 2, by the commander of the officer of the Base, Captain John M. Gill, U. S. N. R.

3-17-45

Atlanta World 6a. 1-17-45

AT GREAT LAKES—Ensign Samuel Lee Gravely, 819 Nicholson Street, Richmond, Va., the first Negro graduate of the Navy's Midshipman's School at Columbia University has been assigned as Assistant Commander of the 29th Battalion in Camp Robert Smalls of the Naval Training Center here. He is shown discussing the day's schedule with the Battalion Commander, Lt.(jg) F. G. Headley, 765 Sutter Street, San Francisco. The new officer entered the Navy in 1942 as an apprentice seaman, and rose within the enlisted ranks to Motor Machinist's Mate, Second Class. In July 1943 he took a competitive examination and was admitted to the University of California at Los Angeles under the Navy's V-12 program. There he studied until July of 1944. After six weeks further training in the Pre-Midshipman's School at Asbury Park, New Jersey, he entered the Columbia University Midshipman's School. In December 1944, Ensign Gravely became the first Negro to graduate from this Midshipman's School. Upon graduation he was commissioned. On December 28th he reported to Great Lakes. (Official U. S. Navy Photo)

Navy Officers Get Anti-Bias Course

Afro-American 6-2-45

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—In an effort to win wider recognition for colored Naval personnel, the Navy Department, through its Bureau of Naval Personnel, is distributing a pamphlet, "Guide to Command of Colored Naval Personnel."

Intended as an indoctrinator and guide to white officers, the booklet was released within the department on Feb. 12, 1944, over the signature of Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of the bureau.

In addition to discussing the history of the colored man in the Navy and "racial theories as a waste of manpower," the pamphlet takes up such questions as segregation, promotions, utilization of skills and sea duty.

Responsibility of Commanders

Stating unequivocally that "ultimate responsibility for working out solutions for specific questions must and does rest with local commanding officers," the document says at the outset:

"The Navy accepts no theories of racial differences in inborn ability but expects that every man wearing its uniform be trained and used in accordance with his maximum individual capacity determined on the basis of individual performance."

In a forthright statement on racial separation, the pamphlet declares, "The accomplishment of the assigned mission through the harmonious and efficient use of existing equipment and facilities should always be the objective of the commanding officer."

Offensive Signs Banned

Then minimizing the need for "separate but equal facilities," it declares, "Joint use of facilities is frequently possible and desirable, particularly where the ratio of colored to white personnel is not high." 6-2-45

Special reference is made to signs restricting the use of facilities to a particular race, the document pointing out that they are "especially offensive to colored persons and under no circumstances should they be used in the Naval establishment."

To Expand Use on Ships

The belief is also expressed that both white and colored personnel will accept a situation if the policy laid down by a commanding officer is impartial, fair and reasonable and if enforcement of it is made a reality.

Finally pointing out that colored seamen are assigned to sea duty on 25 auxiliary ships of the fleet up to 10% of the general service complement, and in all ratings, the pamphlet indicates that the procedure will be expanded.

Navy Commissions Another Negro

Atlanta World 6a. 3-11-45

CHICAGO— (ANP)— The number of Negro naval commissioned officers took a rise last week when Henry Ambrose Martin Jr., 37 was named an ensign in the naval reserve.

An enlisted man, Martin was chosen honor man of his company at Great Lakes two years ago and was sent to a navy service school. He served as a specialist in the oil testing laboratory at the naval frontier base at Staten Island, N. Y., when he was commissioned an ensign. 3-11-45

Martin's family now boasts of two officers; the other is Ensign Martin's brother, Lt. Robert L. Martin, now stationed with the army air forces in Italy.

The new officers, at the time of his induction into the navy, was employed by the Common wealth Edison Co

2 Receive Commissions at Navy Midshipmen's School

AFRO-AMERICAN 7-14-45

By RICHARD R. DIER

NEW YORK — Two colored men were members of a graduating class of 1000 of the Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School, Fort Schuyler, the Bronx, who were commissioned ensigns in the U.S. Naval Reserve at ceremonies at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

They are: Joseph L. Pierce, 352 Cairo St., Atlanta, Ga., and Howard D. Geper, 5948 Prairie Ave., Chicago. 7-14-45

The graduates left Fort Schuyler at 9:30 a.m. and filed into the Cathedral a few minutes before 11 a.m. to hear an address by Commodore John K. Richards, U.S.N. (Ret.), commander of the Naval Reserve Officer Training Center, N.Y.

The oath was administered by Capt. Arthur C. Stott, U.S.N. (Ret.), commanding officer of the school, who also presented the commissions to the men. The midshipmen's choir sang.

Pair "Outstanding Students"

Pierce and Geper were described as outstanding students during their four months of extensive training at Fort Schuyler by Lt. A. F. Holst the day before graduation. 7-14-45

"They were both above average in class," he told the AFRO, "and their spirit, co-operation, and entire academic career were well observed by the seasoned instructors of the U.S. Navy who wish them good luck and a successful cruise in their coming careers as commissioned officers of the U.S. Naval Reserve.

"They were exceptionally good men." 7-14-45

Scores of passersby, including many students of Columbia University, stopped to look at and admire the graduates in their trim uniforms as they filed out of the cathedral. The weather was clear and cool, a perfect day for the exercises.

56m-1945

AWVS

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912

JUN 3 - 1945

Hats Off!

Elaine Morris, 15, is chairman of the Junior Auxiliary of the Staten Island Tri-Shore Unit, American Women's Voluntary Services. Because they work difficult hours in war plants, the senior members of the unit have called on the juniors for important work. Under Elaine's leadership, the young people have been very active in salvage; they have made layettes, solicited for the Red Cross and the Community Chest, sold war stamps, and decorated the Booker T. Washington Service Center, where parties are held for men in the forces. In recognition of her service and ability, Elaine was elected by all four Richmond units to represent them on the executive board of the AWVS Greater New York Youth Council. As one of its activities, the Council holds forums on important subjects. One this year was on "How to Promote Better Relations Between the White and Negro Races." After this discussion, the Council proposed institution of a national "Inter-racial Week." To Elaine Morris and her fellow members of the AWVS Junior Auxiliary:

Hats Off!

56m-1945

Civilian Defense

Gifts for Negro Troops

Washington Post

Three hundred Negro servicemen from Arlington County will receive Easter gifts this year through the efforts of the Arlington Negro Selective Service committee for recreation. 3-31-45

The committee, organized in October, 1941, by Mrs. Annie P. Belcher, has been a member agency of the Arlington Community Chest since 1943. The Arlington committee members not only provide recreational facilities for service men and women at home, but also keep in touch with them during their war service. Among gifts being sent for Easter are "foxhole" cigarette lighters and waterproof money belts.

CORSICANA, TEXAS
SUN
Cir. D. 5,180
JUN 27 1945

NEGROES EXPECTED CONTRIBUTE 2,000 POUNDS TINCANS

Two thousand pounds of tin cans is the goal set by Fred A. Prince, county war salvage chairman for the all-negro tin can matinee at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, Ideal theatre.

"All of the colored people of our city and county, big and little, young and old, are urged to attend this free showing and bring their tin cans," Prince declared. "This is one way you can help to hasten victory and bring our boys home."

Admission to the one and one-half hour comedy will be four tin cans which have contained food. They must be cleaned and smashed in after the ends are cut out.

"It takes a tremendous amount of tin to keep our troops equipped and fighting," Prince said. "Only through salvage can these necessary materials be supplied."

Plans for the next big county-wide tin can drive to be held Aug. 5 are going forward. Restaurants of the city and county are again reminded that their co-operation is needed. "Only three restaurants, the Navarro Coffee Shop, George's Grill and Commercial Coffee Shop, co-operated in the last drive," Prince said.

56m-1945 General

Poll Shows Public Believes Negro Soldiers "Good"

The Memphis World
Memphis, Tennessee

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Most Americans, regardless of color, believe that Negroes proved good soldiers in World War II.

12-11-45

In the Negro Digest poll for December, a sampling of the population in cities across the nation indicated that the Negro soldier while not held in the highest esteem in some circles has won much admiration for his war record.

Results in the poll among persons of both Negro and white race on the query, "Are Negroes Good Soldiers?" were:

	Yes	No	Und.
North	74%	11%	15%
West	75%	8%	17%
South	62%	28%	10%

HEATED OPINIONS

The question on Negro soldiers generally aroused heated opinions, especially among cousthern gfo n y especially among southern whites and Negroes generally. However, the majority of whites in the North took pretty much for granted the good quality of the Negro in uniform felt that attacks on the Negro soldier were mostly Dixie inspired.

Southern whites on the other hand felt the Negro would not stand up under fire and should be relegated to separate labor battalions. Many spoke of the "bad record" of the 92nd division or "that colored outfit in Italy." Results among whites canvassed in the poll on "Are Negroes Good Soldiers?" were:

12-11-45

	Yes	No	Und.
North	69%	12%	19%
West	73%	6%	21%
South	30%	58%	12%

56m-1945

OWI

OWI Drops Negro Worker In London

Chicago Ill. Defender

WASHINGTON — Miss Edna Fraser, the only Negro employee of the Office of War Information in London is scheduled to be dropped from the payroll September 16, it was reliably learned by the Defender.

Following President Truman's decision to abolish OWI and transfer remaining operations to the State Department, the British Division, in which Miss Fraser was employed is being incorporated wholesale in the State Department. Miss Fraser who has been attached to the unit for approximately one year will be let out.

Her release is significant in the light of increased pressure to augment Negro civilian personnel abroad.

9-15-45

Where responsibility for the release can be placed has not been immediately ascertainable. Miss Fraser is a resident of New York City and considered an accomplished linguist.

56m-1945

PØA OPA

Negro Advisory Council Organizes Under O.P.A.

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky. 1-20-45

Believed by O.P.A. officials here to be the first in the nation, a Negro Consumers' Advisory Council, under O.P.A., has been organized to disseminate rationing information to Negro organizations of this area, it was announced yesterday.

Richmond Tops Entire Nation In Negro OPA Volunteers

The Richmond Times Dispatch Richmond, Virginia
9-22-45

The Richmond OPA District has more volunteer Negroes serving on the War Price and Rationing Boards than any other district in the country, according to a report received by the local OPA office.

A total of 83 Negroes or 6.2 per cent of the total board membership are serving in the Richmond district. Runner-up in the region is Charlotte, N. C., where 68 Negroes represent 2.9 per cent of the board membership. Jackson, Miss., Birmingham, Ala., and Roanoke have no Negroes on the boards while Nashville, Tenn., has two, Raleigh, N. C., 10 and Memphis, 12.

New York has 65 Negro board members, Washington, 34, Baltimore, 22, and Philadelphia, 13. Detroit has 73; Louisville, 3; New Orleans, Dallas and Shreveport, none.

The Fourth region, of which Richmond is a part, has 313 Negroes on the board as compared with three in region one; 161 in region two; 112 in region three; 28 in region five; 45 in region six; six in region seven; and 19 in region eight.

Of the Negroes serving in the Fourth region, 126 are professional worker, 30 clerical, six organized labor and 15 housewives.

OPA SETS PACE FOR U.S. IN EMPLOYMENT OF NEGROES

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—The integration of Negro personnel at every level of employment in the Office of Price Administration is cited as an example of democracy in administration unparalleled in any Federal agency.

11-10-45

Out of a total of 3,723 employees in the OPA national office as of March 31, 1945, thirteen per cent, or 493 of these employees were Negroes, Frances H. Williams, special assistant to Administrator Chester Bowles, told the Defender this week.

Miss Williams said that Negroes are integrated into all levels and branches of the organization with a sizeable percentage earning salaries ranging from $2000 to $5600 annually. She said the agency employed nine Negro lawyers, two of whom receive salaries of $5600, while two others receive $4600, one $3800, three $3200 and one $2600.

She pointed out that while more than half of the OPA's Negro employees are in a clerical classification with a salary range of $1400 to $2000, they are integrated without regard to race, working side by side with members of other races doing similar work. Moreover, they eat, and enjoy recreational and other facilities of the building together.

This integration didn't grow, Miss Williams said, but came about as a result of a positive enunciation of policy by Administrator Bowles.

56m-1945

Name Negro Leaders For Sugar Rationing

Atlanta World - Ga.

4-4-45

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (SNS) — A new 'high' in integration of Negroes into community life of Memphis was reached this week with the appointment of a group of prominent leaders to food panel membership under the local district of the Office of Price Administration.

Twelve men took oath of office administered by G. P. Friedel, Board Executive, at Booker T. Washington High School Tuesday night of this week.

Mrs. Friedel joined with other representatives of the OPA in stressing to the men the great responsibility as well as honor which has been accorded you on the basis of our confidence that you are men of good character, with a sense of fair-play and honesty, and who will appreciate the opportunity to serve your country, and race!"

The Negro members of the Memphis Panel handling commodities will be charged primarily with the matter of administering the rationing of sugar for canning and preserving among local Negro residents.

4-4-45

Their powers will be full and equal to those of members of any similar panels in the city, it was pointed out. They will be charged with the responsibility of deciding on the amount of sugar which will be allowed to thousands of Negro residents of Memphis.

Atty. Perry Pipkin, chairman of the panel on which the men will serve, related the fact that there will be an increased reduction in the amount of sugar which will be alloted to Americans this year, along with the desire to dissipate possible charges of discrimination led to the appointment of the Negro members to the local panel.

Mr. Pipkin disclosed that three Negro schools will be used in the near future for the registration of applications for canning and preserving sugar. Senior students at Booker T. Washington Hi School Manassas, and Melrose Hi Schools will be used in the registration. They will be given special training on procedures for aiding family heads in the filing of applications for sugar. The applications will then be turned over to the Negro panel, which will have the final 'say" as to whether or not the applications will be approved or rejected, or whether or not the amount requested will be reduced.

Supt. E. C. Ball of the Memphis School System consented to the use of the schools as receiving and distributing centers for sugar and suggested Prof. B. T. Hunt of Washington Hi School to aid the OPA in selecting its first Negro rationing panel.

4-4-45

The men named include: M. W Bonner of the Universal Life Insurance Co.; Prof. Blair T. Hunt, Washington High School, principal Frank Kilpatrick, president of the Dixie Homes Credit Union; W. F. Nabors, Dixie Homes Housing manager; Dr. R. Q. Venson of the American Legion and the Memphis Cotton-makers Jubilee; Rev. J L Campbell, pastor of St. Stephens Bapt. Church; H. O. Oates, Foote Homes Housing manager; Robert Jones, business agent of the Negro Carpenters' Union Local 1986; T. O. Fuller, Jr. LeMoyne Gardens housing manager; J. A. Beauchamp Boy Scout Executive; Robt. Wright local business man and Orange Mound leader; and Utillus Phillips railway mail clerk and president of the Memphis NAACP Branch.

Detailed instructions in their responsibilities were given the men by members of the Sugar rationing panel who accompanied Mr. Pipkin to the Tuesday night meeting.

The new men were emphatically told of the great responsibility they had consented to assume. Theirs will be one of the the few rationing panels composed of Negroes in the entire South. The three best known such groups are located in Richmond, Va., Jacksonivlle, Fla.

It was emphasized that Negro members of the sugar panel have full authority accept or reject applications. It was District rationing administrator F. M. Nash who described their role as similar to that of "Police Court Judges who must consider the cases before them, both from the standpoint of law and from the standpoint of justice, fair-play, and honesty?"

Regulations governing of sugar were explained in detail to the new panel members by Mr. Stewart of the Sugar Rationing Division, Memphis Commodity Rationing Panel.

Mr. Stewart prefaced his remarks with the observation that "You are rationing your neighbors to conserve short commodities. You have been appointed full-fledged members of an OPA rationing panel. You have a really important function and a great responsibility. Last

OPA

year people rushed up and got all of the sugar they could use. Last year during the canning season 1,100,00 pounds of sugar were available. This year there will be only 700,000 pounds. It will be your job to see that a fair and equitable distribution of this available sugar is given to your neighbors. You know more about your own people than anyone else. You know your neighbors and you know their needs. It is your prerogative to grant any application that you see fit!"

White rationing board members on panels rationing gasoline, food and other commodities added their voices to the instructions given the newly appointed Negro ration board members, and lent credibility to the impression that this pioneer Negro rationing group may soon be rationing other commodities in addition to sugar.

The first functioning of the Negro rationing Board will be attended by white members of the original panel who will assist them in getting their 'bearings" and in handling the great volume of sugar applications expected from a local Negro population of some 145,000 persons.

OPA succeeds in setting up price control in Puerto Rico

Los Angeles Tribune Cal.

1-1-45

WASHINGTON—The Office of Price Administration is doing a remarkably thorough job in controlling prices in the Territory of Puerto Rico, according to an OPA report.

Through a network of more than 5,000 persons, everybody on the island has been contacted and is aware of his responsibilities. The community service member of each of the 88 local boards represents the executive officer of the consumer committee in his municipality. As each central committee is formed and put on a working basis, it is given the responsibility of organizing subcommittees in each of the 792 "barrios," or settlements in the municipalities.

1-1-45

The fundamental principles of price control were as foreign to the Puerto Ricans as our language. In fact, more so—because they were accustomed to bargaining methods—which is a far cry from legal price ceilings. The island was in the midst of its worst depression when price control was introduced. The Puerto Ricans were experiencing no industrial benefits from the war—but were forced to buy in the inflated markets caused by a boom in the States. The average income of a Puerto Rican family in 1942 was only $265 a year, while even the poorest income groups in the U.S. were making $500 to $600—and the U.S. average was $1900. Besides, food represented about 60 per cent of their budget, as compared to 40 per cent here. Bargaining for a cent or two a pound on such basic foods as rice, flour, corn meal, codfish, fat-backs and lard often meant the difference of whether they ate or not.

1-1-45

The OPA staff is about 95 per cent Puerto Rican—and of the continentals, all but 2 have lived on the island for long periods. Since the majority of adults, including the retailers and consumers, read and speak English with great difficulty—if at all—information materials must be printed in Spanish and much of it in both English and Spanish. All division directors except the price executive, are Puerto Ricans—and each is completely bi-lingual, handling public appearances, conferences, interviews and correspondence in either language, as the case requires.

OPA Suing Owners Of Shacks Near Fort Huachuca For Overcharging

New York Age 3-17-45

Rent To Negro Soldiers' Families

3-17-45

Last week's action continues OPA's "cleanup" of bad rental

TUCSON, Ariz.—The owners of practices around the Fort where frame, corrugated iron and tar paper shacks around Fort Huachuca, are being sued by the Office of Price Administration, which last week filed suits in the Arizona Federal Court for treble damages amounting to more than $11,290 for alleged overcharges on the houses rented to Negro soldiers stationed at the Fort, and their families, OPA announced this week.

The cleanup of rent gouging around Fort Huachuca began last August and resulted in rent reductions amounting to $33,500 which was paid back to Negro soldiers and their families. All other landlords except the Frys are said to have complied with the OPA order requiring rent reductions and

3-17-45

ds to the tenants who charged.

A action named 40 tenically, and said the Fry o rented shacks, tumbleine buildings and tents to er persons unknown to y, but for which refunds emanded.

ous refunds to the were overcharged.

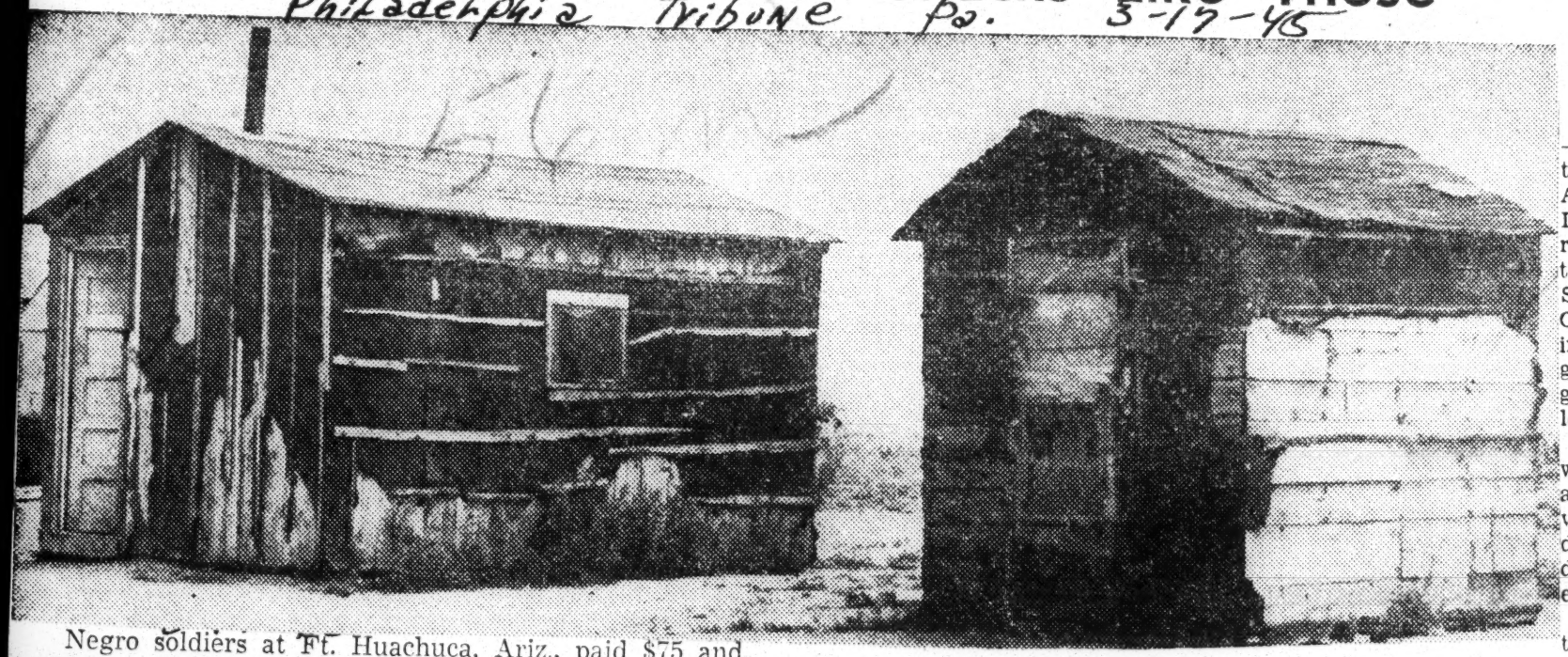
The OPA action charges that the ants specifically, violated rent regulations by overfamily also rent- charging tenants, failed to register down frame bu- on the properties they are said to many other pe- rented to Negro soldiers have rented at above ceilings, and the agency, but failed to comply with an OPA or- are also deman- der directing them to make numer-

refunds to tenants. 3-17-45

The investigation, undertaken by Leland Glazier, OPA investigator in Tucson, revealed that the families were required to live in the shacks with only the barest conveniences, for rentals which ranged fom $25 a month to $75 and $100 a month before OPA stepped in. Refunds have been made continuously since the investigation began, but OPA said hundreds of dollars still remain unclaimed by the soldiers, many of whom are at the battlefronts.

$100.00 A Month For Shacks Like These

Philadelphia Tribune Pa. 3-17-45



Negro soldiers at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., paid $75 and $100 a month for shacks like those above in order to have their families near them. The OPA has cracked down on the rent-gougers and has already secured refunds of $1300 in rent overcharges. The OPA this week filed action to secure three times the amount of other rent overcharges paid by members of the 92nd Division now in Italy. —(Official Army Signal Corps Photo from OWI.)

NAACP Official Testifies Before Group In Senate

Ga. Atlanta World 3-21-45

Costs More To Shop In Harlems Of The Nation

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — In urging the establishment of the Price Control and Stabilization Act under which OPA operates, Leslie Perry of the Washington Bureau NAACP, charged among other things in his testimony before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, violation of rent ceilings on part of landlords in Negro neighborhoods and the negligible lack of attention to this problem by OPA. 3-21-45

Pointing to this single reservation which could be eliminated through appropriate surveys made with a view to better enforcement, Perry declared, "the NAACP heartily endorses the continuation of the present program."

Basing the major part of his testimony on experience reported by NAACP branches all over the country, Perry said, "I can say that the overwhelming majority of our membership appreciates the importance of price control legislation and is heartily in favor of an extended and strengthened Price Control Act. Without the controls in force today by virtue of this Act, the cost of living during World War II would have spiraled just as it did in 1917-18."

BEYOND THE LAW

"A problem that is peculiar to the Negro in this whole question flows from restricting Negroes to overcrowded, segregated neighborhoods. As natural product of this practice, which obtains for the most part in urban centers throughout the United States, is the distinct economic disadvantage that he suffers as a consumer.

"Landlords and operators of retail food stores in Negro neighborhoods have been prone to regard such segregated neighborhoods as beyond the pale of the law insofar as observing price ceilings is concerned. In this connection, surveys made sometime ago by our branches in New York City and Chicago disclosed that Negro shoppers in their neighborhoods must pay considerably more for foodstuffs than persons in comparable white neighborhoods.

3-21-45 **EDGE UP PRICE**

"In New York, for example, it was found that a Negro family of four pays an average of 5 per cent more for the privilege of shopping in Harlem and in Chicago such a family pays roughly 8 percent more. From all reports, these conditions are typical of differentials obtaining in most urban centers with a substantial large Negro population."

56m- 1945

13 Welfare Workers Reach Overseas Posts

Afro-America 6-9-45

WASHINGTON

Bringing the number of colored Red Cross overseas workers to 235, five men and eight women recently reached their posts in the Mediterranean and Southwest Pacific Theatres, the American Red Cross has announced.

They are: Baltimore, Md.

Mediterranean Theater

Paul C. Chistopher, Washington, formerly with Government Printing Office, now assistant field director; J. R. Lillard, Kansas City, Mo. Formerly with USO, program director; Samuel F. Winfield, Detroit, ex-Urban League club director, program director; Dean S. Yarbrough, Xenia, Ohio, formerly head of the department of sociology at Wilberforce University, club director.

Southwest Pacific Theater

Misses Alberta C. Dawson, Los Angeles, with State Department of Education, secretary; Lillian C. Irby, Pittsburgh, rewrite editor of Pittsburgh Courier, secretary; Estelle L. Lingham, Providence, R.I., U.S. Office of Finance, staff assistant; Dorothy D. Mason, Chicago, War Department employee in Chicago, staff assistant; 6-9-45

Misses Roselynn A. Miller, Philadelphia, Navy Yard worker, staff assistant; Erastine E. Puryear, Winston-Salem, Burlington, N.C., teacher, staff assistant; and Billie Reed, Pittsburgh, with War Department in Philadelphia, staff assistant; Charles A. Watkins, Columbus, Ohio, War Department employee in Dayton, Ohio; and Miss Leolyn S. Yearwood, New York City, Civil Service Commission in Washington, secretary.

Red Cross Women Arrive in Manila

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By CHARLES LOEB

MANILA—Three colored women club workers, the first in the Philippines, were among a group of 40 Red Cross workers who arrived here from the States on May 16. 6-23-45

Also in the group, which is now taking an orientation course, were Alvin A. Turner, Washington, D.C.; Richard L. Jeffreys, Chase City, Va.; and Edward W. Swett, Hartford, Conn.

The three women, all staff assistants, were Miss Estella Wheatley, New York City, daughter of Mrs. Raymond Wheatley of Baltimore; Mrs. George H. Harris, Houston, Tex., and Miss Sara Murrell, Fayette, Me.

Army Officers Arrive

It is expected that the new workers will be assigned to various Southwest Pacific bases and that experienced women workers from New Guinea will be sent to the club here, driected by Ralph A. Long of Atlanta. 6-23-45

The arrival of the new workers brings the total of Negro Red Cross personnel in Luzon to 13. Arriving here on the same ship were a group of Army officers, three of them physicians.

They include Capt. John Phillips, Harrisburg, Pa.; 1st Lts. Alvin S. Mason, Salem, N.J., and John F. Evans, Pittsburgh, Kans.; 2nd Lts. William Fowler, Chicago; Herbert L. Hines, Indianapolis, Ind., and Jesse L. Macon, Chicago.

Reach Posts of Foreign Service

Baltimore, Md.

Miss Georgie H. Harris, left, and Miss Geraldine Smith, who have arrived at American Red Cross posts in the Philippines and India, respectively. Miss Harris, a staff assistant, is a graduate of Tuskegee and attended Hampton and the University of Iowa. Miss Smith, an assistant program director, graduated from the Illinois School of Technology. 7-7-45

Afro-American

260 Red Cross Workers Overseas

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 7-22-45

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Fifteen new members of the Red Cross overseas staff will forward the work of Red Cross in assisting our troops in the occupational areas. This brings to more than 260 the number of Negro workers serving overseas with the American Red Cross.

The new staff members are: Ruby E. Baker, Philadelphia; Wilhelmina B. Barrow, Jacksonville, Fla.; Agner Livingstone Bryant, Lexington, Ky.; Minte Cato, Washington, D. C.; Mary Lou Coleman, Wilmington, Del.; Leslie E. Coles, New York City; Vivian E. Collier, Washington, D. C.; Elouise Curry, Detroit, Mich.; L. Harris, San Bernardino, Calif; Dorothea Mae Hawkins, North Brentwood, Md.; Ruby Mitchell Kelley, Atlanta; Myrtle Kildare, St. Louis; Delsa M. Lattimer, Columbus, Ohio; Mary Stamper, Atlanta, and Marion Williams, St. Louis.

Atlanta Daily World

ANOTHER ATLANTA RED CROSS WORKER OVERSEAS

Virginia Rose Hannon, daughter of Mrs. N. H. Hannon, 601 Fair St. S. W. Atlanta, Ga, has arrived in France to serve the armed forces as an American Red Cross staff assistant Until her Red Cross appointment, Miss Hannon was a case worker for the Family Society of Boston, Mass., and previously was associated professor of romance language at Alcorn, Miss., College. She is a graduate of Spelman College, A. B. 1934; Atlanta University, M. A. 1945; and Simmons School of Social Work, M. S. 1942. 7-7-45

Atlanta Daily World

IN FRANCE —Julia Juanita Allen daughter of Mrs. P. A. Allen, 756 Beckwith St., Atlanta, Ga., has arrived in France to serve the armed forces as an American Red Cross staff assistant. Miss Allen is one of 245 Negroes now serving overseas with the Red Cross. Until her Red Cross appointment, Miss Allen was employed by the War Department, Washington, D. C. She is a graduate of Atlanta University Laboratory High School, Atlanta, Georgia and Spelman College.

he was finally reduced and removed.

Off Limits for Negroes

At Nantwich, England, very near the 19th Repl. Depot there was a Red Cross club, but Negro soldiers were warned the town was off limits to them. When on pass they had to travel 25 miles to Crew, where there was no club.

Luxembourg City boasts quite a luxurious ARC club. One shiny little hostess with straw colored hair refers to Negroes in face-to-face contacts as "niggers" but becomes cagy and tight-lipped when questioned, refusing to give her name. Her slow, heavy drawl nevertheless reveals her origin.

Accepted as Jimcrow

Several months ago Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., in dedicating a Red Cross Club in Paris, said, "In the name of 13,000,000 Negroes I accept this club," which leaves no doubt it was designed as a segregated unit. One ARC official taking issue with this interpretation explained the club was not a segregated one. It was, he declared, an "exclusive" center for Negroes.

Mobile ARC unit traveling from company to company dispensing coffee and doughnuts are accompanied by two white NCOs from special services whose presence arouses resentment among many enlisted men. Maybe they're super-sensitive but rightly or wrongly their attitude is the non-coms are present to "protect the innocent missionaires from the wicked cannibals."

The girls in all fairness feign friendship, but seem to have little real love for their work with tan Yanks. Though hot jazz records are played during service when asked to dance the girls have a headache, sprained foot or just aren't "feeling well." As a whole ARC girls are the unhealthiest group of Americans in the ETO.

Whatever the exact reason is, it is a fact ARC girls are nervous and inhibited by artificial restraints thus spoiling the fun for Negro troops.

On the other hand Club Canebiere in Marseilles directed by Mrs. Henrine Ward Banks of Chicago and London is a laboratory in democracy. Whites, Negroes, Filipinos, Mexicans, all races and colors of Americans cavort there in a spirit of good will and fine fellowship.

Red Cross Denies Jim Crow But GI's Are Yet Puzzled

The New York Amsterdam News, New York, New York 12-1-45

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

ARLES, France (ANP)—Officially the American Red Cross declares it practices no racial discrimination in Ireland, England, France and Luxembourg, but it runs the gauntlet from the ridiculous to the sublime.

In Newry, Ireland, during the summer of 1943 for instance only one ARC club was opened—for whites only. The provost marshal with the rank of major was so violent and vulgar in enforcing this rule no single agency would own

Name Red Cross Health Advisers

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh 12-22-45

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Appointment of two Negro physicians and a Negro nurse to an advisory board on health services to coordinate activities of the American Red Cross in the health field has been announced by Basil O'Connor, national Red Cross chairman.

The two men are William Roderick Brown Jr., M.D., of Pittsburgh, and John W. Chenault, M.D., of Tuskegee. The woman is Mrs. Marion B. Seymour, assistant director of nurses, Freedman's Hospital, Washington, D. C. 12-22-45

Discriminatory Practices of Red Cross on Guam Revealed

The Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

By HARRY McALPIN 11-3-45

SAIPAN—(NNPA)—The humane, publicly supported American Red Cross has received a disfiguring black eye in the Pacific area among colored service men as result of the manner in which its non-discriminatory policies set down in Washington are ignored. 11-3-45

At Guam, Capt. G. W. Bauremschmidt, supply officer in command of the Navy supply depot, has approximately 7,000 enlisted personnel, roughly 2,000 of whom are colored men.

In an effort to increase recreational facilities and avoid a repetition of the tensions which gave rise to the Guam riot of last December, he requested a number of Red Cross workers, one-third of whom should be colored.

In response to his memorandum, Acting Area Director Grayson of the Red Cross, now transferred to the Philippines, refused to fill the request for both colored and white workers.

All-White Workers Offered

He offered to send white women Red Cross workers for the white camps in the Naval supply depot and white men for the colored camp.

He balked at sending colored women, who might be quartered in the same compound with white women.

At one stage of the conversation, the captain declared that Grayson urged him to submit a separate request for the white and colored workers.

The captain said he refused, fearing that one request would be honored and not the other. He was adamant that he would not take white workers without the colored workers. The request is still unfilled.

Seamen Tell of Bias

Other Naval installations on the island of Guam have white Red Cross workers and Red Cross huts. The organization also has a number of mobile units which serve doughnuts and coffee to the island personnel. 11-3-45

Invariably on both Guam and Saipan, the colored service men report that these mobile units have never stopped to serve them.

This discriminatory practice, which is reminiscent of the complaints made by colored soldiers in World War I, was believed to have been discarded, according to reports of Red Cross activities in Europe during this war.

USO Has Better Record

The discovery of these practices in the Pacific emphasizes the comment of Lester Granger, Urban League executive secretary and personal representative of the Secretary of the Navy, at a press conference in Washington following his tour of Naval installations on the West Coast.

At that time, when asked whether the Naval recreation program was handled by the Red Cross, he answered, "Thank God, no."

The USO, which generally operates with the Navy and which has a much better record of service in the Pacific, does not maintain clubs and workers other than traveling shows beyond Pearl Harbor.

Behind the Scenes

The Afro American Baltimore, Md.

By RALPH MATTHEWS

WASHINGTON

Red Cross Has Pains

Keep your gossip ear peeled for trouble in American Red Cross circles when Jesse O. Thomas gets back to the States.

Ater V-J Day Jesse went on a tour of Europe to study plans for the occupation period and to revamp the whole club program.

It was his belief that both the soldier and the civilian population would have changed attitudes after victory, and the Red Cross had to readjust its thinking accordingly.

But when Jesse walked into some of his clubs, his key workers walked out. They thought Jesse was snooping and carried a well-concealed hatchet in his brief case. 12-10-45

They also took the attitude that Jesse, if he came at all, should have come over while the going was tough instead of remaining safely at home and barging in after the shooting was over.

Paris Director Mum

We don't know yet how many workers took a powder, but it is significant that the day Jesse arrived in Paris, stately Margaret Simms, one of the more accomplished program directors, took the next boat home, but she won't talk. 12-17-45

It may be kept in the top drawer, but some of the male club heads had a gay life while looking after the boys. One Bluebeard showed his feminine assistants a hard way to go unless they knew how to say "yes" and proved it.

Another got in a jam with the townspeople of an Italian village when he wined and dined the village belles too much and forgot that the age of consent is the same there as it is here. Some mothers raised the deuce.

Had Secret Hideout

Another ran afoul of his superiors when he could not explain why he maintained a lavishly furnished secret hideout in addition to his registered address.

All these things Jesse will probably look into, and don't be surprised if some of our social workers get the sack for putting the wrong emphasis on the word "social."

56m-1945

2 NEGRO MUSICIANS AID RED CROSS FUND

New York Times

Mayme Richardson, Soprano, and Bruce Wendell, Pianist, Give Recital at Town Hall

4-23-45

Mayme Richardson, Negro soprano, and Bruce Wendell, Negro pianist, gave a joint recital at Town Hall late yesterday afternoon to raise funds for the American Red Cross 1945 War Fund drive under the auspices of the New York Inter-Racial Opera Association. Miss Richardson sang numbers by Hummel, Gluck, Verdi, Schubert, Wagner, Coleridge-Taylor, Bureligh, Hall Johnson and Landon Ronald. Mr. Wendell's program comprised works by Schubert, Schumann, Chopin and Liszt.

Miss Richardson revealed a lovely natural voice, aided by excellent production and a general vocal technique that resulted in reliable intonation and a flexible tone. She sang with taste, simplicity and accordingly effective feeling, notably the "Ave Maria" from Verdi's "Otello" and Schubert's "Du bist die Ruh." She also displayed power and dignity in "Dich teure Halle," from Wagner's "Tannhaeuser," with fine forte tones in the higher register. Leo Taubman was the able occompanist. 4-23-45

Mr. Wendell showed musical intelligence and feeling of a high order, playing with reserve and simplicity, with an unusually fine fundamental tone and nice coloring and shading. The opening Variations on a Theme by Anselm Huettenbrenner, by Schubert, was set forth with adequate technique and sound interpretation, and the Schumann Kinderscenen were poetically played. Mr. Wendell's performance was marred seriously yesterday by nervousness, which produced wrong notes, jerky tempo and bad memory lapses, in spite of all of which his genuine art achieved a real success. R. L.

'Negro Staffed'

AFRO-AMERICAN

The Red Cross Has Novel Way to Indicate Race

6-16-45

Paris has 17 U.S. Red Cross clubs. Four are for officers, one for women and another for Wacs.

No club is marked "colored," but the Red Cross issues a map showing the locations of the clubs. When it comes to the Potomac Club on Lyon Street, it marks it thus:

Potomac Club (Negro Staffed).

American Red Cross

6-12-45

Pittsburgh Courier

SLACKS AND SARIS MEET—India's maidens in their graceful saris have met the American girl in slacks, and one wonders who envies whom. Red Cross Worker Kathryn L. Hemmons, in slacks, leads the way to the American Red Cross Margharita Club on the Ledo Road, where the Indian girls will change the linen on the cots provided there for the tired GI Joes.—Photo by George Enell, RCC.

ARC Worker, Formerly in England, Given New Post

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

1-27-45

BALTIMORE

Miss Ahnastasia E. Scott of Roanoke, Va., and Chicago, Ill., who went to England two years ago as a Red Cross worker and did everything from "soup to nuts" as assistant club director, is now going to St. Louis, Mo., to recruit girls for overseas duty.

1-27-45

In two years, Miss Scott, who was the guest of Bishop and Mrs. M. H. Davis, 815 N. Arlington Avenue, worked in Red Cross clubs in Liverpool, Bristol, Cheltenham and Salisbury, all in England.

For seven months she worked on a clubmobile, taking donuts, cigarettes, chewing gum and coffee to the boys in the "mud holes" who couldn't get to the nearest town because of duty, she related.

Operated Home on Wheels

In the back of her clubmobile was a lounge, with the latest records, soft easy chairs and the front was composed of a modernized kitchen. "This meant so much to the boys," she said.

Although she seldom went to London which, according to her, had everything, Miss Scott had her most frightening experience there.

She tells how on one trip bombs fell so close to where she was staying that they rocked the house. "It just gives you a feeling of helplessness," she said.

Being assistant director of a Red Cross club meant to Miss Scott, daughter of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Scott of Roanoke, planning dances, parties and tours for servicemen and hiring and firing British workers.

She had to live on lamb, roast beef, cabbage and sprouts like the British, but American service men got good food shipped from the United States, she said.

In Salisbury, Miss Scott lived in the home of a former music teacher whose sister washed their clothes, shined their shoes and cooked for them as if they were a part of the family. It was here she remembers so vividly the requirement of 5 inches of water for a bath. 1-27-45

U.S. Whites Bring Prejudice

Asked about the prejudice in England, Miss Scott said that basically there was none unless the American whites moved into an area before colored did.

In one place, she said, her secretary asked if she married a colored man and then later married a white man, would her baby by her second husband be black.

Although she is not going back, Miss Scott exclaimed: "It was really marvelous. I would not take a million dollars for it; but two years are enough."

Americana

Chicago Defender

RED CROSS almost had its insides (gut to you, John Henry) torn out with growing pains. Here liberalism and reaction met in mortal combat.

Liberalism got cagy, capable Jesse O. Thomas in as assistant to the vice chairmen who do the work. Jesse, who moves in a way mysterious to both radicals and "Toms" his wonders to perform, got Negroes in as club directors and workers, clerks, secretaries and such. 9-8-45

Reaction hasn't given up, and held out 'til the last with Army on the Jim Crow blood matter. It also tried openly at first, then subtly to segregate the clubs for the GIs. Chief reason it couldn't was that white boys insist on going to the Negro-staffed clubs because the cooking and entertainment is better. Incidentally, on this, Jesse O. Thomas has just had reference to "certain clubs staffed by Negro workers for the convenience of Negro servicemen," deleted from a Red Cross booklet-manuel. 9-8-45

Jesse O. will take a tour of the overseas clubs shortly, but in his quaint Latin manner he says: "This is the last half of the ninth inning," and before he goes he is pushing for at least one Negro on faculty for the Red Cross training school, and opportunities for training and use of Negro medical pyschiatrists.

There are many serious things still wrong with Red Cross, but we pause in midst of our pants kicking to give both R. C. and Jesse O. a pat on the back.

On European Mission

Saint Louis Mission

St. Louis Argus Mo.

10-26-45

WASHINGTON—Jesse O. Thomas, Assistant to the Vice-chairman in charge of Domestic Services American Red Cross, who flew a plane to Paris to make a survey of Red Cross installations in the Western European and Mediterranean theatres.—(American Red Cross photo by Johnson) A58192

Humanitarian Service Rewarded

Philadelphia Tribune

7-21-45

WASHINGTON, D.C. "In recognition and appreciation of the faithful and meritorious performance of humanitarian service over seas in the second world war as a representative of the American Red Cross, read the citation just given to three overseas workers. From left to right: Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the Vice Chairman of Domestic Services; Miss Martha Stafford, Indianapolis, Ind., Mrs. Lydia L. Caldwell Raleigh, N. C.; and Miss Magnolia Latimer, Atlanta, Ga. 7-21-45

Negro GIs Snub U. S. Jim Crow Pool In India; Swim With British Troops

Chicago Defender, Ill.

7-28-45

BY DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

CALCUTTA, India.—Refusing to use the Jim Crow Calcutta GI swimming pool on "Negro day," colored soldiers stationed here are swimming at the British-operated pool around the corner.

Red Cross workers have charged their organization with supporting the Army's policy of segregation.

Use of the Army pool on the days set aside for Negro GIs has been practically nil. According to best available figures, less than 20 per day have used the facilities, effecting an almost perfect boycott—this in spite of the fact that swimming is a cherished luxury in the India heat.

Negroes Snubbed On July 4

To add insult to injury, the Negro Red Cross club Cosmos was excluded from participation in the mammoth July 4th celebration sponsored by the white Red Cross clubs of the city at the pool. In protest and indignation, the entire program staff of Cosmos refused to work on that day, and sent a letter to Red Cross headquarters charging racial discrimination.

As a result the whole group, consisting of Geraldine Smith, Chicago, assistant program director, and staff assistants Eloise Ligon, New York City; Mary Robinson, Youngstown, Pa.; Inda Lee, Memphis; Bertha Shaw, New York; Wimlie Lee Johnson, Austin, Tex.; and Alice Johnson, Connecticut, were called before Assistant Director Thomas Irving, and Regional Supervisor, James Paxton.

In their letter to headquarters, the women gave the following reasons for their stand:

"Each of us as an American feels a personal indignation whenever one or all of us are segregated or discriminated against as Negroes. The American Red Cross—though working in close relationship with the American military forces — gave each American Red Cross employee in Washington the assurance that the American Red Cross itself did not discriminate or segregate.

Relieved From Duty

"Excluding the Cosmos club and its staff from activities planned by the other two Red Cross installations in Calcutta is a violation of this assurance. July 4th is a day long honored and respected by Negroes as well as other Americans for its significance to democracy and the principles upon which our government was founded. Such a day's celebration involving Americans anywhere on the face of the globe becomes an insult to whatever minority group is excluded from participation."

Following on the heels of this protest three of the staff assistants were called in this week for alleged "inefficiency." One was permanently relieved from duty at the club, and temporarily reassigned to Regional headquarters on the recommendation of Boyd Overton, Cincinnati, elderly director of Cosmos club.

Overton and Mrs. Caroline Lewis, Little Rock, Ark., assistant director, were the only two Negro workers at the club who did not participate in the July 4th protest.

7-28-45

Paxton, regional supervisor, emphatically denied to this correspondent that action against these young women was connected with their protest, but Overton admitted that in his opinion this may have been in part the reason.

The remaining four members of the program staff who were not called on for supervisory action state that they already tendered their resignations to the Red Cross in this theatre charging discrimination, and are awaiting travel orders home.

While there have been only one or two sporadic out-breaks by Negro soldiers concerning this Jim Crow policy, tension still runs high among several thousand Negro soldiers stationed in the Calcutta area, plus the others coming into town daily on rest furloughs.

Lester Granger Hits Red Cross in Navy Press Report

Washington Tribune
Washington, D.C.

Declaring that he would hate to have the Red Cross come into hte Navy program with the Red Cross segregation program's setup for the Army, Lester Granger told a press conference in Washington last week, that "the Navy is so far in front of the Army it isn't funny."

Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League told a press conference at the Navy Department last week about his 3-week inspection tour of naval installations as a special representative of the Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal.

7-31-45

The Navy is now doing things which the Army insists would be bad for morale, he declared. He accused the Army of trying to build two armies, one black and one white, whereas the Navy has realized that is impractical.

Granger reported that his tour included twelve naval stations, bases and depots in four Naval Districts, where he found about 3000 Negroes in the total naval personnel. He left Washington on June 18 and returned on July 6. The trip took him over a stretch of naval establishments from San Diego to Seattle and across to the Great Lakes Training School and back to New York. He was accompanied by Lieutenant R. P. Roper of the Navy.

Sound Policy

7-31-45

Commenting on his impression of the execution of the Navy's policy toward integration of Negroes, he said he considered the policy "adequately sound". His impressions, he stated, were the result of talking to Negro petty officers and seamen, and to their commanding officers.

"I found that the policy itself, while being formulated and promulgated in Washington, is being accepted in good spirit by the various Naval Districts. It is being intelligently and honestly administered in the headquarters of the Districts I visited," he declared. "In no instance did I have reason to suspect resistance to the policy. There was an evident pride in the signs of success."

7-31-45

Assignment to Ships

Concerning recreation, Granger said he would hate to have the Red Cross come into the Navy program with the Red Cross segregation programs set up for the Army. Recreational needs are taken care of by the Navy with the assinstance of the USO, he declared. "It demonstrates again how far wrong some of the other agencies are in saying Negroes and whites cannot amuse themselves together without riots and friction."

Assignment of Negroes to warships? For a long time, he declared, Negroes were resentful of being assigned to shore duties. They felt humiliated at being assigned to loading ammunition instead of being put on ships

naval bases in the Pacific at request of the Secretary. 7-31-45

There is every hope, he said, that this program will be expanded.

Mr. Granger, who has had two conferences with Secretary Forrestal since his return from his continental inspection tour, said in the fall he will make a simi-

56m-1945 American Red Cross

First Red Cross Negro Hospital Unit Assigned to Oversea Base

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—By Courier—For the first time in the annals of the American Red Cross, a Negro hospital unit has been assigned overseas to be attached to the 268 Station Hospital commanded by Major Arthur H. Simmons, somewhere in New Guinea.

Prior to arriving in these parts, the unit had been in the employ of the American Red Cross at the Regional Hospital at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, and is experienced in its respective educational fields to perform the work to which it has been assigned.

The unit is composed of Miss Alma M. Priestly, assistant field director, formerly of New Orleans, La.; Miss Elizabeth P. Green, hospital recreation worker, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Miss Esther M. Baker, secretary, of Champaign, Ill.

MISS PRIESTLY 1-20-45

Miss Priestly was a recipient of a $1,000 Julius Rosenwald Fellowship to study social work, and is a graduate of the Atlanta School of Social Work, and Xavier University at New Orleans. She is a member of the American Association of Social Workers, and the American Association of Medical Social Workers, as well as a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

She has served as medical social worker in Flint Goodridge Hospital at New Orleans and case consultant and director for the New Orleans Housing Authority. Prior to her entering the field of medical social work with the Red Cross at Fort Huachuca, she was director of the National Catholic Community Service USO activities at Des Moines, Iowa.

Miss Priestly is the daughter of Mrs. Eugenia P. Priestly of Los Angeles, and the late Edward A. Priestly.

MISS GREEN 1-20-45

Miss Elizabeth Green is the daughter of John C. Green and the late Mrs. Bertie Green, well-known actress of Pittsburgh, Pa. She attended Howard University in Washington, D. C., Henery George School of Social Economics, New York City, and New York School of Recreation.

WILL RECRUIT RED CROSS WORKER—Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the Administrator of General Services, American Red Cross, congratulates Miss Daisy Carry of Philadelphia on her appointment as assistant to the director of employment, American Red Cross. Recently returned from Great Britain, where she served for two years as assistant director of a Red Cross Club, Miss Carry has been assigned to the North Atlantic area office headquarters in New York City, to recruit Negro personnel for overseas duty.

She is a member of the National Association of Recreation Workers in America, also a member of the Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

She served six years prior to coming into the Southwest Pacific as social case worker for the New York Department of Welfare. In 1935 she was recommended to work on the mayor's committee as investigator of conditions in Harlem. She has worked as recreational therapist at Bellvue Hospital in New York, specializing in program for the neuropsychiatric patients. She was assigned to the Red Cross staff at Fort Huachuca in August, 1942, as hospital recreation worker, and is carrying on in splendid style out here where the comforts of home are things to dream about.

MISS BAKER 1-20-45

Miss Esther Baker was formerly claims consultant and staff aide at Fort Huachuca. Before her employment with the Red Cross she was employed in the accounting department at Southern Pacific and Merchants Express Corp., San Francisco. Miss Baker attended the University of Illinois and is the daughter of H. E. Baker of Chicago, Ill., and Mrs. Stella Lyde of Urbana, Ill.

Recently, the patients were thrilled by a special program put on by a group of Seabees, among whom were some famous amusement greats of more peaceful times. 1-20-45

Participation in a snappy program of musical renditions and fast-moving skits were:

"Boley" Garnett, saxaphonist, formerly with Ella Fitzgerald's chestra; Teddy Barnett sang popular numbers, and Lennie Warren, a guitarist carried the soldiers right home with his hot licks. And there were others, A. L. Adams, saxaphonist; Jimmie Jordan, trumpet player; James Parker, pianist; "Cuba," bass player; and Curtis Staleway, drummer.

Joseph Aiken and Claude Jones, better known as "Moke and Poke," comedians who kept the patients in stitches.

Jesse O. Thomas Arrives In Europe

Memphis Weed

Tenn.

MORTON — (UNP) — Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the vice-chairman of the American Red Cross, has arrived in Europe, Mr. Thomas [illegible] by army plane and will [illegible] through all of the [illegible] stations in Corsica, [illegible] the lowlands [illegible] Africa. He is particularly [illegible] of course, in the clubs [illegible] wholly or partly [illegible] with Negro personnel or those clubs which have [illegible] in large part to Negro [illegible]

10-26-45

[illegible] unintended going to be [illegible] in connection with [illegible] of Red Cross [illegible] with the army at [illegible] concerned. It is [illegible] that much [illegible] job may be [illegible] workers in [illegible] of economy [illegible] soldiers in comparison [illegible] that a person [illegible] might do an excellent job in the field of recreation might not have the experience to do equally as good a job in the area advising soldiers who are anxious to return home but must remain indefinitely upon foreign soil.

RESPONSIBILITY SEEN

"I feel," said Mr. Thomas, "that the Red Cross has an acute responsibility at this point for our men who must remain overseas and I am anxious to make it possible, so far as I am concerned that the most scientific and effective approach is made toward meeting the problems of the Negro soldier."

The army is gradually taking over a number of the Red Cross activities. Billeting or housing [illegible] and many smaller activities will eventually be absorbed almost completely by the army, it is felt [illegible] will be need for [illegible] time [illegible] and counselors will [illegible] be in demand. It is [illegible] that numbers of women [illegible] in club work are [illegible] planning [illegible]

No Place in Red Cross for Nearo Kids

Daily Worker, N. Y., N. Y.

By LOLA PAINE

The Red Cross, which waxed tearful over captive Nazis, can't manage to rouse itself over a U. S. serviceman's two homeless kids. The two kids, Brenda Minott, one-year-old and Richard, two, are just out of luck. Their mother, Mrs. Dorothy Minott, 20, whose husband is in Guam, is trying desperately to place them until she can find a job—and an apartment.

Maybe it's that they're Negro.

"The Red Cross told me they had vacancies for white children but none for colored," Mrs. Minott said. "They're supposed to have places for white and colored children."

10-20-45

Mrs Minott and the children were living with her mother, but circumstances forced her to leave. She was frantic.

"First I went to the 77th Police Precinct here Brooklyn," she said, "and they sent me to 295 Flatbush Extension, stating that it was a shelter and that the kids could stay there. It turned out to be a child health clinic, not a shelter."

The clinic, she said, called the Red Cross, Brooklyn chapter, which told her to come over.

"After I talked with the Red Cross for a couple of hours, they said they don't have vacancies for colored children," she told us. "When I asked, 'If I deserted the children, you'd find a place to keep them, wouldn't you?' they said "yes."

Mrs. Minott has no notion of deserting her children, she pointed out. She just wanted to see what the answer would be. That answer was clear: she would be helped only if she did what she considered a "crime."

10-20-45

Then she went back to the police headquarters with the same question.

She was told that if she deserted the children, the police would find a place for them. But she was also told she would be arrested if she did. Otherwise the police could do nothing for her.

10-20-45

The upshot is that little Brenda has been taken in for a few days by Mrs. Minott's friend, Mrs. Mary Skanks of the Ft. Greene Housing Project, and Richard is at another friend's house. Mrs. Minott sleeps elsewhere, never in the same place two nights.

When we talked to her at the housing project, we learned that the friend taking care of Richard couldn't do it anymore.

Mrs. Minott feels the Red Cross is discriminating against her. She remembers that the Red Cross segregates blood from Negroes and whites.

"I feel that they don't do anything for colored people at all," she said.

The problem still is — where to place the children so that she can look for a job in order to rent an apartment, if she can get one.

That's a big order—but she feels that the Red Cross should have helped her get going. Yes, she's written this to her husband, she said.

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

11-11-45

RED CROSS PARTY HONORS THOMAS — PARIS, FRANCE — Jesse O. Thomas, assistant to the Vice Chairman in charge of Domestic Services, American Red Cross on a two months' survey of European clubs, is the honored guest in this group of overseas Red Cross workers. Taken at the Potomac Club in Paris, recently, the picture includes field and club representatives within a radius of one hundred miles of Paris who joined the Potomac Club staff in an informal reception. From left to right back row: Miss Myrtle Kildare, Program Director, Potomac Club; Miss Julia Allen, Staff Assistant Potomac Club; Mr. Robert F. Freund, Supervisor Recreation, Paris Area; Mrs. Vivian Collier, Entertainment Department; Mrs. Ruby Kelley Assistant Club Director, Potomac Club; Jesse O. Thomas, Assistant to Vice Chairman National Headquarters Washington, D. C.; Mrs. George Stevens, Deputy Commissioner, Great Britain and Western Europe; Edward White, Supervisor of Clubs, Paris; Donald L. Wyatt Field Director, Potomac Club; Ollie Stewart War Correspondent, Afro-American; Mr. Bell, Mediterranean Base HQ. 11-11-45 Second row kneeling, left to right: Lt. Cecil B. Harvey, U. S. Army Officer in charge of billetting and messing, Potomac Club; Mr. Charles Turner Field Director, Cherbourg, France; Mr. Rolley Weir Field Director, Reims, France; Miss Lucille Augustine Club Director, Rouen, France; Mrs. Sidney Brown, Club Director, Reims, France; Miss Mary Stamper, Staff Asst., Potomac Club, Paris; Miss Renee Singer, Visiting guest, from Great Britain; Seated, left to right; Frank Kelker, Field Director; Cherbourg France; Chaplain W. T. Perkins, Visiting Guest; William Prince, Director Field Service, E. T. O.; Edward R. Rodriquez Club Director, Potomac Club Paris. (American Red Cross photo by Grey Graham).

56m-1945

Atlanta Graduate Heads New Outfit

Atlanta World Ga.

1-14-45

BY CHARLES H. LOEB
U. S. War Correspondent
Atlanta Daily World and NNPA

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA—By Courier — For the first time in the annals of the American Red Cross, a Negro Hospital Unit has been assigned overseas to be attached to the 268 Station Hospital commanded by Major Arthur H. Simmons, somewhere in New Guinea.

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The unit is composed of Miss Alma M. Priestly, Assistant Field Director, formerly of New Orleans; Miss Elizabeth P. Green, Hospital Recreation Worker, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Miss Esther M. Baker, Secretary, of Champaign, Ill.

ATLANTA GRADUATE

Miss Priestly was a recipient of a $1000 Julius Rosenwald Fellowship to study social work, and is a graduate of the Atlanta School of Social Work, and Xavier University at New Orleans. She is a member of the American Association of Social Workers, and the American Asssociation of Medical Social Workers, as well as member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

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SEABEES ENTERTAIN

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Joseph Aiken and Claude Jones, better known as "Moke and Poke," comedians who kept the patients in stitches.

Negro Club Contributes $1,154.10 to Hospital

Courier Journal Ky. 2-19-45

The Gleaners Club, a Negro organization, at Harrods Creek, yesterday contributed $1,154.10 to the American Red Cross Hospital Campaign Fund, Houston A. Baker, chairman of the drive, reported last night. First reports from the workers in the drive, which has a goal of $50,000, will be announced Tuesday, Baker said.

9 Women Reach English Posts

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Arrival in England of nine women to serve the armed forces as American Red Cross assistants was announced this week.

They are:

Mabel A. Jackson, 1842 Wylie Street, Pittsburgh; Julia Lilmarth Johnson, 345 Harvard Place, Indianapolis; Florence M. Kensey, 1219 S. Sixteenth Street, Philadelphia; Lois I. Laster, 202 Fifth Street, S.E., Canton, O.; Martha Merford, 2196 E. Seventy-ninth Street, Cleveland; Viola B. Murphy, 609 Harris Street, Harrisburg, Pa.; Elizabeth Showes, 2624 Park Avenue, Cincinnati; Catherine P. Taylor, 2118 Fitzwater Street, Philadelphia; and Virginia A. Underwood, 2055 Symmes Street, Cincinnati.

Miss Jackson was formerly employed by the Army map service, Pittsburgh, and previously by the WPA in that city.

Howard Graduate

Miss Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Johnson, was a welfare visitor in the Marion County Department of Public Welfare, Indianapolis, before joining the staff. She is a graduate of Crispus Attucks High School, Indianapolis; Howard University, A.B. 1940, Indiana University and Butler University.

Until her appointment, Miss Kensey, daughter of Mrs. Florence Kensey, was employed by the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot. Previously, she was school secretary at Vaux Junior High School, Philadelphia.

Miss Laster, daughter of Mrs. Arbizine L. Nash, of Canton, O., was formerly employed by the war department in Cleveland. She attended Temple University, Ohio State University and Fenn College.

Miss Morford is the daughter of Mrs. Mary E. Glenn, of Cleveland. She is a graduate of East High School, Cleveland, and Wilberforce University, B.S., 1942.

Miss Murphy was employed by Howard University, Washington, as payroll bookkeeper before joining the staff, and prior to that, by the War Department, Arlington, Va. She attended Howard University.

AFRO Reporter Serves

Miss Showes, daughter of Sanford R. Showes, of Cincinnati, was employed by the Air Service Command at Fairfield, O., before her Red Cross appointment. Previously she was an instructor of nutrition at Tuskegee Institute. She is a graduate of Walnut Hills High School, Cincinnati, and Tennessee State College, B.S. 1937. She also attended West Virginia State Institute and the University of Cincinnati.

Society editor for the Philadelphia AFRO-AMERICAN before entering the service, Mrs. Taylor is a graduate of Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va., and attended Virginia State College.

Miss Underwood, daughter of Mrs. Carrie J. Underwood, of Cincinnati, was employed by the Air Service Command, Dayton, O., until her appointment. She previously was with the U.S. Signal Corps, Cincinnati. Miss Underwood attended the University of Cincinnati.

Washingtonian Heads New Club for Soldiers in Paris

Afro-American 1-13-45

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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PARIS (By Cable)—The Christmas Day opening of a Red Cross Club here staffed by colored workers highlights the vigorous movement of the last few months to give troops in France the same entertainment facilities they enjoyed in England during rest periods.

Before the German breakthrough, extensive plans called for club openings in Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg; but these have been postponed even though club workers have arrived. However, clubs in France are going full blast.

AFRO Man Heads Club

The Paris Club is headed by Earl Howard of Washington, formerly of the AFRO advertising department, who came here from Belfast; Ireland.

Mr. Howard selected as club headquarters a hotel which has many comfortable rooms, private baths and a spacious dining room. The persons selected, including It is the most comfortable place for soldiers I have seen.

With his program director, Miss Laverne Birche of Boston, he plans special entertainment every night. Miss Gladys Martin of Topeka, Kans., is assistant club director.

General Davis Among Visitors

Pominent visitors at the club this week included Geneneral B. O. Davis, Major Kenneth Campbell and Josephine Baker.

In Paris awaiting assignments to other clubs are:

Dick Temple, Ralph Gerner, 1254 Irving Street, Northeast, and Miss Louise Lockhart, 2600 Eleventh Street, Northwest, all of Washington; Corneff Taylor, Chicago; Misses Lillian Gideon, Boston; Myrtle Barrows, Newark, N.J.; Fannie Allen, Atlanta, and Viola Fambrow, Chicago.

A club in Rouen has Olive Blackwell of Chicago as director, assisted by Geraldine Ross of Bronx, N.Y., and Thelma Pratt, of Chicago, program director.

In Cherbourg are Geneva Holmes of Greensboro, N.C., who has a master's degree from Columbia ,and Lucille Augustine of New Orleans. Doc Kelker of Cleveland, Ohio, is field director.

Va. Girl with Clubmobile

Estelle Trent is stationed at Le Havre. A clubmobile operating near Rouen has Charlene Wharton of Santa Monica, Calif., as captain with Margaret Lamb of Norfolk, Va., and Grace Smith of Cincinnati assisting.

Mrs. Sidney Taylor Brown who was prevented from entering Belgium by the German assault, is now working in the Paris Club.

As always, the mere appearance of our Red Cross workers has done much to make soldiers feel they are not forgotten. The French stare openly because for a long time only white workers were seen in the capital in uniform, but already evidences of goodwill are mounting daily.

RAISED OBJECTION TO MIXED DANCING

Pittsburgh Courier 1-28-45

By HASKELL COHEN Courier War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—The American Red Cross scored a victory for democracy this week, sending home a white worker who employed jim-crow tactics against fellow colored workers at a New Year's Eve dance. The disturbance occurred while military (white) when a Red Cross service personnel and Red Cross workers man, Herman C. Armstrong were dancing at an affair conducted by a Naples group of ARC (white) allegedly under the influence of liquor staggered between members. the two and pushed the soldier

Miss Geraldine Dyson, former St. from Miss Dyson.

Louis school teacher and a Kent University graduate, attached to FIGHT PREVENTED the Red Cross staff, was dancing 1-25-45

with Pvt. Salvatore Congema The soldier started to throw a punch at Armstrong but was stop-

ped by Miss Dyson. Armstrong then approached the bar and entered into a conversation with a colored club director, Clifford Minton, and two assistant field directors, John W. Rich and William Paul, the latter a well-known Philadelphian who formerly taught school in the Camden public school system.

Armstrong was quoted as saying: "We always had mammies back home whom we loved dearly. We even called them 'n——rs' but we called them that in affectionate terms."

Minton answered: "I came from the South too and have been working with interracial groups, but am not used to being addressed in such fashion."

Later that evening, in another room, Armstrong passed while Miss Dyson was talking to another white soldier. Asked why he acted so poorly on the dance floor, Armstrong replied: "Aw, go away." Witnesses said he pushed Miss Dyson.

PUNCHES PAUL

Paul, standing nearby, told Armstrong: "I resent your attitude."

Armstrong then punched Paul in the face, but soldiers intervened and pulled Armstrong from the room.

stay in London. I wasn't aware that the room to which two colored nurses and I were assigned was a separate one until the caretaker, an English biddy, apologetically explained, "This is the only room we have for you girls."

Doubtful Furlough Fare

At the time of this incident two months ago, there were few colored women officers in the theatre. Since then, the first contingent of WAC's, including officers, has reached London. They will seek housing on their week-end passes and furloughs. 3-24-45

This segregation is contrary to the expressed policy of the Red Cross which maintains that all its facilities for service men and women abroad are open to all.

Clubs Open to All

While in both London, Bristol and many another English and French town as well, colored Red Cross workers are in charge of clubs which are open to all service men. GI's with whom I talked indicated that they were also welcome at other Red Cross clubs. In four hospitals where I spent considerable time, the Red Cross facilities were available to all and colored GI patients reported that they were included in the gifts made by the workers and tours arranged through the agency.

New Times

The worker — New York, 7-29

IN connection with my association with campaign workers of the American Red Cross in the Harlem Negro community, I found it necessary to personally investigate the widely circulated rumors to the effect that there is a policy of segregation of blood plasma of Negro and white citizens.

After an exchange of correspondence conducted over the last 10 days with the highest authorities of the armed forces, the existence of such a policy has been established officially and duly authenticated over the signatures of the proper authorities. 4-29-45

This policy was officially declared in December, 1942, in an agreement between the previous chairman of the American Red Cross (the present chairman is Mr. Basil O'Connor) and the Surgeon Generals of the Army and Navy with the approval of the Secretaries of War and of the Navy. The most recent statement of the policy from the office of the Army Surgeon General admitted that there "was no basis in science for the segregation of blood plasma" but "justified" it on the grounds that blood plasma from Negroes and whites should not be indiscriminately mixed.

This means, of course, that the policy of white supremacy with regard to blood plasma is official and is supposedly being pursued. The assumption is that "indiscriminate mixing" is no bother to the Negroes, which,

Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

of course, is a great compliment to Negroes who do not take to such white supremacy nonsense. It is also an insult to the great majority of white soldiers, who would not suicidally quibble over where the life-saving blood comes from, and who are equally deserving of the compliment. Both Negro and white personnel are far in advance of those who maintain this un-American policy.

* * *

IT must be extremely embarrassing to the Army authorities in charge to admit that they are fighting history's biggest war with a policy admittedly unscientific and therefore utterly stupid. I cannot believe that they are acting in accordance with their own scientific judgments or honest convictions. Moreover, in the heat of battle, where men's lives are at stake, I do not believe that the policy is enforceable. It is quite possible that the authorities are placed in a position where they have to patriotically violate their own policies in order to carry on the war to the speediest and least costly victory.

4-29-45

Although the Army Service Command subscribes to this policy and must share responsibility with the Red Cross, it is my judgment that it is yielding to the reactionary civilian pressures emanating from certain Red Cross officials, just which I don't know. For the Army High Command, in a number of instances, has shown serious intentions of trying to correct in a democratic manner its

Stop This Costly Nonsense!

personnel policies with regard to Negro and white soldiers even to the point of establishing "indiscriminately" mixed combat units.

* * *

THE Red Cross has made little or no progress and, of all the war agencies, appears least affected by the spirit of the war and of the times. For example, while the Army has done away with the Communist bogey policy, and promotes each individual on the basis of his merits, the American Red Cross, as badly as it needs women for overseas service, has recently turned down a patriotic, qualified Negro girl because of past Communist affiliation, and finally drove her from the Red Cross altogether. Viewed, not from the Negro's point of interest—which is just enough—but from the Red Cross angle, could anything be more blockheaded?

The Red Cross, the only available agency of its type, is doing a tremendously helpful war job. But its policy with regard to Negro citizens is seriously impairing national unity and sabotaging its own need to mobilize fully the Negro people and thousands of white democratic Americans. I speak from personal experience. Besides having the ugliest international repercussions, this policy prevents the Red Cross from being completely successful on the home front. It is a disgraceful symbol of hideous racism we're seeking to destroy.

Now that we're crushing fascism militarily, will America permit this costly white supremacy relic to remain a policy of a semi-official war agency in our country?

Detroit Free Press 3-27-45

Free Press Photo

SMALL HANDS, BIG HELP—Margaret Washington, 5, left; Jimmy Gilliam, 4, and Jack Miller, 3, of the St. Peter Claver Nursery, get together to count the coins they collected in a special "small fry" drive for funds for the Red Cross. Children of the nursery, conducting their own supporting campaign, accounted for $35.

32 Negroes Complete Course In Nutrition

Birmingham News

Thirty-two Negro teachers, cooks and maids in the Birmingham Board of Education nursery schools throughout the city tomorrow will complete a 12-hour course in nutrition taught under the sponsorship of the Jefferson County chapter, American Red Cross. 5-25-45

The course, taught by Miss Eva Godbey, authorized Red Cross instructor, with the assistance of registered nurses in the nursery schools, included demonstrations, exhibits, educational movies, and regular class work. Each member of the class also carried out an individual project during the course.

A follow-up of the course will be made by Miss Godbey, who through observation of the work of the nutrition students in the nursery schools, which are sponsored by the city Board of Education with the support of Lanham act funds, will determine how well information gained in the course is applied. Mrs. Hazel Parker is nutrition chairman for the Red Cross.

ARC Jim Crows AFRO-AMERICAN Women Officers

3-24-45

By B. M. PHILLIPS

AFRO War Correspondent

BALTIMORE — The American Red Cross maintains jim-crow living quarters for colored women officers in its Charles Street building in London.

This is the only instance of jim crow I found during my short

56m-1945

UNRRA

Daily World

Atlanta Daily World 7-15-45 Ga.

NOTED ATHLETE TO HELP WAR REFUGEES — Harry F. V. Edward (left) of Princeton, N. J. widely known Negro track star of the early twenties, discusses with Raphael O'Hara Lanier some of the problems Edward expects to encounter in Germany where he is to direct an assembly center operated by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to help repatriate persons displaced by war activity. Edward, a former British subject, was born in Berlin and educated in London. He has lived in the United States since 1923 and is now an American citizen. Mr. Lanier, dean of faculty at the Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., is presently serving as a special assistant in the Bureau of Services, UNRRA Headquarters, Washington, D. C. — United Nations Relief Photo From OWI.

Lanier Defends UNRRA Policy; Medics Not Barred

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON.

By MABLE ALSTON

Colored doctors, reportedly barred from participation in the United Nations Rehabilitation and Relief foreign program, are turning down the $8,000-a-year posts, Dr. R. O'Hara Lanier told the AFRO this week.

Dr. Lanier, special assistant to the chief of the Bureau of Services of UNRRA, said that a check of the report that no colored physicians were being accepted revealed that the response of colored physicians to the agency's recruiting campaign had produced negligible results.

Decline Posts

Mr. Lanier also cited the cases of several colored physicians who had been offered posts in UNRRA's foreign service but who had declined to accept.

In addition to the base salaries offered, he said, the posts carry also the payment of expenses plus a ten per cent increase for overseas service in the event of commissioning b ythe U.S. Public Health Service.

Dr. Paul B. Cornelly, head of the Department of Bacteriology, Preventive Medicine and Public Health of Howard Medical School had been offered a post as instructor of Public Health in China at a salary of $8,000 and commision but declined.

Refuses China Assignment

A salary of $6,500 and commission was offered Dr. Roderick Brown of Pittsburgh, Pa., as instructor of tuberculosis in China. A letter was received from Dr. Brown in April stating that he would be unable to accept the offer.

Dr. Rowland Scott, a specialist in pediatrics at Howard University School of Medicine, was offered a position in Europe, salary range from $4,500 to $5,000. Dr. Scott also refused the offer.

The first dentist to be made an offer was Dr. Daniel Collins, a recent graduate of Meharry Medical College.

Meharry President Protests

Dr. Herbert K. Abrahams, assistant health director explained that he received a very stern letter from Dr. M. Don Clawson, president of Meharry, expressing surprise and disapproval at the offer since there are less than 2000 dentists for 13,000,000 colored people, that he was certain that Dr. Abrahams would agree that he was more valuable to Meharry than UNRRA.

Dr. Lanier pointed out that his agency is interested in getting the best possible physicians regardless of color. He said one physician of this city sent in an application for a position with the displaced persons program but he was 73 years of age and that was far past the age limit.

He added that the age limit is not rigid but they try to keep it below fifty.

Only Two Nurses Accepted

Dr. Lanier said "recently a request came through for colored nurses at salaries of $3,200. I personally made the announcement at a meeting sponsored by a group of nurses, and a statement was published in the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority bulletin. A recent check showed that only four had applied and two had been cleared." 7-21-45

This, he explained, was probably due to the high qualifications required. Positions carrying commissions require a B.S. degree, college work in public health and several years experience with a generalized public health agency, as well as State, county or city experience.

The two applications in the active file are from Miss Dorothy Doyle of New York City, a former student of Teachers College of Columbia University and a graduate of Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia, Pa., and Miss Mary Lee Brown, director of Public Health at Meharry Medical School.

Dr. Lanier said that both Dr. Abrahams and Dr. Deering of the Health Program lectured to internes, medical students and the faculty members outlining the program and requested them to send in their applications, but there has been no response.

List Duties

In response to a question concerning the recent reports of SHEAF's not wanting colored personnel, Dr. Lanier contacted W. F. Howell, deputy director of personnel. Mr. Howell said that when Mr. Cramer, head of the employment division went to Europe a request was made that he cable back the duties of the colored personnel, they are as follows: 7-21-45

Ernest C. Craigg, of Washington, and Maxwell L. Bohannan of Minnesota are principal welfare officers in teams with the 12th Army Group somewhere in Germany. John Bond of Washington is doing welfare work in Italy. Arthur Kidd of Florida is assistant quartermaster of Granville, France. Malcolm Jackson of the Virgin Islands is assembly director with the Twelfth Army Group in Germany.

Herman Washington, of Washington is principal welfare officer in Germany. Dr. Catherine Lealtad of New York City will be placed in Germany. Earl E. Pruitt of Louisville, Ky., is finance officer, and at present is working in Granville, France, but he will later be transferred to Germany as an area officer.

J. Jerome Robinson of D.C., is in charge of the postal unit at Frankfurt, Germany. Norman M. Baker of Cincinnati, Ohio, is in charge of supplies at the Assembly Center in Germany. John F. Price of Carolina and D.C. is administrative assistant at the Assembly center in Germany.

Vacancies in Balkans

Mr. Howell explained that they had vacancies in the Balkans and within several weeks a heavy recruitment program will begin for China. 7-21-45

Dr. Lanier, in addition to his duties as special assistant to the chief of the Bureau of Services, is a member of the training program faculty of UNRRA at Maryland University.

High tribute was paid Dr. Lanier by assistant chief Richard Brown, who said: "I send Dr. Lanier as my personal representative to various conferences and especially to ones having to do with educational and cultural problems. Dr. Lanier is here in this agency for his integrity, and no matter what the prejudices of the persons encountered, they have the highest regards and respect for him."

Dr. Lanier pointed out that because of the extensive program going on now and in the post-war era, universities and colleges should include more international relations and studies of culture.

German-Born Negro Gets High UNRRA Post In Germany

Chicago Defender

WASHINGTON.—Harry F. V. Edward, German-born Negro athlete who was educated in London and held prisoner by the Germans during the last war, left by plane to Germany this week as an employe of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. 7-21-45

Edward will direct an assembly center in Germany for the repatriation of people displaced by the war. He has lived in the United States since 1923, in Princeton, N. J., and is now an American citizen.

A track star of the early twenties, Edward is three-time winner of the 100 and 220-yard dashes in the British Open Championship. During the last war he spent three years in Germany in a prisoner-of-war camp.

Report Ethiopian Ban On Negro UNRRA Workers

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON— Ethiopia wants no Negroes attached to teams sent into that country by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration according to information received here. 8-4-45

The report indicates that representatives of the Ethiopian Government have requested UNRRA that teams be comprised of whites only.

No confirmation for the report could be obtained from the Ethiopian Legation. The Defender was informed by a Public Relations Officer at the Legation that the Ethiopian Minister to the United States, Blata Ehrem T. Medhen, was on his way to Europe and that Getahoun Tesemma, charge d'affaires, as out of town and could, therefore, not be reached for comment. 8-4-45

"I know nothing about the subject," the officer said.

Despite this report, Negroes are working actively with the world relief agency. Several weeks ago Harry F. V. Edward, German-born Negro sailed for Germany, authorized to direct an assembly center there for the repatriation of people displaced by the war. Among others in the UNRRA setup are John Francis Price, former registrar of Shaw university, Raleigh, N. C., and R. O'Hara Lanier, who has the task of revising the whole program of UNRRA overseas workers at Maryland university.

Reports of discrimination in the agency have been rife since its organization. In June, the War Department denied that the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces, had issued orders barring Negro personnel from positions in the UNRRA in Europe.

It had been previously rumored that the UNRRA had issued orders to set up Jim Crow teams working with displaced persons in France.

Congressman Powell Names Two to UNRRA

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. continues to fulfill his promise for the expansion and continuance of jobs for Negroes. His recent appointments were Miss Elizabeth McDougall and Mr. Roland M. Sawyer to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitations Administration. 8-24-45

Miss McDougall formerly served with the American Red Cross. Upon receiving her appointment she prepared to leave for service in Europe. Miss McDougall is the daughter of Mrs. Gertrude E. Ayer, Principle of Public School No 119, New York City.

Mr. Sawyer received his appointment and was immediately discharged from the Armed Forces in order to accept overseas duty.

Through the efforts of Representative Powell of the 22nd District, about six of our outstanding men and women have been placed with UNRRA.

Dr. Lealtad of UNRRA Receives Commendation For Outstanding Services in Germany

Pittsburgh, Pa. 10-27-45

Pittsburgh Courier

WASHINGTON— Dr. Catherine Lealtad, physician for displaced persons receiving UNRRA care in Germany, has been given the special assignment of organizing medical setups in a number of UNRRA camps for displaced persons. The assignment came as a result of the outstanding work done by Dr. Lealtad at Weinberg.

In a letter received at UNRRA headquarters in Washington, Dr. Lealtad presents a vivid picture of the manner in which she helped bring sanitation and order out of unhealthful conditions which prevailed in many camps when UNRRA first took over.

"Three weeks ago the Military Government received a report from the Heilbron Hospital that six infants from the refugee camp had been sent in dying of hunger within a week," she reports. "They sent me here with a Belgian nurse to see what it was all about and to do whatever was needed."

SHOCKING CONDITIONS

Highlights of the shocking conditions encountered and described by Dr. Lealtad included: Five thousand people crowded in barracks built to house from 2,000 to 2,500 soldiers; 412 children, with no medical service to oversee their health needs; unsterilized milk with resulting severe digestive disorders; children dirty and ridden with all manner of skin diseases such as impetigo and scabies; no clinic service.

Plunging into this situation, Dr. Lealtad accomplished virtual miracles in no time. "I didn't know where to begin first," she confesses, "but after working like an idiot for three weeks, we have a morning clinic 9-11 for school children with an Hungarian refugee doctor, a sick bay from 11-12, a baby clinic and toddlers' clinic in the afternoon with a woman doctor. I set up a ten-crib ward for infants under two years for mild illness—serious cases go to Heilbron Hospital; a feeding center for fifty-nine babies with an Esthonian refugee nurse who prepares the bottles. I got the camp carpenters to make low tables and benches and now over 100 toddlers have a supervised feeding center.

"In the first six days, during routine school examinations, we evacuated six children with active T.B. and last week eleven more cases." 10-27-45

"The T.B. rate among refugee children is tragic. Yesterday I was at headquarters at Karlsruhe and the director wants us to go to a nearby camp of Poles where, among 500 children, they have just begun an x-ray check-up—seventy five active cases and still 200 suspects are still to be x-rayed. They seem to have decided after what I did here at Weinberg that they want me to go from camp to camp to set up a children's medical service."

LACK OF EQUIPMENT MADE WORK DIFFICULT

Lacking many items of equipment, supply and medical assistance, Dr. Lealtad's work was beset with all sorts of difficulties.

The displaced persons with whom Dr. Lealtad is working is among the war's most tragic victims. Slave laborers, impressed by the Nazis; political, religious and racial refugees; victims of military onslaught, they hail from every corner of Europe.

Since V-E Day, UNRRA, working with the military, has helped repatriate more than five million displaced persons in the Allied zone of military occupation. The remaining million, representing the stateless and the non-repatriables

DR. LEALTAD

are being cared for by UNRRA until the Allied powers make some plans for their permanent disposition.

Before going overseas for UNRRA, Dr. Lealtad was prominent in New York City medical circles and had extensive experience in clinic work. She received her medical education in France and has a fluent command of French as well as a knowledge of European customs which are both proving highly useful in her work.

Dorothy Doyle Named to UNRA Post in China

afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
11-24-45

NEW YORK. — Miss Dorothy Doyle, R.N., has joined the staff of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and will be a member of the UNRAA health mission to China, it has been announced.

Miss Doyle went on duty with UNRRA as of Nov. 14.

At the same time, Mrs. Makel K. Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, revealed that a second colored nurse, Miss Florence Hargett, has completed her application and procedure and is awaiting notification of her appointment to the China health mission. The association, she revealed, has taken an active interest in the applications of both Miss Doyle and Miss Hargett.

Miss Doyle is a graduate of the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Philadelphia, where she also served as instructor in clinical nursing. She worked as staff nurse in the surgical division of Queens General Hospital, New York City, and was instructor of practical nursing at the W. 137th St. branch of the YWCA. She holds a B.S. degree in nursing education from Columbia University, New York City.

Ethiopian UNRRA Staff Leaves U.S.

The Afro. American
Baltimore, MD.

WASHINGTON

Representatives of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to Ethiopia sailed for London last week to begin a program in the African country designed to meet medical, welfare and educational needs.

Though Ethiopia has been designated as an invaded nation, unable to pay for relief and rehabilitation service, it is the only nation where there is no food shortage. 12-15-45

No food or other relief commodities except medical and sanitation supplies will be shipped there by UNRRA for the present.

Peterson is Aide

The UNRRA mission of 18 members represents seven nations, and is led by Dr. Willard Z. Park, formerly a professor of anthropology at the University of Oklahoma, and more recently in the Foreign Economic Administration.

Leroy Peterson, New York City, who has served with the War Manpower Commission, Resettlement Administration, and the Department of Agriculture, is deputy chief. The health program director is Dr. D. A. Messinezy of Greece.

Projects Listed

The mission will set up facilities for training replacements for leaders, both technical and vocational, who were killed by the Italians during the occupation.

Other projects include a welfare program to care for homeless children; demonstration centers for agricultural and vocational training; and beginning medical and nursing training in the six hospitals remaining in Ethiopia. 12-15-45

Colored UNRRA Workers 'Unwelcome' in Ethiopia

Baltimore, Md
Afro-American

By MABLE ALSTON

WASHINGTON

The AFRO attempted to verify the report from the Ethiopian Legation here that Emperor Haile Selassie's government had informed the United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, "that the use of colored Americans was unacceptable to Ethiopia."

8-11-45

Blata Ephrem T. Medhen, Ethiopian minister, was en route to Europe to attend the UNRRA conference, and Getahoun Tesenma, charge de affaires, was out of the city. Attempts to contact him at the New York consulate were unsuccessful.

Gerard F. Price, who went with an UNRRA mission to Ethiopia in December, 1944, to consult with the emperor and other government officials about sending a mission to their country, explained to the AFRO that the government of a country is given the privilege to determine who should work there.

Not Acceptable

He pointed out that according to information which he gathered, the reason for the objection was that Ethiopians still looked upon colored Americans with disdain because they are descendants of slaves, and are looked upon as inferior by the whites at home.

According to Mr. Price the Ethiopians are generally uninformed about the progress of the colored people in America, and class them with tribes they themselves had enslaved prior to their admission to the League of Nations.

8-11-45

Masses in Ignorance

He explained that blame for this condition and the general backwardness of the country could be placed at the door of the Ethiopian ruling clique of about 50 families who, for their own purposes, have kept the masses in ignorance.

According to Mr. Price, the one and only official church is also a contributing force in keeping the people in darkness. An example of this is shown in the fact that at the instigation of the church, sanitation facilities installed by the Italians were destroyed and reservoirs built in the hills for the purpose of purification of water were also eradicated because of a Biblical adherence to an ancient theory that water should not be tampered with.

Red Cross Worker Gets UNRRA Post In Germany

The Defender Chicago, Illinois

9-15-45

Helen Chiquita Lonewolf, who spent 19½ months overseas as a Secretary for the Red Cross, is now enroute to Germany to work with the Bureau of Displaced Persons of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

Miss Lonewolf left for Germany early in August, after undergoing the training for overseas workers at the UNRRA training center at the University of Maryland.

In Germany, Miss Lonewolf will act as a stenographer and clerk to one of the Assembly Center staffs and probably take charge of a small staff that is locally engaged. The Assembly Centers, for which UNRRA now has some 349 teams abroad, are charged with the care and repatriation of the millions of persons in Western Germany who have been uprooted from their homes and countries by the war.

Miss Lonewolf's overseas experience with the Red Cross in North Africa and in Italy involved a variety of duties, heavy responsibilities and contact with the army. As Secretary of the Red Cross director of the North African theater, she was responsible for keeping and coordinating the records of all the Red Cross clubs in the theater, assisting the director and running the office in his absence. She also made several inspection trips for him.

9-15-45

In January of this year, she was sent to Naples to become secretary to the director of Transportation of the American Red Cross for all ARC personnel travelling via air, water or land. This entailed liaison work with the army, charge of the baggage department and of the Red Cross motor pools and all Red Cross cars.

A native of Wichita, Kans., Miss Lonewolf attended the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn., and received her degree from the University of Minnesota.

In working with displaced persons, Miss Lonewolf will be at the heart of one of the most tragic after-effects of the war. Slave laborers of the Nazis, victims of military onlaught refugees from political, racial and religious oppression, the displaced include every nationality in Europe. In Western Germany alone where UNRRA operates, they still number more than a million. Since V-E day, UNRRA and the military have succeeded in repatriating more than four million.

The Memphis World

Memphis, Tennessee 9-14-45

Helen Chiquita Lonewolf, who spent 19½ months overseas as a Secretary for the Red Cross, is now enroute to Germany to work with the Bureau of Displaced Persons of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration Miss Lonewolf left for Germany early in August, after undergoing the training for overseas workers at the UNRRA training center at the University of Maryland.

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Miss Lonewolf's overseas experience with the Red Cross in North Africa and in Italy involved a variety of duties, heavy responsibilities and contact with the Army, which eminently fit her for her new position with UNRRA. As Secretary of the Red Cross Director of the North African Theater, she was responsible for keeping and coordinating the records of all the Red Cross Clubs in the theater, assisting the Director and running the office in his absence. She also made several inspection trips for him.

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A native of Wichita, Kansas, Miss Lonewolf attended the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota, and received her degree from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She has a working knowledge of French, which will stand her in good stead in her work aboard with UNRRA.

Miss Lonewolf is one of some 5,500 hand-picked people whom UNRRA now has abroad in the displaced persons operation. Another thousand are in training or enroute. The specialists include doctors, public health nurses camp directors, welfare workers. Secretaries, who are in the minority, are called upon to assist all professionals in the complex activities of a Displaced Persons Assembly Center.

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Gathered in the assembly camps the displaced persons are given food, clothing and medical attention. During their stay, they are also supervised in constructive activities. For most of them, this is the first experience in living outside of chaos in more than six years.

In addition to managing displaced persons services, the United Nations through UNRRA have shipped acs of July 1 '45 more than a quarter of a billion dollars worth of critically needed relief and rehabilitation supplies into the liberated countries of southeastern Europe.

Harry F. W. Edward Gets Assignment In Greece With UNRRA

The New York Age
New York N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Harry F. V. Edward, displaced persons specialist for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, was recently singled out for the complex and difficult task of repartiating displaced persons in northeastern Greece, from Salonika to the Turkish border. His base of operations is in Kavelle, Greece, about 50 miles east of Salonika.

10-27-45

In coordinating the care and movement of displaced persons in the area, Mr Edward will be dealing with delicate problems in Greek - Bulgar - Turkish relations, minority problems and numerous Greek political and economic questions. The very number of displaced persons in Greece, the proportion of Greek, other Allied Nations and stateless, is undetermined Provisions for their care, determination of their destination and their repatriation will all be part of Mr Edward's job.

Mr Edward brings unique equipment of background and experience to his job of repatriating displaced persons, particularly the tragic victims of Nazi tyranny. Born a British citizen in Germany, he spent four years in a concentration camp in Berlin during the first World War, where he got first-hand knowledge of what many of his charges have undergone. He has a fluent knowledge of both French and German. Now an American citizen, he resides, when in this country, in Mercer County, N. J.

10-27-45

In a recent letter, Harry Edward shed valuable light on the progress and prominence in UNRRA's overseas operations of Negro workers. Before flying to England and proceeding to Granville-Jullouville, in Normandy UNRRA's training and staging center for European operations, he completed a three-weeks' training course at UNRRA's Training Centre at the University of Maryland.

Child Care Expert Flies To New Post In China

The Defender
Chicago Illinois

WASHINGTON—Vinita Virginia Lewis, prominent authority on child welfare, formerly with the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, has joined the staff of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration for child welfare work in China. 9-15-45

She will go on loan to the Chinese Relief and Rehabiliation Administration to work under Dr. T. F. Chang, who is well known in American social work circles. Miss Lewis is scheduled to fly to Chungking this month.

Miss Lewis' appointment was approved by the Chinese government while she was still at the Children's Bureau. Generally regarded as the best qualified person for the post, she was urged by social worker groups and the National Council of Negro Women to accept on the basis of the service she could render. This consideration shaped her decision.

In China, Miss Lewis will be bringing into play all of her distinguished experience in the child welfare field, which has included work on a state and national basis, throughout this country. She will be working directly with the Chinese government, and through the Chinese Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. She will also work with national figures in the Chinese child welfare movement, and with voluntary religious organizations which have a long history of achievement in child care in China.

VINITA VIRGINIA LEWIS

Background Impressive 9-15-45

Miss Lewis' appointment to UNRRA climaxes a brilliant record of training and experience in child welfare and social work. At the Children's Bureau, she was in direct touch with child welfare programs in rural and urban areas throughout America and participated in the major child welfare programs in operation in most of the states in the USA, and has particular knowledge of the facilities in Virginia, South Carolina, Mississippi and Ohio.

Before coming to the Children's Bureau in 1936, Miss Lewis was case supervisor in the Wake County Emergency Relief Administration in North Carolina and also did a study of work conditions among American tobacco workers under the direction of Fisk University's Dr. Charles S. Johnson.

A native of Louisiana, Miss Lewis' first social service job was that of case worker in child placement for the Joint Service Bureau, a University of Chicago agency. It was here that she received her basic experience with problems of children in families of the exodus from below the Mason-Dixon line.

Her early schooling was obtained at the American Missionary Association school. Following her graduation from the University of Chicago, she went on to finish Columbia university's New York School of Social Work. The recent UNRRA appointee is an active member of the National Council of Negro Women, the National Committee on Housing and the National Conference of Social Work.

Finds Overseas Personnel of UNRRA Of Very High Order

Journal + Guide Norfolk, Va.
10-13-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a recent letter to Congressman A. Clayton Powell, Harry F. V. Edward, displaced persons specialist in the United Nations Relief Rehabilitation Administration, shed valuable light on the importance of UNRRA's overseas operations of Negro workers.

Before flying to England and proceeding to Granville-Jullouville in Normady, URRA's training and staging center for European operations, Mr. Edward completed three-weeks' training courses at UNRRA's Training Centre at the University of Maryland. He describes his encounters with his colleagues to Congressman Powell as follows: 10-13-45

"During my three weeks' stay at College Park, Md., I met W. Baynard, J. Francis Price, Herman Washington, Norman Baker and W. Buford. All of them proved themselves to be good mixers. They integrated themselves with ease and confidence and contributed valuable technical experience. Baynard had done engineering in Egypt and West Africa, J. Francis Price had received his MA in German, Herman Washington's extensive experience in housing and welfare Work was recognized by faculty and students and Buford spoke with authority about conditions in Europe having returned from a number of assignments there with the American Red Cross.

"Their abilities were even more noticeable at Jullouville. They integrated easily wth European personnel, they were keen students of the French and German languages, took leadership in games and class discussions. The director of Training at Jullouville remarked to a Californian that he found the selection of American Negro personnel of the highest order. He stated that from his experience at Jullouville no one could even faintly sense that there was such a thing called "A Negro Problem in the United States."

"Of course, much credit should be given to the student body, highly selected from among many nationalities and to UNRRA's administrative staff in its attempt to put UNRRA's high principles into practice. Special praise should be reserved for the training staffs at College Park and Jullouville who continously emphasized the importance of an international spirit as a prerequisite to doing an important international job.

"At Granville I found A. L Kidd of Pittsburgh in the position of office manager controlling all UNRRA stores and supplies there and doing it most efficiently. 10-13-45

"As a touching scene which proved that "A man is a man for all o' that" I shall always remember the July morning when Herman Washington left Jullouville as Principal Welfare Officer attached to a team going to Germany. The huge crowd that clustered around his truck, shook his hands, waved and shouted wishes of good luck was heart warming proof that character and abilities are recognized by fair minded people and transcend racial prejudices. Herman Washington, quiet, sincere and unassuming surely had established himself in the hearts of his co-workers."

Mr. Edwards was recently singled out for the complex and difficult task of repatriating displaced persons in northeastern Greece from Salonika ot the Turkish border. His base of operations is in Kavelle, Greece about 50 miles east of Salonika.

In coordinating the care and movement of displaced persons in the area, Mr. Edward will be dealing with delicate problems in Greek-Bulgar-Turkish relations, minority problems and numerous Greek political and economic questions.

Mr. Edwards brings unique equipment of background and experience to his job of repatriating displaced persons, particular the tragic victims of Nazi tyranny. Born a Britisl. subject in Berlin, Germany, he spent four years in a concentration camp in Berlin during the first World War, where he got first-hand knowledge of both French and German. Now an American citizen, he resides when in this country in Mercer county, N. J.

Soldiers Get UNRRA Jobs

The Informer

By Ollie Stewart

(Afro-American-Informer War Correspondent; Copyright, Reproduction Prohibited.) 10-13-45

PARIS, France—This week's personality parade included two soldiers, discharged over here, who now have job with UNRRA an will remain in Europe at least a year.

First Lt. William Redmond, Pasadena, Calif., formerly with the 3229th QM Service Company, begins work in Holland next week, although his discharge becomes effective December 12. He is now on terminal leave from the army.

Many French Girls

Staff Sgt. Grady Porter, Lansing, Michigan, is already discharged and is now working for UNRRA. He plans to marry a French girl, within ten days. Veteran of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany, Porter sang with a quartet which entertained late President Roosevelt at Casablanca. 10-13-45

The problem of both is how to get civilian clothes from America.

In Paris now, is Rev. Glenn T. Settle and the Wings Over Jordan choir. They expect to entertain troops doing occupation duty in Germany. Houston Texas

Rudolph Dunbar, who recently conducted the Berlin Symphony orchestra between writing stories for ANP, has four concerts scheduled in Paris in the near future. He conducts Concerts Colonne, October 13, Concert Paseloup, October 25, Concert of National orchestra, November 19, and Concert Du Conservatoire at theater Champs Elysees December 2.

Soldiers who expect to be home soon include: Sgt. Edward Fisher, 1624 East Riddle street, Baltimore; former Post Office Clerk; Cpl. Earl Holmes, Hampton, Va.; Sgt. Charles Carpenter, Birmingham, Ala., Pvt. James Durr, Lima Ohio; S-Sgt. Abram Books, Los Angeles, Calif. S-Sgt. Edward Gallmon, 2133 Wharton, street, Philadelphia; and Warrant Officer Ralph Campbell, Chi-

56m-1945 UNNRA

Local Doctor First Woman in UNRRA Unit

Peoples Voice 4-28-45

WASHINGTON — The first Negro woman to fill a position with the health division of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration reported here last Friday. She is Dr. Catherine Deaver Lealtad of New York City. Her assignment will take her abroad where she will work among displaced persons in Central Europe, according to Dr. Wilbur A. Sawyer, director of the division, who made the announcement.

Dr. Lealtad leaves a private practice to accept the UNRRA appointment. She is a former employee of the New York City Board of Health where she specialized in child hygiene. She will be a surgeon in the public health service, Federal Security Agency, with the military rank of Major during her foreign assignment. 4-28-45

Dr. Lealtad was reared in St. Paul, Minn. She was graduated in medicine from the University of Paris, and did her interne work in Providence Hospital in Chicago. She has been practicing here for approximately eight years. She received the master of science degree from McCalister University in St. Paul, Minn., and was the valedictorian of her class.

The physician is now taking an orientation course under UNRRA sponsorship at the University of Maryland. She will be there for a month before going overseas. She is expected to be sent to France or Germany.

Haiti And Panama Give $440,000 To UNRRA

Philadelphia Tribune 4-28-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)— Contributions of $40,000 and $400,000 respectively were made last week to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration by the governments of Haiti and Panama.

APPOINTED MEDICAL OFFICER

Chicago Defender

NEW YORK — Dr. Catherine Deaver Lealtad, first Negro woman to fill a position with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's Health division, has been appointed medical officer, and will work with displaced persons in Central Europe, announced Dr. Wilbur A. Sawyer, director of the Health Division, this week.

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 3-10-45

WHITE HOUSE CALLER—Bishop John A. Gregg of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Mo., has accepted an invitation to serve as a member of the National Committee of the United National Clothing Collection for Overseas War Relief, Henry J. Kaiser, national chairman, announced this week. This photo was taken on the steps of the White House immediately before the meeting of the committee on Feb. 27. Left to right: Ex-Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, Henry J. Kaiser and Bishop Gregg.—O.W.I. Photo.

Bishop Gregg on National Clothing Relief Committee

3-10-45 Pittsburgh Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Bishop John A. Gregg, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Mo., has accepted an invitation to serve as a member of the National Committee of the United National Clothing Collection for Overseas War Relief, Henry J. Kaiser, national chairman, announced this week. 3-10-45

The clothing drive, which opens April 1 and will continue throughout that month, will seek from the American people contributions of 150,000,000 pounds of serviceable used clothing for the destitute men, women and children of the war-devastated lands. 3-10-45

Serving on the national committee with Bishop Gregg are former President Herbert Hoover, former Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce; Edward Scheiberling, national commander of the American Legion, and outstanding leaders in other phases of American life.

WOMAN PHYSICIAN SAILS FOR UNRRA DUTIES IN EUROPE

Washington Tribune 4-28-45

Dr. Catharine D. Lealtad, 50, of New York City, first Negro woman to fill a position with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's Health Division, has been appointed a medical officer and reported to UNRRA headquarters, last week, before going abroad to work with displaced persons in Central Europe, it has been announced. 4-28-45

She will be a surgeon in the Public Health Service with the military rank of major during her foreign assignment.

Dr. Lealtad studied abroad for seven years before receiving her degree in medicine from the University of Paris in 1933. For six years, she spent a roving internship in French hospitals, specializing in pediatrics. In 1929-1930, she traveled for eight months in Italy and Spain, and toured the Scandinavian countries the following year.

She was born in Cleveland, O., and attended Macalster College, St. Paul, Minn., and Hunter College, New York.

Deny Jim Crow In World Relief Agency In France

Chicago Defender

WASHINGTON—The War Department this week emphatically denied reports that Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces had issued orders barring Negro personnel from positions of authority in the United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in Europe. 4-28-45

"SHAEF has issued no instructions written or verbal that UNRRA Negro personnel may not be used in positions of authority or in any other positions at displaced persons camps," the War Department statement declared.

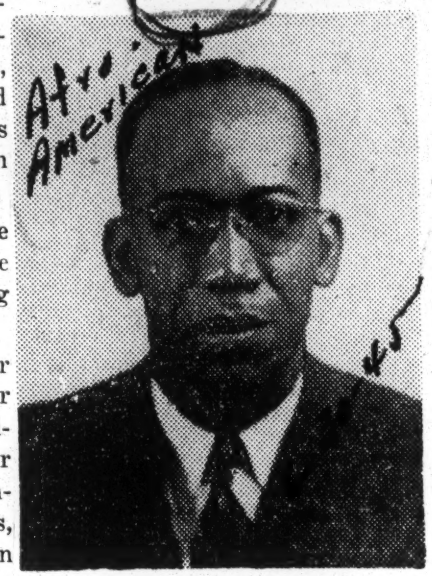
It had been reported last week that UNRRA had issued such orders to set up Jim Crow teams working with displaced persons in France.

Meanwhile, UNRRA announced this week the appointment of John Francis Price, former registrar of Shaw university at Raleigh, N. C., to an administrative position with the displaced persons program in Germany. 6-23-45

Price is now taking a special training course on the campus of the University of Maryland. He is a graduate of Howard university and was born in Williamston, N. C.

On UNRRA Staff

Afro American 4-28-45



J. FRANCIS PRICE,

52 N St., N.W., Washington, registrar and assistant professor of French and German at Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C. for 18 years, who was appointed this week an administrative assistant on the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration staff.

UNRRA Plans Lily-White Mission to Caribbean Area

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

2-24-45

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Following the established practice of the State Department, Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, director of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, has appointed a lily-white mission to eight member governments in the Caribbean area. 2-24-45

The countries to visited by the mission are Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, and the Dominican Republi each of which has a large colo d population.

It will discuss with the government of each country its collaboration with UNRRA, and will make arrangements with all other agencies of public opinion for a continuous flow of information with regard to UNRRA.

Full Share Desired

2-24-45

UNRRA, according to its announcement, attaches special importance to this mission because "of its desire to that all of the member governments share as fully as possible in the responsibilities of administering the UNRRA program."

Except for a half-dozen colored men in its overseas service, UNRRA has no colored professional on its staff. Efforts to get one placed in a policy-making administrative spot have reportedly been rebuffed by John J. Corson, deputy administrator.

Lanier Pushed Aside

2-24-45

R. O'Hara Lanier, former acting president of Hampton Institute, was shunted off by Corson for an interview with a fifth assistant public relations official. Lanier informed them he was not "looking for a job."

T. Arnold Hill, former race relations adviser at OPA, who has been employed by the agency in an overseas assignment, is now understood to be contending for an administrative assignment at the national office.

UNRRA Welfare Officer at DP Camp Aid 8,000 Trying to Get Back Home

Afro-American

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent

WORMLITZ, Germany—(By Cable)—This is first in a series of articles entitled, "Americans Abroad," and this story began when I met Leo Bohanon of Minneapolis, Minn., a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

Bohanon is with an UNRRA team of eight persons and for the past month has been welfare officer in a displaced persons' (DP) camp of 8,000, representing 21 nationalities. One other American, a white Virginia girl nurse, is on the team. Others, including the director, are French.

Interpreters Used

Bohanon, like the nurse, speaks only English, but through interpreter, he controls the activities of Poles, Italians, Russians, Dutch, and others trying to get back home.

The scene is almost fantastic with a colored American playing Santa Claus to an average of 5,000 men, 2,000 women, and 1,000 children daily and scarcely a dozen speak English.

I visited the barracks where displaced persons live. One room contained eleven persons, plus two bicycles. One hot meal is served daily plus rations.

The barracks are generally clean, but many need repairs after Allied bombings. However the plumbing works and sanitation are above par for a camp of this kind. 7-7-45

Has Many Duties

Specifically, Bohanon is responsible for the following: "Child welfare, special diet for sick, social and recreational activities, running the business office, taking care of information bureau and correspondence, taking charge of the barracks and co-ordinating the supply and health program."

Wormlitz is a transient camp, where DP persons are received and housed until arrangements are made for the home country to receive them. At least 2,000 come and go daily, but Italians and Poles are permanent so far, because nobody will receive them.

People make themselves at home by giving dances, singing, and playing games. The Poles made a church altar for worship in a garage. 7-7-45

Germans Do Dirty Work

Groups are billeted by nationalities to avoid friction which to date, is at a minimum. The Germans do the repair and dirty work around the camp. Newcomers are sent through a delousing chamber and special prenatal and postnatal care is given mothers.

Says Bohanan:

"It's not a bad life and not at all dull. When I first arrived, everybody stared at me, but now even the children run to me, if only for candy.

"Many difficulties over which we have no control present themselves, but with Army co-operation, we feel that we are doing a worthwhile job."

Secretary Is Interpreter

German is the language of the camp, but Bohanon meets his difficulties with the aid of a secretary, who speaks German and English. To his office come people with varied problems. I sat listening for two hours. Two Frenchmen came in to report that in their group were two Italians, but the Italian barracks were full. What should be done?

Bohanon asked his secretary to interpret, but she spoke no French, so the director was called in to translate. 7-7-45

Then a woman wanted milk for the hospital, but she spoke German, so the secretary could handle her.

After translating for Bohanon, she told the woman what Bohanon said in reply. It's just like the League of Nations.

Lives in Villa

Bohanon lives in a villa overlooking a lake and eats with the UNRRA team. Prominent on his desk is a photo of his wife and son.

Wormlitz is near Leipzig, with rolling wheat land all around, and is the home of Felix Von Luckner, a German Naval hero. I talked with a woman who admits she is sorry the Germans lost the war, because she lost all her money. She said coffee has been absent for years and also tea, but butter, meat, bread and German cigarettes have been fairly plentiful.

Rich Germans, she added, have had French lipsticks, rouge, powder, liquors, shoes and movies. All fear the Russians, hate the French and pretend always to love Americans. 7-7-45

They believed the war was lost only after the Americans crossed the Rhine, but expect a new strong Germany in twenty years.

Former Lanier Leaves Hampton

Houston, Texas

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—Dr. R. O'Hara Lanier, dean of the faculty of Hampton Institute, has been appointed as an assistant administrator of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. The appointment was confirmed last week. Dr. Lanier is expected to report this week to assume his new duties. 4-14-45

The naming of Lanier comes after considerable unfavorable publicity given UNRRA because of a vacillating racial policy, despite non-discrimination clauses in the resolutions governing the agency. Six Negroes are now serving overseas for UNRRA, but problems involving their service have become complex because of reputed attitudes on the part of the Army.

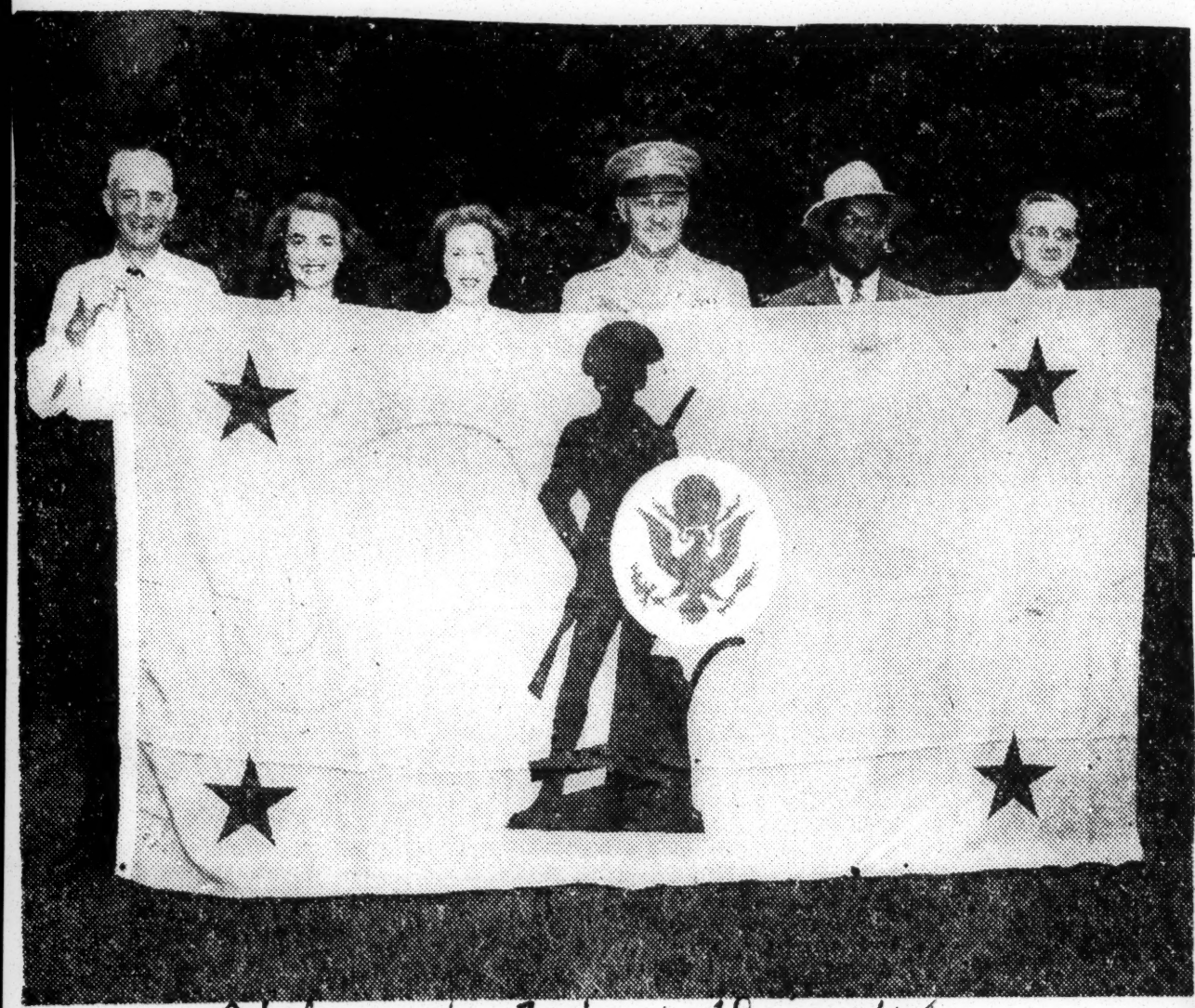
Lanier's work will be in the bureau of areas, a coordinating policy bureau. He will have duties largely administrative concerning training phases of UNRRA. His salary will be $6400 a year.

DR. R. O'HARA LANIER

He was the first Negro dean of instruction at Hampton Institute, from which institution he is resigning to accept the UNRRA post. Formerly he had been in administrative positions at Tuskegee Institute, Florida A. and M. college, and at Houston Municipal college. Before going to Hampton, he was assistant to Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune in the Office of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration.

When Dr. Malcolm M. McLean resigned as president of Hampton, Lanier was named acting president, and was at one time considered for the presidency. He served as the first Negro head of the institution from Jan., 1943 to Feb., 1944.

He is a native of Winston-Salem, N. C., father of two daughters, and a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, the National Vocational Guidance association, and many other organizations. 4-14-45



Richmond Times Dispatch.

— Signal Corps Photo.

ARMY AUTOMOTIVE SHOP AWARDED WAR BOND FLAG—One of 20 new War Bond flags awarded throughout the country was presented yesterday by the Office of the Secretary of War to the Richmond Service Command Automotive Shop on North Boulevard for a record established by civilian personnel in War Bond purchases. The shop surpassed its quota of $87,000 for the Seventh War Loan Drive, purchasing a total of $204,898.25. Shown are (left to right) Albert E. Glendening, Alda Marlin, Mrs. Betty Word, Colonel L. E. W. Lepper, commanding officer; John A. Murray and Sidney G. Page. 1-28-45

Richmond Va

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
NEWS
Circ. D. 127,124
AUG 26 1945

What Negroes Are Doing

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

When we read newspapers, magazines and other periodicals, it is evident that the Negro in America has a great many more friends in opposite races than he has enemies. While we find a few who are discrediting the Negro's worth and service, there is a great multitude who are extolling his virtues and worth as an American. This, indeed, is encouraging, and there should be no dispairing attitude on the part of any of us because of the critical expressions of others about us.

As a minority group Negroes should do all things necessary to create a larger and more substantial friendship. Friends are more to be desired than silver and gold. Friends will prove of larger worth to us than material values.

* * *

IN CHICAGO DURING THE SEVENTH WAR LOAN DRIVE, Justice Hugo L. Black, of the United States Supreme Court, spoke freely of the loyalty and worth of the Negro.

The occasion was a bond sale rally at the Morris Hotel, and Justice Black said:

"I am particularly glad of the opportunity afforded by this interracial bond gathering to assure every person who is listening to this speech that in every bond drive, as in all the rest of the war effort, the American Negro is doing his job. Thinking only of the common cause, he has said to himself, 'This is my war for my country, and I will do my part,' and he has done his part.

"I do not know how many Negroes have bought bonds, nor do I know the dollar value of those bonds. It is, very wisely, not the practice in this country to keep books by racial groups. I do know that one Negro organization reports that its members alone have $12,000,000 in bonds, and $11,000,000 was sold through one series of interracial meetings.

"You have all heard the tale of Joe Louis, who early in the war risked his title without compensation at a bond benefit fight. Before the fight one person said to him, 'You are fighting for nothing tonight, Joe.' 'No,' replied Louis, 'I'm fighting for my country.'

"It is a tragic fact that a great number of Negroes have all too little with which to buy bonds, so that each contribution is proportionately more of a sacrifice than it is for many of the rest of us. But I hope our country will always remember the spirit of the Negro woman in Los Angeles who sold her home so that she might buy bonds; of the 11-year-old Negro boy who saved 1,875 pennies with which to buy a bond; of the Negro farmer in Georgia who brought $750 in a flour sack to a bond station so that he might purchase a $1,000 bond."

Justice Black lauded the interracial group, dedicated to promoting better understanding between white and Negro citizens, as the aspiration of the common men and women of all walks of life in America towards tolerance and understanding.

The Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City Oklahoma.

A STAR SELLS BONDS—Lena Horne, scintillating MGM star, takes time out during the shooting of "Ziegfeld Follies" to sell Victory Bonds to MGM executives. Here she is shown on a Hollywood set selling bonds to Arthur Freed, MGM producer of such hits as, "The Clock" and "Meet Me in St. Louis." 11-17-45

Jackson, Reed And Clement Head United Fund Campaign

Effort Starts September 13, Closes Sept. 30

ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE Saturday that the Reverend Maynard H. Jackson, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, R. R. Reed, Editor-Publisher, The Colored Morticians Bulletin and Executive Secretary of the Atlanta Business and Trade Association and W. A. Clement, Director of Agencies, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co had accepted the responsibility of heading the Unclassified Negro Division of the 1946 United Community and War Fund Campaign.

The campaign this year will begin on September 13 and will terminate September 30 about two weeks earlier than usual.

This year, more than ever, it is important that the Fund obtain its goal in order to adequately serve the millions of soldiers, sailors and marines and other war personnel, and also because of the increased demands which will be made upon local community agencies during this year of transition from war to peace.

VOLUNTEER WORKERS

More than 15,000 volunteer workers throughout greater Atlanta will go forth in this United Effort. Co-chairman Jackson in an interview stated that he was confident that Colored Atlantans would again do their full share and that although this was his first Community Effort since coming to Atlanta, he had accepted the responsibility confident that the Colored Community would accept its full responsibility.

R. R. Reed, also co-chairman and a man who has worked tirelessly in previous campaigns, stated that he too had no apprehension as to the outcome of the Colored Division. Co-chairman W. A. Clement reiterated what Mr. Jackson and Mr. Reed had said about the confidence they had in the achievement of the financial goal. In addition, Mr. Clements is taking special responsibility for an Initial Gifts Committee.

TO LIST WORKERS

The complete roster of the workers and the leaders of the various sections will be announced in an early edition of the World. Atlantans are urged not to wait to be called upon but to volunteer their services in this gigantic United Effort. More than 250 people are expected to actively work in the campaign which will be known as the Victory Campaign. The General Campaign office will be located at the Butler Street YMCA and has already been set up. A special Committee meeting is being called for Monday, August 27, at 8 p. m. at the Savoy Ball Room and another Committee meeting at 6 p. m. Thursday, August 30, also at the Savoy Ball Room. The first All Workers Meeting will be held Sept 10, also in the Savoy Ball Room.

$24,000,000 in Bonds Bought by Insurances

Philadelphia Tribune Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2-22-45

By WILLIAM PICKENS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Although one of the companies, which has always been among the heaviest investors, has not yet sent in its report to C. L. Townes, the chairman of the War Bond Division of the National Negro Insurance Association the report sent in by 40 of the 43 companies shows that a total of more than 20 million dollars in War Bonds had been purchased by these companies as of July 10, 1945. More than five million dollars of that amount was bought during the 7th War Loan and more than four million dollars during the 6th War Loan.

The largest holder of war securities in this last report is the North Carolina Mutual with $4,760,900 invested. Other companies that hold more than two million dollars in war securities are the American Woodmen and the Atlanta Life, the latter not yet reporting its 7th War Loan achievement. Still other insurance companies that hold more than a million dollars in War Bonds to date are: The Afro-American (Jacksonville, Fla.), the Supreme Liberty Life (Chicago, Ill.) and the Universal Life in Memphis, Tenn.

Those holding between a half million and a million dollars are Domestic Life and Accident, Metropolitan Funeral System, Mammoth Life and Accident Great Lakes Mutual, Excelsior Life, Southern Aid, Pilgrim Health and Life, Golden State Mutual and Victory Mutual. Many other companies hold securities in six figures.

Robeson to Receive 30th Spingarn Medal

PAUL ROBESON

NEW YORK—The 30th Spingarn Medal will be presented formally to Paul Robeson, internationally famous actor and singer, on Oct. 18, at a dinner in the Hotel Biltmore here, it was announced last week by the NAACP.

The presentation address will be made by Marshall Field, Chicago publisher.

Robeson was awarded the medal by a special committee last spring, but because of his theatre and concert commitments, including a USO tour overseas, the formal presentation has been delayed until now. The citation accompanying the award stated it was for "distinguished achievement in the theatre and on the concert stage."

11-Year-Old Earns Sixth Bond; Afternoon Jobs Aid Purchases

Richmond Times Dispatch Va.

By Edith Lindeman

Margaret Hawkes, an 11-year-old student of Washington Park School, recently purchased the Victory Bond which brought her a total of six bonds bought with her own money. 11-17-45

"Maybe a lot of other people have a lot more bonds," said Margaret, "but six were all I could get because I don't make much money."

Margaret really earns the money which she puts into bonds. She has a small allowance from her parents with whom she lives at 4407 Corbin St., and all of this goes into weekly stamp purchases. After school she runs errands or does odd jobs for some of her relatives. When they reward her efforts with cash, those dimes and quarters also are turned into stamps, which she purchases weekly from her school teacher. Then, whenever a bond campaign comes along, Margaret finds that she has enough stamps to turn them into a bond.

"When I get through school," she says, "I hope I can go to college, and if I save now, I can help my parents pay some on the college course."

Margaret is encouraged in her stamp buying by her principal, Mrs. Emma Randolph Washington, after whom Washington Park School was named.

"I was glad when the saving stamp idea came along," says the principal, "for I would like all my students to get the habit of saving, and they like to watch the stamp books fill up. Our children have had a good record of stamp and bond buying throughout the war. It has been the best method we have found to teach them the value of thriftiness and the principles of patriotism."

Margaret and her teachers are consistent bond buyers, and many of the students have worked hard on the school children's Victory Loan Campaign, through which the boys and girls of local schools are attempting to sell $1,000,000 worth of "E" Bonds before the end of the Victory Loan Campaign on December 8.

"E" Bonds sold in Richmond through November 15 now ring up a total of $1,072,984 toward the campaign quota of $6,000,000. Sales of other bonds to individuals total $2,788,000 or more than half the quota of $4,975,000, according to Federal Reserve Bank figures.

A Navy bomber yesterday bombarded the city with Victory Bond messages sent over a loudspeaker from a height of 5,000 feet. The volume of the speaker was of sufficient strength to be heard over a 10-mile radius. Va.

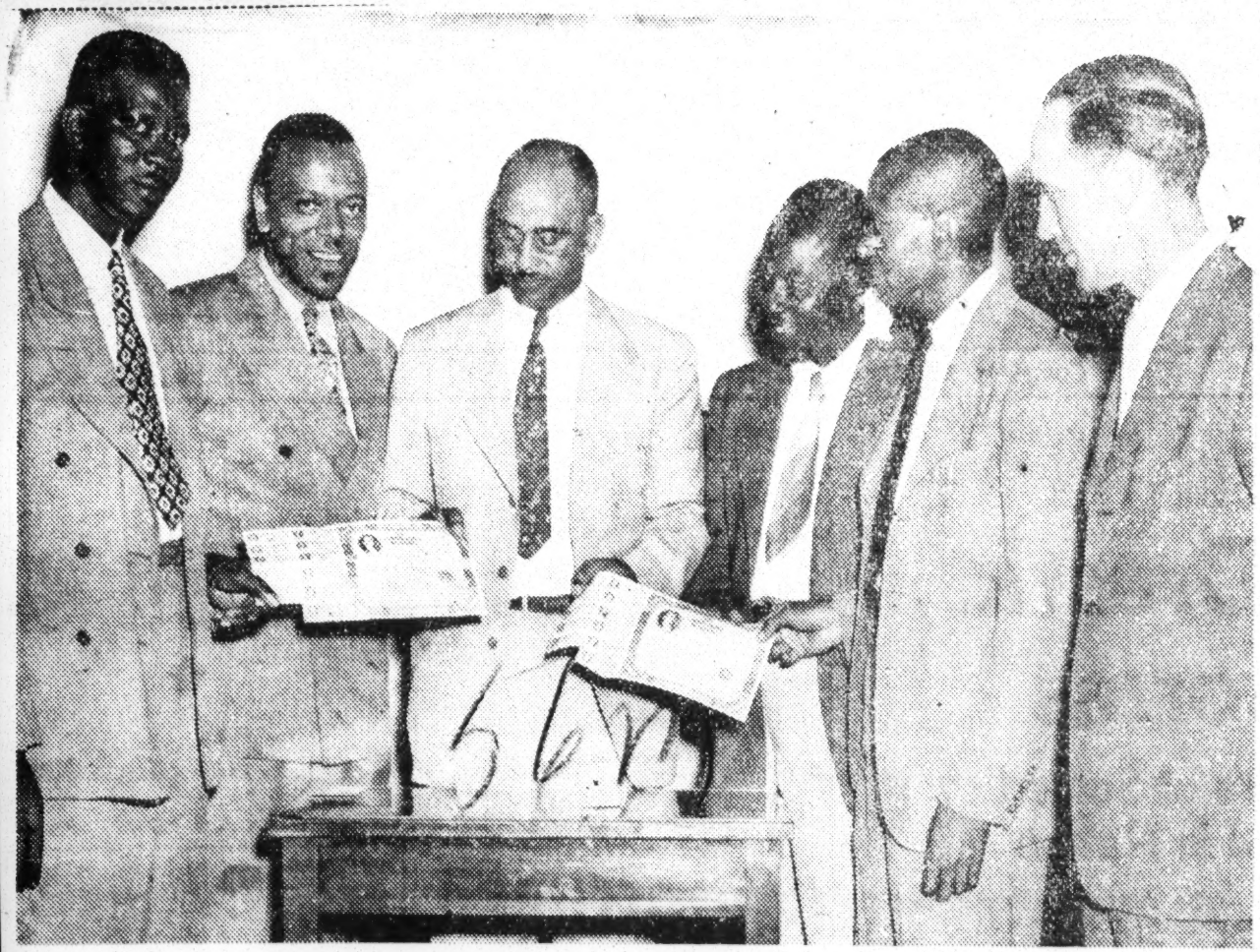
Further stimulus to Victory Bond purchasers has been offered in the form of a Victory Bond Show to be presented at the Mosque on Monday night by the Korn Kobblers and Joan Brooks. Seats are nearly sold out for the show which is given free to the purchasers of $25, $50 and $100 "E" Bonds, but some seats are still available at Miller & Rhoads, Thalhimer's, Berry-Burk's, Kaufman's and Hutzler's. A limited number of tickets also will be put on sale at all motion picture houses over the week end for the benefit of bond purchasers who cannot come down town.

56m-1945

War Bonds

COLUMBUS, GA.
LEDGER
Cir. D. 12,725

JUN 12 1945



TWO NEGRO INSURANCE COMPANIES OF COLUMBUS Monday purchased war bonds totaling $25,000. Jack Key, (right) co-chairman of the local drive, and chairman of the Tenth District War Finance committee, is pictured with the insurance representatives and the local Negro war bond committee. Left to right, F. C. Jones, Guaranty Life Manager, who bought a $10,000 bond in behalf of the company; J. S. Stanback, secretary of the bond committee; E. E. Farley, chairman; W. M. Thomas, publicity; T. R. Rutherford, district manager of the Afro-American Company which purchased $15,000 in special series bonds.

Tennessee Insurance Co. Buys $500,000 Bond

Philadelphia Tribune

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Universal Life Insurance Company, largest business owned and operated by Negroes in the mid-south, increased its investments in war bonds to a grand total of $1,700,000 last week with a purchase of a $500,000 U. S. Treasury bond in the seventh war loan drive. This was not only the biggest bond bought by ny Negro institution in the Tri-States but topped the entire community for the week.

7-7-45

Universal Life has bought a total of $1,400,000 worth of U. S. Theasury bonds, $100,000; worth of U. S. Savings bond, $100.000 U. S. American bonds and $100,000 bonds of Series G.

Memphis Negroes Pass $1,000,000 Quota

Philadelphia Tribune

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—As a tribute to Capt. Luke Weathers, Negro air ace and native of this city, Negro citizens of this city purchased $200,000 worth of War Bonds at a dinner and a rally held in his honor here last week. The $200,000 purchase carried the total War Bond purchases of Memphis Negroes above the $1,000,000 mark.

AL APPEAL, MEMPHIS, MO

Negro Air Ace Luke Weathers To Headline Bond Show Here

The negro division of the War Finance Committee was electrified at its meeting Saturday with the report of the sale of more than $500,000 in Seventh War Loan Bonds among Memphis negroes last week.

Equally electrifying to members of the division was the news that Capt. Luke Weathers, Memphis negro air ace, and a squadron of negro pilots from the 99th Pursuit Squadron, stationed at Tuskegee, Ala., Army Airfield, will definitely be present for an air show and citywide War Bond parade, mass meeting and dance Monday, June 25. The occasion will be designated "Capt. Luke Weathers' Day," and will be used to stimulate additional purchases of Seventh War Loan Bonds, behind the slogan of "Buy a Bond for Luke Weathers Day."

Buyers Are Listed

J. A. Swayze, chairman of the insurance group of the negro division, sparked the week-end meeting with his report of $528,600.20 in Bonds sold by his unit. The Insurance Group's report easily excelled all others in the division, according to Lieut. George W. Lee, chairman.

He said that "Swayze, swept on by his own ardor, personally sold on the morning of the meeting more than $4000 in Bonds . . . this amount, plus $8475 from the division's Bond headquarters, plus $37,065.20 from the Federal employes' group, headed by Matthew Thornton Sr., along with $2497.85 from Porter School, reported by Prof. Blair T. Hunt of the school division, and $1500 from the Junior Chamber of Commerce (negro), reported by Lewis Johnson, chairman, gives a grand total for the week of $578,139.25, the best single week's report in all our Bond efforts."

To "Bombard" City

The biggest sendoff for the Insurance Group's report was the purchase of a $500,000 block of Seventh War Loan Bonds by the Universal Life Insurance Co., of which Swayze is vice president, representing the largest single purchase of Bonds by any negro institution in Memphis. This brings the company's total purchases of War Bonds to $1,700,000. Swayze is vice president of the firm.

The negro division was informed by telephone Saturday that Capt. Weathers will fly to Memphis from Tuskegee accompanied by four other pilots flying their own planes. Advance plans call for the group to arrive at Municipal Airport next Sunday. Time will be sought for the fliers to give a flying demonstration. On Monday they will "bombard" the negro sections of the city with leaflets announcing the parade, mass meeting at Handy's Park and "Victory Ball" at Beale Avenue Auditorium, all to be given in their honor and in celebration of Capt. Luke Weathers Day, Monday evening and night.

All persons who purchase Bonds during the week of the 25th may have their names inscribed on the "Luke Weathers Victory Scroll," which the division is preparing. The scroll will be hung on the walls of Beale Avenue Auditorium, and a copy given to Captain Weathers. A Bond salesman will be dispatched to the home of any person wishing to buy Bonds during the week by calling the Bond headquarters at 8-1027.

Plans are under way for the organization of a parade to celebrate Luke Weathers Day, with a committee, consisting of Robert Wright, Maurice Hulburt, Nat Williams, Hollis Price and Rev. W. T. Brewster Sr., working to enlist a representative cross-section of negro civic life. Any groups or organizations desiring to take part may contact any one of the above committee members to register for participation.

N. C. Mutual To Invest $1,800,000 In Bonds In 7th War Loan Drive

DURHAM, N. C.—In the Seventh War Loan Drive, as in all previous drives, North Carolina Mutual has gone "all out" in support of the government. The extent of the company's participation in the several drives is reflected in the fact that the subscription of a million, eight hundred thousand dollars worth of bonds during this, the Seventh War Loan Drive, will increase the company's holdings in War Bonds and other government securities to $6,155,900 (par value). One million, two hundred thousand of the bonds subscribed to are for immediate delivery, the remaining six hundred thousand to be delivered before the close of the drive.

Through their investments in War Bonds, the officials of the company are fully cognizant of the fact that they are investing in securities that not only represent the ultimate in safety, but at the same time are supplementing the War Bond purchases of their individual policyholders by placing a large portion of the reserve funds held in trust for them at the disposal of the government.

REPRESENTATIVES AT FRONT

With scores of company representatives fighting on the far-flung battle fronts of the world North Carolina Mutual considers it a privilege and an obligation to support these loyal representatives, as well as other millions fighting at their side, by helping make available the necessary funds whereby guns, tanks, planes and ammunition may be supplied in sufficient quantities to crush a cruel, frantic enemy. They feel that no sacrifice is too great or no effort too taxing that will hasten the day when aggression, and the brutality with which it is being perpetrated, will be banished from the earth.

Whole-hearted support of the government's program will speed the day of victory and hasten the return of our valiant fighting men and women. It is for this reason that N. C. Mutual has gone "all out" in support of the Seventh War Loan Drive, and is urging others to do likewise, that peace, prosperity, and justice may again assume their rightful place in human relations.

Birmingham Won't Let U.S.S. Franklin Hero Appear With His White Buddies

the Call

By EMORY O. JACKSON

BIRMINGHAM.—(ANP) — One of Alabama's own black heroes—a survivor of the USS Franklin—came to Birmingham June 26, in the interest of the lagging E bond sale in the Seventh War Loan drive, only to be denied a chance to appear with his white mates.

This black hero was P. O. 2-c Frank Steger, 22, of Tuscumbia, Ala., who volunteered for the navy June 2, 1941.

Petty Officer Steger was a member of the team of 10 survivors who came here Tuesday, June 26, with Capt. Leslie Cehres, USN.

Arriving at the Birmingham Air base at 11:45 a.m., after leaving New York city at 7:35, P. O. Steger, rode into town with his white buddies, was separated and turned over to A. G. Gaston, chairman of the Negro War Finance committee. 7-6-45

I rode with Mr. Gaston to the air base to meet the hero, but we were late. Steger was rushed to the headquarters of the white bond group and later sent him down to Smith and Gaston, where I interviewed him.

No plans had been worked out at this time for letting the black navy hero participate with his other survivor mates. A jumped up schedule was improvised for him to address a session of the Pythian Grand lodge. It was suggested that he visit some of the war plants and speak to workers. This could not be arranged.

Steger told me that he had let his captain know that he was not anxious to make the trip to Birmingham because he did not believe that he would be permitted to remain with the team as he had done in Syracuse, Buffalo, Boston and New Haven. He was troubled, jimcrow sick, spirit-broken at the way they ditched him without considerations.

He was shown to the guest room at Smith and Gaston. No more was I to see him.

Wednesday, June 27, I went down to 19th St., heart of Birmingham's trading center, where the survivor crew appeared. I listened to the speeches, looked for the absent Steger, sweated in the crowd where there was no jim crow. I could not understand a situation like this, although I am familiar with segregation, discrimination and racial insanity.

Someone told me that Steger left Tuesday for his Tuscumbia home and said that he would be back for the bond-selling demonstrations Wednesday. I tried to find the answer to the riddle, "why didn't Steger appear with his buddies?" Nobody who could tell me anything officially could be reached. 7-6-45

Steger said that 97 of the crew of 3,300 on the Franklin were Negroes, of which six were lost. He said that 1,800 of the crew had been listed dead and missing. It was March 19, 50 miles off the coast of Japan, when the 27,000 ton carrier ship was attacked, crippled, but came to port.

Pittsburgh Courier 7-13-45

CARPENTERS' AUXILIARY SELLS $57,000 WORTH OF WAR BONDS—Members of the Women's Auxiliary, Carpenter's Local 1986, who were responsible for sales of $57,000 worth of War Bonds during the 7th War Loan Drive. Mrs. Lillian Scott, president of the Auxiliary, turned over a $50,000 War Bond check to Prof. B. T. Hunt, chairman of the Educational Committee in the War Bond Drive, to be credited to the Educational Group.

Shown in the accompanying picture from left to right, front row: Mrs. Scott, president; Mmes. Elizabeth Bowles, Mae E. Elizabeth Overstreet, treasurer; Harriet B Lewis, chairman sick committee; and Eleanora Emily Hubbard, secretary. 7-13-45

Second row: Mmes. Alline M Fields, chairman of Decoration committee; Ruby L. Brown and Mae S. Ellison.

Third row: Mmes. Mildred E. Hunter, vice-president; James Jackson and Victoria Falls

Members absent from the picture are Mmes. Mabel Davis, Beatrice Cowan and Alberta Ligons.

The Women's Auxiliary is planning to give a number of scholarships during the next school term to encourage young people to continue in school, according to announcement by Mrs. Scott. (Photo by Rev. L. O. Taylor).

DR. HART'S $20,000 PURCHASE is CLIMAX IN WAR BOND DRIVE

In the Mighty Seventh War Loan Drive Dr. Terry M. Hart, one of the country's outstanding dentists, has once again shown his intense faith in a Democracy threatened first by an enemy now conquered and still confronted by the Japanese.

Dr. Hart's purchase of $20,000 worth of War Bonds in the present drive comes as a result of his knowledge that they are the safest investment in the world, although some investments are certain to yield a greater return. Commenting on his recent purchase of War Bonds, Dr. Hart declared:

"At a time when the nation needs civilians' money I think it my full patriotic duty to comply with the government's request."

Concerned about the welfare and the future of America's Negro youth, Dr. Hart in the purchase of War Bonds is serving as an inspiration to Negro youth to be thrifty and useful in the life of the nation.

BIBLE IS DR. HART'S FOUNDATION FOR HIS BRILLIANT SUCCESS

St. Louis Argus

In the 24 years he has been a resident of St. Louis Dr. Terry M. Hart has won a place in the esteem of thousands for his recognized ability as one of the nation's top-flight dentists, as a devoted churchman and for his level-headed business acumen.

Dr. Hart has been commended for his thrift, frugality and his business acumen, but those who know him best realize that he considers being a trustee at the Central Baptist church one of the significant achievements of his career, and the attainment of a Bachelor of Arts degree at Lincoln university in Pennsylvania a truly wise cultural decision of his life. 7-6-45

Dr. Hart received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the famous University of Pennsylvania.

DR. TERRY M. HART

In his childhood at his home in Americus, Georgia, Dr. Hart was taught being a credit to the race was the supreme goal of right-minded youth. A credit to the race he is.

When asked, recently, how he accounted for his success and remarkable achievement, Dr. Hart declared "The Bible is my guide."

He is especially fond of the fourth chapter of the Philippians and the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians. These scriptural readings are the foundation upon which Dr. Hart conducts his business, his thinking and his dealings with his fellowman.

Dr. Hart tells youth if they will apply these chapters to their lives, success will be inevitable. A favorite verse from the fourth chapter of Philippians is:

7-6-45

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

In addition to his nieces Dr. Hart has made his two sisters, Mrs. Oziebel Hart Turney of Milwaukee and Mrs. Mattie Sue Hart Statham of Chicago as beneficiaries who will share equitably in all of his War Bond purchases which he started in 1939.

Following the teachings of the scriptures Dr. Hart is a liberal financial supporter of worthy community organizations and projects. Being a firm believer in youth, he has assured a college education to 12-year-old Walter Grimm, an enterprising lad who does chores for him.

For 15 years Dr. Hart has been supervisor of the Municipal Dental Clinic now located at Leffingwell and Laclede. An oral surgeon, he has administered gas to more than 60,000 children without a fatality. He does extractions for pre-school, public and Catholic school children in the elementary grades. He devotes mornings to clinical duties and from 12 to 9 p.m. he is busy at his office.

Dr. Hart is an Omega Psi Phi fraternity member.

Education, believes Dr. Hart, is an important factor in modern success and for that reason he is assisting in the education of two nieces, Miss Viola Hart Turney, a student at Chicago University and Miss Mattie Hart Turney, a student at the University of Wisconsin. Both are of Milwaukee.

Dr. Hart is shown purchasing $10,000 worth of War Bonds in 1944 in the Fourth War Loan Drive from Mrs. J. E. Mitchell, right, and Mrs. A. C. Phillips.

DR. TERRY M.

HART

A.B., D.D.S.

PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY

S.E. Cor. JEFFERSON and FRANKLIN

GArfield 8180

Hours: 12 to 9 P.M

Miss Minnie Tammons
Secretary

Miss Lorene Dobbs
Dental Assistant

Miss Omega Peoples
Receptionist

These two young ladies, nieces of Dr. Hart, are among the beneficiaries of his War Bond purchases. Miss Viola Hart Turney, left, and Miss Mattie Hart Turney are being assisted in attaining a college education by Dr. Hart, a firm believer in cultural and vocational preparedness.

National Beauty Culturists' League Organizations Assist In Selling $847,000 in Seventh War Loan During Drive

The Call

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Organizations of the National Beauty Culturists' league in three southern cities assisted their War Finance committee in selling $847,000 worth of war bonds during the final week of the 7th War Loan Drive, the Treasury Department announced this week.

In New Orleans, La., beauticians cooperated with War Finance committee representatives in the promotion of a series of rallies, a luncheon and a cabaret supper party that prompted the sale of $500,000 worth of war bonds.

Taking the leadership in the war-bond activities of Baton Rouge, La., beauticians gave impetus to a mammoth parade and war bond rally, at which sales amounting to $40,000 were recorded. Later on in the same day of the parade-rally, the beauticians staged an auction sale at which $37,000 worth of war bonds was sold, bringing total sales for the day to $77,000. Commodities ranging from a crate of live chickens to pieces of furniture were donated by local merchants to be auctioned off to war-bond bidders.

Mrs. Carrie Taylor, Baton Rouge beautician, heads the war bond activities of the National Beauty Culturists' League in this city.

Spurred by Mrs. Ruth Jackson, Birmingham (Alabama) beauticians cooperated with WFC officials in the sponsorship of war bond programs that resulted in the sale of $270,000 worth of war bonds. 7-20-45

Organized within the National Beauty Culturists' League is the Beauticians' Volunteer Corps, to which is delegated the responsibility of promoting the sale of war bonds throughout the year. During the periods of war-bond drives the BVC undertakes special promotions to encourage greater war-bond sales in addition to increased purchases among the members of their profession.

During the 6th War Loan Drive, the BVC was credited with the sale of $806,600 worth of bonds. For the 7th War Loan, the group accepted a quota of $1,123,000.

At this writing complete reports have not been received from the 20 cities that are participating in the BVC program. However, Mrs. Nell Hunter, promotion specialist of the International Section of the Treasury's War Finance Division, who recently visited several of the cities where the project is in operation, reported that the enthusinasm among the beauticians is great. She said there was little doubt in her mind that the BVC would reach its goal.

Mrs. Cordelia Green Johnson of Jersey City, N. J., is president of the league, while the BVC is headed by Mrs. Maude Gadsen of New York City. 7-20-45

56m-1945

Jackson Is Cited As Bond Champion

Atlanta Daily World

6-10-45

By SPIKE WASHINGTON

Back in his home town highly elated and refreshed from his trek of last week to Washington, the nation's capitol, where he was given a salute and a rousing as well as a warm welcome by President Truman, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, United States Senators, Congressman, and other national officials, is Navy Chief Petty Officer Graham Washington Jackson, of the Georgia Naval Recruiting Station. 6-10-45

That smile of the patriotic and loyal Jackson, well known to Atlantans and people of all sections of Georgia, was even broader when he stepped from a fast train at terminal station late Wednesday and moved off hurriedly for home at C Street, the madam and the two pups. He was loaded with photographs of various members of Congress, autographs from each who gave him pictures, and the John Hancocks of those who were not able to furnish the Atlanta accomplished musician and entertainer, and other prizes that are much cherished by the Navy Specialist, who has much to his credit in the war effort. 6-10-45

SHOOK HANDS WITH TRUMAN

Officer Jackson, who has done a most remarkable job, and who has been acclaimed nationally as Georgia's number one war bond salesman for individual effort, on his having sold more than two million dollars worth of war bonds through his entertainment programs, was called to Washington to spend a week at the capitol with the various governmental dignitaries, at the White House where he was lauded highly for his war work by Pres. Truman, and where he was presented his sixth citation for outstanding work in the Sixth War Loan Drive by Secretary Morgenthau. Jackson has several illustrious firsts to his credits, and prides in the fact that he was the first Negro to play for the President in the White House. He also brought back an autograph of the President and proudly showed three pieces of stationery from the White House which is done gold on white. He autographed one in his neat little home and gave the writer, presented one to his madam, and kept one for himself. 6-10-45

Atlanta's famed musician took Washington. There were speeches, banquets, and a whirl of reception activity that dimmed the fanfare surrounding Washington, a place during this time of war. Jackson, the late President Roosevelt's favorite musician, stayed in DC more than a week and while there he was kept busy here and there playing the piano and the accordian and signing for the many distinguished figures with whom he came in contact. 6-10-45

On last Monday he gave an hour-long concert to a large group of Senators and last Saturday night he entertained the President at a farewell buffet dinner affair given by newsmen to former Presidential Press Secretary Stephen Early. Before these observances Jackson was awarded another Citation of Merit, his sixth, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for services rendered in connection with the several War Loan drives. Sandwiched in he found time to play for a group of Washington officials on the piano and the accordian. 6-10-45

ORDERED TO CAPITOL

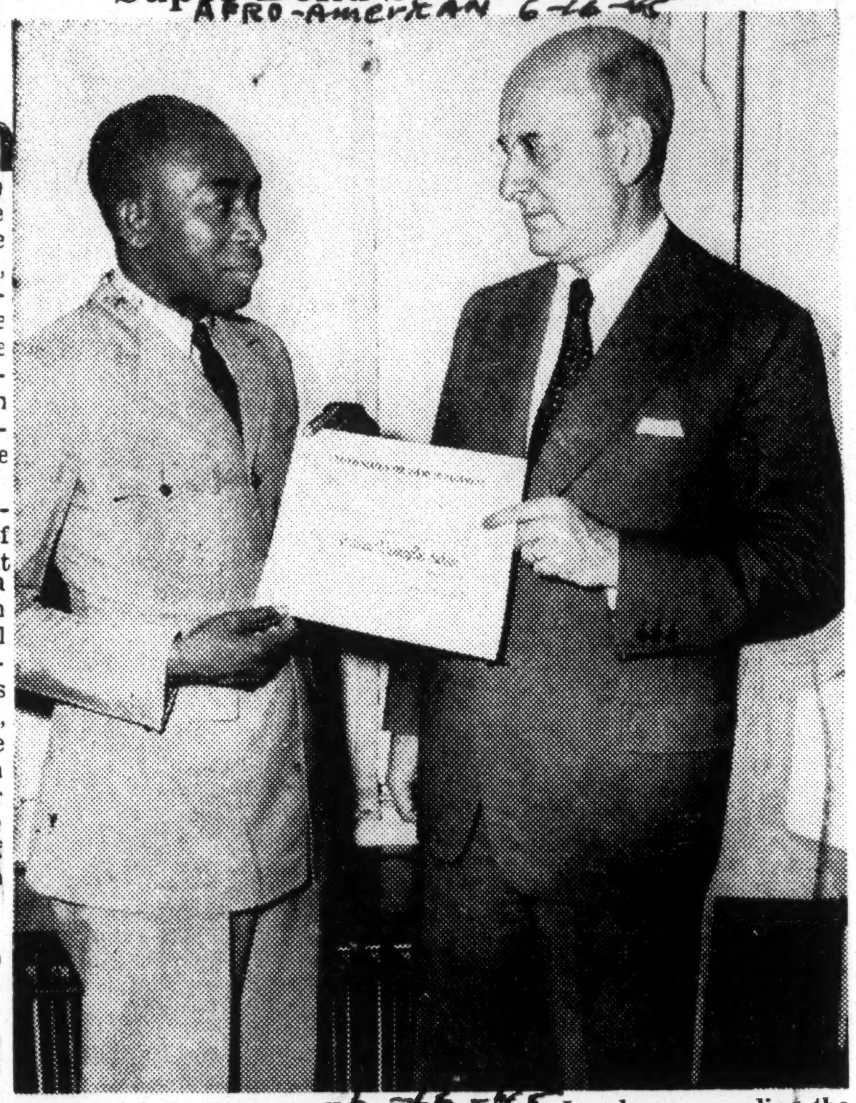
Jackson, who appeared in more than a score of performances before the late President, was ordered to DC last week by his State Recruiting Commander, Stanley A. Jones, with headquarters in Macon. Jackson stated that President Truman shook his hand at least seven times and that among those he was happy to greet was Georgia's own Senator George, who presented him with an autographed painting of himself, and inquired of him how things were back in Georgia. He played "Old Kentucky Home" for Senator Barkley of Kentucky, and for Senator Bilbo of Mississippi he played "The Last Roundup." He played in the office of Senate Secretary Leslie Biffle, and also has a photo of him, he played in the offices of Senator George and President Truman was so overjoyed with the Atlantan's playing that he requested him to pay the Hungarian Rhapsody by Litz as a special encore, following his performance at the Early farewell dinner party.

He is back home now resting a bit, but will be off sometime today or early tomorrow for his headquarters in Macon and from there he will be out selling war bonds giving programs and recruiting additional Negro youths for Navy duty, in his effort to boost his bond sales up near the three million dollar mark. He is an honor to his home town, his race and his nation.

War Bonds

Super Bond Salesman Cited

AFRO-AMERICAN 6-16-45



6-16-45

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr., shown awarding the Treasury's war bond achievement citation to Chief Petty Officer Graham W. Jackson of Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Jackson, an accomplished pianist and accordionist and one of the late President Roosevelt's favorite musicians, has sold more than $2,000,000 worth of war bonds since the bond program was set up. He has received five other awards for bond sales.

Times Dispatch — Richmond, Va.
5-23-45

—Staff Photo.

Generals of Randolph School's War Bond Campaign

Bernard Brown (left) Rates Five Stars; Joe Bright, Jr., May Wear Four.

Randolph School Has General Whose Bond Sales Top $5,000

Times-Dispatch — Richmond
5-23-45

Among Richmond's school children who spearheaded the Seventh War Loan Campaign for the beginning of the drive, none was more energetic than the Negro school student. A particularly high record has been run up by Randolph School, whose principal, Charles Borrell, states that his boys and girls buy stamps each week throughout the school year, and that the stamp total never goes below $150 per week.

Randolph School also can boast of two top-ranking generals. One, 12-year-old Bernard Brown, is a general of the army, with five stars on his insignia. Another, Joseph Bright, Jr., is a four-star general, having sold bonds to the amount of $4,325.

Bernard, the son of Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Brown, of 12 South Morris St., admits that his tremendous bond total is due to the fact that he secured some big denomination bonds through his family. His five stars were awarded him because he is one of the few young bond salesmen of the city who have topped the $5,000 mark. Bernard is the ranking bond salesman of Randolph School and his schoolmates come to attention as he arrives on the playground at recess. He has learned to return their snappy salutes with the ease and precision of a veteran. According to his principal, Bernard will hold his rank throughout the school term, and will not relinquish his treasured five-star insignia until Summer puts an end to class work.

Joe is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bright, Sr., of 1319 Wallace St. In addition to having sold the second largest total, Joe also has sold a great number of individual bonds, nine in all. He has solicited his friends, relatives, doctors and neighbors. Since the children will continue their bond-selling efforts throughout the campaign, even though their concentrated drive is over, Joe thinks that perhaps he, too, can win the extra star before school is out.

To date, Randolph School's pupils have sold a total of $29,900 worth of "E" Bonds, an impressive sum that ranks with the best school record of the city.

Reports Incomplete

Complete reports from the School Children's Campaign are not available as yet, but it is known that the youngsters have added several hundred thousand dollars to the total of "E" Bonds sold thus far. Richmond's "E" Bond quota is $8,875,000, of which $2,493,066.25 already have been sold, according to Federal Reserve Bank figures through May 21. Other bonds to individuals have been purchased to the extent of $1,671,373, against a quota of $8,225,000.

"Here Is Your Infantry," the spectacular infantry show which will tour Virginia as a feature of the Seventh War Loan Campaign, will come to Richmond on Wednesday, June 13, it was announced yesterday. Demonstrations will be staged at City Stadium, and there will be no War Bond admission, though bonds may be purchased from booths placed at convenient points.

The unit which will come to Virginia is one of 28 teams of about 50 men each which underwent intensive training for these events at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga. The show will last one hour, and will be repeated at intervals throughout the day.

"Here Is Your Infantry" is divided into two parts. First, there will be an exhibition of the weapons of the infantry—bazookas, mortars, machine guns, sniper's rifles, Garand rifles, tommy guns and so forth. Expert infantrymen will take apart, reassemble and explain each weapon to spectators.

The second portion of the infantry show will demonstrate an assault on a pillbox. A jungle assault unit of 37 men, reinforced with a section of heavy machine guns, will simulate an attack on a Japanese pillbox, using smoke, practice grenades, flamethrowers, demolition charges and bazookas.

All of the men who will stage the demonstrations have been decorated for bravery as the result of actual combat in the European and Pacific theaters of war.

Reports On $50,000 Investment

CAPTAIN HENRY PERRY OF THE 99TH Fighter Squadron of Col. Benjamin O. Davis' 332 Fighter Group thanks the Loyalty Committee of the Victims of Nazi-Fascist Oppression for the plane "The Loyalty", purchased by their $50,000 contribution which was made in small sums from the 16,000 Central European refugee membership all over the U. S. A. Capt. Perry reports that the "investment" paid for 40 missions over Europe since March 1943 when the plane was presented especially to the squadron. Left to right are Dr. Schleger, Pres. of New World Club in C. A. P. uniform, Capt. Perry, Chaplain Jacob Polish, and Arthur Cohn, Pres. of "L.C.V.N.F.O". New York Amsterdam News

56m-1945

War Bonds

Tuskegee Air Band Cited For Pushing Bond Sales

Atlanta World Ga.

$10,000,000 Worth Credited To Organization

Daily world — Atlanta, Ga

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.— (SNS) — Members of the famous 613th Army Air Forces Band were presented United States Treasury Department Citations for services rendered in national war loans, by Colonel Noel F. Parrish, Commanding Officer of Tuskegee Army Air Field, at a concert last Friday night in the Post Chapel.

In presenting the citations, Colonel Parrish commended the Band for its outstanding record in the sale of war bonds in the states of Alabama and Georgia. Also, he praised the men individually for their excellent records as soldiers as well as musicians, and for their contributions as a morale-sustain- influence on the Post.

The Band under the direction of Captin Frank L. Drye, former bandmaster at Tuskegee Institute where he developed some of the bands in America, has in less than three years made one of the most outstanding records of all Service bands. Particularly in war loans has the band distinguished itself.

2-24-45

In cooperation with the War Finance Committee for Alabama and Harry Simms, Negro Promotion Specialist, the Band has centered its service chiefly in the smaller towns of Alabama and Georgia, reaching people who otherwise would not have been reached and causing as amazing response to the appeal.

To date the band has been officialy credited with the sale of aproximately $10,000,000 worth of bonds.

2-24-45

The band's activities usually consist of a parade through the streets of the town, serenades on the way to schools and plants and a really interspersed with music at the courthouse. Here the Band sold its music for purchases of "shares in freedom."

Muriel Rahn Covers Over 10,000 Miles on Bond Wagon; Total Sales $5,000,000

Afro American 1-13-45

NEW YORK—One of the most popular young people riding Mr. Morgentheau's Bond Wagon these days is theatre and concert star Muriel Rahn. And the reason for all this popularity is very simple.

The former singing star of "Carmen Jones," who is now in the midwest on a concert tour, has traveled over 10,000 miles selling bonds during the past year and was instrumental in totaling nearly $5,000,000 in the process.

La Rahn figures she must have appeared in more than 50 bond sales meetings during the year to reach this mark, and has covered ground from New York to Texas while doing it.

Given Skyride on Tour

The Treasurey Department itself arranged a little plane trip for her from New York to New Orleans and return during the Fifth War Bond drive and this little jaunt alone netted over $1,000,000.

MURIEL RAHN

When the "Sixth" rolled around, the Treasurey Department asked her fly out to the midwest and open the drive in St. Louis.

However, concert commitments made for a conflict, so she just appeared in bond meetings whenever or wherever local townspeople asked her during her tour.

Purchases $1,000 Bond

Though she has been interested in selling bonds from the very first, her interest really reached "fever heat" in the Fourth War Bond drive when she personally bought a $1,000 bond for herself.

After that, she got the war bond bug and now she can hardly wait for the "Seventh," in which she hopes to aid in raising at least another million. 1-13-45

Selling bonds has become a hobby with Muriel Rahn.

Janitress buys $100-war bond every month

Los Angeles Tribune 1-8-45 Cal Lif.

Led by a Negro office janitress, the 350 employees of the 11th and Flower office of the United States Employment Service went over the top with 9% to spare in the 6th War Loan Bond Drive.

Running only 96% of quota just before Christmas, the holiday spirit brought the grand total of sales to 109% or $24,326.27. 1-8-45

Mrs. Annette Dixon, the janitress, has purchased a $100.00 bond every month since July, 1942. Shortly before war broke out she planned to retire, but Pearl Harbor convinced her that her part would be to take a war job and buy bonds. Her regular subscription represents more than 50% of her monthly salary. Mrs. Dixon lives at 807 E. 23rd st.

$75,000 in War Bonds Purchased in Smith Co.

Kansas City Mo. 1-5-45

TYLER, Texas. — Smith County Negroes, joining in the purchasing of war bonds of the Sixth War Loan drive, have accounted for approximately, $75,000 worth of war bonds and stamps to date. The above total included purchases of individuals, organizations and withholding by Negroes residing in Smith county. The quota for the Negro division of Smith county was $35,000

Individual purchases ranged from $25 to $5,000. Outstanding purchases were made by: Mrs P. R. Robinette, Dr. I. T. Hunter, Dr. F. E. Williams Jr., Dr. A. S. Senate, Dr. T. J. Tailiaferro Sr., H M. Morgan, V. A. Moon, Ben Hughey, Mrs. Eddie Johnson, Alfred A. Cannon, Rev. J. D. Epps, Mrs. Dora Wynn, and Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Duckenfield and Dr. H. A. Sheen. 1-5-45

High ranking salesmen were: Andrew Westbrook, Miss Johnnie B Payne, Mrs. M. E. Senate, Mrs M. G Griffin, Mrs. F. E. Williams, Mrs. I. T. Hunter, Mrs. H. R. G Sneed, Prof. Leo Johnson, Prof. J. D. Phillips, Mrs. Earlene Christopher, Mrs. Earnestine Hines and Mrs. B. L. Caswell.

The sixth war loan campaign is in charge of B. J. Pryor, chairman, the Negro division, Smith County War Finance committee He is assisted by Dr. Glass, president, Texas college, Tyler, Texas, and Dr. F. E. Williams, Jr., both of whom are co-chairmen. The Rev. J. D. Epps heads the speakers' bureau.

Alabama Negroes Organized For War Loan Drive

Chicago Defender 6-2-45

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Negroes in towns of nineteen rural and semi-rural Alabama counties had organized war bond campaign organizations to spur the Seventh War Loan Drive weeks before the drive officially got underway.

Every county in the state has pledged to far exceed its quota for the drive, the Department of the Treasury has been informed by its field personnel.

Before the drive opened, at least two Negro War Finance Committees had held bond rallies. In Monroeville, Ala., a small rural community, $23,000 worth of bonds were sold in a pre-drive rally. Eufaula, Ala., also staged a pre-drive rally.

Mrs. Nell Hunter, promotion specialist, interracial section, Treasury Department, recently visited Alabama in connection with the work of the Negro War Finance committee that have been organized throughout the state. 6-2-45

The Treasury representatives was highly impressed with the manner in which the Negro citizens of rural areas were proceeding in arrangements for the Seventh War Loan.

The War Bond Saving program among Negroes in Alabama is under the direction of Harry Simms of Tuskegee.

Negro Chairman Reports Big Sales For 7th War Loan

E. E. Farley, chairman of the colored division of the War Bond Committee, Saturday reported on work of his committees in the Seventh War Loan.

G. H. Strickland, chairman of the businessmen, said the business men had pledged to double their purchases and in some cases triple them. Dr. W. G. McCoo reported purchases of $10,000 by Negro medical men. Sapp reported on the fraternal organizations. Francis C. Jones disclosed that life insurance companies were not only purchasing "E" bonds through local representatives, but that several home offices had authorized puchase of the "F" series.

Spencer High School, headed by Miss Ethel Spencer and the Tri-Hi-Y, reported that they would sell enough bonds to purchase 10 jeeps, while Fifth Avenue School, headed by Prof. B. H. Price, pledged to buy a heavy duty Field Ambulance. B. F. Moseley, chairman, of the county schools, stated that Radcliffe junior High School had pledged $3,000 in "E" bonds.

"Black Boy" Carries War Bond Message

Philadelphia Inquirer

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The back jacket of Richard Wright's best seller, Black Boy carries this War Bond message by the famous author: 6-30-45

"Down South where I was born we called our good clothes our 'Sunday Best,' and we wore them only on Sundays. Today we are all making big war money, but there aren't enough goods to buy. So I'd say let's put our money away in War Bonds until peace (Sunday) comes. Don't be a dude: All dressed up and nowhere to go. Dudes usually get into trouble. And you'll get into trouble INFLATION if you spend war dollars unnecessarily. The war is far from over; millions of boys overseas want to come back home. So pull off your "Sunday Best'—shed your dollars—and buy WAR BONDS. That's the sensible way to do it!"

2-10-45

Philadelphia Tribune Pa.

Shown above are 2nd Lt. Lewis H. Fenderson, Public Relations Officer; 1st Lt. Robert W. Deiz, Transition and Instrument Instructor and Capt. Herbert E. Carter, Engineering officer, all at Tuskegee Army Airfield, receiving War Bonds from Major R. R. Wright President of National Freedom Day. Carter and Deiz have both seen active service over seas. Others shown are E. C. Wright, holding Freedom Day Proclamation signed by Gov. Martin, and E. Washington Rhodes, TRIBUNE publisher. The pen in the foreground is the pen which the Governor used in signing the proclamation.

2-10-45

BUFFALO, N. Y.
COURIER-EXPRESS
Circ. D. 131,419 - S. 239,424

MAY 30 1945

Negroes' Part In War Lauded At Bond Rally

Playing Heroic Role, Says Drive Chairman

Before the largest audience so far at any of the Seventh War Loan noonday Bond rallies at Lafayette Sq., American Negro Day in Erie County's Mighty Seventh was launched yesterday with a program of music by the U. S. Coast Guard's Sea Landers Band, and with addresses by heroes of the U. S. Air Forces, including Negro pilots.

Daniel W. Streeter, chairman of the Erie County War Finance Committee, opened the rally with a tribute to the Negro population of the Niagara Frontier.

"We have more than 25,000 American Negroes living in Buffalo and vicinity," Streeter said. "Most of these men and women are working in our war industries, and particularly in those classified as the heavy industries.

Bearing Heavy Burden

"It is upon these plants that we now must place the heaviest part of the burden of supplying war material to our gigantic forces in the Pacific. Our Negro workers in the heavy industries here are playing a heroic part in that phase of our war production. Today we wish to pay an especially high tribute to these loyal and patriotic Americans."

Introduced by Martin J. Travers, chairman of the Junior Chamber of Commerce committee in charge of Seventh War Loan outdoor activities, William L. Evans, executive secretary of the Memorial Center and Urban League and chairman of American Negro Day, told the bond audience that more than "800,000 American Negroes now are in the armed services, and we who live in Erie County will do our part to support them."

"This is our sixth American Negro Day War Loan celebration. It is unique in Erie County and has furnished a pattern for similar programs in other cities. Our quota in the Seventh War Loan is voluntarily set at about $150,000. We expect to double that amount and possibly to triple it."

First Negro to Win DFC

Capt. Charles B. Hall, an original member of the 99th Fighter Squadron of the 15th U. S. Army in Italy, the first all-Negro Air Squadron to be formed, described his experiences in the African, Italian and Sicilian campaigns, where he won the first Distinguished Flying Cross presented to a Negro pilot. He was personally congratulated by Gen. Eisenhower.

Capt. Hall participated in 108 missions and is credited with shooting down the first German Messerschmitt in the Italian campaign.

Another Negro Army officer who spoke was Maj. George J. Cole of Ft. Dix, N. J., special service officer and adjutant to the area commander. In this capacity he has under his supervision more than 4,000 service men who have been in every theater of war and is responsible for their housing, feeding and work detail while they are waiting reassignment.

Officer pilots of the U. S. Army Air Forces, who brought the Armada of combat planes into Buffalo Airport, were introduced by Travers. They urged the audience to visit the airport today between 1 and [illegible] p. m., when visitors may enter and inspect the planes.

El Alamein Veteran Speaks

Other speakers included Capt. Fred J. Collett of the British Army's Lancashire Fusiliers and now attached to the British Army staff in Washington. Capt. Collett described his experiences in the Battle of El Alamein, where his unit was cut from 132 men to seven.

At a luncheon in the Hotel Statler Iroquois Room following the Lafayette Sq. program, Comptroller George W. Wanamaker announced the city had bought $250,000 in War Bonds to be allocated to the American Negro Day bond sales.

Later, Chairman Streeter reported that individual War Bond sales in Erie County up until last night amounted to $17,024,175.50, or 21.4 per cent of the county's $79,300,000 quota. "This is 42.4 per cent of the $40,300,000 quota set for industrial buyers," he said.

HARTFORD, CONN.
COURANT
Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138

JUN 2 - 1945

Lionel Hampton Buys $1000 Bond

Band Leader Lionel Hampton, paying his second visit to the Service Canteen at 1809 Main Street, where six months ago he entertained servicemen and junior hostesses, Friday night made his appearance the occasion for buying a $1000 bond in the Seventh War Loan drive. Invited to the canteen by the director, W. R. Burden (right), Mr. Hampton is shown receiving his War Bond from Bessye Proffitt, local singing entertainer. (Courant Photo.)

56m - 1945 USO

GIs a Swell Audience, Say Actors, Back From Pacific

Daily Worker
6-18-46

BY BETH McHENRY

Porgy and Bess, the 10-year old Gershwin musical has had many happy receptions in its day but none so warm and friendly as in the South Pacific during the past six months.

Seventeen members of the cast of the USO-Camp Shows' production of **Porgy and Bess** returned to their home base this week, tired but satisfied with the last half year's work. The seventeen, all Negro actor musicians, had doubled and tripled roles in the show, making up for what was originally a cast of 100.

In an interview at USO - Camp Shows headquarters in New York City, the **Porgy and Bess** cast told of entertaining and being entertained by GI's in New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, and New Hebrides. They sometimes put on four shows a day and in addition they sang with choral groups of soldiers and participated in religious ceremonies of all faiths. They returned laden with gifts and good will from the boys overseas whose appreciation made the cast as a whole want to get back to the front as fast as they can go.

Members of the USO-Camp Shows production of Porgy and Bess, just back from a tour of the South Pacific.

ABOUT JOHN GART

Porgy and Bess was sent abroad last November and while some of the cast were from the original show, like John Garth, who played "Porgy," others were brand new to the show and had to learn their scores while traveling across the Pacific.

Mr. Garth, who had been a featured vocalist at the Cotton Club took over in the lead role of "Porgy," thereby satisfying a long time ambition. For Mr. Garth had created the role of Undertaker in the original "Porgy" and had been friends with George Gershwin. He had hoped to step into the "Porgy" role, but Gershwin died and Garth's chances apparently disappeared. However, the talented singer had learned "Poggy" by heart and when the USO approached him for the Pacific tour he went willingly.

GIs FRIENDLY 6-18-4

All members of the cast seemed to think that the GI's had been wholehearted in their acceptance of them. They recalled no instances of ill treatment or poor reception. Sol Bryson, a member of the cast, said he thought American soldiers who had been in combat had pretty much altered their ideas about Negroes and other minority groups.

"I'd like to illustrate what I mean by telling you about a soldier I met on the train when we were going west to embark," Mr. Bryson said. "This soldier was from Georgia and he had been through hell over there in Europe. But he had seen Negro GI's go through hell too. He had seen Negroes killed and he had slept with them in fox holes and he told me that he had vowed to himself, 'if ever I live through this I am going back to America and tell everybody what I've learned. There must not be any more discrimination. We've shed too much blood to let it go on anymore'."

PAUL ROBESON

Sgt. EUGENE LIST

Daily Worker, New York

Paul Robeson Unit Back From USO Tour

Paul Robeson, noted baritone has just returned from a five weeks' camp show tour of Germany and Czechoslovakia. In Mr. Robeson's unit were Lawrence Brown, his accompanist, and Miriam Solovieff, violinist. Sgt. Eugene List, pianist, who played for President Truman and Generalissimo Stalin at the Potsdam Conference, joined the group in France and toured with them. 9-17-45

Mr. Robeson was deluged with requests for Negro spirituals and "Ballad for Americans." He also sang French, English and Russian folk songs. His program included Mendelssohn's "Lord God of Abraham," which the Nazis had banned from Germany.

The group broadcast from Paris and Munich and played in the Wagner Oprea House in Bayreuth, as well as in numerous small theatres and concert halls.

56m-1945

USO

USO Show to Far Eastern War Area

Chicago Defender 3-23-45

Kansas City Mo.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN ASSAM. — (ANP) — GI's in this area have had a chance to lose some of their blues by the appearance of the "Rhythm and the Blues' show, the first Negro USO-Camp shows unit to play the China-Burma-India war theatre. The show is making a six-months tour of here.

A variety show, "Rhythm and the Blues" is headed and managed by Alberta Hunter, singer, and includes Mae Gaddy, singer; Taps Miller, dancer and writer of "Flat Foot Floogie" and the three Rhythm Rascals, an instrumental-song trio. 3-23-45

In bringing entertainment to the boys here, the troupe has dodged air raids, braved tigers and wildcats of the jungle to reach spots where no other unit has played before.

Doing Their Bit

Sepians Contribute Share To USO Shows

Pittsburgh Courier 1-27-45

NEW YORK—Including the first all-colored hospital show, which took to the road a couple of weeks ago, the number of colored performers who are daily working with USO Camp Shows to bring entertainment to men and women of the armed forces has now reached the 127 mark, which is a pretty fair percentage. Among these are eight tabloid units and the recently formed hospital unit working in the United States, and two variety units, one concert unit, one band unit, and the seventeen member "Porgy and Bess" legitimate troupe, who are serving overseas.

Since the organization was formed back in 1942, 414 colored performers have worked for and with the group, representing approximately 212 acts. According to estimates this represents approximately ten per cent of the total number of performers hired, which is in keeping with the ten per cent Negro population of the United States. 1-27-45

EQUAL PAY

Besides being evenly representative, it is also felt in some quarters that average Negro actors and vaudeville artists are being given equal opportunities of presentation and salary as comparable with white artists. In fact, in many instances the theory is advanced that due to the shortage of colored talent to fill Army demands, in many cases the colored acts are receiving more money than white artists of the same calibre.

Also in preparation for overseas showings is the first all-colored sports unit, which will go over like the vaudeville artists under the sponsorship of USO Camp Shows. Present plans call for the group to include Olympic track star Jesse Owens, boxer Henry Armstrong, UCLA football star Kenny Washington, Cornell football star Brud Holland, and pitcher Satchel Paige. The unit is set for a three months stay in the war theaters and is expected to get under way by mid-February.

Top Flight USO Troupe Scores With Bangor GI's

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore, Md

BANGOR, Wash. — The USO tabloid troupe, No. 111-C, scored a tremendous hit with the men of the naval magazine recently with songs, dances, comedy and magic. 5-5-45

Featuring Cottrell J. Thomas magician and emcee; the comedy

GRACE SMITH

dance and song team of Grace Smith and Johnny Berry; Louise McCarroll, pianist and vocalist, and Geneva Turman, petite singer and dancer, the unit presented one of the best shows to visit this base. 5-5-45

The Smith-Berry team stole the spotlight. Berry really knocked his GI audience out when he fell out in a black and white checkerboard zoot suit for his number, while Miss Smith broke up the show in her song-plea for a "two-fisted, double-jointed, rough and ready man." 5-5-45

Miss Smith has been starred in theatres and night clubs throughout the country and has been featured in several of the Oscar Micheaux "Million Dollar" movie productions. In Baltimore, she played the Royal Theatre and Club Astoria with such bands as Andy Kirk, Danny Logan and Tiny Bradshaw.

Berry has also played the Loew's and RKO Circuits. Miss McCarroll, tall, svelte and brownskin, became the favorite of the nation with Don Redman's orchestra several years ago, while Miss Turman, an Eastern lass from Newark, N.J., held the boys spellbound with her terrific ballad and swing singing.

USO TROUPE THRILLS DOUGHBOYS IN PERSIA

Pittsburgh Courier 1-13-45

PERSIAN GULF COMMAND—The No. 339 USO Troupe, led by Chauncey Lee of New York, recently arrived in the Persian Gulf Command to bring a little cheer to the boys. The 380th Port Battalion, the 675th Port Company and the 153rd Bakery Unit had the first opportunity to welcome the group and they put on a rousing reception.

Miss Lillian Thomas, Mrs. Wittie Wyles and Miss Cora Green were the first American Negro women that the boys had seen in almost two years . . . Dinners and parties were planned everywhere and the boys loudly applauded the smartly attired ladies each time they made an appearance. 1-13-45

The show was a howling success. Dave Wiley, the efficient master of ceremonies, started the show at a fast clip and the 418th Army Swing band set a smart rhythm pattern. Wittie Wiley brought down the house with "Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby," topped off with some smart dancing. "Lil" Thomas played the "St. Louis Blues" with a solid bass that brought raves from the packed house and climaxed her several encores by singing in a sultry sweet and low voice, "My Ideal." 1-13-45

Chauncey Lee (introduced as Joady) kept the boys in stitches the whole time he was on the stage and then showed superb musicianship by playing "Blue Skies," an own original number on the guitar . . . Miss Cora Green was the last to make her rendition of "The Laziests Gal in Town" and "Stormy Weather."

Wherever the group played they were received and the entire Command is looking forward to one of the most successful tours of the season to be put on by the No. 339 USO Unit.

Originally Camp Shows wanted to send Rochester out in a unit of Negro girls, thinking this would appeal to Negro GIs most, but Rochester held out for white bandsters. Even though there have been some mixed units in this country, and the treatment afforded Negro units overseas is above reproach, Camp Shows prefers sending all-Negro units abroad. For one thing, the Army in its requisitions asks for Negro units, although Rochester might be classified as a personality tour and be in a special category.

There's no question of deprecating race equality here, it's understood, but simply the practical matter of two Negro musicians getting the job instead of the whites. Negro talent is aware of and grateful for the opportunity Camp Shows has afforded for equal pay and recognition, and simply wants to take full advantage of the situation by filling all the jobs available.

VARIETY (NEW YORK CITY)

MAY 30 1945

'Rochester's' USO Tour Stalled by a Curious Yen for Ofay Musikers

Hollywood, May 29

Eddie ("Rochester") Anderson has offered himself to USO-Camp Shows for eight weeks overseas, but the trip is stymied by a curious impasse. Rochester wants to take two white musicians from Phil Harris' band along. Camp Shows is reported ob-

Carried Cheer to Our Fighters Overseas

Afro-American
4-10-45

Afro American
4-10-45

With a song and a smile, Mrs. Margaret Simms, entertainer of Jacksonville, Fla., and Chicago, who vocalizes both modern and classical songs, has just returned to the States from war-torn Europe, where she carried cheer and a big slice of home to lonely soldiers overseas entertaining in hospitals and at their posts in the field. Top photo shows her at a GI jam session at Rainbow Corner, Hotel de Paree, and bottom, she participates in religious services with an aviation engineer battalion as Chaplain J. A. Mayo (standing on truck), of Cleveland, Ohio, conducts the services. (ARC photos).

Service Plus Here. Uniformed men and women of Uncle Sam's armed forces enjoy a snack or a full meal at the Salvation Army center; while in the center, a GI gets ready for his evening date in the popular brush-up quarters, where he can do everything from shaving to washing and ironing without charge. At the right the boys are shown shooting pool in one of the well-equipped recreation rooms.

Largest Servicemen's Center In U. S. Under Harlemites' Noses

By FLORENCE MURRAY

Few Harlemites know that right under their noses is the largest single center for servicemen in the country. It is the Salvation Army Service Center, on 124 st, just around the corner from the Hotel Theresa. By the largest center, we mean that it covers the largest area and accommodates more men than any other. It is financed exclusively by the Salvation Army, and, of course, welcomes men of all races, creeds and nationalities. Its staff is all-Negro, but among its 1,200 voluntary hostesses are at least fifty young white women.

Thus far $189,000 has been spent to equip the huge building, which can sleep 600 men in an emergency. Director Walter Roark explained. Three hundred beds are kept in apple-pie order at all times, and 300 more can be set up when needed.

Last month the center had an attendance of 51,186 servicemen. 8,000 slept there and 63,000 ate at the lunch counter.

There is the usual snack bar, which serves full-grown meals at nominal charges, cooked by an expert chef, an honorably discharged Navy man, Perry Holliday. The food tastes like home sweet home—probably better than many mothers can prepare. The pies and cakes are strictly home-made. This is not an advertisement for the lunch counter, for only servicemen can eat here.

BRUSH-UP ROOM

The pet pride of the management, pointed out Assistant Director Cornelius Davis, is the center's brush-up bsaement. Here a man can wash and iron his clothes, mend the snags, sew on buttons, shower, shave, shine his shoes, and get ready for a date or his trip back to the post, in twenty minutes flat. This service is open at all times to servicemen, whether they stay overnight at the center or not, and there is no charge for it.

There is a chapel where services are held on Sundays by various ministers. There is, of course, a parlor where entertainments are given—and many well known stars come here to do their bit. There is a play room, with pool tables, ping pong, cards, checkers and all the popular games that good fellows like to play.

The entertainment program is one of the most unique, too, in these parts. Artists come to the center on certain nights and make various contests are given free long distance telephone calls home or to their friends. Good-looking hostesses help the boys make merry and serve their food on Sundays and holidays. There are other items of interest on the weekly programs which are too numerous to mention here.

British, Canadians, Free French, and soldiers, sailors, marines, coast guardsmen, of a number of allied nations drop in. Many of them are just learning about the club and more and more white servicemen are dropping in to spend the night and enjoy the fun.

Other members of the staff are Mrs. Georgia Roark, chief housekeeper, who keeps things in spotless order; Miss Beatrice Madison, head of outside activities (hostesses make trips to nearby posts, especially the embarkation centers where the men are house-bound until sailing time.). Mrs. Clare Hart is in charge of the eats. Other assistant directors are Alber Willis and Maurice Dawkins. P. J. Sidney is chief of program director.

The Informer 3-10-45

BASE COMMANDER MAKES UNUSUAL PRESENTATION—Colonel W. C. Lattimore of Dallas, Texas, presented an enlarged picture of Dr. George W. Carver to Harvey B. Shaw, 622 Kirkpatrick street, Pittsburgh, Pa., director of the American Red Cross Dr. Carver Service club, somewhere in Australia. On a tour of inspection, Cpl. Lattimore saw the club had only a small picture of the famed Negro leader and ordered the picture enlarged. The presentation was made at an informal ceremony. 3-10-45

Seamen Of All Colors Welcome At USS Clubs Throughout World

Chicago Defender

By RAMONA LOWE
(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK—In Oran and Algiers, in Calcutta and far off Karachi, in Honolulu and Hvalfjordur can be found a place of rest and recreation for the men who man the ships of America's merchant fleet.

They are the residential and recreation centers of the United Seamen's Service. Whatever the race, color or creed of the men the rules of the USS say they shall be welcome.

Marx Bowens

Organized in 1942 to take care of the thousands of courageous merchant seamen who unlike the soldiers and sailors were left to fend for themselves in port, centers equipped to bring a bit of America to homesick boys at sea have been established all over the world. Such homey, but morale building touches, as electric fans in New Caledonia and cold beer in Iran are part of the set-up of the residential clubs. And for those torpedoed and war-wracked seamen there are medical facilities and rest centers.

One of the first problems the USS faced was the setting up of residential facilities in this country. Men would come into crowded ports and find that they were not considered essential to the war effort by harrassed hotel keepers. They had to sleep on park benches, in hallways, dives—any place that would accept their sea-weary bodies. So residential clubs were established in the chief ports throughout the country.

Dixie Problem

Since Negroes make up a proportion of the merchant seamen special problems arose in connection with their housing below the Mason and Dixon line. William S. Newel in a survey of conditions in Pacific and Gulf ports noted that in New Orleans providing services to Negro merchant seamen where the laws and customs require segregation created complications. A local committee recommended complying with local laws, so separate establishments were set up. A similar plan was carried out in Norfolk and will probably be repeated in other Southern ports.

The New Orleans unit is the George Washington Carver Hotel, 837 Iberville street. It can accommodate more than 60 seamen in its 27 rooms. It is completely staffed by Negroes and is reported to have one of the finest recreational set-ups of USS clubs in the country.

Manager and recreational director is Alvin H. Jones, former Xavier university economics professor who has a leave of absence from the university.

One Worker Overseas

The Norfolk Prince George Hotel which is also completely staffed by Negroes has accommodations for 50 seamen. Manager of the hotel is Alex Riviera, son of Dr. Alex Riviera of Yonkers, New York. Riviera was formerly employed in Naval Intelligence in Norfolk and was a Journal and Guide photographer.

At these hotels accommodations range in price from 75 cents to $2.00. Food is sold at cost.

At this writing the only Negro USS worker overseas is Marx Bowens who is serving in Calcutta, India. Bowens, son of the late Dr. J. J. Bowens, USS Consul to Martinique, was a member of the New York City Department of Welfare and a former track star at Amherst college. As a personal service worker he has a variety of duties in the foreign port which may begin with giving aid to the survivors of maritime disasters and may end with supervising a wedding.

Theodore H. Smith, special field representative and adviser on services to Negro merchant seamen explained that each Port Area committee, which takes charge of USS activities in the area, is patterned after the National Executive committee. It includes representatives of shipowners, operators, unions, the War Shipping Administration and the public. An attempt has been made to get Negro representation on the Port Area committees rather than to establish separate advisory committees.

Advisory Committees

In Mobile, Alabama, and Norfolk, Va., there are three Negro members of the Port Area committee. In Mobile they are J. S. Leflore, B. F. Baker and C. E. Powell. In Norfolk they are Horace G. Christopher, David E. Longley, and W. T. Mason. In Galveston, Texas, J. H. Clouser is a member of the committee. In Houston, Tex., Rev. J. H. Scott is a member.

The Negro Advisory committee in Norfolk includes J. Eugene Diggs, John W. Ward, F. W. Lewis, Rev. W. L. Hamilton, P. B. Young, Sr., and David Alston.

Houston's Committee includes W. C. Craver, F. L. Lane, C. A. Shaw, C. W. Wesley, Dr. B. J. Covington, Mrs. Theodore S. Harris, Rev. A. A. Lucas, L. J. Jones, Rev. L. H. Simpson, Dr. C. W. Pemberton, R. L. Crawford, Freeman Everett, A. E. Norton, Mrs. J. White, J. B. Ury and C. L. Ransom.

In New Orleans, F. L. Rousseve is chairman of the committee. T. L. Duval is chairman in Charleston, S. C., and Dr. J. Blackburne Matthews is chairman in Port Arthur, Texas.

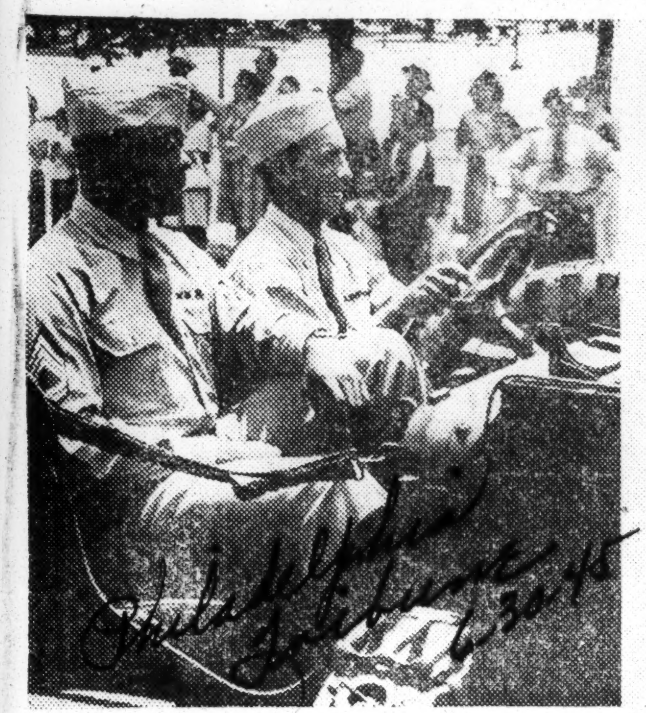
The chief problem in New York has not been residential accommodations, but hostess' attitudes in the recreational centers. "We have had the problem of educating hostesses," Mr. Smith said. "But that is being corrected and Negro seamen are being made to feel part of the picture."

Mrs. Osceola Adams, a member of the Executive committee of the Stage Door Canteen, was recruited to help with the education of hostesses who had not had the advantage of wide contacts.

There is a National Negro Advisory Committee to Douglas Falconer, executive director of USS. The members are Samuel Allen, Commissioner Samuel Battle, who is chairman, Judge Hubert Delaney, Lester Granger, Judge William Hastie, Rev. John Johnson, Ferdinand Smith, Dr. Channing Tobias, and Dr. Max Yergan.

56 h-1945

In Eisenhower Motorcade



Left picture—T/Sgt. EUGENE JACKSON and (right picture) M/Sgt. SYLVESTER E. BUCKNER, both seated next to driver, were the two colored non-commissioned officers who were part of the Eisenhower entourage, when the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe was welcomed in Washington, D. C., June 18. 6-30-45

Sgt. Jackson, of 514 Emmitt street, Fayetteville, N. C., was warehouseman for the 613th Quartermaster Depot Supply Company, which operated in the European Theatre of Operations. Sgt. Buckner, of 14057 Orleans avenue, Detroit, Mich., was chief clerk of the same unit of which Sgt. Jackson was a member. They are both eligible for discharge under the point system.

Negro Soldiers and Morale

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Being a Negro soldier, I should like to make a few observations upon some of Senator Eastland's statements. I shall assume for the sake of argument that some Negro soldiers did all that he accuses them of doing, and that the 92nd Division was as bad as the "general" informed him. The "general" could also inform him that morale is one of the most important factors in the success of an army.

An army with a low morale, despite superior equipment and training, will be defeated by an inferior foe. Examples are the Russian army in World War I and the French army of 1940.

Having been trained in Jim Crow camps among hostile communities in which many were murdered by civilians, subjected to gross indignities, insulted by officers who called them "niggers" and "boys," and held up to the world as moron and despoilers of women by Southern Congressmen, if the Negro troops had a will to fight at all, they were supermen.

As for the Senegalese, the American Negro troops had no more to do with the conduct of French troops than with that of the Germans who raped French and Russian women.

To give Negroes preference in jobs would not be fair. The Fair Employment Practice Committee was created to insure a fair deal to all in the matter of jobs. It does not seek to give job preference to any group.

To say that something must be kept pure implies that it is pure. According to the best authorities on the subject, there are no pure civilized races. Moreover, if giving the Negro economic justice is going to mongrelize the white race, its moral fibre must be woefully weak.

Mr. Eastland's remarks will not improve the already low morale of a half-million Negro troops, nor will it serve to increase racial good will and harmony.

If Messrs. Eastland, Rankin and Bilbo must be allowed to utter these hate-inspired and hate-breeding tirades in the halls of Congress, I suggest that all newspapers that desire to promote tolerance, mutual understanding and good will between the races refuse to print such articles.

A NEGRO SOLDIER.

Camp Lee.

Senator Eastland's Charges

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Your June 30 issue had a front page article under the caption, "Negro Army Units Called Failure By Senator Eastland" (D-Miss.). Now what could be the cause of this if Senator Eastland's statements are true? Our Negro units in World War I had splendid records, both in fighting and morals. Neither the army nor the navy has yet disclosed a thing regarding the Negro units' fighting or their behavior in the army in this war, but I feel sure that if it was as bad, or in part, as Senator Eastland put it, it would have been divulged by someone, as Drew Pearson brought the Patton soldier-slapping to the public.

It is well known the world over that Washington did let John L. Lewis get by with a lot of un-American stuff, but I don't believe the army and navy would have let the Negro soldiers and sailors get by with the atrocities Senator Eastland accused them of without something being done about it. 6-6-45

A. J. DRISKILL.

Charlottesville.

Our Nation's Negro Soldiers

by Doxey Wilkerson

Daily Worker

THE Senate of the United States of America has again listened "courteously" to the lying and filthy voices of Bilbo and Eastland, both from the political cesspools of the Deep South. In the course of their filibuster to prevent a democratic vote on the FEPC appropriation, they sank to new depths in their slanders against the Negro people and especially against Negro fighting men in the Armed Forces of our nation. 6-26-45

Eastland, for example, had the insolence to declare: "I state that the conduct of the Negro soldier all vore Europe was disgraceful to the flag of their country." (He also told a cock-and-bull lie about French Senegalese troops, Negro colonials, allegedly raping 5,000 German women in a Stuttgart subway—a completely irresponsible charge which the local French consulate has formally protested to our State Department).

This poison was spewed forth for days, completely tying up the urgent legislative tasks of "the greatest deliberative body on earth." Yet, not one voice was raised in the Senate to protest this most disgraceful performance ever witnessed in any democratic governmental assembly—anywhere!

Nor has our War Department spoken up to refute what it knows to be demoralizing lies against Negroe soldiers, despite the fact that we are still in the midst of a hard war which will tax the morale and efficiency of all our fighting men to the utmost.

It is amazing that this could be. More than that, it is downright ominous. A Senate and a War Department that can tolerate such fascist racism as that preached by Bilbo and Eastland last week, without making vigorous and overwhelming protest, could very easily accommodate themselves to the ranting of an American "Hitler." They are, indeed highly unreliable guardians of the democratic liberties of the American people.

Generals Speak Up

But there is no dearth of expert testimony with which to refute the Bilbo-Eastland slanders against our Negro soldiers. Listen to what some of our top-flight generals in the European War have had to say about Negro troops under their command:

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander: "I have seen Negro soldiers in this war and they have rendered valuable service. In late November, 2,000 of them volunteered for front-line service in Germany and they did good work."

Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark, Commander of the 15th Army: "Negro troops in the 15th Army Group have served in many roles during this campaign and have made a substantial contribution to its success."

Maj. Gen. M. S. Eddy, Commander of an army group with which the 761st all-Negro tank battalion fought: "The speed with which they have adapted themselves to the front under the most adverse weather conditions, the gallantry with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops and the confident spirit with which they emerged from their present engagements entitle them surely to consider themselves 'The Veteran 761st.'"

Maj. Gen. Terry Allen, of the famous mixed (Negro-white) 104th Timberwolf Division, who has just returned to America (while awarding heroes' medals to his fighting troops): "We are proud of you."

Brig. Gen. Charles Trueman Lanham, also of the 104th Timberwolft Division: "I have never seen any soldiers who have performed in combat better than you."

Lieut. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, under whose command the justly famous Negro flyers fought: "The 99th Fighter Squadron and the 332d Fighter Group have done well. By their efforts and performance they have won a place on the great Air Forces team. The fact of discouragement, doubts, and difficulties did not stop them any more than did the Jerry aircraft or flak they encountered. They demonstrated the stuff from which champions are made. Anybody can coast along when the going is smooth. It takes heart and guts to push on when the way ahead is rough and rocky.'

I wish I had space to supplement this contemporary testimony with that of American history. In every one of our wars, Negro soldiers have always performed with heroism and gallantry, and have received the enthusiastic plaudits of their commanding officers. Incidentally, this better than anyone else, and has recorded the glorious tradition of Negro fighting men in great detail for use in the training of white and pro-fascist officers.

Negroes must speak up to demand it.

Write to Sen. Alben Barkley, Majority Leader, and to your own Senators. Insist that they act to **have** the Senate rebuke Bilbo and the disgust- Eastland for their disgraceful performance from formance during the anti-FEPC filibuster. 6-26-45

The People Must Speak

us to know It is not enough for us to **speak up now?** Senators **must be** Mississippi are deliberately lying about the performance of Negro soldiers. **Their slanders must be tell others** that the **The overwhelming masses of decent Amer-officially repudiated. The masses of white and pro-fascist anyone else, and has recorded the glorious tradition of Negro fighting men in great detail for use in the training of white and officially repudiated. The masses of white and pro-fascist officers. So why don't they whelming masses of decent Amer-**

Patterson Praises Negro Soldiers

Atlanta Constitution

WASHINGTON, July 5.—(AP)—Undersecretary of War Patterson said today the Army is proud of its Negro soldiers and that he knows of no high ranking general who has condemned their performance. 7-6-45

Patterson thus took issue with Sen. Eastland, Democrat, Mississippi. The latter declred last week during senate debate on the fair employment practices committee that high ranking generals told hi mon a recent overseas trip the Negro troops "would neither work nor fight." Eastland called them an "utter and abysmal failure."

An Infamous Slander

Star of Zion

Senator James O. Eastland, of Mississipi, who probably occupies a seat in the Senate in violation of the Constitution, misrepresenting approximately 80 percent of the voters of his state, has the unmitigated gall to maliciously, wicked and viciously slander and malign American Negro soldiers, who have died on the battlefields of the world in defending a democracy and freedom, without which this charlatan could not utter his falsehoods against the brave patriots who fought in defense of their country. 7-5-45

Speaking to "only a half dozen Senators," the majority of the ninety probably absent because of utter disgust of this ignoramus' exhibition of prejudice, Senator Eastland was filibustering against continuance of the FEPC, which was made possible by the late President Roosevelt and the permanence of which has been urged by President Truman.

That the statement he makes that he was informed by "high ranking generals" that Negro soldiers "would neither work nor fight" is utterly without foundation is proved by the fact that General Eisenhower, General Clark, General Bradley, General Patton, General Simpson and General MacArthur have repeatedly praised the valor of American Negro fighting men, and others of equal dependability have paid high tribute to the bravery and fortitude of the Negro soldier, to say nothing of the many citations which Negro service men have received.

The Senator from Mississippi attempts to make much of a so-called mass raping of German women by French Senegalese and Berber troops, and would apparently link them with American Negro soldiers because they happened to have been "wearing American lend-lease uniforms." The maligning Senator makes no attempt to give any figures of rapings committed by white soldiers, or the reportedly thousands of illegitimate children left by them in occupied areas and in England, some stories of which have shocked the American people.

Moreover, if he had had the decency and fairness to do so, he might have given some very interesting figures on the number of cases of rape committed by white men upon Negro women in the state of Mississippi and the resultant intermixture of the races in his backward and benighted state.

By all of his rantings the Senator simply proves to what length ignorance and prejudice will go in an attempt to circumvent the operation of democracy and fairness in employment, which the decent people of America have demanded; indeed, no stronger endorsement of the FEPC and urgence of its passage has been forthcoming than one from fair-minded and liberal people of the South. 7-5-45

NEWPORT NEWS, VA.
PRESS
Circ. D. 14,053 - S. 25,241

JUL 2 - 1945

Definitely Below the Belt

Hardly anything could be calculated to deal a severer blow at cordial relations between the Caucasian and Negro races in the United States, to inflame animosity worse, than the irresponsible utterances in the senate Friday by Senator JAMES O. EASTLAND of Mississippi regarding the conduct of Negro soldiers in this war, utterances aimed at undercutting the fair employment practices commission. Mr. EASTLAND's statements demand an answer from the war department giving detailed facts, because thier vague generalities and internal evidences of exaggeration lay them open to suspicion of open slander.

The episode has the flavor of a desperate attempt regardless of the means necessary to defeat a measure in which the opponent had a large personal interest. It is not at all unlikely that this extremism may set up a revulsion which will effect the very aim Mr. EASTLAND seeks to circumvent.

He has made some deadly charges against the Negro in the present war. He says some "high-ranking generals" (whom, inexplicably or otherwise, he fails to name) informed him while in Europe that Negro troops would neither work nor fight; that the 92nd division, officered by Negroes commissioned for political reasons, was an "utter abysmal failure"; that it was necessary to disarm a good many Negro soldiers because they forced Frenchmen to stand aside while they raped French women; and that French Senegalese troops locked 5,000 German women in at Stuttgart and raped many of them.

Now all that is extremely broad. No doubt, there have been crimes committed by individual Negro soldiers; but that is true of white soldiers as well. Mr. EASTLAND's charges condemn every black man we have in the ranks. And why drag in the Senegalese, far below the scale of American civilization, even if the charge against them can be fully substantiated? They are utterly irrelevant.

If anything like the grave condition implied by Mr. EASTLAND's outburst exists among our Negro troops, both white and Negro sections of the American population are entitled to know it. If such conditions exist, it means that our entire investment in Negro military personnel is a liability rather than an asset. Mr. EASTLAND's outburst is not convicing, and is symptomatic as well of distortion of the facts to fit a momentary purpose.

Unless he can thoroughly substantiate his charges, Mr. EASTLAND has offered a grave insult to the Negro section of the American population. If his charges are not accurate, they should be fully rebutted, and then he should be required by his senatorial colleagues to offer an adequate apology. All this is entirely apart from the merits of the advisory fair employment practices commission. It betrays him as guilty of the very racial antipathy which the fair employment practices commission was designed to destroy through counsel and advice.

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN-PILOT
Cir. D. 77,505—S. 79,630

JUL 2 - 1945

Norfolk Editor Cites Proof of Negroes' Valor

Not 'Abysmal Failure' In Highest Generals' View, Young Says

What generals supposedly furnished Senator Eastland of Mississippi with the purported facts upon which he based his charge that Negro troops in this war have been "an utter and abysmal failure" is difficult to imagine, in view of the high praise which our top generals in all major theatres of operations have publicly accorded those same fighters, declared Editor P. Bernard Young, Jr., of the Journal and Guide, described as the largest Negro newspaper published in the South and one of the five most widely circulated Negro weeklies in the country, in a statement Saturday.

The Negro editor documented his assertion with quotations from statements by famous American generals and with rebuttals by three war correspondents of the Journal and Guide who, between them, have spent 28 months in active war zones with our troops and on the high seas with Navy personnel.

Before the European war ended, or since they have returned to this country, the Journal and Guide editor pointed out, Generals Dwight Eisenhower, George Patton, Mark Clark, Ira C. Eaker, Lucien K. Truscott, M. S. Eddy and E. M. Allmond, to name a few, have publicly furnished testimony on the valor and performance of Negro soldiers that repudiate the sweeping claim by the Mississippi Senator.

"Was it these generals to whom Senator Eastland says he talked?" asked the Guide editor. "Hardly."

General Douglas MacArthur, Maj. Gen. Raymond G. Lehman, Navy Secretary Forrestal and others have similiarly rated the Negro soldier and sailor highly on the basis of performance in the Pacific, Young added.

The Norfolk newspaper's war correspondents, Thomas W. Young, Lem Graves, Jr. and John Jordan, on the basis of their first-hand experience with our troops in combat, took sharp issue with Eastland's unqualified indictment.

Each of the correspondents cited contradictory appraisals of Negro servicemen given to them in interviewing famous combat generals.

For instance, Jordan declared: "Did the soldiers do a good job? The Germans thought they did. And so did Gen. Mark Clark, and I know they did."

Correspondent Thomas Young said: "A great number of Negro soldiers and many fighter pilots are going to be quite surprised and a little bitter when they learn on authority of Senator Eastland that they have been 'utter and abysmal failures'—but, fortunately, they will be spared that suffering—because none of them returned from their missions. They died in the service of their country."

With special reference to Senator Eastland's direct reference to the Ninety-second Division, Correspondent Graves declared: "Maj. Gen. E. M. Allmond, who commanded the Ninety-second Division in Italy, on the day after V-E Day declared that his 'artillery, tank, and engineer units had maintained throughout the final phases of the Italian campaign the same magnificent performance for which they had previously been cited many times by General Truscott and Gen. Mark W. Clark, commanding general of the Fifteenth Army Group in Italy.' General Allmond made this statement while seated at dinner in the Hotel Columbia in Genoa on May 9."

56n-1945

P.M. 4-8-45 N.Y.

Bill Robinson, who entertained, is having fun.

Photos by Irving Haberman, PM

It's Terrific

P.M. 4-8-45 N.Y.

S/Sgt. Herman Donnel and Sgt. James F. Kelly enjoying show.

Crime Wave' Soldiers Celebrate Anniversary

P.M. N.Y. 4-8-45

More than 2000 Negro soldiers stationed at the Fox Hills cantonment, Staten Island, took time out from Army routine for a few hours Friday, to laugh, cheer, and applaud a special morale-boosting show of professional and GI entertainment in Stapleton's Paramount Theater.

These same soldiers have been under attack from civilians living near the cantonment who accuse them of being responsible for a Staten Island "crime wave."

The soldiers saw a performance, highlighted by such Negro stars as Bill Robinson and S/Sgt. Joe Louis, which was part of a day-long program celebrating the first anniversary of the founding of the Fox Hills cantonment.

The show featured several stars from the forthcoming Negro musical comedy, *Memphis Bound*, including Thelma Carpenter and Ida James, both singers. The GI entertainment featured, among others, the dancing talents of Cpl. Charles Atkinson of Camp Kilmer. Master of ceremonies was Sgt. Jules Munshin, from Camp Shanks.

The heartiest laughs came when Cpl. Harvey Stone of the Port Special Services Dept. who lumbered onto the stage, and began telling jokes about the trials and tribulations of the GI.

District Attorney F. H. Kane, of Richmond, who on Mar. 14 announced that the Grand Jury would investigate the "crime wave" in the area around the cantonment, was invited to attend, but he did not put in an appearance.

Negro GIs Hold Review on S. I.

Daily Worker-N.Y. 4-7-45

Negro troops at the big Fox Hills Terminal base in Stapleton, Staten Island yesterday, marked Army Day by staging an impressive review in which port companies competed for trophies on the parade field.

About 150 white and Negro civilians watched the review, as well as a group of white and Negro officers from other bases who were guests of the Fox Hills cantonment. Several thousand Negro troops at the Fox Hills base are being trained for military stevedoring work. The men are trained in rotation and shipped all over the world.

The ceremonies began with a show staged at the Paramount Theater in Stapleton, where Bill Robinson, famous dancer, Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion now in the armed forces, and other entertainers performed. Spectators applauded lustily when a company of Negro WACS went through intricate marching tactics. Capt. Richard T. Green and Capt. Peter M. Depp were judges of the port companies contest. Other troops staged a demonstration of loading and unloading of supply ships on board the Fox Hills training "land ship."

VALLEJO, CALIF.
TIMES HERALD
Cir. D. 7,255 — S. 7,326

MAY 1945

Southerners Blast Eastland's Tirade

New Orleans, La. Louisiana Weekly

Nashville, July 3.—Prompted by Sen. Eastland's scurrilous attack on the heroic record of Negro servicemen on the senate floor, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare sent the following telegram Saturday to the President and to Secretary Stimson and Secretary Forrestal: 7-2-45

"Believing yesterday's statement by Senator Eastland of Mississippi slurring record of Negro soldiers does great damage to war effort here and on front lines, earnestly beseech you to set the record straight and call to the attention of the country the real story of the heroism of our Negro soldiers and sailors."

The telegram was signed by Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, liberal organization with thousands of members throughout the south.

Opinions of the People:

To "A Proud Mother of a Sailor Son": Your very words "If I was of the Negro race, etc.," speaks volumes in itself alone. Your conception is that the Negro is lesser than other people. You don't seem to grasp that they, too, are Americans just like your boy who enlisted after Pearl Harbor. Would you honestly in your heart deny another American the same rights and courtesies that your boy is fighting for?

They don't ask to be placed in separate armies, drive trucks, do stevedore work and wait on your boy, just because of a difference in pigmentation of the skin. It is you and your like that have some misguided conception that you are superior, that prolong these practices.

If and when these injustices are curbed, we Americans will suffer together, or rejoice together. Would you deny a fellow American that right? I don't see where race comes into the picture.

WILLIAM GEORGE JACKSON.

Fire Fighter Saves Many, Perils Himself

Atlanta Daily World

7-14-45

MIAMI BEACH, Florida — (SNS) — More than on airman owes his life to Private First Class Clarence Gammon, although none of them know who he is. As a member of the 1245th Engineers Fire Fighting Platoon in Italy, Gammon was stationed at an airfield near Pompeii where he pulled fliers to safety after they had crash-landed and been trapped in the flaming wrecks of their planes.

7-14-45

"At least one plane a day crashed at our field and sometimes there were as many as three," said Gammon, 20-year-old-son of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Gammon, Sneads, Florida. "It was all in a day's work putting out the fires that followed the crashes, and rescuing the men inside whenever we could.

"We never knew who they were, and they never knew us because they were taken away in ambulances immediately to have their injuries treated."

HAZARDOUS WORK

Gammon admitted that fire fighting was hazardous work because of the danger of explosions—and a cane he carries at the AAF Regional and Convalescent Hospital in Miami Beach bears testimony to that fact. Until recently he was in traction with a broken leg, but is healing rapidly now.

"I was sitting in my fire truck at the edge of the field one day last September," he said, "when a P-47 came in out of control. "It headed right for where I was and I began to make tracks.

7-14-45

"The plane crashed and exploded, I stumbled and fell. At first I didn't know what happened. When I tried to get to my feet again I found I had been hit by a fragment that broke my leg." Gammon has been hospitalized ever since.

BRADENTON MAN TO BE PROXY IN NEGRO WEDDING

BRADENTON, June 4.—(Special.)—W. B. Shelby Crichlow, prominent Bradenton attorney, will take the marital vows for Frank Robert Taylor, Bradenton Negro soldier serving in the Pacific, when Taylor is married by proxy to Geneva Austin within the next few days.

Crichlow appeared at the county judge's office today with the 21-year-old Negro woman and in behalf of the 27-year-old Taylor signed an application for a marriage license. The application will be posted for the three days required under Florida's new marriage law.

Crichlow said he would appear for Taylor when the ceremony is performed. He left at the judge's office an agreement executed by Taylor designating him as the Negro's attorney-in-fact and authorizing Crichlow to take the vows in his name at the ceremony.

Asked how he happened to be picked for the job, Crichlow said the Austin woman and her mother had been employed by his family for a number of years and that he handled a recent action in which Taylor divorced his first wife. Taylor is overseas with an army engineers' unit.

White Group Calls Remarks "Rank Calumny"

Tennessee

Appalled By Grossly Unjust Congress Talk

Memphis world

NEW YORK— (S N S)— The American Veterans Committe has registered a vigorous protest against the slurring remark against Negro troops made by Senator Eastland on the Senate floor recently.

In a telegram sent to Senator James Mead, Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Albin Barkley, the chairman of the new veterans organization, Charles G. Bolte, stated, "The American Veterans Committee is appalled by the grossly unjust statement on Negro soldiers made on the floor of the United States Senate last Friday."

RECALL IS URGED

7-10-45

In protest to the remark of Senator Eastland of Mississippi that Negro troops had been "an utter and abysmal failure" the telegram continued, "As men who have fought beside Negro troops on every front we know this to be a rank calumny on the heroism of our colored fighting men, and urge you to recall to the Senate and the people the individual and unit accomplishments of our Negro troops."

The American Veterans Committee with executive offices at 554 Madison Ave., in New York, is a new organization for men and women veterans of World War II. Its Statement of Intentions sets a definite policy against discriminations based on race, color or creed.

Accused of Violating 93rd Article of War; in 'White' Side of Bus Waiting Room

Iowa Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

8-9-45

Louisville, Ky.—Following acquittal of the three Negro WACs accused of violating the 93rd Article of war for sitting on the "white" side of a bus waiting room in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, the Louisville NAACP announced the possibility of taking specific action against the civilian policeman who brutally beat Pfc. Helen Smith and Pfc. Georgia Boson. Private Smith was beaten over the head with a blackjack and dragged across the bus station floor when the women objected to being called "nigger wenches."

8-9-45

J. H. McKinney, president of the Louisville branch NAACP, has secured an affidavit from Pfc. Smith which may form the basis for action against the policeman.

The girls were charged with violating the 93rd article of War dealing with disorderly conduct.

The only defense reported as failure to "move fast enough" when ordered out of the white waiting room. They sought to explain that the "colored waiting room" was crowded with men and the lights in there were out. One witness reported that a policeman began beating the girls in uniform with his nightstick and yelling, "when we tell n—— to move we mean for them to git." During the melee, another white officer arrived and assisted in dragging one of the WACs to jail.

With the military charge dropped, the WACs are considering filing a civil suit against the policeman who beat them.

8-9-45

J. H. McKinney, president of the Louisville branch NAACP, has secured an affidavit from Pfc. Smith which may form the basis for action against the policeman.

McKinney says that Elizabethtown is a hot bed of prejudice; that the Negroes there are intimidated and the situation is difficult, but that his branch plans to press the case to the limit.

Pfc. Smith was on her way back to Ft. Knox from Memphis when the incident occurred. Because the train was late and getting later because of being placed on sidings for troop trains, Pfc. Smith decided to get off at Elizabethtown, take a bus and try to get to camp on time in as much as she had never been cited for any violation or regulations and held a good conduct medal.

Overcrowded

After purchasing her ticket at the bus station and finding the "colored" section overcrowded she sat down on the "nearest bench to the colored section." According to her explanation it was not long before several other colored WACs joined her and eventually a civilian policeman appeared cursing and calling them "nigger wenches" and telling them they would have to move because that section was for white people only.

He threatened arrest if they did not move whereupon Pfc. Smith told him he should call an M.P. Angered the civilian policeman replied he had no need of anyone telling him how to handle "nigger wenches." At this point Pfc. Georgia Boson of Texas rebelled and said they had heard enough about "niggers" and they would not stand more .

The civilian policeman then took out his blackjack and started beating the WAC over the head. When she attemped to intervene, Pfc. Smith was dragged across the bus station floor by the policeman who twisted her ankle and skinned her elbow.

The WACs go neither sympathy nor support from their commander who reportedly reprimanded the women for failing to observe the jim crow laws and patterns of the community.

56n-1945

Harness and Saddle Repairmen Men at Camp Lee

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

Left to right: Pvts. Edward Ellis of Excelsior, W.Va.; James Winn of Dillwyn, Va., and Robert Chambers of Elkridge, Md., shown working in the new saddle and harness section of the QM Shoe Repair School at Camp Lee, Va. The men are trained to repair harness on pack teams, rifle and machine gun scabbards, and other leather equipment. One harness repair man accompanies each mobile shoe repair trailer in the field. In order to get supplies through, the Quartermaster Corps has often had to resort to the use of pack teams in Italy and the South Pacific. To gain experience, the new section is doing all repair work for the camp stables. Work is also being done on salvaged leather coming into camp from overseas.

Negro Soldiers Nabbed In Paris 'Black Market'

Chicago Defender 1-6-45

1-6-45

PARIS.—The gigantic, GI-operated black market in Paris was made public here this week by the United States army.

Cracking down on the black market which involved an untold amount of army equipment sold to French civilians at fabulous prices, a number of white and Negro soldiers were convicted in army court here for burglary and the illegal sale of government material.

As disclosed by the army the cases included those of Private Morris L. Fredericks, white, who, together with Private Herman Coleman, colored, held up a cafe in the Montmarte district of Paris on the night of Oct. 13, and obtained 2,100,000 francs—($42,000)—worth of jewelry, bonds and cash.

Earlier the two soldiers had gone A.W.O.L. and lived for two months in a Paris hotel, with Private Turner Harris. All allegedly supported themselves on profits from the sale of government gasoline to the black market.

The night following the hold-up Fredericks and Harris were arrested by military police and the night after that Coleman was picked up by M.P.s at another hotel.

Another case involved Private Herchel Maze Jr., Private Calvin Perry and Private Robert T. Williams, all colored. 1-6-45

Bought Smokes From G.I.s

These men were said to have lived in a hotel in the Paris suburb of Malakoff with 11,000 packages of American cigarettes and smoking tobacco. Operating a black market of their own, the men claimed they had bought the cigarettes from a truck driver.

For illegal possession and sale of government property Maze and Perry were convicted and sentenced to 15 years imprisonment and Williams to 10 years.

At the time of his arrest Williams carried 165,000 francs—($3,300)—which was returned to him after his conviction on the ground that the court never had proved this particular currency was obtained illegally.

Other cases involving Negroes were listed as follows:

Private Raymond Maddox who was convicted of selling 600 gallons of gasoline to the black market. Arrested with him were three French civilians, one of whom had a United States army automatic pistol. Maddox was sentenced to 25 years. 1-6-45

Private Robert S. Jackson was convicted of attempting to get gasoline under faked orders and sentenced to 10 years.

Private Elbert L. Hufendick, a truck driver on the Red Ball supply route, who was sentenced to 10 years for selling 225 gallons of gasoline to a French civilian. When arrested he had 14,000 francs and carried two German automatics.

Private Efrid King, who was convicted of going A.W.O.L. with a truckload of American food rations, cigaretts and post exchange supplies and disposing of them in the black market. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Private Eddie Hackworth was sentenced to five years for attempting to obtain gasoline on forged tickets while impersonating a non-commissioned officer. 1-6-45

Private Edward Frazier was convicted of disposing of 1,055 gallons of gasoline in the black market and sentenced to five years imprisonment.

As yet, no addresses of these men have been made available by the army.

African Troops Lead Advance On Burma Japs

Chicago Defender 1-6-45

Chicago, Ill.

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON—Because of their outstanding achievements in the Burma campaign, African troops are for the first time getting head-line credit for leading the advance against the Japs. 1-6-45

Military spokesmen in London reveal that at the time of writing this dispatch, a race is going on between the 11th East African Division and the British 36th Division to see which force will reach Mandalay, the former capital of Burma, first. The advanced positions of the East Africans driving southwards from Kalewa to Shwegyin are roughly 209 miles away from Mandalaya.

According to dispatches reaching London military circles from the South-East Asia theatre of operations, the East Africans, after crossing the Chindwib from Kalewa under the cover of darkness established a firm bridgehead on the east bank, and they are now reinforcing their position against strong Japanese resistance. It is reported that except for stragglers in the Kalewa area, the Africans have cleared the Japs from all the areas west of Chindwin and the north-well-defined pattern.

In the upper Chindwin sector Fourteenth Army troops have established on the east bank a wide bridgehead in the area southeast of Sittaung. Naba, on which the British troops are advancing, is about seven miles south of Pinwe, which is a junction from which a 15-mile railway line runs southeast to the of the Myitha river.

Review Week's Operation

Reviewing the week's operations to British and foreign correspondents, military spokesman explained the whole plan of campaign. Newspaper men on large British military maps. The official was occupied on November 30, and emphasized that the allied drives into Japanese northern held are beginning to assume a

Irrawaddy port of Katha. The Tenth United States Air Force is cooperating with the Africans in Negro engineer units are busy laying down airfields and roads.

Africans Decorated

Military medals have been awarded to Cpl. Malakwen Sitieri and Pvt. Kasulu Nyaka, serving with the King's Royal East African Rifles, who under heavy enemy fire unhesitantly brought accurate machine-gun fire and grenades to bear on the position, and so silenced the Japs and enabled the platoon to take the position.

"The initiative and prompt action of Corporal Malakwen and Private Kasulu in silencing the enemy's fire," says the official War Office citation, "undoubtedly saved many casualties being suffered by the two advancing platoons, and their actions are worthy of the highest praise."

Tan GI's Among Nation's Top Citizens—MacArthur

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md.

Text of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's statement to the AFRO through Francis Yancey, AFRO war correspondent in the Pacific, which was read during an international round-up of overseas correspondents Friday evening in observance of National Negro Newspaper Week. 3-10-45

"I have been asked to express an opinion as to the character of service of the colored soldiers in the Southwest Pacific area. "I find it difficult to answer categorically this question. For me, there is no differentiation because of race, color, or creed among the soldiers of my command. All are the same in my eyes. All share equally in our privations and sacrifices, and all share equally in our victories.

Francis Yancey

Gen. MacArthur

3-10-45

"Their services have been magnificent. Their patience, their fortitude, their courage, and their complete devotion to their country mark them as belonging to the nation's noblest citizens."

Army Reports Probe Of Dixie Violence

Chicago Defender

The following is an answer I received from the War Department after I sent in a complaint from a newspaper clipping to the President:

6-2-45

"Dear Mr. Frazier: Under date of 20 March, 1945, you addressed a letter to the President, with which you inclosed a newspaper clipping in which it was alleged that a group of Negro soldiers was beaten by civilian police in Jackson, Miss., while military police stood by and looked on.

"An investigation of this matter has been made, and you will be interested to know that appropriate corrective action has been taken.

"The War Department is deeply concerned in the welfare of all members of the Army, and your interest in the matter is appreciated.—Sincerely yours, J. A. Ulio, Major General."—V. W. Frazier, Toledo, Ohio.

Numerous Obstacles Overcome by Veteran at Officers' School

AFRO-American QM

6-2-45

CAMP LEE, Va.—Few shavetails have more cause to be proud of their gold bars than Harry Kelley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kelley of Englewood, N.J., who was graduated from the QM school here recently, having overcome numerous obstacles. 6-2-45

Arriving here after 18 months in Hilo, Hawaii, he entered Class 48 eight days late, then was confined to his quarters the first two days because of a cold. Moreover, the fact that he had not had a furlough in two years lowered his morale.

Finally, he was "washed out." However, after an investigation, Col. L. L. Cobb, school commandant, decided that Kelley should be given a furlough, some military training and another chance. As a result, he was commissioned on May 18.

Congressmen Back Equality In Army

Atlanta World 6-13-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—A declaration expressing supportt for the mixed combat unit policy employed by the War Department in the defeat of Germany, and urging its rapid extension to all branches of the service will shortly be submitted to President Truman by the National Negro Congress. The statement has been endorsed already by a number of Congressmen and Senators and by outstanding leaders throughout the country. 6-13-45

The statement declares that the assignment of Negro troops to mixed combat units on the Western Front climaxed "a series of positive development to break down discrimination in the Armed Forces with a definite change in the traditional segregated policy of the Army." It quotes the official Army magazine, "YANK," as saying "the results of the policy have been to increase combat manpower against the enemy in the most crucial phase of the war, and a boon to the morale of our fighting men as well as millions of Negro and white people at home.

Among Congressmen who have endorsed the NNC statement are Democrats, Adam Clayton Powell, (N. Y.), Ray J. Madden (Ind.), T. E. Morgan (Pa.), George E. Outland (Cal.), Melvin Price (Ill.), B. J. Rabin (N. Y.), Leo F. Rayfield (N. Y.), John H. Tolan, (Cal.), Wm. J. Gallagher (Minn.), William Bryne (N. Y.), Hugh DeLacy (Wash.), Thomas S. Gordon (Ill.), (S. D.), Augustus W. Bennett William T. Granaham (Pa.), Helen Charles H. Elston (Ohio), James Gahagan Douglas (Calif.), Emily T. (N.Y.), EVERETT M. Dirksen (Ill.) Douglas (Ill.), and Daniel J. Flood G. Fulton (Pa.) B. W. Kearney (Pa.), 6-13-45 (N. Y.), Edward McCowen (Ohio), Brien McMahon (D. of Conn.). (Repubicans) Joseph C. Baldwin J. Harry McGregor (Ohio). Other endorsers include judges (N.Y.), Robert J. Corbett (Pa.), The first two Senators to endorse mayors, artists, labor leaders, civic Homer D. Angell (Oregon), Walter the statement were Sen. Dennis leaders churchmen, and outstand- E. Burke (Ohio), Francis Case Chaves (D. of N. M.), and Sen. ing citizens in many lines.

56n-1945

Chronology of Important Events of World War II

Afro American - Baltimore, Md.

5-12-45

1933

JAN. 30—Adolf Hitler comes to power.
MAR. 4—Franklin D. Roosevelt becomes President.

1934

JULY 26—Nazis try to seize Austria. Mussolini stops them by rushing troops to Italian-Austrian border.

1935

MAR. 16—Hitler defies Treaty of Versailles.

1936

MAR. 7—Hitler rearms Rhineland.

1937

JULY 7—Troops clash near Peiping, bringing on war between China and Japan.

1938

MAR. 11—Germany occupies Austria.
SEPT. 30—Hitler, Mussolini, Chamberlain, and Daladier sign agreement at Munich.

1939

SEPT. 1—Germany invades Poland.
SEPT. 3—Britain and France declare war on Germany, marking the beginning of World War II.

1940

APRIL 9—Germany occupies Denmark and invades Norway.
MAY 10—Germany launches "blitzkrieg" attack against Netherlands, Belgium and France. Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister of Britain.
MAY 28—British withdraw from France. Dramatic retreat from Dunkirk.
JUNE 10—Italy declares war on Britain and France.
JUNE 22—France signs armistice with Germany.
OCT. 28—Italy invades Greece.

1941

JAN. 16—War Department announces formation of the 99th Fighter Squadron—first opportunity for colored service men to be admitted to the air defense units.
FEB. 8—Army decides to use colored nurses in its medical corps.
MAR. 7—Surgeon General McGhee states that colored physicians, dentists, nurses and other professional Army service employees would be confined to work with colored troops only.
APRIL 6—Germany attacks Yugoslavia and Greece.
APRIL 19—The first group of 75 recruits for training as airplane mechanics for positions with the 99th Fighter Squadron arrive at Chanute Field, Ill.
APRIL 23—Greek Army in the Epirus surrenders to Germany.
MAY 22—Capt. Benjamin O. Davis (now colonel) is appointed commanding officer of 99th Fighter Squadron.
JUNE 12—James D. Fowler is graduated from West Point Academy.
JUNE 21—Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., only colored general in U.S. Army, is assigned to Inspector General's Office, Washington.
JUNE 22—Germany attacks Russia.

5-12-45

JULY 19—President Roosevelt appoints six-member Fair Employment Practice Committee to investigate discrimination in defense work.
OCT. 30—Reuben James torpedoed.
DEC. 7—Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.
DEC. 8—United States and Britain declare war on Japan.
DEC. 11—United States declares war on Germany and Italy; Japanese troops land on Philippines.
DEC. 11—Germany and Italy declare war on the United States.
DEC. 19—Selective Service Act amended to include males from 20-44 and the registration of all men up to 64 years of age.

1942

JAN. 14—Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, is inducted into the U.S. Army as a private.
JAN. 26—First AEF lands in Northern Ireland.
FEB. 15—Singapore surrenders to Japanese.
MAR. 5—The Navy Department discloses for the first time the name of the messman, Dorie Miller, of Waco, Texas, who manned a machine gun under fire and shot down four Jap planes during the Pearl Harbor attack.
MAR. 7—The first five cadets to complete the advanced air training at Tuskegee are graduated.
MAR. 27—First colored troops arrive in Australia.
APRIL 18—U.S. planes bomb Tokyo.
MAY 2—Colored troops, along with others, land in New Caledonia, an island under control of the Free French government.
MAY 4-8—U.S. wins victory in Coral Sea battle.
MAY 6—Corregidor surrenders.
JUNE 4-10—U.S. Navy defeats Japan at Midway.
JUNE 13—First colored soldiers land in England.
JUNE 17—Pfc. Napoleon E. Taylor, Baltimore, Md., is first American soldier to set foot on African soil as AEF lands at Liberia.
JULY 19—Forty colored women arrive at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, to be trained as officers of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (now WAC).
AUG. 7—United States forces attack Japanese in Solomons.
AUG. 19—Ten thousand troops, mostly Canadian forces, raid Dieppe, France.
OCT. 15—The 92nd Infantry Division is activated at Fort McClellan, Ala., with Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, white, commanding officer.
NOV. 8—United States troops invade Africa.
DEC. 1—Ethiopia declares war on the Axis Powers.

1943

5-12-45

JAN. 18—Russian counter offensive relieves siege of Leningrad, removes pressure on Stalingrad and continues to roll toward Rostov.
JAN. 23—British Eighth Army enter Tripoli.
JAN. 16-26—"Unconditional Surrender" conference held at Casablanca, Africa, with President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill conferring. Ollie Stewart, AFRO correspondent, covers conference.
APRIL 2—The 99th Fighter Squadron leaves the United States for overseas combat duty in the North African theatre.
MAY 7—Tunis and Bizerte captured by Allies.
JULY 2—Capt. Charles B. Hall shoots down Nazi plane—the first colored pilot to gain an air victory.
JULY 10—Sicily invaded.
JULY 25—Mussolini ousted in Italy; Marshal Pietro Badolgio becomes premier.
AUG. 5—Jap air base at Munda falls.
AUG. 17—Sicily falls to Allies.
SEPT. 3—Fourth anniversary of start of war, and Allies land in Italy (Salerno).
SEPT. 8—Italy surrenders, but fighting continues as German divisions pour into peninsula from north.
SEPT. 20—SS Frederick Douglass, Liberty ship named for the famous abolitionist and statesman, is sunk by enemy action. Its captain, Adrian Richardson, and mixed crew are saved.
OCT. 13—Italy declares war on Germany.
OCT. 25—The first thirty air cadets begin training as navigation pilots at Hondo Air Field, Texas.
NOV. 3—The first class of colored bomber pilots is graduated from the Tuskegee Army Air School.

1944

JAN. 22—American forces establish beachhead at Anzio, 22 miles below Rome in Italy.
MAR. 15—Allies level Cassino with heavy all-out air bombardment.
MAY 11—Allies launch massive attack on Gustav Line in Italy.
JUNE 4—Rome occupied by Allied armies.
JUNE 6—Allied armies invade Normandy (northwestern France),

biggest invasion of war.

JULY 20—Attack made on Hitler's life at Berlin headquarters, but Adolf escapes with "slight burns."

AUG. 4—Florence captured.

AUG. 15—Allied troops invade Southern France along 125-mile strip from Marseilles to Nice.

AUG. 25—Allied troops enter Paris, with surrender of the French capital at 6 p.m.

SEPT. 2—United States troops move into Belgium.

SEPT. 10—First Army (American) fires first shells on German home territory—Aachen.

NOV. 20—Miss Jean A. Freeman, Roxbury, Mass., sworn into the WAVES as first colored woman to be accepted in the WAVES or SPARS.

5-12-45

1945

JAN. 18—The Army announces change of policy to commission colored nurses.

FEB. 12—The first contingent of colored Wacs (738) to go overseas arrives in England. Unit is assigned to postal duty.

APRIL 8—Final offensive in Italy launched.

APRIL 12—President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies at Warm Springs, Ga.; Vice-President Harry S. Truman takes oath of office as the thirty-third President of the United States.

APRIL 21—Russian armies break into Berlin.

APRIL 25—World Security Conference opens at San Francisco, Calif., with 46 nations represented.

APRIL 27—Anglo-American and Russian armies join forces at Torgau, Germany, 58 miles south of Berlin on the Elbe River.

APRIL 28—President Truman denies peace rumors. Associated Press earlier reported "Germany Surrenders" on strength of statement from Senator Tom Connally, chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

APRIL 29—Benito Mussolini, Italian dictator since 1922; his mistress, Clara Petacci, and 16 Fascist henchmen are executed in Dongo, Italian village near the Swiss border.

APRIL 29—German officials sign surrender papers for armies in Italy at Royal Palace, Caserta.

APRIL 30—Gen. Mark W. Clark says German resistance is broken.

MAY 1—Adolf Hitler reported dead by Nazis radio; Admiral Karl Doenitz assumes command as Der Fuehrer in Germany.

MAY 2—German and Italian Fascist troops in Italy (1,000,000 men) surrender to Allies. Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt captured by American troops south of Munich.

MAY 2—Berlin, greatest city of the European continent, surrenders to Russians at 3 p.m. (Moscow time) after 12 days of street fighting.

MAY 3—Russians report that Hitler and Propaganda Minister Goebbels committed suicide. Joachim von Ribbentrop is fired as German foreign minister. Count Ludwig Schwerin von Krosigk named by Fuerher Doenitz to replace Ribbentrop. Hamburg surrenders to British 2nd Army.

Russia's Decision Believed Assures Enemy's Surrender

Nashville, (Tenn) Globe

There was great rejoicing in Nashville over the news released by President Truman Wednesday that Russia had declared war on Japan. The rejoicing came not only from civilians but from men in the uniform of their country, many of whom expected to be called upon to go to the Pacific to fight the Japanese until they submitted to unconditional surrender. It was not believed by either citizens or civilians that Japan would surrender on the demand of the United States and Great Britain. But with mighty Russia coming into the war, it was believed the mere declaration by Russia that she would fight Japan, leaves that little nation nothing else to do but to submit to the inevitable. Holding out in a fight against the combined might of the United States and Russia is a sheer impossibility, either for Japan or any combination of nations, it is believed.

However, Wednesday it was not known whether Japan's capitulation would come suddenly or not. Nevertheless, the indications were that the thousands of Americans who would be called upon to invade Japan and face such savage resistance as the Japanese gave Americans on Iwo Jima and Okinawa, would not not have to do so. That means that there is as much happiness among the people back home as there is among the soldiers at the front.

8-11-45

It is no secret that Negro soldiers and civilians, while 100 per cent patriotic, have had no desire to wage any "race war" on Japan Negroes have not appreciated the appeals to race prejudice that characterized so much of the talk of the arm-chair strategists who have been appealing for the complete obliteration of the Japanese Those engaged in hurling epithets about the color of the Japanese, very generally are Negro-baiters also, and no self-respecting Negro has wanted it to appear that he was willing to be used to carry on a race war against anybody in the world.

The general attitude of Negroes hereabout has been that the was against Japan ought to be fought with all that we have, with a purpose of getting done with the bloody mess as soon as possible, and in order that all of the conscripted boys in the Pacific speedily could be brought back to their homes and loved ones.

Americans were quite skeptical about the statesmanship of President Truman when he ended up his visit with Generalissimo Stalin, apparently without having gotten the Russians to consider declaring war on the Japanese in appreciation of the part American men and arms played in making Russia victorious over the Germans. And then there was the talk about American taxpayers being called upon to lend the Russians six billion dollars, which would come out of the pockets of the little as well as the big taxpayers of the country. It was hard to believe that "Uncle Sam" would be that generous to the Russians and then continue to carry the whole burden of the war against the strongly-entrenched Japanese. Average Americans have never put any stress on what the British could or would do to defeat the Japanese. In this whole war, the facts are the British, on the side of the Allies have been just abouft as potent as the Italians were on the side of the Axis powers.

With Russia having decided to come into the war against the Japanese, many will see the beginning of the end of British imperialism—the hastening of the day of liberation of the people of India. The end of colonial oppression, the besetting sin of the British, ought to promote world peace better than anything else. Russia is on record as denouncing imperialism; that was the theme of the great speech made by Mr. Molotov at San Francisco. Since then, the Winston Churchill government in Britain has fallen and has been replaced by a Labor Government. The laborites are themselves opposed to the kind of Tory exploitation of the darker races which Winston Churchill always extolled.

Russia, it would appear, will be in the war to end Japanese imperialism and oppression of the Chinese and other Asiatics. It can be presumed that they will also insist that Great Britain, also, climb down off the backs of the Asiatic natives she has so long "worked" for a living. Russia's coming into the war to end Japanase imperialism will not make sense unless soon afterward she expresses herself as being opposed to British imperialism.

Americans overwhelmingly have been embarrased with carrying on a war for liberation and being, at the same time, tied up with the British, whose empire thrives on human slavery.

Undoubtedly the report of what the atom bomb is capable of doing has caused people to predict that Japan would shortly be knocked out of the war. But there has been considerable revulsion among Christian people here against the use of so destructive a weapon.

The feeling now is that the weapon may not have to be used; that Japanese leaders will see the futility of continuing the war and come to terms with their conquerors. The news of such a surrender, which is looked for within a few days or weeks, will [illegible] off just about the biggest c[illegible] in Nashville and thro[illegible] United States that has [illegible] place.

Negro Sergeant Patton Pallbearer

N.Y. N.Y.

One of the half-dozen men that bore the casket of their former chief, General Patton, was a Negro sergeant, William Meeks of Junction City, Kansas, who had been General Patton's orderly for the past eight years. Meeks had served with Patton in North Africa, Sicily and northwest Euorpe.

Peoples Voice

As Meeks handed Mrs. Patton the American flag that covered the general's casket, she, for the first time, broke down. There were tears in Meek's eyes, and his face was strained as he bowed slowly and handed her the folded flag. He saluted with a gloved hand and peered directly into her eyes, exchanging a final message of condolence.

12-29-45

56n-1945

The Part Negro Troops Played in World War 2

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

(This is the second of a series of weekly articles reviewing the part that Negro troops played in World War II. This week's article continues the discussion of combat troops begun last week.)

COMBAT TROOPS (Continued)

In early November the 761st Tank Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Paul L. Bates, of Boonton, N. J., was committed as attached armor of the 26th Infantry Division in the Third U. S. Army, becoming the first Negro tank unit to go into action.

The 761st fought in six European countries, France, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and Austria, and was at various times attached to the Third, Seventh and Ninth U. S. Armies. During these campaigns the battalion furnished tank support for the 26th, 71st, 87th, 79th, 103rd Infantry Divisions, and the 17th Airborne Division during the battle of the Bulge. 8-24-45

40 Bronze, 8 Silver Stars

Eight enlisted men of the unit won battlefield commissions. Decorations included 40 Bronze Stars, 8 Silver Stars, three of them posthumously awarded.

These Negro tankers spearheaded the famous "Task Force Rhine," which crashed through the rugged mountain defenses of the Siegfried Line in the Nieder Schlettenbach - Reisdorf - Klingenmunster area. "Task Force Rhine" consisted of the 761st Tank Battalion, the second battalion of the 103rd Infantry Division's 409th Regiment, a detachment of combat engineers, and a recon platoon from the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion, a Negro outfit. In three days the task force opened up a big hole in the Siegfried defenses through which passed the 14th Armored Division on March 24.

Aid in Rhine Crossing

Another Negro tank unit, the 784th, arrived in Europe in time to assist the 35th Infantry Division in crossing both the Roer and Rhine Rivers and the subsequent fighting that followed these crossings.

Probably no other Negro combat unit in Europe achieved as brilliant a record, both in terms of consistently outstanding performance in battle and excellence of morale, as did the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Commanded by Lt. Col. Frank S. Pritchard, a white officer from Lansing, Mich., the unit was mainly officered by Negroes.

The unit moved into position with the 95th Infantry Division in front of Metz in November, but soon after was transferred to the 102nd Infantry Division of the Seventh Army where it remained as attached TD support until the end of the war.

Get Unit Citation 8-24-45

For "uotstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy" at Climbach, France, on December 14, 1944, the Third Platoon of Company "C" of the 614th TD Battalion received a Distinguished Unit Citation. The citation itself tells graphically the grim, heroic nature of the action:

"The Third Platoon was an element of a task force whose mission was to storm and capture the strategically important town of Climbach, France, on the approaches of the Siegfried Line. Upon reaching the outskirts of the town, the task force was halted by a terrific hail of fire from an enemy force firmly entrenched in the surrounding woods and hills overlooking the route of approach. The only position available for direct fire upon the enemy was an open field.

Suffered Heavy Casualties

"As the Third Platoon moved into position, its commander and several men were wounded. Undeterred by heavy enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire, which was now being directed against their position, the men of the Third Platoon valiantly set up their three-inch guns and delivered accurate and deadly fire into the enemy positions.

Casualties were mounting; two of their four guns were knocked out; nevertheless, the remaining crew members heroically assisted in the loading and firing of the other guns. At the height of the battle, enemy infantry converged on the positions from the surrounding woods, threatening to wipe out the platoon's position.

"While a few members of the gun crews remained firing the three-inch guns, others manned machine guns and individual weapons, laying down a devastating curtain of fire which inflicted numerous casualties on the enemy and successfully repulsed the attack. 8-24-45

During the fire fight an ammunition shortage developed, and gun crews were reduced to skeleton size, one man loading, aiming and firing, while the other men repeatedly travelled a distance of 50 yards through a hail of mortar and small arms fire, to obtain shells from a half-track which had been set on fire by a direct hit from an enemy mortar shell.

"Heedless of possible injury men continuously exposed themselves to enemy fire to render first aid to the wounded. In this engagement, although the platoon suffered over 50 per cent casualties and lost considerable material, its valorous conduct, in the face of overwhelming odds, enabled the task force to capture its objective.

"The grim determination, the indomitable fighting spirit and the esprit de corps displayed by all members of the Third Platoon reflect the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States."

Negro Soldiers In World War 2

The Call Kansas City, Missouri
The Call Kansas City Mo. 9-7-45

(This is the third in a series of articles reviewing the part that Negro troops played in the European phase of World War II.)

SIGNAL CORPS

During the campaign against the German Army in Europe, 5,500 Negro Signal Corps troops belonging to 20 signal units participated in the vital battle of communications.

These troops worked in two main types of Signal Corps units— light and heavy signal construction battalions and companies.

Negro units that participated in various campaigns were the 25th, 29th, 37th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd and 44th Signal Construction Battalions, and the 258th, 259th 261st, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 275th, 534th, 535th, 537th and 496th Signal Construction Companies.

Negroes comprised seven and one half per cent of the total Signal Corps personnel in the European Theater.

Several of these units made communications history. Negro Signal outfits laid wire from the hedgerowed fields of Normandy, across France, Luxembourg and Belgium deep into Germany.

A recent estimate of communications wire put in by Negro troops released by Communications Zone headquarters included these figures: over 10,000 miles of open wire set up; over 500 miles of field wire, and over 500 miles of rubber and lead "Spiral 4" cable.

The 29th Signal Construction Battalion arrived in France on D plus 9 and 10. Its first major mission, rehabilitation of the Chef du Pont- Valognes railroad pole line, was accomplished in the face of enemy snipers, mines, and artillery fire.

After this, the 29th moved into Carentan on June 22, shortly after the towns had been liberated by U. S. forces, and repaired damaged telephone lines frequently under heavy German artillery fire.

Another Negro Signal Corps unit, the 41st Signal Construction battalion, arrived on the continent on D plus 20 and was assigned to the rehabilitation of damaged French lines. The first line started at Valognes, Normandy and ran into Cherbourg where the 41st signal men worked before the city was completely cleared of enemy resistance. 9-7-45

The unit set up about 200 miles of open-wire pole lines and 40 miles of underground lead-covered cable. This latter is reported to be the longest underground cable laid in Europe by any one signal unit. The 41st also installed the communications system for the Continental headquarters of Communications Zone during the Normandy campaign, and assisted with the installation of communications for the first SHEAF Continental Command Post.

The 41st Signal Construction Battalion was officially commended for its work in Normandy by Major General W. S. Rumbough, Chief Signal Officer of the ETO who said: "This is to commend the officers and enlisted men of the 41st Signal Construction Battalion upon the construction work in connection with the establishment of the Headquarters Communications Zone signal system. The work was done at high speed, and the men worked far in excess of their normal working schedule to accomplish their job." 9-7-45

What the Negro Soldier Wants

The Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Brooklyn.
Editor, Daily Worker: 9-10-45

Reading Sadie Van Veen's **A Negro Soldier's Story** today and noting her reactions on meeting a Negro GI back from ETO, it seemed that instead of feelings of embarrassment and shame she should have felt and expressed anger and thus resolve to attack, attack, attack and destroy the fascists who are still active in our midst. I thought the day was gone when people felt penitent for the acts of foul fascists like Bilbo.

The Negro soldier doesn't appreciate Miss Van Veen's shame, and of course he didn't talk much. He's had too much sympathy and too little fight in his behalf. When you're in a struggle you need allies, fighting, vigorous allies, and sympathizers make you sick at heart.

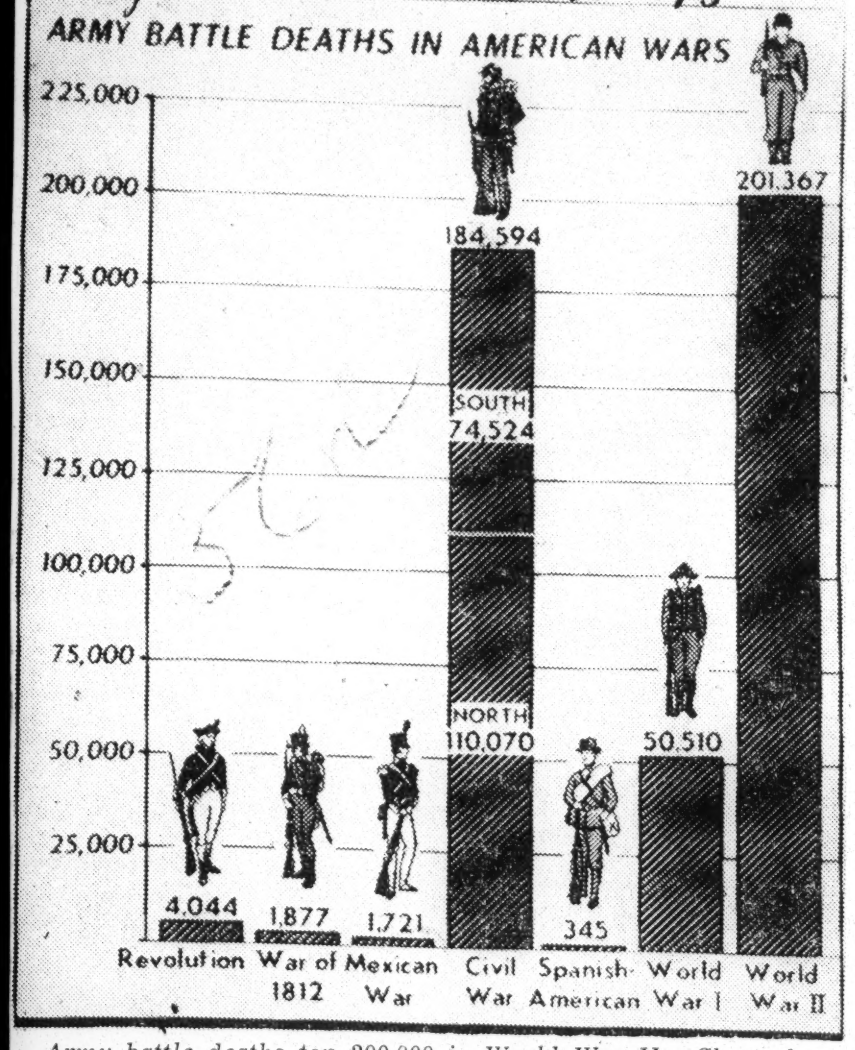
The Negro soldier comes home filled with misgivings and certain that his fight for freedom still must be fought in his own backyard. He was heart and mind and body in the struggle to liberate the French, Belgians, Italians. Despite Jimcrow and a hundred bitter abuses in his own army, abuses which never reached the public, he made his contribution to victory. Now, turning homeward, he looks for his fighting allies to win his freedom. Let's not feel sorry for him. A soldier hates being patronized. He's stood on his own feet and asks that his friends show him respect, give him concrete aid to win his final battle.

He wants his job with equal pay and he wants to become a full and equal citizen of his country. Give him aid to this end and we can no longer feel sorry nor embarrassed any more than John Brown felt "sorry or embarrassed" at Harper's Ferry many years ago.

TOM JONES.

U. S. Army Dead Top 200,000

The Birmingham Age-Herald
Birmingham, Alabama 10-10-45



Army battle deaths top 200,000 in World War II. Chart shows the number of Army battle deaths in the nation's wars. Figures are those listed by Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the United States Army, in his biennial report. (AP Wirephoto).

Reveal Secret Report Praised Negro GIs

Daily Worker

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

N.Y.W.W.

Negro soldiers are "the best troops you'll find anywhere," said a combat captain overeas when Army investigators interviewed him in a check up on the attitude of white soldiers towards mixed infantry outfits.

"They (the Negroes) just did their job and did damn well," said the commander, "and finally the white soldiers accepted them on their merits."

Many other officers and enlisted men joined in lauding the Negro GI's when the Army investigators asked their opinions.

The report of their testimony is a smashing refutation of the slanders made by Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss) during his anti-FEPC filibuster.

The Army investigators report suppressed by Ben. Brehon Somervell has recently become avaiable to Washington reporter.

Soldiers' comments on the fighting quality of Negro troops were given in answer to questions as to whether they wanted Negro platoons within their companies.

The policy of having white and colored platoons fighting side by side together is big step away from the policy of Jimcrow divisions. It does not bring as much white and black unity, however, as comes when no distinction of race is found within the platoon.

The great majority of 1,700 white officers and men interviewed agreed that colored soldiers fought well and got along well with their white buddies.

10-22-45

FOUGHT "VERY WELL"

Eighty-four percent of the officers voted that the Negro GI's performed "very well" in combat.

Sixteen percent said "fairly well."

None put their marks in the columns headed "not so well" or "not well at all."

The O.K. was unanimous.

White platoon sergeants were almost unanimous in praising theired colored troops.

Eighty-one percent voted under the **"very well"** line.

Seventeen percent said that the troops fought "fairly well."

Only one percent voted **"not so well,"** with another one percent "undecided."

Three quarters of the white troops declared that "their feeling toward the colored soldiers has changed since first serving with them in combat. They report increased respect and friendliness," says the suppressed report.

Many officers and enlisted men are highly enthusiastic in their comments on their colored fellow fighters.

WHAT OFFICERS SAID

A company commander (First Lieut.) from Connecticut said: "They are very aggressive as fighters—really good at fighting in woods and at close-quarter work. **The only trouble is getting them to stop: they just keep pushing.**

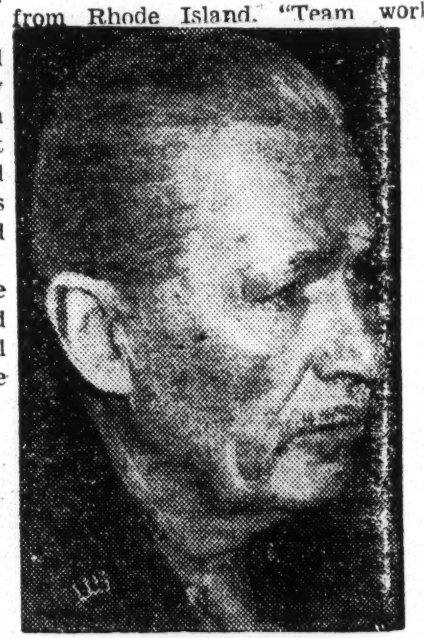
"Good on teamwork," commented a field captain from Virginia: "This colored platoon of 35 men with no prepared positions was counterattacked by 90 Germans. The platoon commander has just been captured. They killed 46 and took 35 prisoners, without losing any gorund or having any casualties."

A company commander (First Lieut.) from California remarked:

"They're the best platoon in the regiment. I wish I could get a presidential citation for them."

Racial prejudices broke down during the fighting.

Whites and colored troops "got along fine in combat," said a platoon commander (Second Lieut.) from Rhode Island. "Team work



SOMERVELL
Held Back Report

couldn't have been better," he added. "A lot of boys from the South didn't like the idea at first, but a few days fighting with them changed their minds."

Said a captain from Pennsylvania:

10-22-45

"Never had a bit of trouble in this company."

A Nevada captain remarked: "Relations are very good. They (whites and colored) have their pictures taken together, go to church services, movies, play ball together. For a time there in combat, our platoons got so small that we had to put a white squad in the colored platoon. . . . The white squad didn't want to leave the platoon. I've never seen anything like it."

A Georgia platoon sergeant said: "There never has been any sign of trouble. We like them and they like us. I've got every respect for those boys . . .; seems like that platoon is the life of the company."

One Alabama first sergeant admitted that "I didn't want them (the Negro troops) at first. Now I have more trust in them. I used to think they would be yellow in combat, but I've seen them work."

A South Carolina platoon sergeant said: "When I first heard about it I said I'd be damned before I'd wear the same soulder patch they did. After that first day when we saw how they fought I changed my mind. They're just like any of the other boys to us."

Some elements of Jimcrow feeling remain of course. Some soldiers praise the Negroes with reservations. But a large majority want them in their companies.

The majority in favor of bringing Negro platoons into the companies is not so high as the majority finding that Negroes fight "very well." But it is still substantial. Seventy-two percent of enlisted men and 55 percent of the officers interviewed voted for the platoon idea without any qualifications. Twenty-six per cent of the enlisted men and 25 per cent of the officers support the idea for combat but not for garrison duty. Only two percent of enlisted men opposed the idea in any form, while 15 percent of the officers thought it was good only for colored volunteers, and five percent were "undecided" about the whole issue, and none opposed it entirely.

Wives and Veterans, Inc.

Don't Like Powell, So Atlantans Secede

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA (ANP)—The Atlanta chapter of Wives and Veterans, Inc., formerly W.I.V.E.S., Inc., last week withdrew indignantly from the national organization because Adam C. Powell Jr., New York Democrat and husband of Hazel Scott, pianist-singer, will be the principal speaker at the national convention.

The Atlanta white group charged Wives and Veterans, Inc., with being a New York-controlled pressure group which propounds non-representative, "too leftist" views in the name of the entire membership and expresses anti-Southern and anti-Fascist sentiments while failing to condemn communism. The executive committee had "embarrassed" the Atlanta group on certain resolutions sent Congressmen and other public officials, accordingly.

10-23-45

DIDN'T LIKE DAR REMARK

The resolution severing its connection with the national organization declared: "We feel that we cannot allow ourselves to be associated with a group which has as its principal speaker at a national convention a Negro Congressman who only a few months ago called the wife of the President of the United States "the last Lady'." (The resolution was made by Representative Powell during the controversy over use by his wife of Constitution Hall in Washington.)

"We feel," the Atlanta whites "that the national organization has cast slurs on our section of the country by its approving motion pictures as "The Southerner" and by giving the impression that they were representative in the South."

ALLOWED NO VOICE

They further charged that the action of the recent national convention "did not allow us any voice in any matters of sectional interest." It was also stated that the national group had approved books including "Strange Fruit."

10-22-45

Train Colored Air Resupply Squadrons at Fort Benning

Afro-American

3-3-45

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Air Corps Resupply Squadrons, composed of colored enlisted men and white officers, the first to be trained in the United States, have been under training at Lawson Field here during the past five months.

Resupply squadrons are capable of dropping everything from delicate radio equipment and fresh eggs to heavy combat material from the open doors of Troop Carrier Command aircraft.

While the job of resupply is done generally by aircraft or glider, when condittions prevent landing, the task of supplying troops is carried out by parachute and free drop.

The Skies Their Highway

These squadrons are employed when land communications do not exist, roads are blown out or impassible, in supplying troops in tactical operations, to recover a stalmated offensive or to supply isolated fighting units.

Members of the squadrons have been selected for their aptitude, intelligence and ability to learn in a short time the technical work of dismantling, crating, loading and transporting by air many heavy implements of warfare necessary to our fighting forces.

A 'GI Heaven'

The Worker

That's how our soldiers describe the Atlantic redistribution center which is host to 2,500 returned overseas vets each week. the Worker

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

AFTER five months of operation in the processing of returned veterans, this huge and luxurious Army Ground and Service Forces Redistribution Station is a proven success, said the War Department. 6-17-45

Geared to serve 2,500 returnees a week, the elaborate project was set up in December 1944, to determine the military job for which each returnee is best fitted according to his skill and physical conditions. Since its organization, thousands of returnees and their wives have passed through the station, 25 per cent of them being Negroes.

Long experience has convinced the Army that a true picture of a soldier's abilities can be attained only when he is completely relaxed and comfortably situated. To achieve this end, nothing has been spared in providing the returnees with every recreational activity that ingenuity can provide.

From the window of his once $30 a day room overlooking Atlantic City's world-famous Boardwalk, the returned veteran looks down on a world eager and well-equipped to satisfy his most idle whim for the next fourteen days.

When he arrives at the Station, his pay check is waiting for him. If his wife is with him, she is greeted with a gift from the commanding officer; if the soldier is alone, an Army hostess stands by to plan his day for him.

All the returnee has to do is make up his mind whether it's going to be a day outdoors or one spent inside--the Army does the rest. 6-17-45

If it's indoors, he finds red ball, table tennis, billiards and pool to keep him occupied. Or he may go over to famed Convention Hall on the Boardwalk for archery, badminton, basketball, boxing, wrestling, ping pong, volley ball or tennis.

The call of the outdoors ranges from a boat cruise along the Jersey coast to a bicycle ride down the renowned Boardwalk, with lounging in a beach chair, swimming in the surf and deep sea fishing inviting his every idle moment. New York

When night falls, there is dancing with attractive hostesses from Atlantic City, the latest films at the War Department Theater or a stage show put on by the GIs themselves. Each evening there is some special form of entertainment among the social activities for the returnees and their guests provided by the Special Service Officer. N.Y.

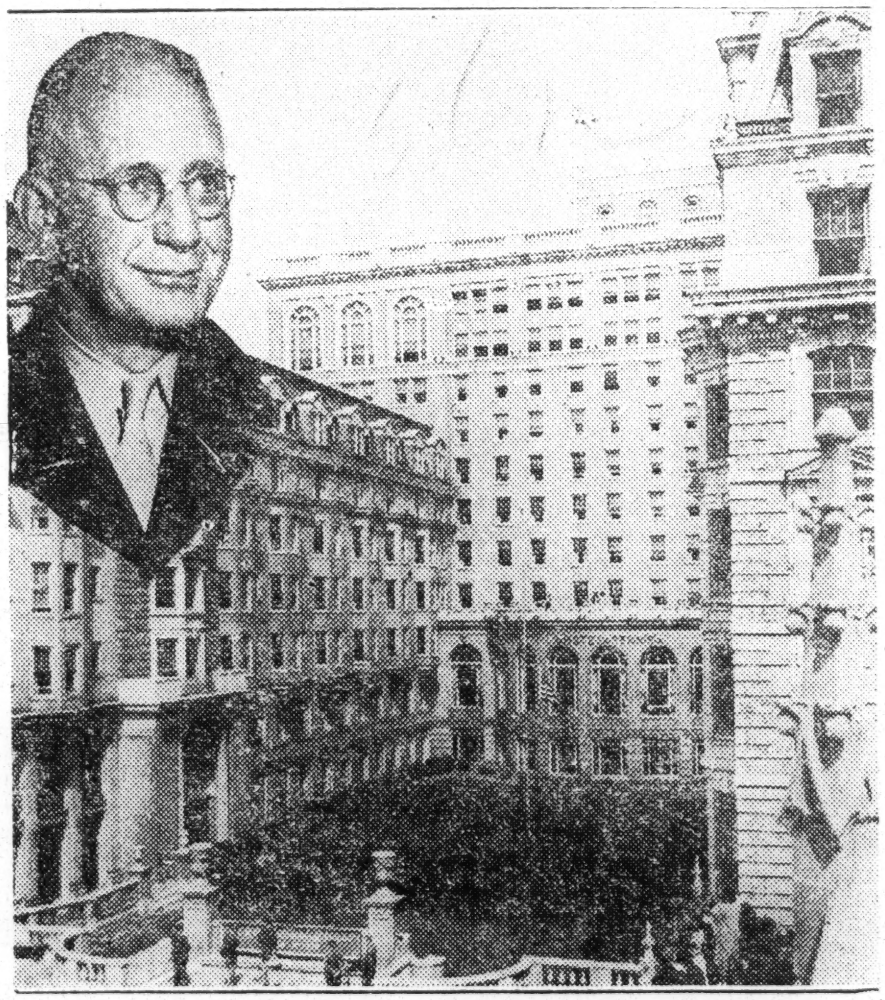
Typical comment of soldiers passing through this station is, "This ain't the Army—this is a GI Heaven!"

The man responsible for the success of this undertaking is Colonel James G. Cooper, veteran infantryman of 28 years' service, who was on duty in the Army of Occupation in Europe following the World War.

Holder of the Victory Medal, Occupation of Germany Medal and Italian Order of the Crown for the World War, Colonel Cooper also wears the American Defense Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign for his participation in the present war as commanding officer of the 34th Infantry Regiment in Hawaii.

Asked by the correspondent of a metropolitan daily how he had achieved such a democratic atmosphere in the Redistribution Station, Colonel Cooper replied: 6-17-45

"I do not know. I suppose it is one of those things that just happen. I did call the entire operating personnel to a meeting upon arrival and laid down this policy: That the men coming here, regardless of race, creed or color, have laid their lives on the line, therefore, all soldiers are alike and will be treated as such at this installation as long as I am in command. If there is anyone here who cannot subscribe fully to this program, I will immediately accept his request for transfer. No one requested transfer and the program worked."



Col. James C. Cooper (inset) insists on equal treatment for all servicemen at the Atlantic City redistribution center.

56n-1945

Chemical Warfare Service

Negroes Form Vital Link In Chemical Warfare Work

Atlanta World

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The successful use of smoke screens to hide important ports from air attack and to cover river crossings and other troop movements, thereby helping to reduce American casualties, is due in no small measure to trained and efficient Negro troops of the Chemical Warfare Service who operate mechanical smoke generators, the War Department announced today. Sixteen CWS Smoke Generator Companies have Negro personnel. 5-18-45

Various other chemical companies originally organized for specialized work in event of gas warfare, are meanwhile performing a variety of duties useful and applicable to current needs. The list of Negro units in this category includes five Chemical Decontamination Companies, two Chemical Processing Companies, and two Chemical Service Companies spread out around the world. 5-18-45

One of these ouits won a Clasp to the Fifth Army Plaque for providing a protective smoke screen in Italy. More than four-fifths of the men of this company were on the job nightly for an entire month in maintaining 38 mechanical smoke generators and thousands of smoke pots at 100 different firing points.

On the other side of the world, a Chemical Processing Company was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque "for superior performance of duty, and the achievement and maintenance of a high standard of professional and military proficiency.

While there are no Negro Chemical Mortar Battalions, the CWS has one crack Negro Mortar Co., whcih is highly proficient in operating the "goon gun" (4.2-inch rifled chemical mortar) which fires 25-pound shells of white phosphorus or high explosive with remarkable accuracy.

PLAIN TALK —by— DAN GARDNER

Four Negro WACs; 50 Negro Seamen; 73 Negro Soldiers, Courtmartialed for Mutiny

Northwest Herald

At Fort Devens in Massachusetts four Negro WACs were court martialed and sentenced to one year in prison at hard labor and dishonorably discharged the other week.

In California 50 Negro seamen were sentenced to a total of 588 years in prison and at hard labor.

In the Hawaiian Islands, 73 soldiers were convicted and sentenced to terms ranging from eight to thirty years at hard labor.

All this adds up to one thing: The "New Negro" is making his appearance and taking his stand against the intolerance, prejudices, and racial abuses which he and his ancestors have been subjected to ever since the first boatload of African slaves was unloaded at Jamestown.

Where others have refused to stand up and face the issue, the "New Negro," as found in the armed forces of the United States in this modern age, is asserting himself and showing that he is willing to pay the price, however heavy, to blazon the path we all must trod if we will be totally free.

4-10-45

The four Negro women involved in the WAC courtmartial were Pvts. Mary E. Green, Houston, Texas; Johnnie Murphy, Pittsburgh; Alice E. Young, Washington; and Anna C. Morrison, Richmond, Kentucky. They were penalized, were these intrepid Negro women, because of a refusal to obey a direct command under highly controversial circumstances.

The trial, conducted by a court composed of nine officers, including two Negro officers and two WAC officers, handed down its verdict in twenty minutes.

Testimony at the trial brought out the accusation by three of the women that Col. Walter H. Crandall, commander of the hospital at Fort Devins, had stated at one time that he "didn't want any black WACs in the Fort truck pool." The defendants testified that the remark was made following the request of one of the women from an orderly's job to one in the pool.

Pvt. Alice Young was reported to have said that a "colonel" had found her teaching another WAC how to take temperatures and had asked what she was doing, to which her superior replied, after the WAC had informed him that she was a medical technician instructing another girl, "I don't want any black WACs as medical technicians around this hospital. I want them to scrub and do the dirty work."

The women on trial, it was said, testified that they were required to do menial and dirty work which was not assigned to white WACs at the hospital.

The 50 Negro seamen who were handed the aggregated total of 588 years in California, were put in jail because they refused to continue loading ammunition, a highly dangerous procedure, after hundreds of their mates had been killed in the tragic Port of Chicago explosion.

The 73 Negro soldiers convicted and sent to prison in Honolulu, Hawaii, were said to have been sentenced because they "refused to obey orders of their superior officers to report to a work formation on a company area at an airfield on Oahu." This was said to have come about because of the army's "work-but-not-fight" policy for Negro soldiers.

4-10-45

It is a known fact that most Negroes in the army are assigned to labor and stevedore battalions. The refusal to obey orders and continue their work as common laborers on the airfield took place on the night of July 31, 1944.

It may be strange, but the record shows that Negro soldiers, sailors and aviators have never mutinied in combat. The exigencies that brought on the situations outlined in the Fort Devens WAC case, that of the Port of Chicago seamen and the Hawaiian labor battalion, are highlighted by the fact that the unanimous protests of thousands of colored servicemen in all branches find its most concrete and direct expression in the outright refusal of these comparatively few "martyrs" who refused to continue doing themselves injustices.

The dreary argument that orders must be obeyed; that "these Negroes have done their race a great disservice at this time," etc., are to be dismissed with impatience. Our people—and by "our people" I mean those who are wholly Negro in their thoughts, hopes and ambitions, are tired of being deluded and shunted off by professional race problem solvers who take the white man's gold to keep us quiet.

For the last 20 years a new kind of Negro has been swarming onto the scene. In all sections of the country you find them—in the crowded tenaments of Harlem, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Chicago, in the so-called "black belts" of the cities as well as in Los Angeles, Cleveland, Detroit, Columbus, Ohio, and in Newark and in Washington D.-C. They find their own kind in southern cities when the young Negroes from Atlanta, New Orleans, Tulsa, Birmingham, Natchez, Winston-Salem, and elsewhere in Dixie shake off the shackles of the South and come North.

Three Negro Soldiers To Face Mutiny Charge

Birmingham News 5-30-45

FT. McCLELLAN, Ala., May 30—(AP)—Three Negro soldiers will go before a general court-martial here tonight to face charges arising from an incident April 30, when members of a work detail from the stockade were charged with assaulting a guard.

5-30-45

Pvt. Samuel L. Richardson is charged with causing a mutiny, and Pvts. Clinton Robinson and Norman Harris with joining in a mutiny.

All three were prisoners at the time. Home addresses were not given.

Soldier Attendants Blamed In Beatings at Northport

New York Times
6-15-45

By SAMUEL A. TOWER

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, June 14—Incompetent and dissatisfied soldier personnel were assigned by the Army to take care of veteran patients at the Neuropsychiatric Hospital at Northport, N. Y., Col. Louis Verdel, manager of the institution, told the House Veterans Committee today. He said this was mainly responsible for mistreatment of the patients.

More than half of the more than 300 soldiers assigned as attendants were unqualified and would have been rejected by him as "unfit" for the work, he said. Of the five Army doctors at the hospital, he reported, only three were on duty, with one absentee "suffering from an ear condition" and the other away following an Army "diagnosis of neurosis."

The colonel explained to the committee, investigating charges of violence to patients of Northport, that a contributing factor was his inability to take disciplinary action against enlisted personnel because of a system of divided authority whereby soldier-attendants were in charge of a company commander.

"Authority Over Civilians"

In the cases of civilian attendants guilty of abuse he had the authority immediately to suspend them and recommend their dismissal to the General Offices of the Veterans Administration in Washington, he testified.

Previous testimony before the committee has revealed that thirteen Negro soldiers have been court-martialed for mistreatment of patients and that seven white civilian attendants have been dismissed on similar charges.

Speaking of the courts-martial, Colonel Verdel stated he regarded the use of Negro soldiers in mental hospitals as inadvisable and that he had asked the Second Service Command for the substitution of white troops, but said that his request had been met only in part.

He stated that there was widespread discontent among both white and Negro soldiers over assignment to hospital duty and that this dissatisfaction "had a bad effect on the patients and other attendants."

Nevertheless, he suggested that "caes of civilian attendants and soldiers striking patients were acts of impulse."

"I do not believe we had any affairs of sadism," he said.

Both Departments Criticized

Colonel Verdel's testimony, made made according to his words, under the handicap of being both an Army officer and an employe of the Veterans Administration, brought criticism of both departments from members of the committee.

"I resent the War Department's attitude toward these hospitals," said Chairman John E. Rankin, Democrat from Mississippi.

Representative Bernard W. Kearney, Republican of New York, accused the War Department of "not playing the game with veterans," adding that he felt also that there was "too much red tape between the central office of the Veterans Administration and its regional facilities."

The committee then went into closed session to hear Colonel Verdel's report on the treatment of specific mental patients and the administration of the hospital which followed in general his open testimony, according to committee members.

When the meeting was reopened, Harry Stansfield, an investigator for the Veterans Administration, testified on cases of mistreatment uncovered by undercover operators for the agency. Both he and Colonel Verdel contended that both soldiers and attendants followed a code of not "peaching" on one another, making substantiation of charges difficult.

6-16-45

Witness Tells of Beatings

Nevertheless, the agency's operators had witnesesd or received incontestable evidence of cases where patients were beaten and kicked by both military and civilian attendants, and sometimes choked with towels, not only in efforts to restrain patients but as a result of irritation.

Joseph MacQueen, counsel for the committee, announced that data on the seven civilian attendants had been requested by the new Attorney General, Tom Clark, and by the United States Attorney in the Second District of New York, and were being turned over immediately.

At the conclusion of the day's session, Chairman Rankin disclosed that the committee intended to summon representatives tof the War Department to appear before it and explain the Army's policy on veterans' hospitals.

"It seems to me that these cases involved negligence on the part of the War Department rather than the Veterans Administration," he said. "We are going to try to find out just why they assign such men there."

McDonald Making an Inquiry

Miles F. McDonald, United States Attorney for Brooklyn and Long Island, said yesterday that his office was making an inquiry into the charges of mistreatment of patients at the Veterans Hospital at Northport, L. I. T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant United States Attorney in charge of the criminal division, is in charge of the investigation.

Mr. McDonald said that the investigation was the result of a request from Edward E. Odom, solicitor of the Veterans Administration in Washington. The Brooklyn prosecutor said he expected material would be presented to the Federal grand jury next week.

6,000 Seek Pardon for Mutiny Group

Detroit Free Press
Michigan
9-9-45

Approximately 6,000 Detroiters have signed petitions addressed to President Truman asking pardon for 50 Negroes who were sentenced to prison for mutiny.

The charges grew out of the explosion of an ammunition ship at Port Chicago, San Francisco on July 7, 1942.

The petitions were signed during a meeting here of the National Negro Baptists Convention. It has been in session at Olympia and will end Sunday. There are 18,000 delegates attending.

* * *

THE PETITIONS were distributed by Edgar G. Brown, of Washington, director of the National Negro Council. Brown said that he hopes to get 20,000 signers in Detroit and a total of 30,000 for Michigan.

9-9-45

It is planned to have 1,000,000 signers in the United States, one for each Negro in the Army and Navy.

Dr. D. V. Jemison, Salmo, Ala., president of the convention, was first to sign the petitions at Olympia Saturday. He was re-elected president for the fifth consecutive year.

56n-1945

Discharges of Servicemen

The Advantage in a Disadvantage

Black Dispatch

All lovers of justice are disturbed these days because of the injustices exposed in the point system now used by the armed services which governs the discharge of soldiers. Those soldiers used in combat duty are given a higher point rating than those who, while actively engaged in the war, serve in essential military posts behind the lines. It is understood that those who serve in engineer units and in supply depots are not considered as combat troops and therefore are not qualified for immediate release.

A news release last week exposed the fact that only 75 out of a total of 2500 discharged on the first day of demobilization were Negroes, which is equivalent to around three per cent, and the argument is made that most Negroes, when they finally reach home from the war zones, will find their old jobs in the hands of white GIs. We think this is true, and the situation respecting the old job opportunities will be exactly as suggested above, when the Negro soldier returns from foreign battle fields. We are even inclined to believe it was planned that way. We hear now that those who have higher combat points are to receive higher post-war compensation. We do not think this is an after-thought; we believe it also was planned that way. 6-9-45

But even so, we are looking for the advantage in a disadvantage. The Black Dispatch is not interested in the Negro soldier returning to look for his old job. The experience of twenty years ago shows the black trooper who looked for a new job rather than the old one almost instantly improved his social, political and economic status. Why should the American Negro soldier who has visited the four corners of the earth, return, emotionally and spiritually stirred, to reclaim his miserable post-war job pittance of fifteen and eighteen dollars per week? We refer to the mass of Negroes who come from the Deep South. Many of them have spent three years in an atmosphere of freedom. Why should they return to jim crow, segregation, disfranchisement and a beggar's wage? Okla. City, Okla.

Following the last world war more than two million Negroes poured into the North and East. These black soldiers, dissatisfied with their former habitat, are the folk who today form the huge Negro centers in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, New York, Cleveland, and a score of other American cities. These Negro soldiers not only secured better jobs, but during the past twenty years have been the political pivot upon which the presidency of the United States rested. In the next twenty years we want that same dissatisfaction in Negro life to sweep millions of Negroes from Dixie into other sections of the United States to newer opportunities and newer phases of employment. We are hoping that the movement of Negroes into the North and Northwest will mean that in the national elections in 1950 the black vote will control a dozen states instead of five. Booker Washington's theory of "Let down your bucket where you are" is all right so long as there is water in the well, but when the well goes dry, the Black Dispatch urges every black man to move, and move quickly. 6-9-45

Those who planned the army point system intend for the water in the well of job opportunity to have evaporated when the black man returns, so it is strategic for Negro leadership to say now, boldly and in the open, that the Negro ex-serviceman, when he returns should seek new climes and fairer economic fields. The government is offering new lands in the agricultural west. Irrigation projects, cattle lands and mineral wealth beckons. Alaska holds opportunities. South America already offers racial equality, and many soldiers are interested in foreign climes where they have visited while in the armed services. It is with this thought in mind that the Black Dispatch suggests that those who lament about the old jobs of Negroes who went to war, forget the past and turn resolutely towards the future with its new hopes and unquestioned advantages.

When the Negro leaves the South his place must be taken by other laborers. Those laborers will come as a liberalizing influence. If that new labor is drawn from the North and East, the South will have to scrapheap its ancient customs and sanctions. Regional wage scales will rise, and the South will doubtless have to withdraw its weather eye from the Negro and face a militant group believing in collective bargaining and a higher type of social services than the South has hitherto been willing to sanction. This will in turn immeasurably benefit the Negroes who remain below the Mason and Dixon line. 6-9-45

Then too. suppose the Negro is held longer than the whites to police Europe and Asia. White men, who are free, may reason that the years taken out of their lives in military service are lost, but Negro youth needing to be aroused, and emotionally stirred; Negro youth needing to shed provincialism and feel at home in any country, will be getting rich experiences that are priceless and immeasurable in their value. The longer Negroes stay away from the South the more they will be dissatisfied with Dixie. In occupational service across the sea the black boys will learn something about administration. They will get a glimpse of executive powers. Let's forget about the point system and start looking for the advantage in a disadvantage.

There are those who strenuously object to Negroes serving in engineer units and supply depots. The argument is made that these military units are nothing more than glorified labor battalions. Perhaps this is true, but we seriously wonder whether the white boy who carried a gun in war secured as much information and training respecting the paths of peace as the black boy in an engineering unit, who was forced to build bridges, roads, buildings and "whatnots" of military expediency with the latest and most modern tools of civilization. While laboring constantly under a barrage of death thousands of black boys secured intimate knowledge respecting arts, crafts and industrial life that would never have been offered him in any public school in the South. "God works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform." This point system, objectionable to many, may be the work of the Almighty. All of us who are pulling back just now may be in the shape of the fellow referred to in a popular old ballad entitled, "After you get what you want, you don't want it."

PILOT, DISCHARGED

Philadelphia Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa.

LT. EDWARD SMITH who fought with the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy as a pilot of a P-51 Mustang fighter plane, has been discharged. 6-23-45

He received the Air and Good Conduct Medals and the European campaign ribbon, and was credited with 3 Nazi planes.

He lives with his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Smith, and daughter, Janice, 11, at 1168 south 11th street, this city.

Army Discharges Negro Captains

Black Dispatch

Rush "Green" Officers Into Battle Without 3-Month Training

6-23-45

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(ANP)—The army is gradually eliminating Negro officers here above the grade of lieutenant through wholesale discharges, and young "green" officers, fresh from officer candidate school, face the prospect of being shipped to the Pacific. Okla. City, Okla.

All Negro captains on the post here and those coming in from overseas have been sent to separation centers within the past two weeks for discharges while practically all the other Negro officers here, including youthful graduates of officer candidate schools, some May graduates, have gone to Fort McClellan, Ala., where a small group was sent to Fort Ord, Calif., from wheer they may be rushed to the Pacific battle area. Army regulations require a three-month training course in the United States.

The army has made no statement as to why Negro captains are being given wholesale discharges nor why "green" officers are being readied for overseas assignments.

Discharges To Be Determined By War Needs

8-11-45

Stimson Tells Press High Point Scores Not Main Factor

Journal & Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Military necessity and not high critical scores under the point system will be the controlling factor in the discharge of long-service soldiers from the Army, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson told his press conference last week.

Norfolk, Va.

Tasks connected with the redeployment of troops to the Pacific, he intimated, necessitate the retention of a great number of service forces in the Army regardless of high scores. Both white and colored troops are in the service forces. There are more white than colored service troops, but a majority of colored soldiers are in service units.

Pointing out that in the next three months that the job of transporting, quartering and supplying troops in connection with redeployment of troops to the Pacific is the heaviest of any like period of the war, Mr. Stimson said that the rate of discharge of long-service soldiers must be slower than during the period from May 12 to July 31 when 235,000 men were released from the Army under the point system.

"We shall not let any man go whose going jeopardizes the life of the men who remain to fight," he said.

At the same time, he revealed that individual scores of all soldiers will be recomputed so as to give battle and overseas service credit for the period after May 12. This recomputation will favor men who are stationed in the Pacific.

Medics, Nurses Await Discharge

The Afro American

Baltimore, Md. 9-29-45

WASHINGTON (ANP)— Over 1000 colored physicians, dentists and nurses in the Armed forces whose discharge is governed only by an Army policy that they attend their own troops, are looking forward hopefully to an early return to civilian life.

Physicians and dentists will be discharged according to the ratio for colored troops. According to the Army public relations division, there are 556 colored offices serving as physicians and surgeons; 123 dentists, and 419 nurses.

Served Two Divisions

The largest number of medical men was at the regional station hospital at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., under the command of Col. Midian O. Bousfield of Chicago. Other medical officers attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel and several were majors.

Most of the medics were attached to the 92nd and 93rd divisions. The 92nd was the subject of much criticism recently and served long and valiantly in the Italian campaign. The 93rd is in the Pacific area.

Distinctive Record

Besides that at Fort Huachuca, there were also colored hospitals in Liberia and Burma. Colored troops were sent to Liberia—a key spot in the United Nations plans for aerial warfare—early in the war. The late President Roosevelt visited them in Monrovia.

The largest contingent of nurses went to Liberia under Lt. Sue Freeman of Howard's medical school. The second largest group went to England under Capt. Mary L. Petty of Chicago. The colored medical personnel acquitted themselves with distinction and were valuable as morale builders.

FIND FEW HAVE ENOUGH POINTS FOR DISCHARGE

Chicago Defender 5-26-45

Low Negro Percentage Among First Soldiers Released

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Of 2,500 soldiers discharged from the Army on the first day the point system was effected, only 75 were Negroes. While Negroes are almost 10 per cent of the men in the Army, this discharge rate represents only 3 per cent.

These discharged men were already in the United States at separation and redistribution centers. Those in the latter places were awaiting reassignment to other war tasks after having served overseas for long periods.

The small percentage of Negroes in this first group has increased the anxiety concerning the chances for Negroes being proportionately discharged from the Army under the War Department's point system of returning men to civilian life. The emphasis under the system that is put on battle decorations, and the expected difficulty of obtaining replacements for Negro troops because of the Army's segregation policy, puts an unfair handicap on Negro troops.

Fear Racial Tension

Fears are being expressed that the slow rate of discharge of large numbers of Negroes will lead to racial tensions later. The earlier-discharged men, mostly white, will have first choice of available jobs in the post-war period. To this handicap will be added the already existent prejudices and discriminations practiced against Negroes in industry. 5-26-45

The highest point score among the 75 Negroes released on the first day was 110. A total of 85 points is required to qualify for discharge. As result of combat awards — less available to Negroes because of their 89 per cent restriction to service troops — a white soldier has been reported to have received 278 points.

Separation point factors involve service credit, overseas credit, combat credit and parenthood credit and are entered on the enlisted man or woman's adusted serjvice rating card. One point is given a soldier for each month of Army service since September 16, 1940; one point for each month of overseas service in the same period; five points for the first and each additional award specified (since 1940), and 12 points for each child under 18 years of age as of May 12, 1945, up to a limit of three children.

Large numbers of Negro service troops were among the early arrivals at most overseas stations and battle areas, since supplies and transportation must be made available before and after the arrival of combat troops.

All soldiers who serve in combat areas receive Bronze Service Stars (battle participation stars). Service troops therefore receive Bronze Service Stars entitling them to credits of 5 points for services rendered in combat areas.

Under the provisions of the Demobilization Plan, the following Negro enlisted men at Fort Meade, Maryland, Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and Fort Dix, New Jersey were among the first troops discharged under the point system at these installations:

ALABAMA

Pfc. Arthur J. Wilson, Route 1, Box 87, Salem, 100 points.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Staff Sgt. James H. Bradley, 200 New York Ave., N. W., Washington, 85 points; Cpl. Floyd Barnes, 2435 I St., N. W., Washington, 85 points; Staff Sgt. Joe E. Grimes, 408 L St., S. E., Washington, 85 points; Sgt. Alfred B. Beckwith, 1903 4th St., N. W., Washington, 89 points; Pvt. Fred E. Tarver, 801 10th St., N. W., Washington, 93 points.

ILLINOIS

Tech. 5th Gr. James Roland, 372 E South St., Harrisburg, 94 points; Tech. 4th Gr. Felix Cloyd, 4611 Vincennes Ave., Chicago, 86 points; Tech 5th Gr. Chester Handy, 5754 Lafayette Ave., Chicago, 86 points.

MARYLAND

Tech. 4th Gr. Joseph C. Dial, 2139 Division St., Baltimore, 85 points; Tech. 5th Gr. Fred C. Wilson, Jr., 1355 Carey St., Baltimore, 90 points; Staff Sgt. Arthur H. Evans, Chester, 89 points; Pfc. Nolie Wilson, 1516 Riggs Ave., Baltimore, 88 points.

MICHIGAN

Tech. 4th Gr. Bernard Fisher, 3833 W. Mohawk St., Detroit, 88 points; Pfc. Jesse B. King, 8051 Chippewa, Detroit, 110 points; Tech. 5th Gr. Joseph C. Newell, 521 Hamblin St., Battle Creek, 93 points; Staff Sgt. Louis T. Teatsorth, 1460 Cleveland Blvd., Lincoln Park, 108 points.

NEW JERSEY

Staff Sgt. James P. Kelly, 28 Spruce St., Passaic, 89 points; Staff Sgt. John O. Beckford, 66 Grand St., Jersey City, 96 points; Pvt. James B. Knight, 1023 Penn St., Camden, 88 points; Pvt. Samuel Peoples, 1040 Louis St., Camden, 87 points; Pvt. Gus Lumpkin, Jr., 355 E. Chestnut St., Morristown, 85 points; Cpl. William J. Smith, 33 New St., New Brunswick, 90 points; Pfc. William Sykes, 63 Crawford St., Newark, 85 points; Cpl. Andrew J. Crippen, 246 Myrtle Ave., Neptune, 85 points.

NEW YORK

Pvt. James R. Harris, Millers Place Box 67, Long Island, 87 points; Pvt. Haywood P. Gibson, 789 E. 161st St., Bronx, 97 points; Sgt. Robert L. Dickerson, 161 W. 140th St., New York City, 89 points; Pfc. Louis A. Barlow, 210 W. 140th St., New York City, 93 points; Pvt. Rudolph Roye, 9303 32nd Ave., Corona, Long Island, 86 points; Sgt. Andrew J. Giles, 45 E. 134th St., New York City, 90 points; Pfc. Clyde Brown, 66 Rockaway St., Brooklyn, 87 points; Staff Sgt. Eugene Butler, 34 W. 188th St., New York City, 85 points; Sgt. Horace Hunter, Jr., 196 Chester St., Chester, 87 points; Pfc. Leander W. Hardin, 305 Walnut St., Buffalo, 87 points; Pvt. Columbus Davis, 143 Ridge Road, Lackawana, 94 points; Pfc. Edward M. Prescott, 2127 82nd St., Brooklyn, 96 points; Sgt. Edgar D. Smith, 854 Kelly St., Bronx, 91; Tech. 5th Gr. Willie Streetman, 557 W. 149th St., New York City, 90 points; Cpl. Raymond Whitlock, 77A Monroe St., Brooklyn, 97 points; Pfc. Charles H. Solus, 133 W. 117th St., New York City, 89 points; Sgt. Walter S. Fraser, 370 Manhattan Ave., New York City, 88 points; Staff Sgt. Fred C. Pendelton, 557 W. 148th St., New York City, 89 points; Tech. 5th Gr. Robert G. Banks, 164 W. 146th St., New York City, 85 points; Tech. 4th Gr. Benjamin Mitchell, 110 W. 129th St., New York City, 92 points; Staff Sgt. Clyde Robinson, 126 Bradhurst Ave., New York City, 89 points; Cpl. Thomas Wilson, 319 Decatur St., Brooklyn, 89 points; Tech. 5th Gr. George D. Bass, 108 W. 114th St., New York City 101 points; Staff Sgt. Henry P. Reid, 219 W. 135th St., New York City, 105 points; Staff Sgt. Wilbert L. Booker, 1009 Dean St., Brooklyn, 101 points; Tech. 5th Gr. Willard R. Pinder, 80 Edgecomb Ave., New York City, 87 points; Tech. 5th Gr. James Broady, 1855 7th Ave., New York City, 92 points.

PENNSYLVANIA

Sgt. Carter Mitchell, 159 North St., Philadelphia, 94 points; Pvt. Vernon C. Mayo, 1614 Latona St., Philadelphia, 86 points; Master Sgt. Samuel Reeder, 1624 N. 11th St., Philadelphia, 95 points; Sgt. Cornelius Turpin, 31 Carlyle St., Uniontown, 90 points; Staff Sgt. Leroy Jackson, 1940 N. Gratz St., Philadelphia, 85 points; Pfc. Richard Price, 321 Russell Ave., Middletown, 91 points.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Pfc. Leon Harris, 426 Garden St., Winnsboro, 107 points.

VIRGINIA

Pvt. James R. Miles, Box 398, Victoria, 85 points; Pfc. James E. Stratton, Elmington, 95 points; Tech. 5th Gr. James A. Tatum, Stuart, 85 points; Sgt. Robert A. Redd, Jeffress, 91 points; Cpl. William E. Waters, Saluda, 90 points; Pfc. Louis Brown, Route 1, Herndon, 102 points; Tech. 5th Gr. Herbert L. Jones, Rumford, 90 points; Pvt. Thomas C. Gray, Box 3, Buena Vista, 90 points; Cpl. Benjamin E. Hill, Boydton, 89 points; Cpl. Leroy Phillips, Route 4, Box 188, Suffolk, 89 points; Staff Sgt. Erlie L. Dowell, Box 46, North Garden, 99 points; Staff Sgt. Harry C. Ellis, Fishersville, 85 points; Pfc. George O. Garland, Route 2, Box 98, Madison Heights, 97 points; Pfc. Eddie Robinson, R.F.D. 2, Emporia, 97 points; Pvt. William Taylor, 218 Bute St., Suffolk, 85 points; Tech. 5th Gr. James Bolling, R. F. D. 2, Box 8, Dinwiddie, 88 points.

Army Segregated Policy Hindrance to Releases

Philadelphia Tribune

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Army policies of segregation and limited use of Negroes in combat will operate as an obstacle to the early release of large numbers of Negroes from the service under the discharge plan announced last week, an analysis of the program reveals.

According to the General Staff order, the strength of the Army Service Forces and the Army Air Forces will be reduced much less than the strength of the Army Ground Forces. Figures on number of Negroes in the Army as of February 28, 1945, showed 80 percent of the entire number are in the Service Forces. 5-19-45

The Army says through transfers of some low-score men f m the Ground Forces to the Service Forces, a proportionate share of men from the Service Forces will be released as rapidly as practitable. But it is not expected that replacements in Negro units will be taken from white troops—the Army's segregation policy prevents such a move. The 20 per cent of Negroes who are in other than Service Forces will not provide the replacements necessary.

5-19-45

The point credit system itself—which the Army says express the desires of the soldiers themselves—puts a premium on combat decorations. Negroes have been denied the opportunity of winning large numbers of combat decorations because of their assignment to service functions. Five points are given for the first and each additional award of the Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Purple Heart, and bronze service stars for battle participation. 5-19-45

The point credit system provides one credit for each month in the Army since September 16, 1940; one point for each months overseas; five points for each decoration; and 12 points for each dependent child under 18 years of age up to a maximum of 3 dependents. A total of 85 points is necessary to qualify.

One bright spot for the Service Forces is General Eisenhower's order that soldiers who have fought in both Europe and North Africa are not to be sent to the Pacific war zone, even if they do not have 85 credit points necessary for release—provided General Ike doesn't mean only "combat troops."

Ft. Bragg Discharges First Soldier Group On Point System

New York Times 6-2-45

FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA. First group of Negro soldiers were discharged at the Separation Center, here under the Army's point system after each man had been issued a discharge certificate on May 13, the day after the Army announced the plan as being in effect.

They were Pfc. Morris H. Newkirk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Newkirk, Rt. 3, Teachey, N. C., 93 points, Asiatic Pacific; Tec. 5 Lee D. James, son of Mrs. Fannie Peterson, Enfield, N. C., 100 points, Asiatic Pacific; Tec. 4 Harvey Massey, son of Mrs. Johnsie Massey, gen. del., Waxhaw, N. C., 99 points, Asiatic Pacific; Tec. 5 Wlle Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones, Box 334, Burgaw, N. C., 112 points, Asiatic Pacific; S.Sgt. Beecher H. Smith, son of Mrs. Susan Smith, Rt. 1, Box 62, N. C., 99 points, Asiatic Pacific. 6-2-45

Tec. 5 Cole B. Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Lee, Rt. 2, Wellford S. C., 97 points, Asiatic Pacific; Tec. 4 John W. Swain, son of Mrs. Annie L. Swain, 118 Hill street, Macon, Ga., 98 points, Asiatic Pacific; Pfc. Bettis U. Houston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bettis Houston, Rt. 1, Modoc, S. C., 89 points, EAMET; Pvt. Robert O. Irby, son of Prston Irby, Rt. 1, Box 44, McConnellsville, S. C., 100 points, Asiatic Pacific; Tec. 5 Julius Hallowell, husband of Laura Hallowell, 614 Martin street, Elizabeth City, N. C., 95 points, EAMET. High man was Tec. 5 Willie Jones, Burgaw, N. C., with a score of 112 points.

NEGRO SOLDIERS HARD HIT BY GI POINT RULE

Chicago Defender

5-19-45

Troops In Labor Units Are Unable To Earn Required 85

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — It became apparent this week that Negro troops in general would benefit little under the War Department's point system for termination of army service.

5-19-45

Negro soldiers, who have had their demands for combat service practically ignored since the war began, are now realizing the "dividends" from the War Department's jim-crow policy which assigns them, for the most part, to labor units.

Nor is there any information available which would support an intention on the part of the War Department to change its biased policy in the Pacific, despite the satisfactory record of Negro combat soldiers on the battlefields of Europe.

5-19-45

Few Have 85

Assigned predominantly to service units, the majority of Negro troops have not earned sufficient points to total the army's required minimum of 85. Long and arduous service with labor battalions, etc., mean little if the GIs battle stars and medals are nil.

According to the general staff order, army service forces and army air forces will not be reduced in strength as rapidly as the strength of the army ground forces. The latest statistics on Negroes serving in the army showed that 80 per cent of the total number are assigned to the service forces.

Already many Negro service units are headed for the Pacific theatre of war. The first combat troops from Europe are not likely to get into the war against the Japanese for six months or more under the army's redevelopment program but service forces will arrive early to clear the way.

'Negroes Only'

The army's segregation policy also throws a wrench in the replacement machinery. Negro soldiers with sufficient points for release will be obliged to wait for "Negro replacements" before they are discharged. The army plans to transfer low-score men from the ground forces to the service forces so that the few Negro soldiers who have enough points may obtain their releases, however, these replacements will hardly be white as the War Department's jim-crow program frowns on such procedure.

On the other hand, the 20 percent of Negroes serving in branches other than the service forces are not sufficient to furnish the necessary replacements.

The army's point credit system provides one credit for each month of service since Sept. 16, 1940; one point for each month overseas; five points for each decoration; and 12 points for each dependent child under 18 years of age, up to a maximum of 3 dependents.

General Dwight Eisenhower's order that soldiers who have fought in both Europe and North Africa are not to be sent to the Pacific war zone, 85 points or not, was welcomed by Negro GIs with the hope that their supreme commander was not referring to "combat" soldiers only.

5-19-45

13 Negro Combat Units

Perhaps the largest outfit of Negro soldiers is the 92nd Infantry division which is now in Austria with the fifth army. Operating from this area also is the 332nd Fighter group under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr.

Apart from the 366th infantry regiment of Negroes, the War Department has identified three infantry regiments comprising Negro and white soldiers and two similar companies. The former are the 309th, 310th and 311th regiments, with the 78th Infantry division. There is also one company with the 66th infantry regiment and one with the 38th regiment.

So-called Negro combat outfits include five tank destroyer battalions, two tank battalions, five field artillery battalions and one anti-aircraft battalion.

There are 28 engineer regiments and battalions and eight ordnance units, 18 port companies, 32 ordnance companies, four chemical smoke generating companies, three signal construction battalions, two medical sanitation companies, and one company or detachment each of the following: amphibious truck, general hospital, medical service detachment, transportation and special service units.

New Point Policy To Aid Negro GIs

Chicago Defender

6-2-45

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — The War Department this week clarified its point system discharge policy with respect to the eligibility of Army Service Forces to receive bronze combat stars.

Some 350,000 Negro service troops, comprising approximately 88 per cent of all Negro troops overseas are affected.

According to information given the Defender, any soldier who for any reason is already present in, or goes into a designated geographic area during a time specified by the Army as constituting a period of a major engagement will be given a bronze star. Whether the soldier is assigned to a service, combat, or any other unit makes no difference. If he is in the area in any capacity, he is eligible for the star.

The War Department then cited the records and current status of four Negro service units — two in the Pacific, and two in the European theatre, which at present have earned the Army's required minimum of 85 points for discharge. These are by no means all-Negro service units having high point scores, the War Department said, but were selected as samples.

In the Pacific, the 48th Quartermaster Battalion and the 3445th Quartermaster Trucking Company were cited. While in the European theater the 28th Quartermaster Battalion and the 3264th Quartermaster Service Company have comparable high scores.

The 48th Quartermaster battalion with a strength of approximately 1,000 men, was activated June 5, 1941. The battalion was present in the areas of Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines during periods of major engagements.

The 3445th Quartermaster Trucking Company, with an approximate strength of 350 men was activated the same month and year. This company has seen service at Bougainville, New Guinea and other Pacific islands.

Both units were shipped overseas in mid-1942 and have 8 months' service credit in the States plus 3 years overseas. Members of both units have each received 3 bronze stars, one for each battle area in which they were present.

4 Major Engagements

6-2-45

In the European theater, the 28th Quartermaster Battalion with an approximate strength of 1,000 men, has four major engagements to its credit. This unit was activated February 10, 1941, and went overseas July 1, 1942. It was present in North Africa, Tunisia, Italy and France during periods of designated major engagements and each member has 4 combat stars to his credit in addition to 17 months' service in the States and 34 mnoths overseas.

The 3264th Quartermaster Service Company was activated April, 1942, and was shipped overseas in June of the same year. The unit has 2 months' service in the States and 35 months overseas to its credit. The approximately 350 men attached have seen service in Germany, France and Belgium. Each member has 3 combat stars to his credit.

The army's point credit system provides one point for each month in the service since September 16, 1940, one point for each month overseas, five points for each decoration (bronze stars are classified as decorations) and 12 points for each dependent child under 18 years of age up to a maximum of 3 dependents.

Many 'Essential'

The rub for these and other service troops comes in the very real possibility that many will be retained in the army, high points notwithstanding, as essential to the prosecution of the war. Army service forces and army ground forces will not be reduced in strength as rapidly as the strength of the army ground forces.

However, any veteran with a high point score who is at present in continental United States for any reason will not be reassigned unless he is specifically asked for by name and number.

Congress realizing the inequality of maintaining certain types of troops in the Armed Forces who have the required number of discharge points is now considering a bill to provide a pay boost for these men. The bill is being given favorable consideration, and stands a good chance of being passed, many believe.

Service troops have been given largely the type of technical and mechanical training which will have a valuable carry-over into civilian life.

6-2-45

To Get Old Jobs

Under the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940, all veterans meeting certain qualifications are entitled to their old jobs back when they return, or to a job of equal seniority.

Large numbers of Negroes, however, prior to their induction in the Army had no regular employment. While the Selective Service Act assures every assistance in helping the formerly unemployed and temporarily employed veteran to secure a job, serious problems may be experienced by these Negro veterans if they are retained in the Army until the labor market gets flooded with both returned veterans and unemployed civilians.

Jennings Ld. News
May 15, 1945

NEGRO SOLDIER FIRST OUT ON POINT SYSTEM

22 Year Old Private Pertman Gaul Of Roanoke Had Exactly 85 Points

WAS IN PACIFIC

Under Age Volunteer In 1941 Had Served 36 Months Overseas, 5 Combat Points Helped

Private Pertman Gaul, 22 year old Roanoke negro, was the first Jeff Davis soldier to be discharged under the new point system. Gaul, who was at Camp Shelby, Mississippi after 36 months overseas, had exactly the necessary 85 points to win discharge under the system announced Friday and his discharge occurred Sunday, 48 hours after the new point system was announced.

Gaul won all his points without the aid of dependents. He had 44 points for length of time in the army, 36 points for overseas service and five for a combat battle star.

The Roanoke veteran who said he was "glad to be discharged" was a pre Pearl Harbor volunteer, entering the army September 22, 1941. He was in the chemical warfare service in the Pacific area and got his combat star for service in Palau. He was under 18 when he entered the service.

56n-1945

General

Southern Soldiers Find Tan GIs Good

Chicago - Ill.
Daily News
6-23-45

By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU
(Special Correspondent)

CAMP KILMER, N. J. — The Negro soldier's contribution to the conquest of Germany has never been adequately recognized, in the opinion of white soldiers who saw them in action.

The Tan GI's were rated highly in a series of interviews with newly arrived members of the Eighty-sixth (Black Hawks) Infantry Division, the first American combat division to return from Europe.

WITH THIRD ARMY

With close to 300 reporters, photographers and newsreel men on hand to greet them, the 14,280 battle-tested veterans arrived in New York's harbor on four troop ships Sunday morning with a short, but thrilling history of frontline action with General Patton's Third Army.

6-23-45

Although one of the last American outfits to be committed to action, the boys helped to overrun German defenses west of Regensburg and were the first American soldiers to cross the Danube.

They will be among the first troops to be shifted to the Pacific under the Army's redeployment program. After thirty-day furloughs, they will be called to assembly points for further training.

The boys spoke with considerable familiarity of the slight recognition accorded the role of Negro GI's in the European Theatre. They were filled with admiration for Negro volunteers who fought side by side with white troops in the Third Army. All agreed that the experiment, carried out by the Third Battalion, Thirteenth Infantry Regiment of the Eighth Division, was a signal success.

6-23-45

In reference to these Negro volunteers, Sgt. Robert E. Stoffer of Roberts, Wis., had the following to say: "I did not see these Negro boys in action myself, but I got the story direct from a man who was transferred into my outfit from the Eighth Division.

"He said some of the colored boys fought in white platoons right along with white soldiers. He told me of one platoon which was made up largely of Texans who voted to receive the Negroes.

FOUND NO FRICTION

"I understand that there was never any friction between the two groups, and that the colored boys gave an excellent account of themselves. In fact, they were so anxious to fight that they took daring chances. I was told that their casualties were high, necessitating a lot of replacements. My friend says that the Germans were scared of them."

Sgt. William B. Anderson of Morilton, Ark., recalled many stories of a Negro infantry battalion which was part of an armored spearhead working in the Ruhr pocket just to the right of his own outfit.

"The only complaint I ever had about them is that they seemed reluctant to go out on night patrols," he said, "but in the daytime they raised hell. I saw a tiger tank which a few of these colored boys had knocked out with nothing but rifle grenades. Whether you know it or not, that's going some."

TEXAN FULL OF PRAISE

Pvt. Frank Frizzell of Houston, Tex., did not come into contact with any Negroes as combat troops, but he was an eyewitness to much of their work on the supply line. "As a soldier the Negro is every bit as good as the white man," he said. "I came into close contact with quartermaster troops up at the front lines. Even had chow with them. Being up at the front makes a lot of difference. You soon realize that the Negro is a man just like yourself."

Pvt. Vernon R. Palmer of Yakima, Wash., offered his opinion in similar vein:

"They were marvelous," he said. "They brought us our food, clothing ammunition, gasoline for the vehicles, cigarettes, medicines — everything. I think it is generally conceded that we had the best supply line of any Army. I suppose you know that Negroes made up about 85 per cent of our supply line. If it had not been for them, we simply could not have done the fighting."

6-23-45

S/Sgt. C. C. Caddell of Birmingham, Ala., had heard "very good reports" about a Negro artillery outfit in the Ruhr Valley. "I did not see them myself, but I talked with men who saw them in action and who said that they were damned good gunners," he said.

"All I know from my own observation is that they did a terrific job on the supply line. They can't be given too much credit on that score. I feel that they should have been given a greater opportunity as combat troops. With proper training, I believe they would have made good."

Pvt. Frederick Butler of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., recalled a Negro anti-tank battalion which was attached to the Fourteenth armored division of the Third Army. "We were curious about them," he admitted. "I questioned some of the white boys and learned that the colored boys were giving them excellent support."

WHITE REPORTERS GET SAME ANSWERS

At least a dozen other opinions, mainly from Southerners, were given in this pattern. This reporter, in an effort to find out if these views were being dressed up for his benefit, solicited the aid of two white reporters, Frank Morris of the Houston Post, and Kendrick Kimball of the Detroit News.

Both Kimball and Morris sought out Southern soldiers and received the same sort of replies. It is Kimball's opinion that these views are significant for the future of the Negro in this country. They come from men who may some day rise to power in their home communities. It is important, we agreed, that they should cherish a high regard for the Negro's contribution to allied victory.

6-23-45

CHEERED IN CAPITAL—General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower (top) and the two heroic Tan Yanks who returned to the Nation's Capital Monday morning. Fifty-three officers and enlisted men returned from the ETO with the five-star general. M/Sgt. Sylvester E. Buckner, 27, of Seminole, Okla., and Detroit, is pictured at bottom, left. T/Sgt. Eugene Jackson, 25, Mepia, Tex., and Fayetteville, N. C., is the other colored GI.

6-23-45

24 Casualties Land in N.Y.

Balt., Md.

Men Not Segregated on S. S. Santa Paula

MEN CHEER MUSIC Wounded Praise Role of Tan GI's in Europe

Afro-American
7-28-45

By HERBERT FRISBY
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK—Among the 743 hospital cases which arrived here Friday aboard the S.S. Santa Paula, were 24 colored veterans from Europe.

They were not confined to any one section but were scattered throughout the ship's hospital area.

The men received a hearty welcome, and all expressed great joy in being once again among familiar surroundings.

Colored Canadians Arrive

Earlier in the week, the Queen Mary returned with 17,000 troops aboard, among which were 50 colored Canadians. There were no colored Americans aboard.

The Queen Mary was loaded to the rails with GI's. Every inch of the spacious decks was packed, and from every porthole there protruded not one, but two heads. There was a medley of screaming sirens, whistles and horns which made Times Square's New Year celebration seem tamed.

Girls Greet GI's

Flat boats, carrying on their decks bands, USO dances, entertainers, Red Cross girls and Wacs drew up alongside the steamship and extended a hearty welcome. Three blasts from the Queen Mary acknowledged these salutes.

Overhead were planes and helicopters. GI's had no confetti or telephone directories, but they used what they had. undreds of rolls of toilet tissue became streamers and festoons along the sides of the giant vessel.

The colored band from the Fox Hill's Terminal contributed to the welcome—the first number, "Rum and Coca-Cola," bringing a deafening roar of approval from the boys.

Move Serious Cases

A group of about 50 litter-bearers lined up and went aboard to remove the more serious hospital cases to a convoy of waiting ambulances. Red Cross workers served lemonade, coffee, milk, doughnuts and chocolate bars.

At about the same time of the Queen Mary's arrival, the S.S. West Point was docking at another pier; but this ship was not greeted by cheers, but instead, by a loud chorus of boos which investigation shows were directed at some 35 Japanese diplomats who had been brought over. They were captured at the time Berlin was taken and brought here for internment.

A few of the men on the Santa Paula were available for interviews, and here in brief is what some of them told the AFRO as they lay on their cots waiting to be brought ashore by stretcher-bearers:

Pfc. Charles M. Horton, Charleston, W.Va., First Army, England. He has 50 points. Got the greatest scare of his life when he got lost and found himself in enemy territory. He received his injury when he fell from a truck on a highway. He said, "I'm getting along O.K."

Pvt. Robert Waters, Chicago. He has 50 points; was wounded by a sniper in Germany; says that he got frightened more than he got thrilled; that one night while participating in a two-mile convoy, he became so scared that the stars didn't look right to him. "When my leg gets back in shape, I will be ready to fight the Japs."

Pfc. Wilbert A. Jarvis, Tuckahoe, N.Y. He was under fire in France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland and Germany. "My greatest thrill was in seeing democracy practiced overseas, regardless of color, after I crossed the English Channel."

Pfc. Truman Jackson, Washington, D.C. Machine gun bullets got him. "My greatest thrill was coming home to the U.S.A."

Pvt. Clura Edney, Naples, Tex. He has been under fire a number of times; glad to be home.

T/C Johnnie Moore, Canton, Ohio. I asked him how many points he had. He said, "I have enough points in this bad leg to get out of the Army. I was scared most of the time, in fact, nearly all the time. My greatest thrill is in seeing American women once more. Greetings, wifey, I'm proud to be an American."

Pvt. Harrison L. Hill, Philadelphia. Has 80 points. "I was never frightened. I've had lots of fun I'm not anxious to go to the Pacific. Hello, Mama, I'm back."

Pfc. Harold W. Hamilton, Montgomery, Ala. He has 62 points. "I had many close calls. I won't tell my greatest thrill; just glad to be back."

Cpl. James Smith, Birmingham. He says, "I don't want to talk about it, but I'll say this—I was hit by a sniper: I had lots of fun taking supplies to the fellows. I got my greatest kick in taking the Jerries to prison camps. Greetings: Mother, I'm safely in the States."

Pfc. Edward W. Saunders, Coloredden, S.C. Sayshe, "Coloredde stroyed—I was happy that my bombed pretty well. "Treatment was fine; Greetings: Wifey, I hope to be boys over there are doing their folks didn't have to go through got plenty of cigarettes. When I stationed near you. I'm dying to share, putting everything they this misery. Returning boys will was attacked by a Jerry tank one see you. I'll see you a plenty. have into it. People back home have more race pride. Greetings: night, I ran to cover in the hills. There is nothing like hearing need never be ashamed of our Wifey, please give Mr. Frisby a but I got the Jerry tank the next some English."
boys and their records. You must good chicken dinner when he day. Greetings: Wifey, I'm glad
trust in God. I'm glad that the comes to Charleston. to be back."
war was kept on foreign soil. When **Pfc. Abraham Garner**, Chicago. **Pvt. Duvear McCoy**, St. Paul
I saw starved women and chil- He has 56 points. A mortar shell N.C.: "I just got used to dangers

Eisenhower Reviews Troops at West Point

General Dwight D. Eisenhower accompanied by Maj. Gen. Francis Wilby (right) superintendent of West Point, reviews a cavalry detachment just inside the gate at West Point, shortly after his arrival there.

Army Denies Slur On Negro Troops

Washington, July 5 (AP)—Undersecretary of War Patterson said today the Army is proud of its Negro soldiers and that he knows of no general who has condemned their performance.

Patterson thus took issue with Senator Eastland (D., Miss.), who declared last week during Senate debate on the Fair Employment Practices Committee that generals told him on a recent overseas trip the Negro troops "would neither work nor fight." Eastland called them an "utter and abysmal failure."

Asked at a news conference whether Eastland's views represented those of the Army, Patterson replied that he had no knowledge of any general making such a statement and that the expressed opinions of Generals Eisenhower, MacArthur and others "do not support any such conclusion."

He added that Eisenhower had commended volunteer Negro platoons in Europe and that the Army's inspector general had praised the work of the 24th Infantry Regiment, a Negro outfit, in the Marianas.

ROBERT QUILLEN

They Will Build A Better Nation

When Maj. Gen. Ray E. Porter was transferred from his command of the 75th Infantry Division of the 9th Army, he sent a personal good-bye letter to every enlisted man in the outfit.

He reminded them of the tough and valiant things they had done, including campaigns in four countries with the armies of five Allies.

Every general, colonel or captain who expresses an opinion of his boys says they are the finest he ever knew—and so they are, but they are tops only because his acquaintance is limited.

America is a way of life, and something in that way makes boys of all races develop qualities of unsurpassed courage, fortitude, gallantry and selfless devotion when the chips are down.

They aren't all alike. An army picks up all kinds, including the vilest. Fifty-four were executed for rape, or rape and murder; many molested women and snatched purses in London's blackout; thousands were convicted as felons, most of them for stealing.

But 99 per cent of the ten million have proved themselves decent, and, when the need comes, they manifest all the high qualities of manhood that our race has honored for ages.

The war didn't remake them. It only brought out what was there. A man grows up to his job only if he has the inherent capacity for it.

When these boys-grown-into-men come back home, they will not return to boyhood. And they will build a better nation, if the rest of us can measure up to the standard they have set.

56n-1945

General

ALABAMA'S Fighting Forces

News Birmingham Ala.

Birmingham

KILLED IN ACTION — Calvin Coolidge Daniel, 21, seaman, third class (above), son of Milton Daniel, 3142 North 30th Court, was killed in action Nov. 20 while serving with the Navy in the Pacific, according to word received by his parents. A graduate of Parker High School in January, 1941, he entered the Navy in April, 1943.

that his son, Johnnie Merrill Snow (above), is missing in action overseas while on duty with the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Two Residents Of Area Named In Casualty Lists

Birmingham News Ala.

2-10-45

Two men from the Birmingham area were recently included on War and Navy Department casualty lists released through Associated Press. Listed as killed in action was Pvt. Aaron J. Witt, Birmingham, and Charles Cooks, steward's mate, second class, of Bessemer, was listed as missing in action.

PVT. WITT

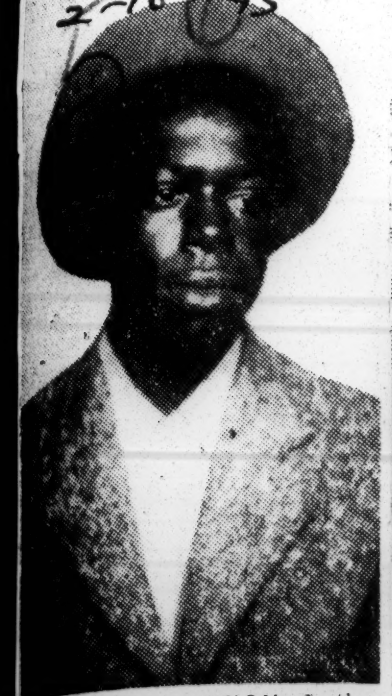
Pvt. Witt, whose wife and mother reside at 1923 14th Avenue, South (rear), was killed in action Dec. 14 while fighting with the Army in Italy.

2-10-45

Steward Cooks, whose wife resides at 906 22nd Street, Bessemer, and whose parents at 2407 Seventh Avenue, Bessemer, has been missing in action since Nov. 30 while on duty with the Navy. He is a former T. C. I. employe.

DEATH REPORTED — Isaac James Smith, steward's mate, second class (above), who was reported missing Dec. 26 while on duty in the Pacific with the Navy, has been declared killed in action on that date, according to word received by his mother, who resides on Shades Mountain. He enlisted in the Navy in February 1941. In addition to his mother he is survived by five brothers and one sister.

2-10-45



MISSING IN ACTION—Luther Snow, of Oneonta, has been notified by the War Department

DEATH REPORTED—Pvt. Robert L. Seals (above), whose wife and son reside at 858 Third Avenue, North, died in service Christmas Day on New Guinea, according to word received by his family from the War Department. A graduate of State Teachers College in Montgomery, Pvt. Seals had been overseas a year in a medical unit attached to the infantry. In addition to his widow and son, he is survived by his mother, four brothers and four sisters.

KILLED IN ACTION—Pvt. Fred M. Slater, 22 (above), was killed in action Sept. 18 in the Mediterranean area, according to word received by his mother, who resides in Selma. A native of Marengo County, Pvt. Slater attended Knox Academy High School in Selma, entering the Army in December, 1942, and going overseas in July, 1944.

Color Line And Battle Line

Atlanta World Ga.

(From New York Herald Tribune)

1-12-45

The year opens with more than 700,000 Negroes serving in our Army, the War Department announces. There are 5,804 Negro commissioned officers and 263 chaplains. Sixty per cent of the Negroes in the Army are in service overseas. The gallantry of the 92nd Infantry division, a Negro combat unit on the hard-slogging Italian front, has previously won acknowledgement and praise. Some parts of this division being sixty-eight days in front-line fighting----but the War Department's present report emphasizes that during 1944 Negro troops fought on every battle front from Alaska to Burma.

Negro soldiers were on the Normandy beaches and are now fighting in the Philippines. And Negro citations for gallantry have been many and as high, proportionately, as among white troops.

1-12-45

The four companies of Negro ambulance drivers who served finely and dangerously in the push through France are now with the First Army in Belgium. The work of all Negro medical units is being well done, the department declares, and there are 463 Negro Medical Corps officers and 247 Negro nurses now on active duty overseas.

The War Department's summary, covering as it does, all branches of the Army, pays a well-earned tribute to the brave and important part Negroes have taken in winning the war. The report should be valuable is silencing rumors of racial discrimination in the service—rumors which were so often heard in the first two years after Pearl Harbor. Such trouble-making stories are now placed officially in a discard where they should remain. For there is no discrimination in fragments of steel----as a dead statesman told us and an army knows. And, surely, the only discrimination which can exist in this war is that between the agelong human shapes of liberty and tyranny---never between those faces which, in a fight for freedom, happen to be white or black in the battleline.

Facts Revealed

Atlanta World Ga.

By Walter White

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Facts behind the recent court martial sentencing of 73 Negro soldiers, all members of a labor battalion stationed at Hawaii, were revealed last week by Walter White, NAACP executive secretary and New York Post war correspondent, as the result of a no-work protest they lodge against the wholesale transfer of their Negro officers. While parts of White's dispatch was deleted by army censors, he was able to present the background of the trouble that led to their defiance of a back-to-work order and finally to their courtmarital and sentencing.

2-16-45

PROMOTIONS SLOW

Negro officers, said White, had complained about the system of promoting white officers, who were their juniors, over them but their protest merely served to have them replaced altogether by white officers to order the men out. They complied."

GIVEN LONG TERMS

Article of War and "Several days later mutiny 66th read the charges were preferred against 74 men gave them 10 minutes to get their mess gear and go to work. The men re-entered the barracks and re-mained there until another colonel, vealed, "Defense counsel asked and they did not know but whose obtained severences of the case of less hostile, ordered them five men charged with being ring-which they did. The men leaders. The other 69 were tried. complied with the new One was sentenced to 17 years in request that they make prison, the others to 15 years each." White pointed out that Hawaii-

"When the enlisted men heard that their Negro officers were no longer to be with the regiment, they refused to leave their barracks to work." White wrote. "The colonel was less to work, which even complied. colonel's request that the lost time. 2-16-45

White said that the colonel then

ans composed of natives, Chinese Japanese, Filipino, Puerto Rican and Portuguese stock, were dubious about America's ability to treat colored peoples of the world fairly when they see how the Negro is treated. 2-16-45

White officers from the South one particularly from Alabama, attempt to transplant the social customs of their home states in the Armed Forces. White said. An 18-year-old Negro seabee, charged with propositioning a Hawaiian-Japanese girl, was told that he would be "strung up" if he were in Alabama. Another biased white officer wrote a friend that "I'm beginning to get an unholy pleasure out of sending those Eleanor's boys to the brig." Urging his friend to affect a transfer for him, he added, "I hear the Japs aren't so bad when you get use to them, anyway it couldn't be any worse than this."

Port Unit Repeats Performance This Time Giving Blood

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore, Md. 1-6-45

FRANCE — Soldiers of the crack 483rd Port Battalion, holding all tonnage records in the giant port of Cherbourg, are giving blood as well as sweat in the drive of supply troops to meet the needs of troops at the front. 1-6-45

Following a special plea for block donations, the unit produced more than double the number of volunteers that the station hospital could process at one time. There is no racial differentiation made in army blood collections.

Although soldier donors are unable to take rest periods after their donations, they feel as S/Sgt. Murray Johnson, Westbury, Long Island, N.Y., felt when he said: "I have a brother up front and you can't tell how much he may need this stuff."

Jim Crow Forgotten at This GI Dinner

AFRO AMERICAN 6-13-45

Segregation was forgotten when these soldiers sat down to a turkey dinner in the 15th Air Force Flying Fortress wing headquarters squadron mess hall. The MP, Pvt. Dick R. Jones, 21, of Los Angeles, Calif., is flanked on his left by S/Sgt. Raymond A. Greany, Springfield ,Mass., and on his right by Sgt. Edward C. Johns of Highland Park, Mich. Pvt. Jones ,a member of a colored military police unit guarding the fortress wing headquarters.

Fate Caught Up With Pfc. Fate Stanton Who Fought With Four Allied Armies

Journal & Guide Norfolk

STARK GENERAL HOSPITAL, CHARLESTON, S. C. — Pfc. Fate Stanton, of Tunnel Springs, Ala., former cannoneer of the 999th Field Artillery Battalion is a first class fighting man. 4-21-45

A glance at the combat record of this 38-year-old convalescent at Stark General Hospital shows that he has fought with four Allied armies on the Western Front: Gen. Hodges' First, Gen. Patton's Third, Gen. Patch's Seventh, and the fighting French First Armies. His one ambition is to rejoin his old gun crew in the 999th and fire just one more round at the Jerries from his faithful 8-inch howitzer.

BLASTED FORTIFIED TOWN

Exactly one year after he was inducted into the Army, Pfc. Stanton was sitting in a valley near the Seine River in France, thrilling to his 8-inch gun as it lobbed shells into a small French town which the retreating Germans had strongly fortified.

Stanton doesn't remember the name of the towns he has fought in—all re remembers is the name of the Army he was fighting with —all he cared about was that he was firing.

JERRIES ARE CLOSE

He first tasted action with Gen. Hodges' First Army when his unit, C Battery of the 999th Field Artillery, was ordered into the line ahead of the reserve infantry. Stanton was so close to the Jerries that his gun fired all day on "charge one," the basic powder increment that provides the shortest possible range for an artillery piece. 4-21-45

"As soon as we got our guns zeroed-in, the order came to 'Fire at Will.' That's the order I like," said the soft talking cannoneer. "Our gun crew could fire three rounds in 45 seconds and we sure let that little old town have it. After we ran the Jerries out, we passed through the town and there wasn't much of it left.

AT METZ WITH PATTON

"We left the First Army then and went over to join the Third Army and gave Gen. Patton a hand at Metz. Yep, I remember Metz, all right.

"We got in there on a Saturday night and really threw some shells around, but our ammunition ran short and Jerry pushed the infantry back so far that our guns had no protection. So we fell back and hooked up with the French First Army. If our ammunition hadn't run short, I think we would have taken Metz the first time.

"We stayed with the First French until we captured a place called Lunersville and two more places. I don't remember their names—and two more valleys—I don't remember their names, either. We were busy keeping that gun firing. We than moved back near Hetz and joined General Patch's Seventh Army.

"That's where I ran into bad luck." 4-21-45

WOUNDED AT POST

The bad luck Stanton talks about came when he was injured while performing his favorite duty—loading the 200 pound shells into his beloved howitzer.

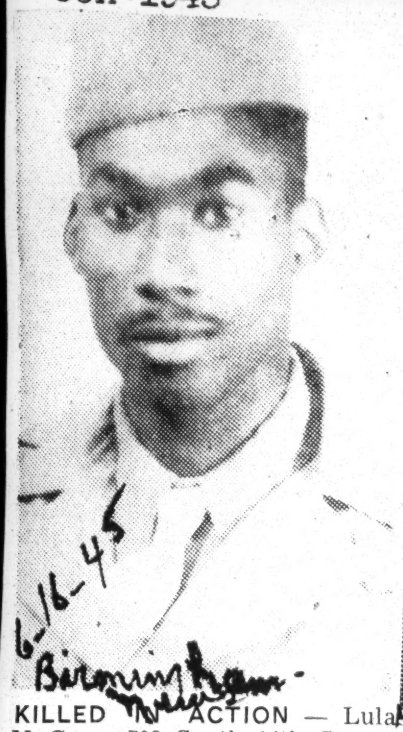
Inducted into the Army in July, 1943, Stanton is married and has one son who lives with his wife, Leola, and mother, Mrs. Hannah Stanton, at Tunnel Springs.

He went overseas with the 99th Field Artillery Battalion in June 1944, and was returned to the States in April.

Typical of most men who have returned from overseas battle fronts, Stanton wants the world to know that his gun section was the best bunch of guys in the world.

56n-1945

General



6-16-45

Birmingham News

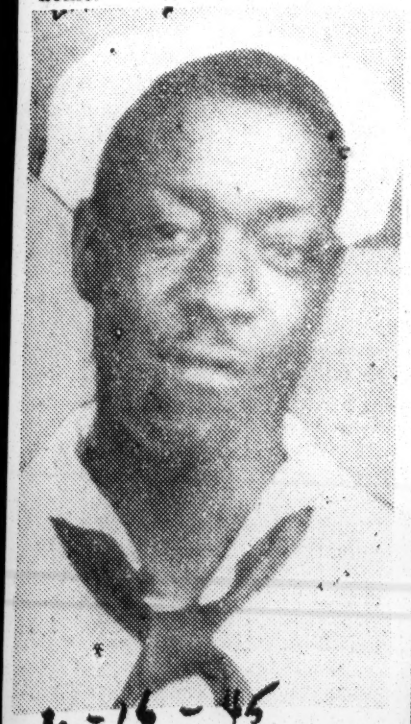
KILLED IN ACTION — Lula M. Gunn, 709 South 14th Street, has received word that her son, Pvt. Dock Gunn, Jr., was killed in action April 22, in Italy. Pvt. Gunn had been in the Army three years, and had previously been wounded in action. Pvt. Gunn is survived by his mother, one brother overseas, one brother at West Point, N. Y., in the service; two brothers and two sisters at home.

BIRMINGHAM NEWS

KILLED IN ITALY—Pvt. Willie Gould (above) has been reported killed in action in Italy April 23, his aunt, 2231 11th Avenue North, has been notified. Pvt. Gould, in the Army three years, had served two years overseas.

Birmingham News

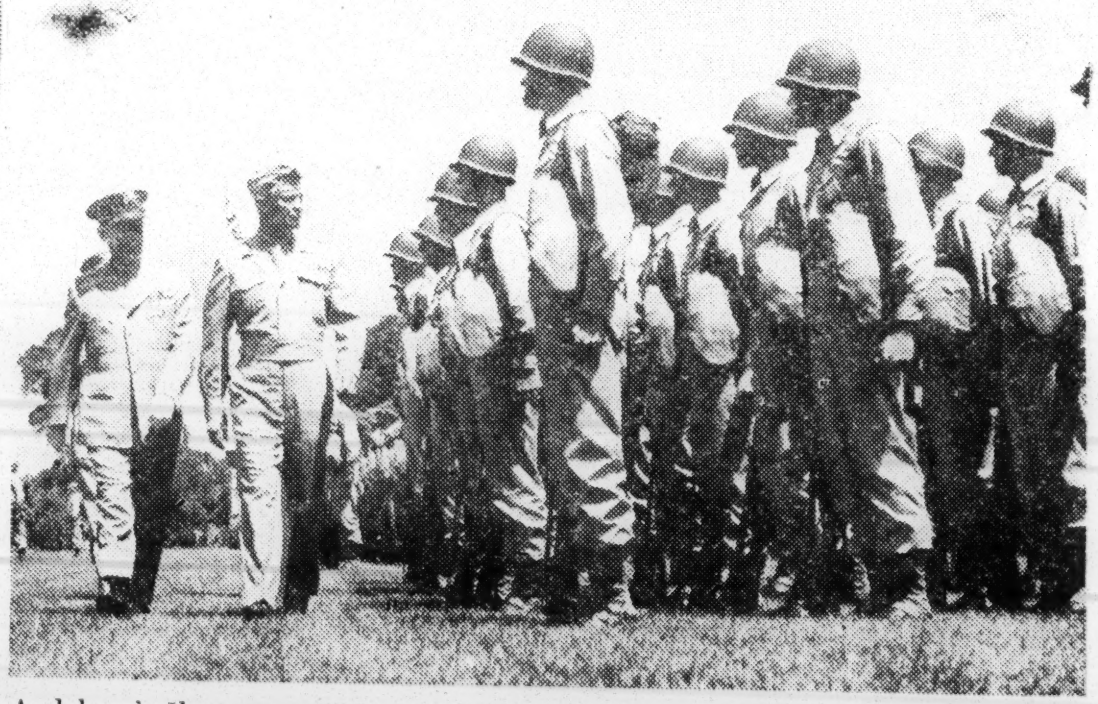
Some of the enlisted men of General Eisenhower's party hit the chow line at the Norse Grill in the Waldorf-Astoria and find it's better than C- rations. Left to right, T/Sgt. C. A. Dekas, of St. George, Kan.; T/Sgt. Eugene Jackson, Mexia, Tex.; S/Sgt. Millard Lewis, Ottawa, Kan.; and S/Sgt. Oscar Fettig, Cedar Vale, Kan.



6-16-45

SAILOR KILLED — Willie Collins Lewis, Sr., 113 North Fourth Street, was killed in action May 4, and memorial services were held for him at sea. Besides his wife, Lewis is survived by two sons and his mother, Sallie Smith. He had been in the Navy 11 months, and in the Pacific three months. He was a member of the Trinity Baptist Church.

BIRMINGHAM NEWS



And here's Ike, accompanied by Maj. Gen. Francis Wilby, Superintendent of West Point, reviewing the cadet corps. Ike was graduated from the Point in 1915, was in the upper third of class, and quite an athlete, too.

Eisenhower Lauds Colored Soldiers

AFRO-AMERICAN

6-23-45

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—General "Ike" Eisenhower, in a farewell press conference with war correspondents in Paris, threw a bouquet at the work of colored troops in the war.

Said Eisenhower, in answer to a request to comment on the contribution of colored soldiers to the European Theatre operations said:

"To start with, I would like to say this: That I do not differentiate among soldiers. I do not say white soldiers or Negro soldiers, and I do not say American or British soldiers. To my mind, I have had a task in this war that makes me look upon soldiers as soldiers.

Did Excellent Work

"Now, I have seen colored soldiers in this war, and I have many reports on their work where they have rendered very valuable contribution and some of them with the greatest enthusiasm. In late November when we were getting short of reinforcements, replacements, some 2600 colored soldiers volunteered for front-line service and they did good work. All my commanders reported that these volunteers did excellent work. 6-23-45

"But their major job has been in services of supply, engineer units, quartermaster units, ordnance units. There, so far as I know and certainly as far as any official reports, they have performed equally with every kind of ordnance battalion, quartermaster battalion and engineer battalion. They have done their job and they have done the job given them.' 6-23-45

Just as Gen. Ike entered the military reservation at West Point yesterday, little Alan Bruce Wasser of New York rushed up to him and handed him a bouquet of flowers, which Ike graciously accepted.

Around Town

P. M. 6-21-45

Their Tribute: 'What a Guy'

The old ditty about "how're you gonna keep 'em down on the farm —*after* they've seen Paree," doesn't seem to apply in this war.

What most of the 29 officers and 24 enlisted men who came back with General Eisenhower want most of all is to get right back to the farm and stay there.

With few exceptions, the men, who come for the most part from farms and small towns in the Midwest, are eligible for discharge and intend to ask for it.

That was made clear yesterday as the men talked things over at breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria, just before leaving for West Point.

Sgt. Charles Kiley, a Jersey City newspaperman in civilian life who covered the trip for *Stars and Stripes*, said that what impressed him most was the time one of the boys from Kansas phoned his farm-home long distance from Washington.

"He came out of the booth looking forlorn," Kiley said, "and I asked him what was the trouble.

"'There's a frost out in Kansas,' he replied.

"'So what the hell,' I said. 'You're going to meet the President, all the big shots, you'll have a wonderful time. Why worry about it?'

"'No,' he said, 'it's crop time now. They're worried about the frost. I wish I were home.'

"'See what I mean?' asked Sgt. Kiley, a tall, bronzed veteran who has been in the Army over three years and will be getting his discharge soon.

"What happened to them," he went on, "was almost too much for the boys to grasp. They lived a kind of dream. Generals Marshall and Eisenhower gave orders that everybody, from privates up, be treated like five-star generals. The idea was for these fellows to be a representative group of American soldiers, from representative divisions, and that's what they were."

For all of the 53 officers and men, the news that they were to go home with the general came as a surprise. Pfc. Vernon Janzen, 23, a brown-haired soldier who comes from Lorraine, Kan.—"sweet Lorraine," he said—was in Czechoslovakia when his commanding officer told him he had been chosen to represent his division—the First.

Janzen wore the Purple Heart and Silver Star, both won when he was wounded while evacuating injured soldiers in Germany.

A farmer, Janzen wants to settle down, he said, if he wins his discharge, and raise crops and a family.

"New York," he said, "is too big for me. The parade was pretty wonderful, of course. It makes a fellow feel good to see people waving at him—makes him feel he did bing when he feels he didn' do a thing. But I can't wait to get home."

All of the men were unanimous in their praise for General Eisenhower—"a guy who is really everything and a lot more too," according to Corp. Richard Corridan, of Lawrenceville.

They left together with Eisenhower at 9 a.m. for West Point. Several of them stood watching the photographers take pictures of the General.

"What a guy," one of them said.

Ike's Aim – One Military Unit

The Army teaches discipline, so they say. So at West Point yesterday, 5000 were on hand to greet General Eisenhower, and of course they were supposed to let him alone.

But a little boy dodged under the barrier, ran up to Ike, and offered his hand. Ike shook it, beamed at him.

The little boy probably got a talking-to from a father horrified by this breach of discipline. The boy is 8-year-old Jeffrey Yates, son of Col. Robert Yates, who's stationed at the Point.

Compared with his day in New York, Ike had a day off at the Point, although he reviewed the 700 third-class cadets and the post's 1000 enlisted men, and performed a few other pleasant chores.

It was cool and sunny as Ike arrived at 10:35 by car from New York. With him was his son, Lt. John Eisenhower, his parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Doud, of Abilene, Kan., and some of his staff.

Ike apologized to the cadets for the review, saying with an expansive grin:

"One resolution I made 30 years ago was that I'd never turn out the corps of cadets even for my funeral."

On a more sober note, he hammered home his frequently-repeated theme of international cooperation for peace.

"You must cultivate mutual understanding with anybody you think you have to get along with," he said. "To my mind that's the whole civilized world. Stick together and we can lick anybody we have to fight, but if we stick together intelligently we won't have to fight."

He said that if he had his way he'd make the Army, Navy, and Air Force one unit, with the same uniform, "but I don't suppose that Congress and the big brass would agree with me." He didn't crack a smile at the "big brass," although he's one of the biggest of them all.

He presented to the West Point Museum the dress sword, owned by Napoleon, and presented by the French Army to the American Army, through Eisenhower, for the liberation of France. This was the sword he had to hold his plane for in Washington for 13 minutes Tuesday because he'd forgotten it.

He had been on the post only 20 minutes when he said:

"I feel like a cadet again (he was graduated in 1915). The surroundings are the same, and I feel just as young as I did then."

Ike visited the rooms he'd had as a cadet—3022 in his first three years, and 2711 in his senior year—and showed his prodigious memory by reciting without hesitation the names of the men who had lived on either side of him those 30-odd years ago.

Always a man to give the GI his due, Eisenhower told the post's enlisted personnel that they were doing an essential job in turning out second lieutenants. He said:

"There is no more important post in the Army than that of the true leader. I can imagine no more important job than training such leaders. A similar job was mine in the first World War. I know how I felt. If I could make you believe that you are doing the important task I consider it, I would be very happy."

The general feeling was summed up by Don Greenbaum, of Philadelphia, who was wounded in Germany with the 7th Army and is now a cadet candidate at West Point. He'd never seen Ike before.

"Boy," said Greenbaum, after talking with Ike, "is he a great man! I really idolize him."

Eisenhower refused requests for his autograph, explaining that he didn't want to show any favoritism, that if he gave one he'd have to give hundreds, and he'd never get anything done.

He spent the night at the Point and is flying from there today to Kansas City, Kan., for a reception, after which he leaves for his home town of Abilene, Kan., for another big turnout but most of all to see his mother.

—Arnold Blom

56n-1945

Home Front

NEGRO GUARDSMEN QUIT CAMP TODAY

The New York Times
New York, New York 9-23-45

Service Medals to Be Awarded by Governor Dewey on Central Park Mall

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y., Sept. 22—Considered among the best disciplined commands of the State Guard, the Fifteenth Regiment of Harlem, commanded by Col. W. Woodruff Chisum, and the Third Separate Battalion of Brooklyn, led by Maj. Myles A. Paige, tomorrow will conclude a twelve-day training tour at Camp Smith that has been hampered by several days of heavy rainfall.

So heavy was the rainfall that on several occasions the regimental medical officers advised against the 1,400 Negro Guardsmen taking the field. On Sunday, one of the few nice days, the largest crowds of the season, nearly 8,000 persons, visited the reservation and witnessed a review of the troops by Lieut. Gen. Hugh A. Drum, commander of the State Guard.

Range Firing Delayed

Firing for record with all types of weapons was completed Wednesday, one day behind schedule, on the various ranges. Scheduled field operations embracing bayonet drills, house-to-house and street fighting, scouting, precision drills, patrolling and use of gas were then taken up and demonstrated under realistic conditions. Squad, platoon, company and battalion combat problems were included today.

9-23-45

Thursday and yesterday between field problems inspection of the Negro units was made by Capt. T. F. Stewart of the Second Service Command of Governors Island.

Despite the unfavorable conditions that prevailed throughout most of the training period, both Colonel Chisum and Major Paige expressed themselves as being more than satisfied with the results accomplished. The men's morale and health has been excellent, as has been the food.

Firing Records Good

The results obtained in rifle firing for record on the 200-yard range was very satisfactory. The 15th Regiment, with 590 firing, qualified 390 with twenty experts, fifty sharpshooters and 320 marksmen. The Third Battalion, with 199 firing, qualified 161 with seventeen experts, thirty-one sharpshooters and 113 marksmen.

Mustered in, inspected and paid off today the Negro units will break camp early tomorrow morning for Manhattan to take part in the review of more than 10,000 members of the Guard by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in Central Park Mall in the afternoon. Governor Dewey will present fifty conspicuous service medals awarded by him.

NEGROES IN THE WAR

TAMPA.—Three cheers to Ernest B. Simmons for his recent response to Robert C. Byrd. Hats off to a man with the vision to see and the courage to call a spade a spade. I am a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and invite Mr. Byrd to visit this school or any Negro college and become enlightened.

Negro youths along with whites left their blood on battle fields so that we may have the "American way of life." A survey will show that these young men held responsible posts and were indeed a credit to their race. Are they (and others whom they represented) to be deprived of a chance of a say in the government which they fought and died to preserve, because of the pigment in their skin?

DORA L. WILLIAMS.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y.
STAR
Cir. D. 5,379

SEP 24 1945

1,400 Negro Guardsmen Leave

The 1,400 Negro Guardsmen, members of the Fifteenth Regiment New York Guard, left Camp Smith yesterday after ten days of training. The regiment left in the morning so that they could get to New York City in time to take part in the review of more than 10,000 members of the Guard by Governor Thomas E. Dewey. Governor Dewey presented 50 conspicious service medals.

The twelve day training tour of the 15th Regiment was hampered by several days of heavy rainfall. It was so heavy on several occasions that regimental medical officers advised against the 1,400 Negro troops taking to the field.

Despite the unfavorable conditions that prevailed throughout most of the training period, both Col. Chisum and Major Paige expressed themselves as being more than satisfied with the results accomplished. The men's morale and health was said to be excellent.

The men were inspected and paid off on Saturday.

56n-1945

A Million Of The Race In U.S. Uniforms

St. Louis Argus 2-23-45 Mc.

By LOIS TAYLOR

HAMPTON INST., Va.—Feb. 20—(Special)—The more than 1,000,000 Negro men and women in uniform who are doing their part, frequently unheralded and unsung, in World War II were hailed at Hampton Institute Friday night, Feb. 16, by Dr. Henry J. McGuinn of Virginia Union University who delivered a lecture on this subject during the observance of Negro History Week at Hampton.

Introduced by President Ralph P. Bridgman of the college, Dr. McGuinn cited the war heroes of Negro history from the death of Crispus Attucks in the Boston Massacre, down to the recent feats of members of the 669th Artillery Battalion at Bastogne.

Deploring the fact that white newspapers and periodicals have, with few exceptions, ignored the Negro's contribution to the war, Dr. McGuinn declared that this information can be secured by all newspapers, upon request, from the Office of War Information. 2-23-45

Land, Air, Sea

The colored combat troops at Bougainville, the 45th Anti-Aircraft unit in the harbor of Naples, the 92nd Division in Italy, the 366th and 369th Engineers in the Battle of the Bulge, were among the Negro land units whose exploits Dr. McGuinn mentioned. In the field of aerial warfare, he said, the 332d Squadron has shot at least 73 enemy planes out of the air, while 11 members of the 99th Pursuit Squadron have won the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Naval Heroes 2-23-45

In addition to such individual naval heroes as Dorie Miller, Leonard Harmon, Charles W. David and others, 23 Negro officers and 142,628 Negro enlisted men were reported serving in the Navy last September, according to Dr. McGuinn. There are at least 15,771 Negroes in the Marine Corps and 3,367 are in the Coast Guard, with four officers. The National Maritime Union has 8,000 colored members, with three captains of Liberty ships with mixed crews. Four thousand Negro women are in the WAC, while others are joining other branches of the service as the barriers of segregation and discrimination are removed. 2-23-45

Civilians Too

On the home front, Dr. McGuinn stated, at least 300 million dollars were invested in war bonds by Negroes during the Fifth War Loan, while Negro women raised three million dollars in a two-million-dollar campaign for the steamship Harriet Tubman.

As of January 1, 1944, about 14 per cent of all civilian government employees in Washington were Negroes, while Negroes form approximately 7 per cent of the industrial war workers engaged in the making of munitions and the building of war ships and planes.

Men and Women in Uniform

56n-1945

MP's

Colored and White MP's Served Together

Afro American - Baltimore Md. 5-12-45

LONDON — In London, the world's largest city, white and colored military police patrol the streets, operate the radio patrol jeeps together in perfect harmony.

The pairs of white and colored MPs were a familiar sight to Londoners. Their beats carried them into areas like the Soho district, along the Piccadilly sector, in the East End, the West End, and all major railway terminals. They exhibited a fine sprit of comraderie under their arrangement

Negro MP's Assigned To Sections of City

Richmond Times

Fifteen Negro military police have been assigned to Richmond for patrol duty in Negro sections in Church Hill and along Main and Second Streets, it was announced yesterday by Brigadier-General Don E. Scott, commanding general, Virginia District, Third Service Command. 5-25-45

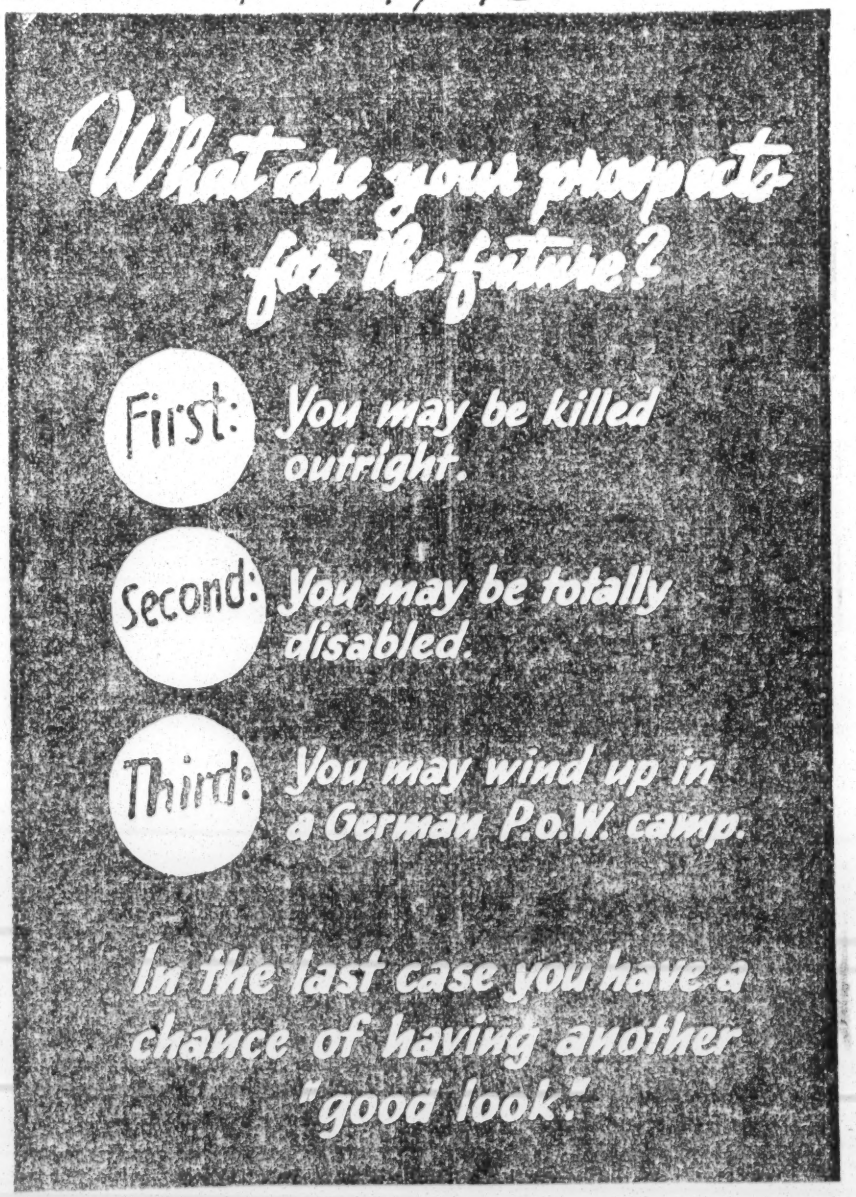
The men, most of whom have seen foreign service, arrived earlier this week from Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.

PROPAGANDA!!

Journal + Guide

These pictures explain themselves. They formed part of a campaign of the Germans to break down the "will to fight" of Negro troops in Italy. They FAILED. Not a single Negro soldier is known to have gone over to the enemy. We know now that Nazi lies of good treatment meant starvation and in cases torture and brutal murder.

In the Pacific, where our war now shifts, the Jap propaganda will be different. They will stress the race war and play upon what Nippon believes is a revolt in America against the white man's rule similar to his fight for Pacific domination. Again America's enemy shall FAIL — under the hail of bombs and before the dauntless courage of white and black Americans and their Chines ally, all dedicated to the one principle of world democracy. 5-19-45



I'M OUT OF IT!

I SURE LIKE THIS GRUB! JERRY'S FOOD IS SWELL!
THE GERMAN POW-CAMP IS PLENTY WARM
AND LOTS OF FUN
JERRY GIVES ALL COLORED MEN A BREAK
AND TREATS 'EM SQUARE

BAD TREATMENT? DON'T BE SILLY!

HERE THEY NEITHER SHOOT 'EM NOR BEAT 'EM
GOOD FOOD AND SMOKES TOO

I'M OUT OF IT!

COME OVER TO US TOO!

5-19-45

56n-1945

Regular Army

Soldiers Vote Against Jim Crow

The Defender

Chicago, Illinois 9-15-45

Dixie Traditions Upset

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

PARIS — White GIs who fought alongside Negro infantrymen are overwhelmingly in favor of mixed regiments.

This fact was revealed here during a Army Information Education Research Survey conducted by Major R. B. Wallace, son of the former vice president, Henry A. Wallace.

The prejudice percentage among white GIs who fought in lily-white units was found to be vastly higher than those of white soldiers who fought with Negro volunteer infantrymen in Germany.

The series of interviews were conducted among GIs of the 1st, 2nd, 9th, 69th, 78th, 99th and 104th divisions and revealed that white companies were willing to accept Negro soldiers.

First Break

The mixing of white and Negro doughboys in fighting units marked the first break of the traditional Army policy of separating units according to race. Most of the Negro volunteers came from Engineer, Quartermaster and Transportation corps.

Shortly after the German surrender an army and civilian trained research team using late scientific interview research methods queried only white infantrymen in what was originally conceived as "Reconnaissance Study" of the performance and utilization of Negro infantrymen. From personal interviews and anonymous-answered questionnaires by cross section of some 1700 white enlisted men, of other field forces beside the infantry, yielded remarkable revelations of the white man's viewpoint on his attitude towards his fighting Negro comrades.

An analysis data showed that white soldiers who worked with Negroes in the same unit were much more favorable to mixed organizations than white soldiers who had little or no close contact with them. Seventy-three percent of the officers and 60 percent of the enlisted men replied "Very well," to the question "How have white and Negro soldiers gotten along together?" Thirty-six percent of the GIs and 7 percent of the officers thought "fairly well," and not a single white man questioned said "not well.

Others Say "No"

But in the white divisions having no Negro platoons in their companies, 62 percent replied that they would dislike mixed platoons. In other field forces in the same divisions farther removed from Negro troops showed some opposition to having mixed units but these also have had no contact with Negro troops. Hence, figures showed inter-racial relations improved in proportion to the increase in contact.

The company commander said that when platoons got small, white squads were put in with Negro squads. The white squads didn't want to leave the platoon. The company commander stated that he had never seen anything like it. Relations are good. They take pictures together, go to movies together, and play ball together.

In reference to their performance in battle, 84 percent of the white officers and 81 percent of the white platoon sergeants and enlisted men answered "very well" while 16 percent of the officers and 17 percent of the enlisted men said "fairly well."

A company commander, describing a Negro platoon, stated that 35 men, counterattacked by 90 Germans after the platoon leader was captured, killed 46 of the Germans and took 35 as prisoners without losing any ground or having any casualties. Another said that "running into four machine guns and tanks firing direct fire, Negro infantrymen found a covered route and took the jerries by surprise. They cleaned out the whole business."

9-15-45

Greatest Achievement

The greatest single record achievement was the changed feeling toward Negro soldiers experienced by the majority of the infantrymen after serving in the same companies with Negroes.

Before their advent, some 64 percent of the white troops had a relatively "unfavorable attitude" but after fighting together the ratio had changed to 77 percent having "more favorable attitude" toward Negro fighting comrades. That mixed platoon infantry troops would improve inter-racial understanding and avoid friction, was among reasons advanced by 85 percent of enlisted men and 62 percent officers, all members of white divisions which had Negro platoons fighting with them. Men from widely different backgrounds and viewpoints agreed in testimony on the same, with all sections of the states represented.

Negro Soldiers Bitter

The Black Dispatch - Oklahoma City, Okla.

There are many incidents happening just now that should make all true lovers of justice and fair play take a hitch in their pants and resolve more firmly to have the moral courage to stand up and be counted. Passive morality will have slight virtue in an hour when new social patterns are being cast which may last for another thousand years.

Three letters written by Negro soldiers, and lying on the desk when this writer returned to his office last week, indicate that reaction and tyranny are on the march and that murder, terrorism and an effort to place the black man in an unenviable position before native peoples of other climes is today the evil technique of race haters.

An Oklahoma City youth writes from France that white army officers are telling the French not to have any social relations with Negro soldiers and that the week before he wrote his letter a Negro soldier was shot just a half mile from the camp when it was discovered he had sex relations with a prostitute. The French women are told, according to the youth, that all Negroes are infected with social diseases.

And then from Idabel, Oklahoma, comes this letter:

"I happen to be one of the many men who have served this place called 'the land of the free,' but now that I am out of the army, I really don't see where this war meant anything to us Negroes. About a month ago before I was discharged I was out at Camp Pickett, Va., where there are many German PWs, and to my surprise they were treated better than I was.

11-10-45

"Never before in my life have I ever been in court and heard the word 'nigger' used until I returned to my little home here in Idabel, Oklahoma. I want to fight again, and this time I want to fight for the rights of the Negro. Tell me just what I can do. Will you? I want to spend the rest of my life fighting for my people. Please advise me as to how to start.—Hugh Polite, Idabel, Okla."

And on another page of this issue we publish a letter coming from a black soldier in the Philippines, who says Negro soldiers are prevented from speaking to or fraternizing with the natives on the island of Mindanao.

According to this soldier, whites are permitted to associate and mingle with the natives, but Negro soldiers, away from home and friends, are denied all social contact with men and women of a dark race. We have for many years heard the stupid argument about preventing black men from intermingling with white women, but whatever justification there is for such reasoning it is wholly lost in the Philippines, and exposes an indefensible sex selfishness on the part of white men. "They are attempting to make these natives hate us," the corporal, who asks to have his letter printed, says.

America may have dropped an atomic bomb and won the war, but already, and at this very moment, it can be seen that we have lost the peace. As Bishop Walls said to this writer recently, America ended the war the most hated nation on earth. Someone has said that every evil has within itself the seeds of its own destruction. It appears as though despite all of the danger signals, America is plunging through the red light of world affairs, totally oblivious to the fact that upright men will not much longer accept hypocrisy and hate as the habiliments of peace. There must be integrity and virtue in attitude and approach.

The three Negro soldiers who wrote the letters above are bitter. They have a right to be, but after all, it is the thinking, sober minded white people of this nation who should be bitter as they read these lines. Is it the Negro or the whites responsible for this situation? That is the reason why at the outset we suggested that passive morality will be of slight services in an hour like this. The Negro soldier has done his bit to help save present day civilization. He has a right to feel that he should have equality of opportunity in this civilization. He has a right to feel that he will be protected against the slime and lies that are today being distributed all over the world by white army officers. Peace will not be conceived in human selfishness.

~~48-1945~~

Hats Off!

11-17-45
P.M. New York, N.Y.

PM takes its hat off today to Lt. and Mrs. Charles Z. Clarke, who as a team have made an outstanding record for Victory Loan sales in Manhattan. In the Seventh War Loan drive, Mrs. Clarke sold 679 bonds, and in the current campaign she and her husband have sold 150 so far. Mrs. Clarke is a former member of the Women's Army Corps. Clarke enlisted in the Army as a private at 35 and served 20 months in Italy with the 96th and 524th Air Service Groups.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

New York Age

NOT so long ago, it was Adolph Hitler's "Mein Kampf" which was extensively used here in the United States to show that the Nazis were advocating a "master race" theory which was distasteful to all liberty-loving people. On that basis, every segment of the population was united in a desire to wipe out the proponents of the "master race" theory who had plunged the whole civilized world into a bloody war. 7-14-45

Hitler's Nazi hordes in Germany have been defeated. We have observed V-E Day and are now concentrating on doing the job when all of us can celebrate V-J Day which will signalize the end of all wars in the world today.

But, while Hitlerism was defeated in Germany, it is still alive in this country. And it finds ready and willing backers in high places of our Government, as anyone reading the Congressional Record recently has discovered.

The most current advocate of Hitler's "super" or "master" race theory is Senator James Eastland, junior Senator from the State of Mississippi.

In the Congressional Record for June 29, 1945, in his tirade against the FEPC, he not only bitterly assailed Negroes, but also savagely attacked the record of Negro soldiers in World War II, and then, to show the depths to which he had descended, he took a 25-year-old report on the Republic of Liberia and used it as if it were as of today.

Liar, cheat and hypocrite are but the mild terms which Negroes might use to characterize Senator Eastland. Below are but a few samplings of what, under Senatorial immunity, he was allowed to say in the Senate:

"The Negro race is an inferior race. The Negro organizations which are supporting this measure know that today all the power in the world could not bring about social equality, and could not force the white people of this country to associate on terms of equality with the Negro race. 7-14-45

"Mr. President, we must have racial harmony in the United States. We must have racial tolerance in the United States. A great rift has been driven in American life. Our country has been divided and weakened, in accordance with Hitler's doctrine of divide and conquer and Stalin's doctrine of making the races and classes in each country race-conscious and class conscious in order that the state may be weakened. . . .

"What is the history of the Negro soldier in the American Army? Mr. President, I recently returned from Europe. While there, I talked to numerous high-ranking generals of the American Army, some of them in a peculiar position to know the facts. Later I shall discuss the record of other Negro soldiers, the service troops behind the lines; but, first, what is the combat record of the Ninety-Second Division, the only Negro division that has seen service in Europe?

"To begin with that division — and I state it authoritatively — had the best equipment of any division in the American Army; it had the best training of any division in the American Army for political reasons — and when I say 'political reasons' I quote American generals — they were forced to commission some Negro officers for that division. In not one instance, Mr. President, could they place a Negro officer in a responsible position. In not one instance could they place upon his shoulders the responsibility of combat, and I tell you now, Mr. President, that division could not be placed in an important position in the line. Had we depended upon it, the German Army would have gone south to the toe of the Italian boot and destroyed our armies in Europe. The Negro soldier was an utter and dismal failure in combat in Europe. When I make that statement, it is not from prejudice. I am not prejudiced against the Negro.

"In a number of instances these soldiers would desert their posts of duty, their officers would desert their posts of duty, without cause, and the whole division would, without rhyme, or reason, quit fighting. The officers told us the soldiers had no initiative, no sense of responsibility, very low intelligence, and were a failure. Yet we are asked to set up an unfair preference against the white soldier for the benefit of the returning Negro veteran, solely because he is a member of a minority group which sells its vote to the highest bidder in political campaigns. 7-14-45

"In Europe, Negro soldiers are used principally as service troops behind the lines, and I state now, on the authority of many American officers, that they were lazy; that they would not work, that it was a mistake to send them to Europe, and furthermore, that they should be returned from Europe and sent to the Pacific, where there are races of color . . .

"Mr. President, I state that the conduct of the Negro soldier in Normandy, as well as all over Europe, was disgraceful and that the Negro soldiers have disgraced the flag of their country. They constitute roughly one-twelfth of the American Army, yet they are guilty of more than half the crime in the Army. 7-14-45

"Yet, Mr. President; we have a color line in America, and it is in the North as well as in the South. Down in Dixie we are a little more open about it than people are in other sections of the country, but high racial pride, one of the finest attributes of mankind, is in the breast of every white man everywhere, no matter whether he comes from the North or from the South. In Europe the Negro has crossed the color line. He has gone with white girls of the very lowest caliber, and I know how the northern white boy feels about that. Thank God, the white soldier from Pennsylvania, the white soldier from New York, feels about the racial question today as he does the veteran from Mississippi or Georgia or South Carolina or Tennessee . . . I know what is going to happen when the soldier returns . . . the conduct of the Negro soldier in Europe, the soldier to whom it is proposed to give preference, has caused the United States to lose prestige; he has caused hatred for our country and for our people. I was told in any number of cities that decent white girls could not go out on the streets because they would be accosted by groups of drunken Negro soldiers. I know from conversations with Army officers with generals in the American Army, and with civilians, that in England, in France, in Belgium, that feeling exists in a very intense degree. He has disgraced the flag of his country. He will not fight. He will not work. Yet we give him a preference . . .

". . . The soldiers are mad. We talk of racial tolerance. This agitation for social equality has destroyed racial tolerance; and I state frankly that the white soldier is openly and avowedly waiting for his chance when he returns to the United States . . . There will be no FEPC, there will be no social equality, there will be no such un-American measures, Mr. President, when the soldier returns . . . 7-14-45

"We hear a great deal of talk about racism, and condemnation of the idea of racism in America. It is said to be bad. It is said that when one is a racist he is a fascist. Mr. Presi-

White Soldier Speaks Up

Sunday Review

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — (ANP) — Sgt. Henry Eugene Erwin, the first B-29 crewman to win the medal of honor and who is recuperating here at the Northington General Hospital from severe phosphorous burns, declared last week that the war has changed his mind about Negroes.

Sgt. Erwin, whose red hair has won him the nickname of "Red," told how he was injured aboard a B-29 bomber en route to smash Japanese military targets on Iwo Island. His best friend, Sgt. Herbert Schnipper, was a right gunner on his plane. Sgt. Schnipper saved Red's life by administering blood plasma after he was wounded by a phosphorous bomb.

"He's a Jewish boy from Jamaisa, N. Y., said the wounded hero in reference to Sgt. Schnipper. "You know in Alabama, I hadn't known many Jewish people. Not many Catholics, either. In the army you learn something about people. When you get a buddy on your plane and eat and sleep together, and borrow each other's clothes, and fight together, you learn there's not much difference in religions. This Sgt. Schnipper is a really swell guy; he'd give me the shirt off his back and there's nothing I wouldn't do for him." 6-22-45

Red predicted that the country will be better off "for what our boys are learning about these things."

His prewar opinion about Negroes has changed. Born in Docena, Ala. a little coal mining town, on May 8, 1921, Sgt. Erwin was reared in an environment hostile to Negroes. His family was poor. His father was a coal miner, who worked hard and earned little.

"Take Negroes," he continued. "You know, down south here the people don't think so much of the Negro; they think he doesn't work. Well, when I saw what the Negro engineers did in getting the blacktop down on our field at Guam, I changed my mind about them."

dent, a man bereft of racial pride is weak. There is something wrong with him I say frankly that I am proud of the white race. I am proud that the purest form of white blood flows in my veins. I know that the white race is a superior race. It has ruled the world. It has given us civilization. It is responsible for all the progress on earth. When we lose racial pride, when we tear it down and destroy it, as the Communists, the CIO, and other radical organizations and minority groups are attempting to do in this country, America will be destroyed, and the end of our civilization will be at hand . . . As a southerner I am proud of racial consciousness. I am proud that it is a part of the culture of the South. As a Senator from a Southern State, I am proud to uphold those doctrines upon the floor of the United States Senate, against the radicalism of all the negroid groups from New York, Philadelphia, and other metropolitan areas of the East."

We could quote indefinitely, but the above should give a very good idea of the venom unleashed against Negroes on the floor of the United States Senate by Senator Eastland, who on the one hand says he is "proud of racial consciousness" and is "proud to uphold those doctrines upon the floor of the United States Senate", and yet in his opening remarks declared that a great rift has been driven in American life," has been divided and weakened, in accordance with Hitler's doctrine of divide and conquer, and Stalin's doctrine of making the races and classes in each country race-conscious and class-conscious in order that the state may be weakened."

Yes, it looks as though our returning soldiers will have scores to settle, but it will be the Negro soldier with those of Senator Eastland's stripe.

Victory Forces

Birmingham (Ala) News

9-1-45

DIES IN GERMANY—Pvt. Tom Martin, 33 (above), died April 10 in Lich, Germany, the widow, of 933 Center Street, has been notified by the War Department. A native of Birmingham, he attended Industrial High School and prior to entering the service he was employed in the Boyles shop of the L & N Railroad. Pvt. Martin served overseas for 17 months with a quartermaster laundry corps.

vember, 1942, and trained at Camp Gruber, Okla., and in Louisiana. He had been overseas for more than a year when he was killed. Alabama

Birmingham News (Ala.)

SEAMAN KILLED MAY 4—Steward's Mate 2-c Bob Jones (above) was killed May 4 in the Pacific when his ship, the USS Luce, was sunk, his parents, of Orrville, have been informed by the Navy Department. Steward's Mate Jones entered the Navy in April, 1944. 9-1-45

9-1-45

Birmingham News

DIES IN ITALY—Pfc. Willie Whetstone (above) died in Italy April 14, according to an official War Department message received by his mother, who lives on Route 1, Prattville. Pfc. Whetstone was missing in action April 11, and died three days later of wounds. Alabama

9-1-45

Birmingham News

KILLED IN BELGIUM—Pvt. Elijah Florence (above) was killed in action in Belgium Jan. 27, according to official word received by his mother, who resides on Route 1, Perote. Pvt. Florence entered the service in No-

9-1-45

Birmingham News

ALABAMA SOLDIER KILLED—Pfc. Leroy James (above) was killed April 14 in Italy, his mother, who resides at Cottonton Route 2, has been notified by the War Department. Ala Bama

America's Negro Soldier

Black Dispatch

There has been nothing in recent months bordering on subversion more than the recent address of Senator Eastland, of Mississippi, in the United States senate, at which time the Mississippi solon sought to cast ignomy and shame upon the head of the Negro soldier. We talked last week with a Negro soldier, wounded, and just from the gory, shell-torn battle fields of Europe, where he, along with thousands of other black boys, has been fighting to preserve this nation. This youth gnashed his teeth as he talked about Senator Eastland and the sinister, un-American influences behind him. As this enraged black boy talked we realized fully and completely that men of the Bilbo-Rankin-Eastland type are doing more to spread disloyalty among Negroes than any other influence.

Think of it! The army, controlled by Southerners, bars Negroes from most combat units, casts him into supply and engineer divisions, and then tells an astonished world the Negro cannot and will not fight. There is nothing in America more unholy and cowardly than the disposition of certain vicious elements in America to assert that black men are incapable of doing anything, and proving it by never letting them try.

7-14-45

It would be almost laughable if it were not so serious to hear prejudiced whites assert that the Negro is a cringing coward and will not fight. The Bible says, "By their deeds ye shall know them." One would have to forget the heroic record of black men, from Crispus Attucks on Boston Commons, down to Dorie Miller, when he stood a few months ago alone on an American war ship in the Pacific defending the Stars and Stripes, to believe the current, fantastic lies being told respecting Negro soldiers.

Henry Johnson and Needham Roberts, who won the Croix de Guerre in France 25 years ago for slaying more than fifty Germans during a struggle one wild, gory night in No Man's Land, did not have to go to Normandy to convince the French that black men are brove. The French know history. The French know that black generals and black strategy drove the armed might of white men into the sea when France sought to recover Haiti from Toussaint L'Ouverture, Dessalines and Christophe back yonder at the turn of the eighteenth century.

Why should white men in the twentieth century argue that black men are cowards and attempt to prove it by mere words, when history proves that at one period in the life of humanity black men invaded Europe and enslaved white people? When Hannibal crossed the Alps black men were invading Europe, and when the Moors invaded Spain, black men had social, economic and political control of white people. Why the great rock, Gibraltar, which England fortifies today to maintain her strangle hold in the Mediterranean, was named for a black man who centuries ago fought valliantly on that rock at a time when black men controlled the world. The white man has lost a great deal of information he should have by not examining Spanish and Portuguese histories. The roots of black might are not to be found written in the English language.

With all of this background of courage and fearlessness the white man alleges he is experimenting with the black. He's trying to find out whether the black man can meet the challenges and the tests of war. Even when the white man chances upon a black man with courage down in Mississippi he dodges the issue. Let an enraged Negro arise and defend his rights down in Mississippi and at once the newspapers come out and say "Crazy Negro Runs Amuck." Never is there attempt to convey the idea that a courageous black man, whose keen sensibilities had been insulted, became outraged and defended his citizenship. Every brave black man down South is crazy.

7-14-45

There is a trail of black blood that wends its way thruout American history. Black men have fought with white men for the perpetuity of American ideals and they have many times fought alone for the things that ought to be. Many times the Negro has had to separate himself from the white man's hypocrisy to defend ideals that were dear to the hearth and fireside of the black man. Few know, but it nevertheless is true, that most of the Indian wars, respecting which American history is dotted, were launched and led among the Indians by brave blacks who, escaping from slavery, immediately became leaders among Red men. Oseola, the famous Seminole, who fought so valliantly against early white settlement, has been positively identified today as what was classified in that period as a renegade black.

Beginning in 1526, and on up to the Civil War period, the Negro in America, unarmed and totally unprepared to war against his oppressor, unleshed more than fifty insurrections here in America. Outnumbered, and knowing they faced almost instant death, men like Denmark Vesey, Nat Turner and others planted the seed of discord among their brethren that led up to John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry. The plots, the schemes, the bold and daring exploits of black slaves when they had nothing with which to fight but their dauntless souls and spirits, will forever identify black men as possessing that grandeur of manhood that firmly and securely places them beyond the reach of harmless aspersions as cast in their direction by men like Eastland, Bilbo and some American army officials.

7-14-45

Teddy Roosevelt would never have returned alive from the Cuban campaign in the Spanish-American war had it not been for the heroic bravery and valor of black troops, when white men made an error at El Caney and ran into a Spanish trap. Ask General "Black Jack" Pershing about black fearlessness in the death trap at Carrizal on the Mexican border. Jutting out from all of the pages of American history is the story of black manhood, patriotism and love of country. The man, or set of men, who attempts to sabotage that record is a Fifth Columnist of the first water, and there ought to be in America a law as there is in Russia to forever silence such criminally minded subversionists.

During the more than 200 years black men have been fighting by the side of white men, leaders of the nation have been promising the black man his freedom. One may resurrect the utterances of George Washington, General Jackson at New Orleans, the promises of Union generals during the war between the states, to discover that the black man has been encouraged to fight with the promise of eventual liberation from the thralldom of slavery and second class citizenship. It is not to the discredit of the black, but certainly to the shame of the whites that in 1945 we find such promises unfulfilled, while political charlatans openly attempt to destroy the good name, the honor and the patriotism of such loyal American citizens.

COMPARE WITH BEST U. S. TROOPS --SUMMERS

Pittsburgh Courier

CAMP KILMER, N. J. — Handpicked Negro volunteers who joined the famed Timberwolf (104th Infantry) Division at the Remagen Bridgehead and fought with it up until the junction with the Russians, were left behind when the division was rounded for furloughs home and redeployment.

According to Col. William Summers, executive officer of the Timberwolves who arrived here last week, Negro troops of the division had been left in Halley, France, and it was not known whether they would go back to their old service units or be sent to the Pacific for further combat duty.

Colonel Summers stated that these soldiers had fought bravely side by side with their white buddies and had proved comparable to the best troops anywhere.

He insisted, however, that he did not know why they had been denied furloughs home along with their white comrades.

Negro platoons composed of carefully screened volunteers from rear echelons service units fought with the First, Second, Eighth, Ninth, Sixty-ninth, Ninety-ninth and 104th Divisions.

TROOPS PROTEST SEPARATION

7-14-45

According to protests sent to The Courier last week from Negro troops, men who had fought as integrated platoons in the Thirteenth, Twenty-eighth and 121st Infantry Regiments of the Eighth Division in Europe, were taken out and sent back to duty with service troops on the eve of their unit's departure to the States.

Acting on the basis of a statement by the War Department that this was a matter of theatre policy, The Courier has cabled Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, asking an explanation of the charges.

The regiments and divisions involved are part of the victorious First Army that swept through France and Germany in the decisive stages of the war in Europe. It became integrated when, woefully lacking in replacements, General Eisenhower called upon Negro troops to leave their assignments with service troops and volunteer for front-line fighting. Many Negro troops volunteered despite a loss in rank involved.

The kind of fellowship brought about by mutual battlefield dangers is exemplified by these three ETO vets brought home on the Aquitania. They are, left to right, Sgt. H. J. Atkins, Virginia; Sgt. Edmund Waddington, 2143 N. 19th St., Philadelphia; and Sgt. Jack Wilmorth, Jackson, Miss.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023

JUL 31 1945

Negro Soldiers Of 3d and 9th Armies Arrive

1,660 Men of 5th Armored Division Among 2,984 Troops Expected Today

The converted Liberty ship Joseph Hewes put into Pier 15, Stapleton, S. I., yesterday afternoon with 552 veterans of the 3d and 9th Armies, most of them Negro service troops. Of the contingent, 529 served in France and Belgium as truck drivers with the 3241st and 3238th Quartermaster Service Companies and the 646th Quartermaster Truck Company.

Among the ten medical officers who made the uneventful, fourteen-day crossing from Antwerp was Captain Harry Jasper, of 737 Madison Avenue, Albany, who holds the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and five combat stars after seven months of duty in France as battalion surgeon of the 2d Battalion of the 21st Regiment of the 2d Infantry Division.

All the troops were sent to Camp Shanks, N. Y., for reassignment, as were ninety-two others who arrived at the New York Port of Embarkation yesterday on three other small freighters. The ships were the Empire McKendrick, which debarked fifty-seven troops at Pier 8, Port Newark, N. J.; the Rosemont, from which eighteen men were taken off by Hudson River harbor boats, and the Lunsford Richardson, from which seventeen men were landed at 132d Street and the Hudson River.

Today, five transports bearing 2,984 troops are expected to drop anchor at the Port of Embarkation. The largest contingent, 2,188, will be aboard the Exchange. Among the troops will be 1,635 enlisted men and twenty-five officers of the 5th Armored Division, which fought its way across Europe from Normandy to the Elbe. The men are not drawn from particular units of the division, but represent many of its components. Most are returning for reassignment. They will go to Camp Shanks.

Also aboard the Exchange will be men from the 72d and 167th Liaison Squadrons and the 86th Transport Squadron (cargo mail).

Another troopship expected today is the Lou Gehrig, which carries some liberated prisoners of war among her twenty-five passengers. She will anchor off Rosebank, S. I., and military personnel will be taken off in boats and transferred to Camp Shanks at 3 p. m. An earlier arrival off Rosebank will be the Great Republic, expected to debark fourteen men at 7:30 a. m.

Camp Kilmer, N. J., is the first destination for 738 troops scheduled for reassignment after landing from the Richard Rush, which is expected to dock at 9 a. m., at Pier 16, Stapleton. Nineteen other soldiers are scheduled to arrive on the H. M. S. Reaper, a British auxiliary aircraft carrier expected at Pier 14, S. I., at 3 p. m. The troops will go to Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn.

DAYTON, O.
JOURNAL
Cir. D. 27,170

JUL 23 1945

JOURNAL MAILBAG

Wright Field

To the Editor of The Journal:

I wish to make reference to your recent guest editorial entitled "Eastland Is Unfair", which appeared in the Monday paper, July 9, 1945.

This is the first time I have ever written to a newspaper; but I feel that in all fairness to Negro troops —especially to those with whom I have served—I must voice an opinion.

I can't speak from any battle experience, as I have none as yet; but if and when I do get into battle, I will feel pride and confidence should I serve with colored troops.

In maneuvers and bivouac, and as an enlisted man and officer with the ground forces and the Air corps, in the north and in the south, I trained with white and colored soldiers. All the ones I knew were far from "utter and abysmal" failures.

It is just a sign of ignorance for a civilian or soldier to make any blanket statement that Negro troops are worse than the whites, or vice versa.

In OCS at Miami Beach I never knew a colored soldier to "wash out." They were praised for their perseverance and excellent officer-qualities—without exception. In spite of the humiliations of the general southern attitude, 100 per cent of the colored boys succeeded; whereas the rest of us—the whites — could not claim such a record. We weren't even close to it!

In Mississippi, Senator Eastland's state, I spent 10 months in bivouac. Four months with white troops—the rest I shared a command with another white officer (Mississippian); we trained some 50,000 Negro troops, many of whom went to the Ninety-second division, and some to the famed "Fighting Ninety-Ninth" of the Air Corps. I maintained a daily log of our training and still have it; much difficult training is recorded in it, much of which I would stake my commission the men did not use in any failures!

To all Negro soldiers near or far I say ~~that~~ not only General Eisenhower, but the junior-grade officers, those of us who have had the pleasure of serving with you and knowing you best—and your fellow white soldiers know and appreciate your sacrifices, your good temperedness in ignoring foolish remarks, and we all know; "You are as good a soldier as any in the world!"

Further, let no one think I speak as just a narrow-minded northerner, whom many accuse of partiality to the Negro against the white. That isn't so. The white troops with whom I have served are tops, too; I feel certain they agree with me that the only color in the service is in the uniform! And anyone in it and in the fight is a symbol for it's achievements—is that failure?

I hope and pray that no more rabble will be so crude and un-American as to belittle other Americans. We had enough of that in Germany.

—H. J. M. MELARD,
1st Lt., A. C.

56n-1945 Regular Army

NEGRO SOLDIERS EAT AT WHITE HOUSE WITH EISENHOWER AS HALF MILLION ACCLAIM WORLD HERO

Black Dispatch

Conqueror of Hitler Not Certain of His Views Respecting Mixed Regiments

WASHINGTON.—(By Telegraph)—Today was General Eisenhower day in Washington. The wheels of government, business and schools stopped to pay tribute to the conqueror of Germany. Oakahoma City

In the general's party acompanying him from the battlefields of Europe were two Negro GIs, part of the 23 enlisted men brought back by the general. They were Master Sergeant Sylvester Buckner and Technical Sergeant Eugene Jackson. They, with the rest of the party of officers and enlisted men, accompanied the general to the Pentagon building from the airport, rode behind him in the parade to the capitol, were guests at the civic luncheon at the Statler hotel where they stayed, and again were guests with the general at the buffet supper at the White House this evening where they were entertained by President Truman. 6-30-45

Over five hundred thousand persons turned out to watch the general and his party ride in jeeps from the Pentagon building to the capitol.

At his press conference this afternoon, the general mentioned the twenty-six hundred Negro service troops who volunteered for combat duty with the third and seventh armies in Europe.

In answer to a question as to what he thought of this experiment and what it meant to the future of the Negro in the army, he said he had formed platoons of these soldiers, gave them trained non-com and commissioned officers, and that they operated as platoons wherever there was a shortage of replacements.

Mariners Hit Hate-Dealing Of Mississippian

Say Continued Presence In Senate Is Blot On Body

NEW YORK —(SNS)— Following unanimous approval of a resolution by a National Maritime membership meeting here, N. M. U. Port Agent Joseph Stack wrote Saturday to Senator Robert F. Wagner urging him to start impeachment proceedings immediately against Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi.

The resolution charged Sen. Bilbo with carrying on "one of the most vile and vicious attacks on all racial minorities in the United States in the history of this country." It added that the Senator used his "prolific ability for letter writing" to slander the Negro and Jewish people and to "openly advocate the banishment from this country of all minorities or their liquidation

COPIES FORWARDED

National Secretary Ferdinand C Smith has forwarded to the Union's 45 branch halls copies of the resolution adopted in New York and of Mr. Stack's letter to Senator Wagner. Together with this material Mr Smith has sent instructions for all the ports to take similar action and to contact their respective senators.

In his letter to Senator Wagner Mr. Stack declared:

"Senator Bilbo's continued presence in the United States Senate is a blot on that high body and an insult to every fair minded person in America.

"His arrogant and unwarranted attacks upon the Negro people and persons of Jewish and Italian extraction make him unfit to sit in the highest legislative body of the nation On behalf of the merchant seamen in the Port of New York I urge you to start impeachment proceedings against Senator Bilbo immediately."

IMPEACHMENT URGED BY NEGRO CONGRESS

NEW YORK, N. Y.— (SNS) — Thelma M. Dale, Acting Secretary of the National Negro Congress, Saturday called upon all Negro Congress council leaders and contacts to join in a national campaign of pressure on Senators for the impeachment of Senator Bilbo of Mississippi.

"For the first time," Miss Dale said, "genuine national sentiment is aroused over the increasingly vicious conduct of Senator Bilbo. It is possible, therefore, to envision a campaign which will successfully result in his impeachment."

56n-1945 Regular Army--

Soldiers, Waiting To Go Overseas Riot In Florida

The Call - Kansas City Mo.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—(ANP) —The Negro section known as Frenchtown was the scene of a riot last week between 200 and 250 soldiers from Camps Gordon Johnston and Dale Mabry fields. No casualties were reported from the rioting that lasted approximately two hours. Much property was damaged.

The disturbance was caused by a group of AWOL soldiers from Dale Mabry field who came into town to "paint it red" and "tear it apart." This contingent of soldiers were said to be on their way overseas. After receiving notice they were to be shipped out, they were restricted to the base. The Dale Mabry group is said to have walked four miles down the Seaboard Air Lines tracks to town.

Many of the Negro owned and operated businesses were the heaviest sufferers from the riot. Many windows were broken and doors torn down. 4-13-45

The local police were the first on the scene. They were able to quell the disturbance somewhat with the use of tear gas. The soldiers were held at bay by the police, state road patrolmen and deputies from the office of the sheriff until the military police arrived. 4-13-45

A regular riot squad of MP's arrived armed with tommy-guns and proceeded to round up and arrest the soldiers wandering around in Frenchtown.

A cordon was thrown around this section of the city and it was under martial law from 10:30 p.m. until after midnight.

It was later reported that the guilty soldiers boarded a train the next morning for parts unknown.

The local police have been complimented for handling the situation without bloodshed. Malcolm N. Yancey, city manager, has asked three military sources to investigate the riot. His request has been sent to Brig. Gen. William H. Holcombe of Camp Gordon Johnston, Col. Laurence B. Hickam, Dale Mabry field and to the fourth service command in Atlanta. 4-13-45

Chief of Police W. L. Prater announced that no arrests were made by local police. He also announced that the extent of the damage was undetermined.

Herman J. D. Carter Saw Little Race Prejudice In Army Of U. S.

Nashville Globe Tenn.

Since my return from France, hundreds of my people have asked me if I fiund much prejudice overseas. To lessen the answer to these questions, I think it wise to do this article. 3-30-45

From the day I entered the United States Army, I never saw but two instances of prejudice shown by the white soldiers. One instance was at Aberdeen Proving Ground Maryland in August 1943. There was a great need for a stenographer in the second regiment. I had taken the typist examination, and done 74 words a minute, so I was put into the pool to be used throughout the post wherever a typist was needed. That day, the representative from the Classification section came and ordered me to the 2d Regiment to take the job as a stenographer. He emphasized the need for some one to use shorthand and the typewriter. I went over as ordered. When I got there the sergeant at the desk threw up his hands and said.

"Oh, we can't use you."

"Why? I asked.

"They wouldn't approve a colored soldier in there," he replied.

There was an officer, and some other military personed present.

I said: "Well, I understand you need a stenographer. I use the stenotype, typewriter, and shorthand, and all other office machines. I am perfectly willing to serve; but if you think you can win the war by not using me, then you know best. The other instance was at Ft. Meade Maryland when I was inducted on April 8, 1943. When I came through, and the officer asked me how fast I typed. I told him. Then he gave me a test. I made 54 words a minute. He said that he had orders to hold the next soldier who came through that could type, because they could not get the men out fast enough to answer to their country's call. I was glad. I was going to do something for my native land before receiving my first shot. To my surprise, I was almost assigned before the officer in charge discovered that I was a Negro. Then I was ordered to the casualty company, where later I was sent to the finest camp in the world, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, just 72 miles from Washington where I have made my home since 1940.

I say here, that I have experienced prejudice in the army; but not by military personnel except in those two instances. It wasn't that it didn't exist; but just because I fought it with Articles of War, and Army regulations, and that wins out. The army lives by the Articles of War, and the Army Regulations The army will follow them, and whenever a military personnel diviates from them, all a military personnel has to do is remind the offender of the ciolated law, and he immediately changes hi stactics.

Overseas, I was surprised to find such brotherhood among white and Negro soldiers. We walked together ate together, and in some instances fought together. Even the white soldiers from the heart of Mississippi and Texas smoked, drank, and ate with us, and denounced prejudice. 3-30-45

One night some 88's were flying like snow flurries over a certain part of France. A certain white Virginian jumped into the first fox hole he saw. He felt another person in there with him; but he said no a word. He may have been a German, and when dawn broke the next morning, this Virginian discovered that he was in the fox hole with a Negro soldier. There was a white soldier from New York in another fox hole. He yelled to his Virginia friend,

"Hey Virginia, which side of the fox hole is for Negroes?"

"Not any, and when I get back to Virginia I'm going to do all in my power to move those signs from the street cars too. This damn segregation is nothing but pure ignorance

Letter from Soldier in New Guinea Wins $5 for Aunt

AFRO - American

BALTIMORE

[The AFRO awards $5 for each Soldier's Letter published. The following letter was sent to Mrs. Odella Epps of 400 Myrtle Ave., by her nephew, Pfc. Frank Young, in New Guinea.]

My Dear Aunt:

Hear I am again to say hello. How are you this time? It is Sunday morning here and is the beginning of what might be a lovely day. 5-5-45

I am hoping that it will continue to be pleasant all day long, but considering the fact this is in the tropics, it would be nothing of a surprise if it should begin raining within the next few minutes.

This morning, I am thankful to have been blessed with physical strength and good health to enable me to attend church.

As always, a wonderful lessor was taught and I'm most sure that all who were present were benefited by the message the chaplain preached from the subject: "Forbidden Blood." 5-5-45

Learns Great Lesson

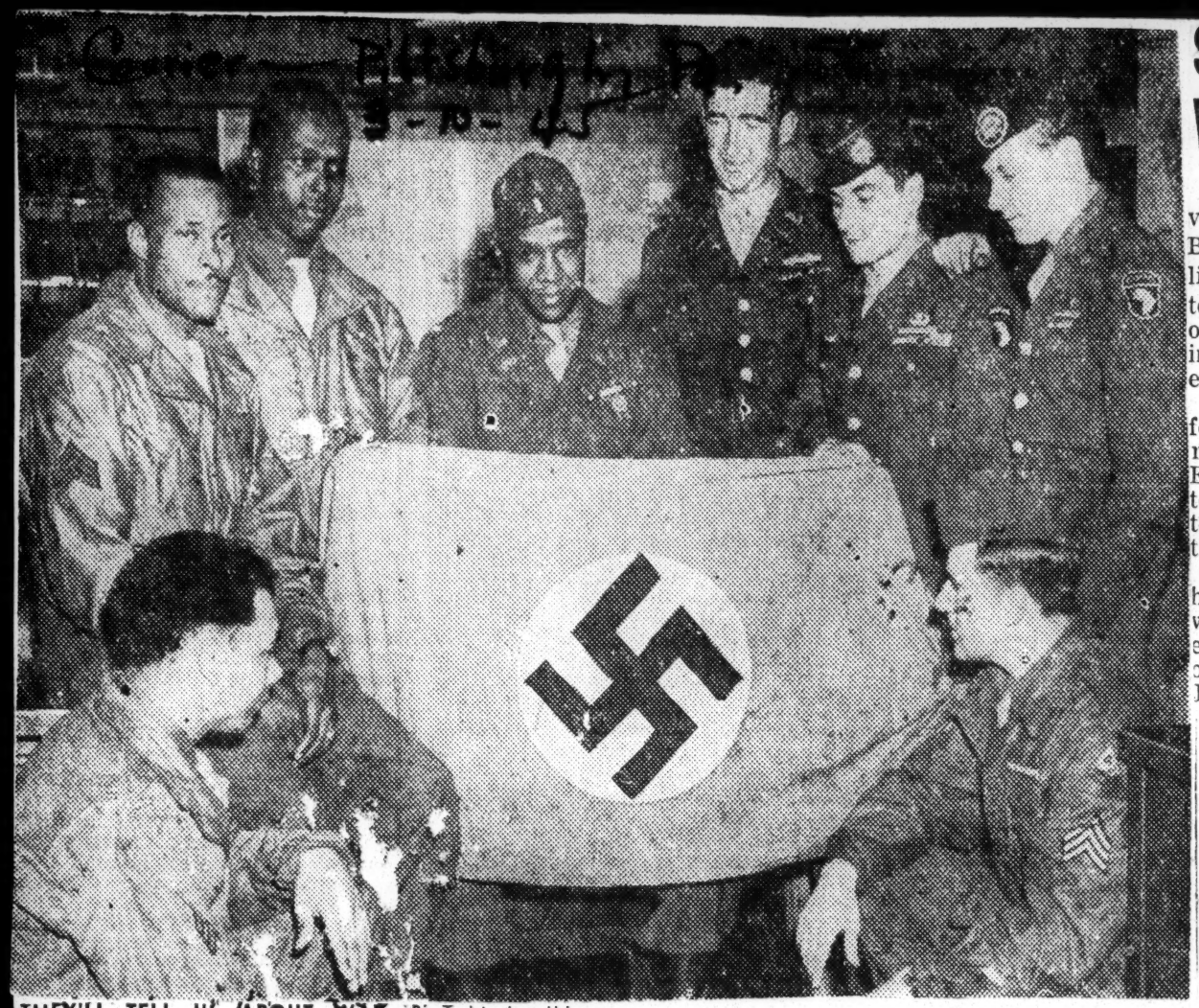
He spoke about the sin of causing suffering and danger to others for the convenience or comfort of one's self.

It is a pity that people seldom think of who might have to make the supreme sacrifice for their wrongdoings and sinful ways of living. 5-5-45

Yes, it was a great lesson this morning and the chaplain made everything very clear to us. I feel that I can say truthfully that all who were present at the service were very much enlightened.

I am getting along okey as you imagine. My thoughts, Aunt, are always directed homeward. Write soon. Lovingly, your nephew,

FRANK.



THEY'LL TELL U' ABOUT WAR—Brought to this country to tell civilians about the German counter offensive in the Ardennes, and well qualified to do the job, this group (holding a captured Nazi swastika) will tour the Sixth Service Command, making talks to war workers, in an effort to urge them to increase the output of vital war supplies. Left to right: Sgt. Frederick R. Wheeler, Charleston, S. C.; Sgt. Hugh D. Thompson, Lufkin, Tex.; Sgt. Samuel B. Hendrix, Claxton, Ga.; First Lieut. Walter J. McDowell, Hackensack, N. J.; Capt. James H. Cruickshank, Elizabeth, N. J.; Sgt. James E. Colucci, Niagara Falls, N. Y.; Corp. Henry C. Gogola, Chicago, and Sgt. Elmer K. Forrest, Princeton, Ill.—U. S. Army Photo.

Six Negro Veterans in Group to Tour War Plants to Help Speed Production

WASHINGTON. — Six Negro veterans of the epic battle for Bastogne are among the 56 front-line soldiers who will make a tour of war plants to impress upon workers the urgency of speeding up the output of badly needed military supplies.

The men were returned home for 60 days to visit factories as representatives of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower as part of a campaign to speed production of war material. At the end of the tour, they will get 21-day furloughs.

All six of the Negroes included have performed heroically in the war, and four of them are wearers of the Bronze Medal for valor. The six are: First Lt. Walter J. McDowell, of Charlotte, N. C.; Sgt Samuel B Hendrix, of Claxton, Ga.; Sgt. Frederick Wheeler, of Charleston, S. C.; Sgt. Franklin D Hendricks, of South Boston, Va; Sgt. Sandy Wyatt, of New York City; and Sgt. Hugh D. Thompson, of Lufkin, Tex.

As was the case when the going was tough at the front, no racial lines will be drawn during the tour of factories in this country. Two of the six Negroes will accompany five white soldiers to factories in Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, and the other four will be accompanied by three white soldiers to factories in New Jersey, New York and Delaware.

The entire group appeared at a press conference at the War department this week.

Five Grenier Field Soldiers Off to School

Five members of Squadron A, Grenier Field, N.H., who left last week for school. Four went to Keesler Field, Miss., for basic training for aviation cadet school and one went to Washington and Lee University in Virginia to take a course in information and education. Left to right: Cpl. Robert H. Robinson, Richmond, Va.; Cpl. James W. Keeling, Washington, D.C.; Pfc. Charles Milliner, Ala.; S/Sgt. Wendell P. Grigsby, Cleveland, who will go to Washington and Lee, and Pfc. Leven C. Weiss, Detroit. — (Official

White Officer Praises Negro Soldiers

COLUMBIA, S. C. (ANP)—A high tribute was paid Negro troops in New Guinea last week by a white lieutenant who wrote his impressions of them and of the Progressive Democratic party to Mrs. Gennie R. Seideman, white, of Columbia.

Wrote Lt. Jack Rome, somewhere in New Guinea with the Far East Air forces:

"I have received several copies of literature about your movement. They are, I assure you, very worthwhile and enlightenng.

"The colored soldiers over here are doing a great job and are greatly respected. My impressions are that the colored troops produce more work than several of our white units. They are hard workers.

"Good luck to your enterprise. Perhaps, some day, I shall have a hand in it."

CHARLESTON, W. VA.
GAZETTE
Cir. D. 67,331—S. 71,333

JUL 6 - 1945

Negro Soldiers

In all fairness the disparagement of Negro troops in the European conflict by Senator Eastland of Mississippi last week ought to be refuted. The Senator is quoted as having stated that the Negro troops were an utter and abysmal failure, that they would neither work nor fight and that they assaulted members of the families of French farmers.

The charges are so ridiculous as to be hardly worth notice were it not for the fact that a large number of our better class Negro people feel badly hurt. They have given their sons and friends willingly to the armed services and they have bought generously of war bonds. They have taken full part in various home activities contributing to the success of our arms. From all the reports we have seen except that of Senator Eastland the Negro men in the services have made good and they have experienced their share of casualties.

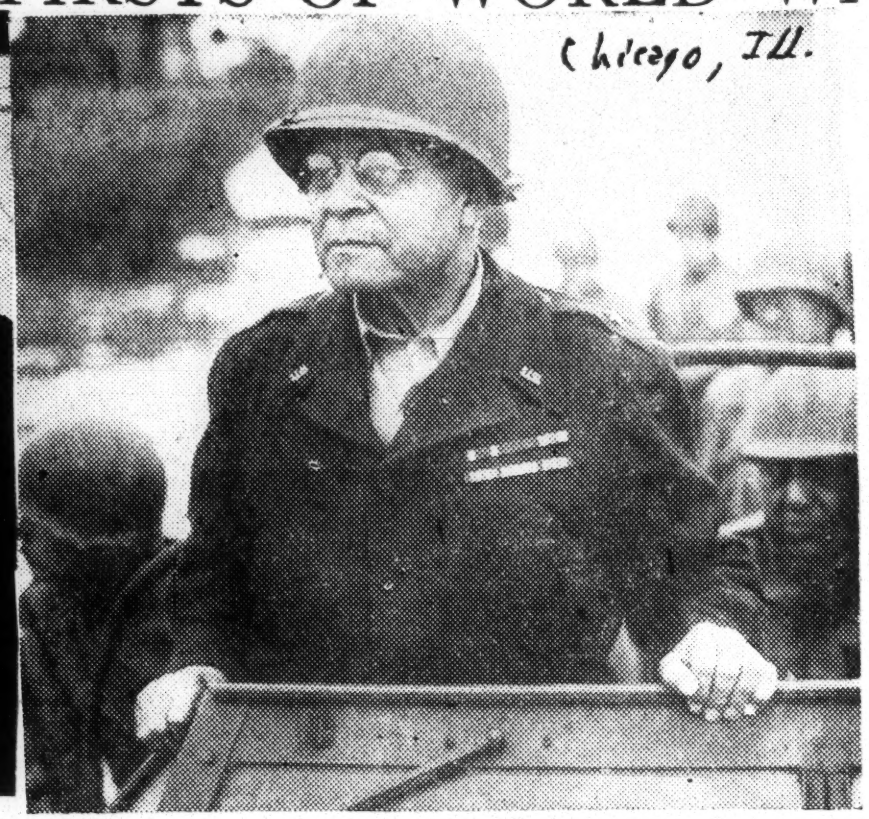
We do not think the rantings of Senator Eastland will hurt the Negro race or impede its progress. The past few decades the race has taken long strides upward, due to the sense and good judgment of the real leaders. It has been necessary that it have the help of the white race and it will need more of it in the future. Nothing should be said or done on either side that might affect this advantage unfavorably.

We say these things in hope that they may lessen the hurt of the Negro fathers and mothers caused by Senator Eastland.

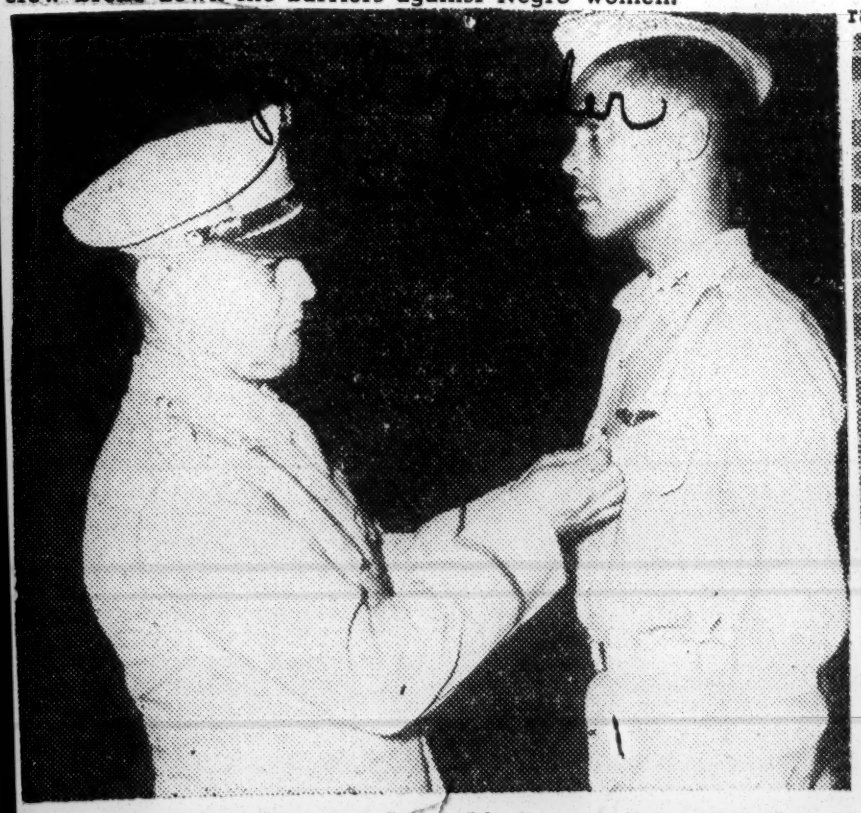
HERE ARE FAMOUS FIRSTS OF WORLD WAR II

Chicago, Ill.

First Negro woman sworn into the Waves was Miss Jean A. Freeman, 22, of Roxbury, Mass. She was accepted for the Woman's Reserve of the Navy after a long campaign against Navy jim-crow broke down the barriers against Negro women.



First Negro ever to become a general in the U. S. Army was Brig.-Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, shown riding in a tank destroyer unit in France. Davis was named an aide to General Eisenhower in the latter stages of the war and acted as a general advisor on racial ffairs.



First Negro to command an Army Air Corps unit was Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., ex-West Pointer who first was commanding officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron and later became commanding officer of the 332nd Fighter group which downed more than 100 Nazi planes in combat over Europe.

First Negro to report for training in the U. S Navy and break the long discriminatory policy of limiting Negroes to messmen was Doreston Luke Carmen Jr., 19, of Galveston, Texas. He entered the Great Lakes Naval Training station where all Negro seaman have been trained in World War II.

Nine, Seven Were 'Lucky' Numbers For Colored Outfits In World War II

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

By BRUCE L. REYNOLDS

"Lucky" numbers for Negro combat units on fronts around the world have been nine and seven.

History will remember years after V-E day the way in which the Negro units helped blast to rubble Hitler's fortress and then went on to destroy the Japs. Here is the roll of honor of the "nine" units:

99th Pursuit Squadron.
92nd Infantry Division.
93rd Infantry Division.
999th Field Artillery.
969th Field Artillery.

The "seven" units are:

777th Field Artillery.
707th Field Artillery.
761st Tank Battalion.
784th Tank Battalion.

The most colorful of such units in the European scramble was the much-publicized 99th Pursuit Squadron, activated in 1942 as an "experiment" of the War Department.

5-12-45

The doughty 99th put skeptics to flight and blazed a pioneer trail in the skies for the Negro in aviation. The squadron, which left the States for Italy in April, 1943, brought down a Focke-Wulf 190 over Sicily that summer with the blazing guns of Lt. Charles Hall (now captain) in its first brush with Luftwaffe. That the Negro fliers had emerged from the experimental stage was indicated in January, 1944, when they shot down 12 enemy planes in two days.

H. R. Knickerbocker of the Chicago Sun put into words the feelings of all fair-minded persons in his article of February, 1944: " . . . Nobody regards the Negro squadron as a curiosity any more. The head of the U. S. air forces, Gen H. H. Arnold, has congratulated them. They know they are good."

The 332nd Fighter Group joined the 99th in January, 1944. Composed of the 100th and 301st Pursuit Squadrons and other units, the group chalked up 200 combat missions with the 15th AAF on February 28, this year. It was credited with more than 8,000 individual sorties and its pilots had won 63 Distinguished Flying Crosses. There had been no losses.

Two Divisions

The 92nd and 92rd Divisions, all-Negro divisions which participated in World War I, have played vital roles in World War II. Both divisions trained at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., though the 93rd was the first to be activated for the present conflict.

5-12-45

The 93rd Divison leaped into front page headlines in March, 1944, when its famous 24th Infantry became the "first Negro American infantry unit" to engage the Japs. The action took place on Bougainville, where the 24th helped, in the succeeding months of April, May and June, to blast the sons of Nippon in this sector out of the war.

The 24th Infantry, which was activated Nov. 1, 1866, was in the Pacific theatre as early as April, 1942. Its members, however, were performing as construction engineers. They were joined by and became a part of the 93rd Division in 1944.

The 999th Field Artillery battalion demonstrated its mettle, after landing in France in July, 1944, at St. Lo late the same month. But its fame came in August, when a report from Defender Correspondent Edward Toles declared the "effective firing aided in the lightning drive at Mantes and Gassicourt, establishing and holding a bridgehead at the Seine river."

Win Bronze Stars

Col. Gerolamic, commanding the second corps of the First French army, said of the 999th: " . . . I must tell you all the satisfaction I have had to have you as the most effective firing ever I have ever had under my command."

There was a mass award of bronze stars to members of the artillery battalion for its epic stand outside Colmar with the First French army.

5-12-45

The 777th Field Artillery, ripping holes in Nazi defense since Nov. 1944, fired the first gun of the 9th Army's 16th corps across the Rhine. It won praise for its softening up optration against Essen, the largest city in the Ruhr.

The Germans will long remember the thunderous bombardment of the Negro 707th Field Artillery battalion. The men worked like chained lightning and with unerring accuracy. They set a record by firing seven rounds from 4.5 inch guns in 37 seconds!

In Italy the 450th Anti-Aircraft battalion was commended for its destructive work against enemy installations and Axis planes.

Tank Destroyers

Forging into the headlines early this year was the hell-bent 827th Tank Destroyer battalion, which knocked out 20 German Mark VI tanks in two weeks near Hatten, Northern Alsace. The deadly work of the unit, activated in 1942, was recorded: "The 827th TD outfit is doing a whale of a job bagging German Mark VIs and their terrible King Tiger tanks here in Alsace."

The units of the 92nd Division went into the front lines in Italy in August, 1944, to become the first Negro combat infantry group to clash with the Nazis and Italian Fascists.

5-12-45

Gibson in Spotlight

In recent months, the exploits of the 92nd have received more than the usual scrutiny when Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, told reporters in a Rome interview that small units of the division "melted away" in the face of enemy fire. After a temporary withdrawal, caused by a desperate, last-ditch thrust of the enemy, the 92nd bounced back with the rest of Gen. Mark Clark's armies and other Allied troops to force the unconditional surrender May 2, 1945, of more than a million Axis soldiers in Northern Italy.

Operating against the Germans with precision effectiveness were a number of Negro field artillery, tank and tank destroyer battalions. Outstanding among these were the 969th and 999th Field Artillery and the 827th and 614th Tank Destroyer battalions.

The men of the 969th won everlasting glory during the Bastogne siege in Belgium when the 101st American Airborne Division was encircled by the Nazis and cut off from other Allied forces for nine days—December 18 to 27, 1944. The airborne commander, Brig.-Gen. Anthony McAuliffee, who hurled the now famous "Nuts!" in reply to German demands that he surrender, said of the 969th in a January, 1945 report: "The Negro artillerymen's work was most effective and accurate. Their counterattack was successful."

5-12-45

Win Citation

A dispatch from the 7th army, dated April 24, 1945, reported that the 969th had received the Presidential Unit Citation, "the highest and most highly coveted military award a unit can obtain." The release, in part, read: " . . . in the face of what appeared certain destruction, the men calmly but speedily shifted their guns under continuous enemy pressure on a 360 degree perimeter to meet and repulse every attack of the German 'Super Race'."

The 969th, activated August 5, 1942, landed in France early in July, 1944. It was one of the first artillery outfits to assault the Siegfried Line in Germany.

56n-1945

Mississippi Senator, In Vicious Attack, Says Negro Soldiers "Won't Fight, Won't Work"

Pittsburg Courier

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Washington Correspondent

(Excerpts from Filibuster Speeches — Turn to Page 5)

WASHINGTON—In an unsavory speech filled with unsupported assertions and references to questionable authority, Mississippi's No. 3 candidate for Public Enemy No. 1—Sen. James Eastland— launched a vicious attack upon the American Negro soldier in the Senate last Friday. His speech not only castigated the mental, moral and physical abilities of the Negro soldier, but carried a direct threat of violence on the part of returning white soldiers against Negro citizens.

Joining Mississippi's other candidates—Senator Theodore (The Man) Bilbo and Representative John Rankin—in a filibuster against continuation of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, Eastland resorted to the well-known debate procedure of making a generalization and then seeking to lend credence to it by referring to such far-fetched authority as "many American officers," "high-ranking American generals" and "a high-ranking general in Paris."

QUOTES UNNAMED GENERALS

Senator Eastland's tirade against Negro soldiers began with a charge that for "political reasons" (*Eastland said here that he was quoting American generals)* generals were forced to promote Negro officers in the Ninety-second Division. Raved Eastland: "I tell you now, Mr. President, that division (Ninety-second) could not be placed in an important position in the line."

EDITOR'S NOTE—Elements of the Ninety-second Division were placed in the front lines in Italy in late July 1944. By late August, units of the division had spearheaded Gen. Mark Clark's Fifth Army's crossing of the Arno river to the slopes of Pisano Hill west of Florence.

Senator Eastland continued: "Had we depended on it (Ninety-second) the German army would have gone south to the toe of the Italian boot and destroyed our armies in Europe."

EDITOR'S NOTE—This above assertion seems to contradict the recent statement of Gen. Mark Clark who, in speaking of the Ninety-Second said: "They jumped into LaSpezia and with other Fifth Army units, took Bologna. Then they moved into Genoa and took it. I needed the Ninety-second and if anyone had tried to take it from me I would have protested loudly."

7-7-45

"UTTER, DISMAL FAILURE IN COMBAT"

Following this, Eastland conjured up one of the most unbelievable statements when he said: "The Negro soldier was an utter and dismal failure in combat. When I make that statement, it is not from prejudice. I am not prejudiced against the Negro."

At this point the galleries broke out in long and sarcastic laughter which ended only after the presiding officer threatened to clear the galleries.

EDITOR'S NOTE—There are three American generals who seem to disagree with Senator Eastland on this allegation of failure. General Eisenhower, in a press conference in Paris, said that he found the Negro soldier as good as any other. Gen. George S. Patton has declared the Negro soldier a "damn good soldier of which the nation could be proud."

But it is Gen. E. M. Almond, Commanding General of the Ninety-second, who comes up with the clincher. Speaking to the men of the Ninety-second he declared: "The Ninety-second Division and its supporting troops have performed splendidly. Without the arduous effort and unselfish cooperation on the part of each of you, it would not have been possible to secure the results obtained in so short a time."

"SOLDIERS' CONDUCT WAS DISGRACEFUL"

Again alluding to such questionable authority as "a high-ranking general in Paris," Eastland told of cases of rape on the part of Negro soldiers and declared: " . . . I state that the conduct of the Negro soldier in Normandy, as well as all over Europe, was disgraceful, and that Negro soldiers have disgraced the flag of their country. They constitute roughly one-twelfth of the American Army, yet they are guilty of more than half of the crime of the Army."

EDITOR'S NOTE—The War Department said that to its knowledge no statistics had been compiled on the crime ratio between races in the Army. Eastland gave no authority for his statistics.

Turning to traditional Mississippi technique and again referring to questionable authority, Eastland declared further. "I was told in any number of cities that decent white girls could not go on the street because they would be accosted by groups of drunken Negro soldiers. I know from conversation with Army officers, with generals in the American Army, and with civilians, that in England, in France, in Belgium, that feeling exists in a very intense degree. He will not fight. He will not work."

EDITOR'S NOTE—Eastland's reference to the failure of Negro service troops to do their work seems to contradict a statement made by General Patton who in referring to Negro truck drivers in the Tunisian campaign declared: "We needed ammunition badly up front and they brought it to us in a hurry. They operated under miserable road conditions day and night, and were exposed to shell fire and air strafing. They toiled so long and so hard that some of them fainted at the wheels of their trucks."

OFFICIALS GET STRONG PROTESTS

Pouring oil on the fire of racial tension already sweeping the Nation, Eastland declared that the white soldier "is openly and avowedly waiting for his chance when he returns to the United States." Many interpreted this as a veiled threat of reprisals on the part of returning white soldiers against Negroes in this country who have fought to break down opportunity barriers in this country during the war.

Immediately following Eastland's speech, protests flowed to President Truman and officials of the War Department. As yet, neither has made a statement on the implications and allegations in Eastland's speech. It is felt, however, that the War Department will make a statement in the near future at the insistence of the Negro press.

Protest was not confined to members of the Negro group, as many were registered by outstanding white citizens. Most prominent came from Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Mr. Foreman declared: 7-7-45

"In strange contrast to the accounts of Negroes' heriosm in today's press was the attack on Negro soldiers by Senator Eastland of Mississippi on the Senate floor today. The Senator apparently did not hear the report which General Eisenhower made on the bravery of Negro soldiers in Europe.

"I believe that the great majority of white Southerners are proud of the work of the Negro soldiers. The only explanation of these unjustified accusations on the part of Senator Eastland is that he was elected by a small minority of the voters of his poll-taxed State."

S.C Negro Leader Demands Proof of Eastland's Charges

Pittsburg Pa.

Columbia, June 30.—(AP): Proof of statements made by Senator Eastland, Democrat, Mississippi, that "negro troops were an utter and abysmal failure" was requested today by the South Carolina conference of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People.

President J. M. Hinton of the state N. A. A. C. P. referred to Eastland's statements during a Southern filibuster against the FEPC yesterday as "uncorroborated, and unproven false" ones.

He demanded that Eastland name the commanding generals who gave him such facts or have his assertions stricken from the senate's record.

Eastland said that "high ranking generals" had told him on a recent European trip that the negro troops would neither work nor fight and that in Normandy the negroes criminally assaulted members of the families of French farmers.

Hinton said he wrote the senator a letter demanding that he name the generals or strike from the record "what we have every reason to believe is a carefully calculated falsehood, with but one purpose, and that to discredit all negroes who fought, died, were wounded, or who will come back to a state like Mississippi and find worse conditions than they fought in Germany."

Hinton declared that "the records in the war department (judging from statements) by both Generals Eisenhower and MacArthur, disprove what you (Eastland) were alleged to have said yesterday."

No Comment from Officials

Rome, June 30.—(AP): An authoritaive source in the 15th army group declined today to comment on criticism of the 92nd negro infantry division voiced in the United States senate in Washington yesterday by Senator Eastland, Democrat, Mississippi.

"We don't want to get into any controversy with any member of congress," the source said.

Officials at Allied military headquarters, including Brigadier General Otto L. Nelson, acting commander in the Mediterranean theater, likewise declined to comment.

Senator Eastland said in his speech the negro 92nd division could not be placed in an important position in the Allied line in Italy.

Dumbarton Oaks

560-1945

The South Is In The Saddle!

When the flood of hot anger which overwhelmed Negroes cools off and subsides under the beneficent influence of reflection, they will restrain their sense of shock caused by the fact that an unworthy United States Senator from

Read . . . Pittsburgh, Penn.

DR. GOEBBELS RIDES AGAIN!

☞ EDITORIAL PAGE

Mississippi should have been the author of the most poisonously slanderous insult ever uttered publicly by one American against other Americans. They will not be stunned by their discovery of the mind of Hitler and the compunction of a buzzard in James O. Eastland and the new evidence of the foul, black nature of his soul. They will know that when this beast which looks like a man opened his mouth to besmirch the record of the Negro soldier, he spoke, not for the highest type of man, but for the lowest species of animal.

Pittsburg Courier

Negroes should remember that this Eastland comes from a State which, according to every standard of progress and advancement, stands last among the forty-eight. It is the poorest State, the most illiterate, the most lacking in the marks of culture, the most backward in public health. It has sent to the House and Senate a long line of the most notorious charlatans ever to disgrace those bodies. Since the days of Vardaman, claimed late in life by an asylum, the plantation politicians from Mississippi have vied with one another at the vulture feast of white supremacy. This Eastland is but the latest and newest addition to the board where such gluttons of hate as Rankin and Bilbo sit with distended stomachs.

* * * 7-7-45

Picture, if you will, the two drooly-mouthed Mississippians, Bilbo and Eastland, consuming hours of time in a bestial effort to kill off the Fair Employment Practices appropriation. Recall, if you will, the insult to your brothers, sons, fathers, killed and maimed in this war which they in no way sought. As his words that they would neither "work nor fight" drone in the inner recesses of your mind, forget, if you can, the hurt to yourself, to your people—forget, if you can, your strident appeals for seven long years to be allowed to play your full part as fighter and worker—forget, if you can, that it had been planned that you should not be allowed to fight—and think of America, your America, of all Americans and what the Eastlands must mean to them.

* * *

Dread them if you will, but dark days descend upon America, the Beautiful. While the Nation as a whole has been engaged in fighting its enemies abroad, the South has moved ahead to clinch the victory which it never yielded in the Civil War. Twelve years of Mr. Roosevelt gave the South the opportunity to take over control of the United States. The South has fought, not only for the rights of the States which it represents, but also for the domination of all the other States. It has now won to this position of dominaiton. Its victory is discerned most clearly in its successful opposition to matters which concern the welfare of Negroes, but its power does not stop there. The South has captured Washington.

* * * 7-7-45

The North, the East, the Middlewest and the Farwest, must now go to the Southerners in the saddle in Washington for what they want. These Southerners dominate the most powerful committees in the Congress. Recently, the President of the United States asked for favorable consideration of the Fair Employment Practices Committee Bill. Six Southerners on the rules committee blocked consideration, denied the House of Representatives a chance to vote on it. These six throttled democracy in the House. Other Americans, white Americans and black Americans, must treat with Bilbo and Eastland of Mississippi, with George and Russell of Georgia, with Ellender and Overton of Louisiana, with the Rankins, the Ramspecks, the Gibsons, none of whom represent the people. Southern Senators and Representatives came from districts where the people, white and black, are effectually disfranchised.

* * *

But an even worse spectre appears. These Southerners have controlled the Congress, the independent offices and bureaus. But within recent months, they have won new influence in the Cabinet and the White House. The only Easterners, or Northerners, left in the Cabinet, are Stimson, Republican and Forrestal and Morgenthau, Democrats. 7-7-45

The appointment of James E. Byrnes as Secretary of State could prove to be a calamity to the United States. Byrnes is the same kind of race-hating politician as Eastland. But Byrnes is now in a position where he could succeed to the Presidency of the United States. In other words, in a world where wars are being fought because of race, Byrnes, a white supremacist of the first rank, is placed where he may brew a devil's broth.

* * *

President Truman might be as righteous as Christ Himself, but he will never be able to relieve this Nation from the evil designs of the evil men who have come to power with him.

* * *

Negroes may feel that the worst hurt of this system is theirs. But it is not. The Nation as a whole suffers most.

* * *

Negroes have a simple responsibility to see that the present system, which means the present Administration, does not continue to prevail. The Nation must be rescued by rescuing it from the present administration. Negroes must look forward to doing their part in that job. That is the utmost they can do to reduce the power of the Eastlands, the Bilbos and others of their stripe.

Bury Race Issues In Mutual Respect

Pgh Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier 7-7-45

By THEODORE STANFORD, Courier War Correspondent

NICE, FRANCE—(Via Bomber Pouch)—The splendidly harmonious relationships which are the keynote here, is just another proof that democracy is the overall result whenever white and Negro enlisted men are given a chance to react naturally towards each other.

With my fingers crossed, I have been scurrying about this "jewel of the Riviera" in a futule effort to discover just one crestfallen Negro soldier who is not satisfied with the way the white folk have been treating him down here. If that Negro exists, he is very probably hiding in some secret and mysterious cellar, away from the soft sunlight, the waving palms, and the caressing breezes. I can't find him.

There have been some incidents. Yes. But our colored fighting men have been profoundly impressed by the prompt fashion with which some of their white fellow-vacationists have stepped in and have taken care of the situation.

FIRST HAND TESTIMONY

Don't take my word for it. Listen to a couple of stories told to me by Pfc. Oscar Roper of Atlanta, Ga.; T/4 Robert Curry of Savannah, Ga., and T/5 Howard Couch of Brooklyn, N. Y.

"We walked into a cafe," T/5 Couch said, "and found two white Wacs and two white soldiers lined up at the bar. We stopped at the bar, a few feet away from this group and ordered some drinks. One of the Wacs looked us over and made a loud remark about the proprietor letting 'n——rs' in the place."

"But," interjected T/4 Curry, before T/5 Couch could finish his story, "one of the white soldiers turned to that white Wac and said 'Miss, we don't use that kind of language down here at Nice.'"

"And that," added Pfc. Roper, "ended the whole thing right there."

ANOTHER INCIDENT

"Another time," T/5 Couch began, "we were in a cafe. There were a lot of white and colored soldiers in the place. A white soldier, who was pretty drunk, began to pick on one of the colored soldiers. He started calling the colored soldier nasty names, and things like that."

"But," interjected T/4 Curry, before T/5 Couch could get on with his story," a big white American paratrooper walked over to that drunken white soldier and said, 'if you don't shut your dirty mouth, I'm going to take my fist and flatten you out on the floor.'"

"And that," concluded Pfc. Roper, "ended the whole thing right there." 7-7-45

CHICAGO, ILL.
TIMES
Cir. D. 399,045 — S. 376,960
JUL 8-1945

'Cruel statement'

Recently I read an article concerning Sen. J. O. Eastland's charge that our Negro troops are "an utter and abysmal failure." Eastland claimed that several generals had given him this information, but, he did not mention their names. Since the beginning of the war, I have heard and read many commendable things about our Negro troops and being accustomed to reading "profound" statments by our politicians, I put the whole thing out of my mind.

A few hours later we received word that the son of one of our colored workers had been killed on Okinawa. This brought back to my mind the cruel and seemingly unnecessary statement made about the Negro troops. If this boy had been "an utter and abysmal failure," he was still good enough to die for his country.

Could this representative of the people face the dead boy's mother, father, wife and baby and tell them that he was "an utter and abysmal failure." Perhaps Sen. Eastland would say that his remarks weren't directed at any particular individual. But in answer to this, I can say that this boy hasn't been the only Negro soldier or sailor to die in the service of his country. Perhaps one of them stopped a bullet that was meant for one of my loved ones. So, you see, I can't think of our Negro troops as being "an utter and abysmal failure."

M. T. CONNELLY,
4531 N. St. Louis ave.

(Sen. Eastland of Mississippi made this charge before the Senate on June 29. American Negro troops have been praised by General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, Gen. George S. Patton, General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, Gen. Mark

56n-1945

Negro Troops OK'd

Washington Post

MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI CONGRESSIONAL delegation met last week to welcome one of their State's war heroes—Lieut. Van T. Barfoot of Carthage, Miss., who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, the Sliver Star, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. A soft-spoken lad who had never been out of Mississippi before entering the Army, Lieutenant Barfoot fought with distinction in Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Jan. 1945

A little embarrassed at being surrounded by Congressmen, Barfoot told some of his experiences in combat and tried to answer questions. One of them finally came from Senator Theodore (The Man) Bilbo on his favorite subject.

D.C.

"Lieutenant," Bilbo asked, "did you have much trouble with Negroes over there?"

Bilbo was set back on his heels when the lieutenant drawled:

"Mr. Senator, I found out after I did some fightin' in this war the colored boys fight just as good as the white boys. I have changed my ideas a lot about colored people since I got into this war, and so have a lot of other boys from the South. We've found the colored boys all right."

Then Lieutenant Barfoot quietly volunteered this information:

"Coming up to Washington on the train I went into the diner and found it full. The waiter told me I'd have to wait, but I could see, behind a little curtain, a colored Army captain sitting at a table by himself. I said, 'What's wrong with that table?' The steward told me he didn't think I'd want to sit with a colored man and I said:

"'Why not? I've fought with colored men—why shouldn't I eat with 'em.' I sat with that colored captain and we had a fine chat."

Jan. 1945

Senator Bilbo then launched into a long peroration about what a great friend of the Negro race he is, telling among other things, how he proposed transplanting American Negroes to Liberia.

Not present at the Mississippi meeting was Congressman John Rankin.

Foreign Service

Assign 2029th For Occupation Chores In Germany's Reich

N.Y. American

N.Y.N.Y.

WITH THE AIR SERVICE COMMAND IN ITALY: The 2029th Quartermaster Trucking Company, a veteran organization with almost two years overseas service in North Africa and Italy, with both the 12th and 15th Air Forces, has been assigned to the Army of Occupation in Germany.

Commanded by Captain Andrew F. Suder, Philadelphia, the organization was activated at Hensley Field, Dallas, Texas, October 1942, and started its overseas service August 1943. Arriving in Bizerte, North Africa, the unit was assigned to the 12th Air Force and hauled thousands of tons of bombs, ammunition and gasoline for the initial air assaults on the Italian mainland.

9-1-45

The "Harlem Tigers" as the unit is better known, arrived in Italy at the Manda Air Base, the first week of July, 1944, to service the 332nd Fighter Group, the only All-Negro Fighter Group in the Army Air Force.

Now assigned to the Air Force's Army of Occupation in Germany, the "Harlem Tigers" will be able to see for themselves the devastation caused by the heavies of the XV Air Force and realize the part they played in the final defeat of the German armies.

Two members of the "Harlem Tigers" who will accompany the unit to Germany include, T/4 Michel Alfred, New York City, and S/Sgt. George Rhett, New Rochelle. T-4 Alfred, son of the late Mrs. [illegible] St., New York City, is a mechanic. Entering the service July 1942, he is a veteran of 23 months overseas service. Sgt. Rhet, son of Mr. [illegible] and husband of the former Willa Mae Dixon, both of 40 [illegible] chelle, is the supply sergeant with his unit. Entering the service December 1942, he is a veteran of 18 months' overseas service.

Wounded Vet Pickets Bilbo

Edward Bykowski, a wounded Naval veteran from Woodside, Queens, is spending his mustering-out pay on a one-man campaign to shame Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo (D., Miss.) for inciting to race hate and prejudice.

He turned up yesterday outside the Senate Office Building with a sandwich board which displayed replicas of his service ribbons, the Purple Heart he got for shrapnel wounds in the Battle of Savo Bay, and the legend: "Was it all in vain? Please tell me, Bilbo."

"Bilbo has abrogated everything that veterans have shed blood for and died for," said Bykowski. "He continues to incite the minds and hearts of Americans to hate and prejudice. I am trying to help finish the battle for my buddies who went down on my ship."

Capitol guards interrupted Bykowski's picketing, explaining that such activity was forbidden on Capitol grounds without permission of the Speaker of the House or the President of the Senate. A Bilbo secretary interrupted, calling from a window and inviting Bykowski to come up.

"We had a nice little visit," she reported afterwards. "He was a very nice-looking boy and very courteous. Of course, we were, too. He was assured he could see the Senator when he returned."

New York friends of Bykowski said he decided on action after Bilbo sent one of his hate letters to an Italian woman in Brooklyn, addressing her as "My Dear Dago." He is an American of Polish ancestry and a Catholic. In the Savo Bay engagement, he was a pharmacist's mate aboard the cruiser Vincennes, which was sunk.

"I am going to stay here until I see Billo," Bykowski said at his hotel.

Catholic War Vet Pickets Bilbo; Tells of Negro, Jewish Heroes

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Edward Bykowski, 6-foot, 4 inch Pacific war veteran picketed the Capitol building against Sen. Theodore Bilbo, (D-Miss) chief race hate propagandist in Congress for an hour today until shifted away by Capitol police. He told the Daily Worker he had received two telephone threats to get out of town since. But he's staying.

The veteran carried a large sign, with a bleeding, Purple Heart, and the slogan: "Was this in vain, tell it to me, Bilbo, I fought for democracy."

Bykowski, a Polish Catholic, told a moving story of two heroes, one Negro, one Jewish, on the heavy cruiser Vincennes, which was torpedoed in the Solomons.

The colored hero was a young lad whom everyone called "Sunshine."

"Sunshine" said the veteran "kept passing the ammunition with his right arm after the Japanese blew off his left. That's a Negro for you. Then there was Danny Boy. He died in my arms, saying: 'Keep on fighting boys.' His hand opened up. He had been clutching the six-point Star of David. That's a Jew for you."

8-28-45

Bykowski is determined to see Bilbo himself. One of Bilbo's girl secretaries promised him that he would do so as soon as the senator comes in. Bykowski is waiting at the Raleigh Hotel to tell him what he thinks about his "Dear Dago," and anti-Negro letters.

Poll Shows Southern Editors Oppose Bilbo-Rankin Race Slurs

Southern editors are overwhelmingly opposed to the recent expressions of racial prejudice in Congress and feel such statements do not represent the true feeling of the South, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare disclosed in revealing the results of a poll of 251 white newspaper editors in 13 Southern states.

SEN. BILBO

In releasing the results of the survey, Dr. Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, at its New York headquarters said that the poll would be one of the most forceful arguments when proponents of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee and anti-polltax legislation press for congressional action after Congress reconvenes.

The poll centering around the statement of Sen. James Eastland (D-Miss) that "the Negro soldier was an utter and abysmal failure in combat in Europe. He has disgraced the flag of his country" revealed that 75½ percent of Southern editors believe this view did not reflect the "prevailing opinion of Southern people." Only 10 percent voted yes on this question, 14½ percent undecided. Eighty-three percent scored Sen. Eastland's statement as "a hazard to the nation's war effort." Only 5 percent supported his views.

OPPOSE BILBO

According to Dr. Foreman the poll also indicated the growing opposition of Southern publications to the anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic statements made by Senators Bilbo and Eastland during the congressional debate on extending wartime FEPC. Dr. Foreman said, "**In my opinion this is one of the most encouraging signs that the people of the South are becoming increasingly aware of the dangerous and unfounded sentiments of such men as Senators Eastland and Bilbo, and Congressman John Rankin. For the first time we have documentary evidence that these demagogues belong to a dead order, and represent no one but themselves, and a handful of reactionaries who feed on their patronage.**"

The Southern Conference, whose national office is in Nashville, Tenn., supported their contention by reminding that less than 18 percent of the adult population of Mississippi voted in the last Presidential election and that Rep. Rankin was elected by only 6 percent of the votes of his district.

Says Army-Navy Policy To Make It Tough For Tan GIs Overseas

Memphis, Tenn. World

11-16-45

White Reporter Comments On Quieted Gripes

By JIM HEWLETT

BOSTON —(ANP)— Rudolph Elite Jr., white, Boston Herald's Pacific correspondent, commenting on gripes he hadn't heard mentioned much, has this to say concerning the treatment of colored soldiers and sailors:

"So far as I could make out, the army and navy have a specific policy for making it difficult for our colored soldiers and sailors. I don't know how things were in Europe although like everyone else I heard of the 92nd division, but in the Pacific they were saddening. Colored troops never got a decent break. They were used everywhere as engineer battalions, meaning they were used as laborers, stevedores, DUKW drivers or mess boys. They were always segregated and they drew so many really nasty assignments it couldn't possibly have been coincidence.

11-16-45

"A few were used as combat troops. An anti-aircraft battalion saw a good deal of action on Kerama Retto in the Okinawa group, and acquitted itself bravely and well and other troops saw action in the Pacific though only the smallest possible percentage of the actual number of colored troops in the army. This is not to say anybody who had the slightest idea of what he was doing would clamor for the privilege of dying on the battlefield, but the fact remains there is a question of honor, of manhood involved, and the Negroes bitterly resented the fact they were not considered worthy of combat assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS DRAWN

"In the navy colored sailors were used either as mess boys—steward's mates' is the euphemism—or as stevedores specializing in the handling of ammunition. It isn't that they wanted to handle explosives any more than any one else, but they invariably did draw that assignment. As mess boys they waited on the officers, made up their bunks, cleaned their staterooms, and served coffee in the wardroom at all hours of day or night. They lived by themselves in an out-of-the-way compartment somewhere, and on many ships were limited to special section of the deck.

"On one APA I traveled on the skipper actually ordered a colored steward off the forward deck by shouting "Get that blackbird off that deck!" through the bullhorn.

However, when general quarters sounded these same colored boys manned guns like everyone else. They could die on the 'restricted' parts of the deck, but they couldn't live on them."

11-16-45

56

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Bring Negro Servicemen Home!: Busy on a Cleveland corner, these American Youth for Democracy members collected over 1,000 petitions calling for speedy demobilization of Negro troops forced into non-combatant units. The petitions, signed in an hour and a half, will go to President Truman. 12-18-45

56n-1945

Hit Action of Captain Who Barred Negroes From Home-Bound Ship

The Call Kansas City, Mo.
12-14-45

Washington Officials Decline Comment On Carrier Commander's Undemocratic Attitude Until Investigation Is Made

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — As an avalanche of protests rolled in, the Navy Department declined last Wednesday to comment on the action of the commander of the aircraft carrier Croatan in barring 123 colored combat soldiers from sailing aboard the vessel.

As the result of the action of Captain Charles D. Griffin, of Virginia Beach, Va., the men were forced to sail from Le Havre on a much slower vessel.

In a reply to a request to comment on reports concerning the conduct of Captain Griffin, the Navy issued the following statement:

Navy Issues Statement

"Until full facts are ascertained the Navy Department cannot comment on this story. Navy policy, however, is one of no segregation. Ships of the 'Magic Carpet' including carriers have brought home Negro and white officers and Negro and white enlisted men, quartered together and messed together.

"This is in line with the Navy's policy of non-discrimination under which Negroes are currently trained and assigned as other personnel without reference to race. Negro officers and enlisted men are serving aboard Navy ships in mixed crews.

"The story is being investigated and appropriate action will be taken."

12-14-45

123 Vets to Sail Dec. 4

The 123 veterans, members of quartermaster truck unit, were scheduled to sail for the United States on the Croatan from Le Havre on December 4. But, over protests of Army officers, their names, were stricken from the sailing list at the insistence of Navy officers, who argued that the Navy's policy was not to mix the races and pointed out that the facilities on the aircraft carrier could not permit segregation inasmuch as all troops would have to be quartered in the ship's hangar.

Representative Adam C. Powell, Democrat, of New York, in telegrams to President Truman and Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, demanded an investigation of the case.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People telegraphed Secretary Forrestal that it wished "to lodge its protest against such treatment of Negro personnel by officers of the Navy and urgently requested proper disciplinary action be taken against officers of the USS Croatan immediately for this unAmerican action on their part."

Army officers who bowed after vigorous protests to the Navy said they refused to remove six high point colored casuals who were already on board the ship when the Navy raised its protest.

They added that difficulties over redeployment of colored veterans began as soon as naval vessels were pressed into service as troop transports.

Colonel Conrad H. Pederson, of Hoboken, N. J., director of the movement for the port of Le Havre, was quoted as saying he would ask the Headquarters of the U. S. forces in Europe for clarification on what to do if a similar case arose.

The U. S. S. Croatan, one of the first aircraft carrier to enter the port of Le Harve under the accelerated "Magic Carpet" program to get troops home in a hurry is only one of such carriers performing this duty.

"Climbs Rapidly

Captain Griffin, commander of the Croatan, is a graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis in June, 1927, and was on duty as a lieutenant at Anacostia near Washington when the Japs struck at Pearl Harbor.

Climbing rapidly, in July, 1942, he was made commander of a Replacement Group which operated with both Atlantic and Pacific fleets and on Sept 1 of that year was promoted to commander.

Appointed to duty as Commander in Chief of U. S. Fleet in Washington in April, 1944, the Annapolis graduate held that post until he was made captain on Nov. 10, last, and ordered to sea as commanding officer on the Croatan.

Foreign Service

Given Honorable Discharge

Journal-Guide

Capt. Clay and Lt. Brooks Civilians Now, Sentenced Abroad

12-22-45

By John "Rover" Jordan

WASHINGTON — A whim of the Gods of War faded away in the sobriety of post-war reasoning last week when former Captain Leroy A. Clay and former Lt. Roland R. Brooks, erstwhile officers of the 92nd Infantry Division, who were given dishonorable discharges and sentenced to 50 years at hard labor after Army trials in Italy, were permitted to reenlist in the Regular Army and then were given honorable discharges.

Both men are now civilians again, with the memories of battlefields and martial strife behind them, like bad dreams. The pardons came for Clay and Brooks after petitions were filed in their behalf with the Secretary of War by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Norfolk, Va.

DIVISION ATTACK

The courtmartial charges against the former 92nd Division captain grew out of his activities last February when the Buffaloes were locked in a hectic battle with enemy troops that were fighting from scientifically prepared defenses of the Gothic Line along Italy's west coast.

When the Buffalo Division, assisted by the old 366th Infantry Regiment, made an all-out attack on German positions in the Apennine mountains and along the thin, marshy coastal strip, every officer, white and colored, and every enlisted man had a job to do. And many of them died at their duties.

CLAY ON DUTY

When the colored troops, with their mixed white and colored officers, began the attack on the morning of Feb. 8, Captain Clay, then serving as assistant to G-3 (Operations), was on duty at division headquarters (advanced).

The battle was fierce and costly on the first day. On the second day the position of our troops along the flat coastal strip, between the mountains and the Ligurian Sea, was precarious. Troops to the right had failed to capture the mountain positions and enemy guns on those mountains were dealing havoc on our troops that were caught in three-way fire along the coastal strip.

TIDE OF BATTLE

Major General E. M. Almond, division commander, clung to his determined, up-and-at-em attitude but those of us who knew him could tell that the battle was not going well. Some of the division's best officers had been killed or wounded and men were proving to be expendable.

12-22-45

Another G-3 captain—a white officer—had been killed in his duties as liaison officer between headquarters and the embattled task force which had crossed the Cinquale Canal along the coast.

CLAY TO FRONT

On the night of Feb. 9 Captain Clay was ordered to a point just south of the Cinquale Canal and there to take charge of a group of stragglers, organize them and send them back into the battle line.

War correspondents working with the 92nd for this attack had set up "press headquarters" in a building at Via Reggio, just south of the battle line. On his way up to the Cinquale that night Capt. Clay stopped in and told us of his assignment. He was bearded and weary. Like many other officers, he had not slept in two nights.

CORRESPONDENTS HELP

Seeking to help him in his difficult task of organizing the stragglers—men who had quit the battle—and to send them inspired anew into the fight, the correspondents provided Capt. Clay with copies of colored newspapers. The captain also took along an enlarged picture which had been snapped on the preceding day by the Journal and Guide correspondent. The picture showed soldiers crossing the bloody Cinquale under enemy fire.

INSPIRE SOLDIERS

The purpose of these papers and pictures, Capt. Clay explained, was to serve in his effort to convince the lagging soldiers that they were not fighting in vain—that the eyes of the people back home were on them.

Visiting the front line positions next day, this correspondent learned that Capt. Clay had been successful in organizing his "straggler company."

The correspondent was also informed that Capt. Clay had received another order from headquarters that night, detailing him to proceed across the Cinquale Canal, then under heaviest enemy fire, and to find out what supplies were needed and what the general situation was in the battered task force just to the north of the canal. He was to contact the commanding officer of this attacking unit for the information.

TROOPS WITHDRAWN

After our troops, beaten and weary, were withdrawn from the Cinquale on the night of the third day of the attack, we learned that Capt. Clay had been questioned by headquarters in connection with his activities after being ordered to contact troops across the Cinquale on the fateful night of Feb. 9.

Later Capt. Clay told this correspondent that he made an effort to get across the canal that night. He called for a tank to carry him across the exposed area, but the tank commander, observing that he had already lost about 22 tanks in the battle, refused to send other tanks across. Capt. Clay said that he then sent a message to the task force commander and obtained the desired information.

ANOTHER ATTITUDE

It was stated, however, that headquarters felt that Capt. Clay should have proceeded to cross the Cinquale "as ordered" despite the fact that tank transportation was not available.

Several days after the attack, Capt. Clay was transferred from division headquarters to the 371st Regiment and ordered to command a rifle company. Capt. Clay held that he was trained for staff work and that it had been years since he had worked with combat troops in the field.

TO RIFLE COMPANY

Capt. Clay was ordered to report immediately to the commander of the regiment. However, Capt. Clay stated that he had been informed by the regi-

colored officers attack last February brought out as one of the colored officers ture. Various a lot of things—one of them be- with a bright future. e considered ing the end to a promising army "promotions" were co- for him, one of these be- for career for Captain Leroy A. attalion com- Clay.

mental commander that it would minds of many colored officers e all right for him to report in the outfit. The chief "gripe" or duty on the following day, among the Negro officers was From these activities of Capt. that they were being denied pro- in Clay there emerged the motions and positions on the the position of battalion com- harge of "disobeying a direct regimental and divisional staffs mander." because of race.

BRIGHT FUTURE

In fact, his transfer to G-3 section was reportedly to place him in a position for promotion.

HE BIG "GRIPE"

The story of Capt. Clay in the During the early days of the served in G-1 d Division was seen by some 92nd Division's history in com- nation). erwers as an offshoot from bat situation which haunted the that Capt. Clay was considered section (Administration The 92nd Division's all-out

56n-1945

Foreign Service-

ARMY'S NEGRO TROOPS OVERSEAS RISES 86,198 SINCE SEPTEMBER

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.
4-27-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Of the total Negro strength of 690,282 as reported through February 28, 1945, some 497,566 are serving overseas in all theaters, the War Department announced.

Since September 30, 1944, the total Negro strength dropped 11,396, although commissioned personnel increased 744, including an increase of 96 Army nurses. During the same period, Infantry personnel rose slightly while total personnel of Coast and Field Artillery, Cavalry and Air Corps units show negligible losses.

A partial breakdown of Negro strength as of February 28, 1945, follows:

Infantry	52,884
Coast and Field Artillery	27,163
Cavalry	770
Engineers	140,154
Air Corps	63,079
All Others	406,232
Total	690.282

Commissioned Officers	6,548
Including:	
Dental Corps Officers	120
Nurses	343
Medical Corps Officers	569
Chaplains	260
Serving Overseas	497,566
Including WACs	709

IN A CELEBRATION AT ROUEN, FRANCE, Negro women of the Women's Army Corps 6888th Postal Directory Unit who arrived on the Continent recently, parade on the historic streets of the city where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake.

—Army Signal Corps and Army Air Forces photos

N.Y.

RALPH T. JONES

Atlanta Constitution

They'll Be Different After They Return

62.

3-6-45

Those boys of ours who are living, fighting, experiencing in so many strange and distant parts of the world will be coming home to us, someday. But the ones who return won't be the same boys who went away. Or, perhaps, it would be better to say they will be the same boys, but with changes.

There are some twelve million of them, or more, who are undergoing that strange and wrenching experience of life, for months and years, as units in a vast organization of uniformed men, disciplined and subject to laws and ordinances different from those they knew in civilian life.

They have become, to some degree, numbers instead of carefree individuals, numbers corresponding to the numbers on the dog tags hung around their necks. Otherwise, they are but repetitions of the same pattern, the same pattern of clothing, of equipment, of training, or way of life, of manner of thinking.

Strange Contacts

They have learned that the United States is but a small segment of the world. They have lived among people of other nations, of other races, and they have found those people interesting, in many cases kind and good. They have learned that a thing or a custom is not necessarily the best just because it is American. They have found that in some of the details of living we could, to our advantage, copy some of the customs of other lands.

They have found, though, that, all things considered, the manner of life we know in the United States is preferable to any other, on the whole. They have learned how blessed they were to be born Americans, to live in this country, learned it by absence and by the pangs of homesickness.

3-6-45

Their ways of thought must be changed. A boy who had lived all his young years on some Tennessee farm, thinking of the strange state, Georgia, beyond the mountains, as a "foreign" country, will have a vast changed conception of the world when he returns from living, for years, in Australia and on tropic islands of the Pacific. The boy who knew only the streets of Brooklyn will be immeasurably broadened in his ideas after basic training in an Arizona camp, advanced training at a Florida base, and social contacts with the British people near the base from which, periodically, he roars out in a B-29 over the wide expanse of Europe.

Better Perspective

These men of ours—they'll be older than when they went away—will come back with a new wisdom deep in their eyes and with a new idealism for the America they hope to help create. For they will have been looking at us at home and at the things we do, from a perspective that gives them, in one sense, a clearer view and a better understanding.

There will be some things we have done which will win only their scorn and condemnation.

They will come back with a new and a deeper pride in their own country, but with the knowledge that neither it, nor its institutions, are perfect. But their pride as Americans will impel them to strive to contribute towards moving this land a little way nearer to the perfections of which we all dream.

They will be critical, yet appreciative. They will look on us with eyes that can weigh and compare and, while they rejoice over many things, they will not hesitate to seek change where they believe change to be good.

Long-Time Effect

The impact, upon American life, of twelve million young citizens, fresh from years of world travel, world observation and world contacts, will be felt for generations to come. Probably for all time.

It may well be that these young men, after they come home, will be the factor which will shape our manner of life for centuries to come.

And it is a good thing. For they will come home purged of that handicap of provincialism, filled with love of country but no longer tainted by the prejudice of ignorance which is so disastrous upon a community when it is the ruling emotion.

No future Georgia politician will be able to make stump campagn capital by calling Americans of neighboring states "furriners." Not with men who have learned to respect the folks they have met and known in so many distant lands.

LEONIA, N.J.
NORTH JERSEY LIFE

JUN 2 8 1945

The Editor Speaks

By Mildred de Bary

Oddly enough, Japanese propaganda notes left behind in bombed, conquered and deserted places on Okinawa, arrived in my office simultaneously with a copy of Lt. Gen. Eaker's statement to officers and men of the 447th Bombardment Group, a Negro outfit home from Europe, on its way to the Pacific.

And deplorably, the whole is simultaneous with the battle in Washington over Fair Employment Practice — its extension, or its death this week-end. But for the attitude of men like Lt. Gen. Eaker, and the Bureau of Public Relations, War Department, which publishes for the press reams and reams of copy on the accomplishments of the Negro outfits and the individual Negro soldier; but for the enlightened and just attitude of millions of Americans, the Japanese might have more of a point than they have in one of their poorly translated bits of propaganda.

It reads like this:

"Colored Soldiers!

For what are you fighting? Why do you stand and fight always at the front to be the shields against Japanese bullets? Why do the white soldiers serve only in the rear? The white officers and men are fighting at the sacrifice of you. What comes after the war upon you is not the glorious victory, but the everlasting discriminate treaty against the white. Require the relief of service at the front at once! Break down the discrimination against the white officers and men. Require the rear service! Don't be killed uselessly!"

Lt. (jg) Ted de Bary, U.S.N.R., mailed this bit along with the comment that as far as he knew none of the Negro troops on Okinawa were in the front line. And the former Leonia boy has been on that island since the original invasion.

At times I have quoted from the War Department releases on the Negro soldier, but the limitations of Leonia Life, chiefly to local subjects, has not permitted as much reprinting of these wonderful stories, as I would like. Lt. Gen. Eaker sums it up when he says in his address: "The fact of discouragement, doubt, and difficulty didn't stop them any more than did the Jerry aircraft or flak they encountered. They prassed on to the final and satisfactory accomplishment of the missions assigned them with a laudable singleness of purpose. They demonstrated the stuff from which champions are made. Anybody can coast along when the going is smooth. It takes heart and guts to push on when the way ahead is rough and rocky."

The way ahead, through the war problems, has had socological as well as military implications for the Negro. If the American soldier has been fighting to preserve his way of life, the Negro soldier has been fighting, still more intensely, to prove himself worthy all the way down the line, of full realization of democracy in the U.S.A.

"I watched their (Negro) assignments develop from routine but necessary coastal patrol missions to important heavy bomber close-escort misssions," Lt. Gen. Eaker says.

The Negro is fighting slowly, painfully on the field and at home; he is proving his worth.

Have all who believe in him measured up in expressing that belief to Congress?

What will this week-end bring forth? A setback, or a step forward?

—NEGROES IN THE ARMED FORCES—

RED BALL HIGHWAY TO MAIN STEM—Members of the crack 365th Engineer General Service Regiment wave a joyous greeting on their arrival at Camp Shanks from the European Theater of Operations. They are here for redeployment. Their outfit won wide acclaim and recognition for the part played in operation of the Red Ball Highway, a truck route which supplied the front lines from the Normandy beachheads to Paris and the German front.

AWAITING ASSIGNMENT at Atlantic City, Cpl. Carl F. Evans of Detroit makes use of the arts and crafts shop at the AAF Redistribution Center in New Jersey.

ARTIST IN UNIFORM is Pfc. John W. Rhoden of 235 Eighth Ave., New York City, shown here making a final inspection of his bust of Major General Hubert R. Harmon, Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel, Army Air Forces. It is now on display at the General's office in the Pentagon, Washington. Pvt. Rhoden, with the Ordnance Replacement Depot at Greensboro, N. C., made the bust on furlough time.

56n-1945

Foreign Service

No Jimcrow Foxholes, Says Vet on CPA Broadcast

The Worker

Pfc. Joe Sokol, former Communist organizer among the coal miners in Ohio valley, was recently awarded a Bronze Star Medal for heroism in the Battle of Germany.

Sokol served with the 56th Armored Infantry of the 12th Armored Division. He is at present convalescing at the Nichols General Hospital, Louisville, Ky., from wounds incurred in the French Alsace during the last phases of the Battle of the Bulge.

From Nichols General Hospital, Sokol sends us the following radio script, which created great interest in Ohio. He writes:

"Some people, including Communists, seem surprised that a GI was permitted to appear on a CPA radio program.

"That means that there is a lack of conviction that the cross-section of America is prepared NOW to accept fully the American Communists as an organic part of the American scene — provided they come to be recognized as the fighters for democracy and the people.

"Our Army has demonstrated that in the battles for freedom it is possible to dissolve political prejudices. The same can be done on the home front. And the time is now!"

SCRIPT for radio broadcast sponsored by the Communist Political Association of Ohio, delivered over radio station WHK (Cleveland).

* * *

AND now, friends, I have with me, Private Joseph Sokol, a wounded infantryman on a convalescent furlough, who was one of our active Communists in civilian life before his induction.

Q—Private Sokol, what was your outfit in the European theatre of operations?

A—The 56th Infantry Battalion of the 12th Armored Division.

Q—Where and when were you wounded?

A—I stopped a piece of Nazi shrapnel in January in the Alsace part of the Bulge Battle. After three months in Army hospitals in Europe, I was sent home for further hospitalization.

Q—Did you run into any politics on the front?

A—Our Army has united in its ranks men of all political faiths—Democrats, Republicans, Communists—all concerned with one purpose, the military defeat of the enemy. I can say from my experiences in the front lines, that all soldiers are judged, in turn, by what they do to further that purpose. Sometimes, I feel the folks here could use that same kind of unity—that regardless of political creed, the ideas of an individual or group should be weighed by their value to our country's welfare.

Pfc. JOE SOKOL

Q—Yes Joe, it would help a lot on the home front too. We know that licking Japan is a pretty hefty job. And we mean to tackle it with all we've got. That means full production—no strikes. Now, you must have read that organized labor is back of this program from the word "go." Labor leaders today are committed without reservations to keep the goods flowing and anyone in the ranks of labor who causes strikes is in for severe treatment. What do you think of that?

A—I'm sure that anything that'll end strikes will go over with Americans on the fighting front. Our Army in Europe told us all about the splendid production job which labor and management as a whole have been doing at home.

Still the fair picture our Army gave us was badly smeared by a tiny labor minority. Everytime soldiers heard of a strike, no matter how small, all labor got the blame. GI's in foxholes, undergoing the most miserable conditions conceivable, fighting for their very lives and always on speaking terms with death, naturally think of home as a distant ideal of beauty and perfection. Home becomes more than ever the thing for which we fight. I can easily recall how on Christmas Day in our freezing foxhole in Germany, my buddy and I warmed ourselves with talk and dreams of icecream sodas. Imagine how we felt then, when we heard of strikes. And how the whole labor movement got a black eye as a result. It's high time that labor took specific steps to prevent all strikes if it wants its top-notch work to be recognized by GI Joes.

Q—You must have been reading the Daily Worker. We know that many hundreds of thousands of our soldiers are Negroes. You must have had a few experiences and drawn some conclusions which would be of interest to our listeners.

A—Well, there's no such thing as a Jim Crow foxhole. When your life's at stake, Negro and white soldiers live and fight as one. Before we went into action, experienced officers told us that we could count on the Negro fighting man. It took only one day of action with the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion to show us that that was true. You're heard of the 614th, haven't you Arnold. (I certainly have).

I saw the colored men take their tanks where they didn't have to. Sticking their necks out to German 88's in order to pave the way for us of the Infantry. Incidentally, this outfit has been commended for its outstanding heroism in a series of battles. I was in the hospital when our Army began to mix Negroes and whites in the same companies. All the wounded in the ward, many of them Southerners, were pleased. For it meant a lot of capable fighting manpowers getting up to the front in a hurry.

We learned of our need for unity because our lives depended on it. I really believe that the people back home would do well to realize that their lives, their jobs, their homes, their security, the future of our great country—also depend on a sober recognition of the need for Negroes and whites living and working together as full-fledged Americans.

Q—Speaking of unity, I imagine you know what an important job it is to get together the peace-loving nations of the world in unity for peace. Without detracting from the terrific task of bringing Japan's militarists to their knees, the problem continues in Europe of policing Germany and destroying the root of Prussian warmaking power. I'll bet you've thought a lot about the subject of world peace. We'd like to hear a GI's slant on this issue.

A—You'll find that soldiers who have been in the fight feel even more strongly than the civilians that the unity we've established in this war is the only way to peace. There's a strong bond among fighting men of all the United Nations. During the Battle of the Bulge we were taking it on the chin and things looked dark for a while. It was then that the Red Army opened the offensives which carried it across Poland. We actually danced and cheered when we got that news. In that coordinated action we could measure the role of real military unity. And from our own losses, we knew that Ivan was paying for these victories with plenty of blood. No doubt the Russians felt the same way when we crossed the Rhine. Our "Stars and Stripes" said again and again that the ties we had forged in common battles with the Russians could never again be severed.

We count on our country's leadership on the international road to peace—and in our civilian brothers standing by and helping our new Commander-in-Chief, President Truman, to make the objectives of The Frisco Conference a living reality.

Q—Joe—I'm sure you want to join me in urging that the people of Cleveland give full support to the Seventh War Loan Drive.

A—Yes—I think that everybody will recognize that this drive is of the greatest importance to speed up total and final victory.

7-15-45

CHICAGO, ILL.
TIMES
Cir. D. 399,045 — S. 376,960

JUL 8 - 1945

Pflaum

Irving Pflaum

For the record

ONE of the first questions I asked our war correspondent, James Wellard, on his return from Europe, concerned the statements Sen. James O. Eastland of Mississippi recently made in the U. S. Senate about Negro-American troops. I knew that Wellard, who covered the American advance from North Africa through Italy and France to Germany, would have an eyewitness report of the Negro fighters in our Army. And he did.

Wellard saw our Negro pilots in action in North Africa, flying planes then considered out of date and doing an excellent job with them. Later he saw Negro soldiers in the infantry, artillery, and quartermaster corps doing their full share on the Italian front.

He says they were "O. K." Many Negro-American soldiers were assigned to the quartermaster corps as truck drivers. They carried supplies to our front line soldiers and, as our successful campaigns testify, they didn't fail them.

ANOTHER large group of Negro-American soldiers was in chemical warfare units. They handled smoke screens along the front in France and Germany, Wellard reports.

In France, he saw one such group panic, but it soon was reformed and returned to its advance positions to finish the job.

Wellard also saw inexperienced white American soldiers panic in North Africa. But they returned to battle too, and eventually they won.

In Gen. Patton's Third Army, to which Wellard was attached during the battle for France, there was a tank group of Negro-Americans. Wellard is of the opinion that these men conducted themselves well, and he recalls hearing Patton compliment them for their behavior in battle.

"The Negro in the American Army," Wellard told me, "was exactly like all the GIs. He did the job he was told to do."

ANOTHER statement made by Sen. Eastland in the Senate—that French-Negro-Senegalese troops had raped 5,000 German girls in Stuttgart—was found to have "no basis in fact" by the U. S. Army.

The U. S. Sixth Army Group made an investigation of Eastland's charges.

As a result of this investigation, the Army now says, "All U. S. liaison officers with the French Army Corps and lower units which could have been in or near that city at any time, have submitted written reports that, to their knowledge and belief, incidents such as alleged did not take place."

And that's that—for the record.

SAD STATESMANSHIP

The Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

(N. O. Item, July 10)

WE HAVE regarded Senator Eastland as a man of more character and substance than his more renowned colleague. He should watch his step lest he become equally famous. For all publicity is not advertising.

His declaration that the Negro soldiers in Europe won't fight, won't work, are guilty of more than half the crimes in the Army, and have lowered American prestige all over the Continent, was based, he claimed, on information allegedly furnished by "American officers." But it was promptly denied with equal emphasis by American officers, giving their names, who are in the best position to know, including General Eisenhower himself.

The Mississippi statesman follows that by an intrinsically unlikely thriller to the effect that French-African troops locked 5000 German girls in a Stuttgart subway and raped them. This also, he said, was reported by Eisenhower's "American officers"—again unnamed. It is likewise denied with equal promptitude by our Sixth Army Headquarters in Paris, in these terms: 7-21-45

"All United States liaison officers with the French army corps, and with lower units, which could have been in or near that city at any time, have submitted written reports to this headquarters that, to their knowledge and belief, incidents such as alleged did not take place."

Bilbo's recent reversion in the Senate to characteristic indecencies for inciting racial and religious hates has not surprised anybody who knows "The Man." But they have again aroused disgust all over the country, which is not confined to The Man himself. This summary of one typical view of him comes from a comment by The Milwaukee Journal:

"Truly there is no worse influence in high life than Senator Bilbo. He is a disgrace to Juniper Grove, where he was born; to Mississippi, which he represents; and to the nation, of which, unfortunately, he is a citizen."

Mr. Eastland should take counsel with himself, unless he is courting a national reputation which reflects itself in such terms as those. Such repute is too high a price for a few votes that could be won by more respectable means than coon-shouting, on infirm and silly canards. Unless the junior senator takes himself in hand betimes, he is likely to fall a hopeless victim to the ancient aphorism, "Evil associations corrupt good manners." 7-21-45

Shadow Of Things To Come!

Memphis World

It was a black . . . not a shadowy . . . day in the United States Senate when Senator (?) Eastland of Mississippi . . . a Southern Democrat . . . made his infamous remarks concerning the Negro soldier.

Memphis Scimitar

For fear that too much publicity will be lent to the demagogue's remarks (a demagogue is a person who deliberately and consciously uses lies to make an impression), we won't repeat what Eastland said here. No doubt you already know how he made low-down and untruthful statements regarding the contribution of the Negro soldier in World War II. 7-13-45

But the significance of the Mississippi's remarks cannot be ignored. What he said is significant and important from several points of view so far as the Negro is concerned.

In the first place Eastland's remarks, designed to disparage and be-little the part Negro soldiers have played in this war, were part of a deliberate pattern. Even semi-illiterate Negroes have wondered why it is that so little praise and so little notice has been given to the contributions of American Negroes to the current war effort.

Many of them have correctly concluded that there is in existence a concerted plot on the part of a powerful minority of Fascist-mined white Americans, mostly Southerners, to play down the Negro's part in this global conflict in order to counteract any possible demand for better treatment and first class citizenship in the post-war world, based on the contributions Negroes have made on war-fronts, defense plants, and in war bond purchases, not to mention a myriad of other sacrifices and sufferings.

Eastland's remarks may be interpreted as the South's answer to the colored man's expectation of better 'breaks' in the world which will exist after the last shot is fired. As the spokesman for the hide-bound, reactionary, Bourbon-minded Southern Fascists of a day that should be forgotten, Eastland was serving notice on a war-weary world that there are still many persons in America who do not intend for things to be better for Negroes after this war.

Eastland spoke for those who, deep down in their hearts, believe Hitler was right. He subscribed to the Hitlerian belief that the bigger a lie one tells, the more widely it will be believed and the longer it will be believed.

The spokesman for the United States War Department who issued statements in the daily press repudiating and denying the truth of Eastland's outrageous vituperations did not receive the same big headlines and the same general public notice that the dirty statements received. There seems to be a penchant among humans to believe lies first. Maybe Eastland received many letters of congratulation.

No doubt, he was expecting them. Otherwise, sniviling opportunistic jackal that he is, he would not have made the statements. Even Bilbos, Rankings, Ramspecks, Georges, Eastlands, and the rest of their ilk would not face the consequences of their little-ness without the assurance of protection of powers larger than they . . . those who place them in office. 7-13-45

As a matter of fact the subject is mentioned here only as a reminder to honest Americans that the end of this war is already casting its shadow of things to come . . . that they are shadows of impending disaster to all that America holds dear in the way of democracy . . . to all that the world hopes in the way of world peace for even the first half of the next generation . . . to all that may be expected in the way of peace on earth and goodwill among men . . . to every faint hope of any good to come from the weak United Nations Charter . . . as long as mountebanks and charlatans, obstructionists and resisters against justice and fair-play such as Eastland and his kind have the privilege of voicing their poisonous funimation against the fair face of mankind's fondest hopes.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
UNION (Morning)
Circ. D. 82,265

JUL 2 1945

Negro Troops Abroad

We take note of Democratic Senator Eastland's tactless and unfounded blast against Negro troops overseas in order to denounce it. The only mitigating circumstances was that the Mississippi senator made his remarks during a Senate debate on the fair employment practices committee. While this is no excuse, it serves to stress the difficulty of making discrimination a crime subject to severe penalties in areas where prejudice is rampant.

Undersecretary of War Patterson challenges Senator Eastland's assertion that Negro troops "would neither work nor fight," and that "high ranking generals" had told him on a recent overseas trips that they were an "utter and abysmal failure."

The record is quite to the contrary, as Mr. Patterson points out. The expressed opinions of Generals Eisenhower, MacArthur and others "do not support any such conclusion. The War Department is proud of its troops and that includes Negroes as well as other groups."

Mr. Patterson added that General Eisenhower had commended volunteer Negro platoons in Europe and that the Army's inspector general had praised the work of the 24th Infantry Regiment, a Negro outfit, in the Marianas.

56n-1945 Foreign Service

Ninth Army Yanks Have Justified Integration

Afro-American Pgh., Pa.

6-30-45 Pittsburg Courier

By THEODORE STANFORD, Courier War Correspondent

NINTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Germany—In the opinion of Lieut. Gen. William H. Simpson, commanding general of the Ninth U. S. Army, Negro combat soldiers in the ETO have more than vindicated the labors of those who have fought to secure a more democratic integration of colored fighting men into our Armed Forces.

The tall, thin-lipped Texan expressed this view recently during the course of an exclusive interview for The Pittsburgh Courier, held here deep in the heart of conquered Germany.

In the process of our seventy-five-minute conversation, which I left with the rueful feeling that I had maneuvered into the position of doing most of the talking, the general managed to say little more than an occasional "yes" or "no."

But when I sat down later to try to figure out just why I felt so good about the whole thing, I discovered that each one of the general's monosyllabic answers fitted into exactly the "right" place. And, what was more important, I remembered that each of those answers had been delivered with a sort of controlled emphasis and warmth of personal feeling which conveyed the impression that the speaker was profoundly sincere.

The room in which General Simpson received me was spacious, high-ceilinged, and sparsely furnished. On entering the room, the general put me at my ease immediately with a friendly handshake and a polite inquiry concerning the health of my executive editor. "I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Prattis down at Camp Walters, Texas, before I came overseas," he explained without the slightest show of patronage. "I hope you will be kind enough to remember me to him when you write." He seated himself behind the neatly arranged desk, offered cigarettes, and relaxed with a pleasant: "Now, for the interview."

NEVER BEFORE LED NEGRO TROOPS

In answer to my first questions, General Simpson revealed that he was born at Weatherford, Texas, on May 19, 1888; that he is married, and that he was graduated from West Point in the class of 1909. His first experience as a commander of Negro troops occurred during this war, when he was placed in charge of colored soldiers at Camp Walters, Texas. He has never, personally, led Negro combat troops into battle.

It was a beautiful morning. Leaning back comfortably in my over-stuffed American-looking armchair, I inquired casually: "As a result of your experiences as commanding general of the Ninth Army, do you believe that—given similar training facilities and similar weapons—Negro soldiers make as good combat troops as white soldiers?"

6-30-45

Apparently a man of few words, the general answered simply and without hesitation: "Yes."

"In the face of such splendid camaraderie and teamwork as has been exemplified by the white doughboys of the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division and the Negro tankmen of the 784th Tank Battalion," I continued, "do you believe that there is any truth to the story that there are basic differences between the two races which make it impossible for white and colored soldiers to fight together successfully against a common enemy?"

(The Thirty-fifth and the 784th were both elements of General Simpson's own Ninth Army. The white doughs had ridden atop the Negro tanks during the savage fighting from the Roer River to the Rhine, early this year. Like most infantrymen, these doughs had held a pretty poor opinion of tanks and tankmen. But after going into battle with the 784th, these white doughfeet stood up and told the world that those colored boys were the best tankmen in the ETO. They topped it off by saying that, from then on, they didn't want to ride into battle on anybody else's tanks. And when the Ninth Army made its historic jump-off across the Rhine and proceeded to chew up the Ruhr Valley, the colored tankmen and white doughboys were still an unbeatable combination. General Simpson knew these facts as well as I did.)

The general smiled faintly, but there seemed to be a note of quiet satisfaction in his voice as he answered briefly, and without comment: "No."

TAN YANKS HAVE JUSTIFIED INTEGRATION

Frankly beginning to wonder just how far Weatherford, Texas, is from the town where Martin Dies was born, I pressed another question: "Do you feel that the record of the Negro combat soldier in the European Theatre of Operations has amply justified the faith of those white and colored Americans who have fought for increased democratic integration of colored fighting men into our Armed Forces?"

Again I got a brief, emphatic "Yes."

6-30-45

For a while, we discussed some of the questions that I had found close to the hearts of many of the Ninth Army's colored fighting men. Was there any reason to believe that at any time in the near future there would be a relaxation of the "official Army policy" of permitting only an inadequate number of Negroes to serve as commissioned officers of the line? The general wasn't quite sure whether the situation was the result of "official Army policy" or not. He suggested that perhaps the answer could best be secured from some person high in the War Department.

In combat outfits—where the loss of white junior officer personnel often had been heavy—had it been the "official policy" to fill the vacancies through the importation of new white officer personnel, or were qualified Negro non-coms regularly up-graded to these commissions through "battle promotions?" The general didn't have the statistics at hand to justify an authoritative reply. Such details usually were taken care of by the commanding officers of the units concerned.

ADEQUACY OF NUMBER OF OFFICERS

Did the general feel that the number of commissioned Negro officers in the Ninth Army was either adequate or proportional to the number of colored troops involved? The general didn't have the exact figures at hand. He explained how difficult it was for him, at the top of the Army, to keep a precise picture of the changes that were going on constantly down through the smallest units. I could see that he was vaguely troubled, though, as he began to grasp the interlocking logic behind my proddings. As I switched the conversation to another subject, I had the feeling that the general would probably launch a quiet little investigation into some of the racial patterns of the Ninth Army, soon.

"Do you feel that increased reportage of the splendid sacrifices and achievements of colored combat soldiers of the Ninth and other American armies would help to foster greater interracial goodwill in the United States?" I asked.

The general brightened perceptibly as he replied: "I do."

LIKES COURIER—S. Sabavala, correspondent for the Bombay Chronicle, is an accredited press representative to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco. He expressed enthusiasm over his first copy of The Pittsburgh Courier.

MOST SERIOUS MORALE PROBLEM

6-30-45

"What," I inquired, "do you consider to be the most serious problems of morale among the Negro soldiers of the Ninth Army?"

"You know," the general answered quite innocently, "when I heard that you were coming to see me, I went around and asked if we had any serious morale problems among our colored soldiers. And, so far as I have been able to determine, we don't have any."

I had asked that question deliberately. Out of my own personal experience, I knew that there was a serious problem of morale among the Negro fighting men in one section of the Ninth Army, and I wanted to see if the general was aware of it.

While the 784th Tank Battalion was still engaged in battering down Nazi resistance in the Ruhr Valley, a number of its men had been called to headquarters under suspicion of charges of rape. They were forced to parade back and forth several times, in the presence of a group of their white officers, while a couple of German women attempted to make up their minds as to the identity of the soldiers whom they alleged had violated them.

A NASTY SITUATION

It developed into a nasty situation. The Negro tankmen didn't like the idea, at all. In the first place, the German women were pretty poor specimens. Secondly, some of the men whom the women "identified" were known to have been actually on duty and accounted for at the time of the alleged attack. Further, it was reported that one of the girls who hollered "rape" was discovered to still be a virgin when she was examined by Army medical authorities. So the boys got mad and told everybody, including their white commanding officers, just what they thought about the whole affair. Some of them told me that it seemed as if the Negro tankmen were being treated as enemies, instead of the Germans. Morale dropped to the lowest point that I had seen.

It was against this background that I inquired of General Simpson: "What has been the record of the Ninth Army's white and colored soldiers, insofar as rape cases in Germany have been concerned?"

"A number of cases, both white and Negro, have been reported," the general returned. "All of them have been subjected to careful investigation, and some of them have been dropped."

6-30-45

Questioned concerning the proportion of Negro cases, he replied that he did not have statistics at hand, but that he knew that the number of reported Negro "rape" cases had been in the minority.

Asked if his army had been forced to cope with white and Negro rape cases in other countries through which it had passed, the general replied in the affirmative.

"However, I wish you would make it clear to your readers," he added with a note of concern in his voice, "that we have not had to deal with any wholesale rape cases, either in Germany or elsewhere. There are always a few irresponsible soldiers who have to be dealt with everywhere. But our non-fraternization policy is being made to work in Germany, and this rape business has been kept at an absolute minimum."

FRATERNIZATION LABELLED RAPE

I had found that many Negro soldiers were inclined to doubt the charges of rape hat were being leveled at some of their comrades of color. They believed that some of their fellows who were actually guilty of fraternizing with German women finally wound up by being charged with "rape" instead of "fraternization." When I mentioned this point to General Simpson, he reminded me that all such cases are tried by court-martial. He assured me that he had every reason to respect the decisions of the officers who sit in such tribunals.

I voiced the question that I had been saving for the last: "In your opinion, have the performances of the Negro soldiers in this war proved them to be worthy and capable of being democratically integrated into any and every branch of our Armed Services, under any program of national peacetime military conscription which the Government of the United States may adopt?"

The general's face relaxed into one of those thin smiles that seemed to invite me into his fullest confidence. And again he gave me one of those one-word answers that had the happy gift of falling into just the right spot. He answered: "Yes."

Half-Million Negro GIs Fight Overseas

Chicago Defender 6-30-45

WASHINGTON.—Negro GIs on the fighting fronts are one-half million strong, the War Department disclosed this week.

By the end of February, 1945, there were 690,282 Negroes in the Army, and 497,566 of them were overseas. On March 31, our men in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard numbered 35,760.

Officially confirming the Defender's exclusive story several weeks ago on the number of casualties in the 92nd Negro Division, the release numbered this division's casualties at 3,161, suffered during fighting in Italy from last September to V-E Day. Of the 3,161, 330 were killed, 2,215 wounded, and 660 missing.

No casualty figures are available on the other Negro division, the 93rd, which is in the Southwest Pacific. 6-30-45

Tan Yanks to Form 10.4 PC of ETO Occupation Force

Afro-American - Balt., Md.
6-30-45

WASHINGTON

Colored troops will compose 10.4% of the U.S. Army of Occupation in Germany, according to a ETOUSA headquarters report published in the June 14 Paris edition of Stars and Stripes.

The great majority of these troops will be members of service units "performing their primary mission," it was revealed, though it has not yet been determined which colored units will remain as occupation forces.

The 10.4 percentage is the standard one, set by Congress and used by the War Department in computing the proportions of colored persons in the U.S. Army. The proportion is not standard for all theatres, however.

Total 8.4% in ETO

Since the AEF arrived in the European Theatre of Operations, the proportion of colored troops of total U.S. forces has averaged 8.4%, and that percentage has been maintained, with small fluctuation, to the present time.

As of May 15, there were in the ETO 259,173 colored troops of a grand total of 3,082,142 U.S. personnel here at that time.

This figure was broken down as follows:

Field Forces	84,681
USSTAF	11,867
Com Z	155,530
Non-operating	7,095

Only 4% of Field Forces

Non-operating includes patients, PW's and casuals; field forces include Army Groups, armies ETOUSA and SHAEF Hq. personnel; and USSTAF represents service troops of the air forces.

Comunication Forces

Until recently, approximately 25% of Com Z (Communication Forces) troops were colored, while field forces were made up of 4% colored personnel.

These figures, however, do not include the Mediterranean Theatre where there was a higher percentage of colored combat troops, including one infantry division, the 92nd.

To Return 10.4% to States

Under redeployment plans, the Army intends that 10.4% of all U.S. personnel returned to the U.S. for demobilization shall be colored troops.

Declaring that 10.4% represents the goal, Col. C. W. Powell, head of Troop Division, Redeployment Branch of G3 at ETOUSA, stated "We will not necessarily reach this figure, but we are aiming at it."

Figures obtained from the AG section, ETOUSA, revealed that the increase of colored troops in this theatre roughly corresponded with the increase of all U.S. forces in Europe.

Half Overseas on D Day

Thus, on May 31, 1944, one week before the invasion of Europe, there were 126,877 colored soldiers in the theatre, divided as follows: Field Forces, 21,156; USSTAF, 10,062; Com Z, 95,659.

Among the colored units which participated in the Normandy landings on June 6 were the 320th Anti-aircraft Barrage Balloon Bn., 490th Port Bn., 494th Port Bn., 582nd Engineer Dump Truck Co., and the 3683rd QM Truck Co.

Nineteen other colored combat units saw service in Europe during the campaign. They were: the 333rd FA (Field Artillery) Bn., 349th FA Bn., 350th FA Bn., 351st FA Bn., 777th FA Bn., 686th FA Bn., 969th FA Bn., 999th FA Bn.;

Two Get Unit Citations

761st Tank Bn., 784th Tank Bn., 614th Tank Destroyer Bn., 827th Tank Destroyer Bn., 183rd, 184th, 1696th, 1697th, 1698th and 1699th Engineer Combat Bns.

Two units received Presidential Unit Citations. One was the 969th FA Bn., which was cited for its action in Bastogne, Dec. 18-27th when it fired in support of the cut-off 101st Airborne Div.

The third platoon of "C" Co. of the 614th Tank Destroyer Bn. received the citation for "outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy" at Climbach, France, Dec. 14.

HALF MILLION NEGRO TROOPS SERVE OVERSEAS

Chicago Daily Defender
Feature

Washington, D. C., June 20 (AP)—Almost half a million Negro soldiers are overseas, the army reported today. 6-21-45

It said that as of Feb. 28, there were 690,282 Negroes in the army, with 497,366 overseas. As of March 31, there were 35,760 Negroes in the navy, marine corps, and coast guard.

One of the army's two Negro divisions, the 92d, with normal strength of about 14,500, suffered 3,161 casualties during fighting in Italy from last Sept. 1 to V-E day. The total included 330 killed, 2,215 wounded, and 660 missing. 6-21-45

No casualty figures are available, the army said, on the other Negro division, the 93d, which is in the Southwest Pacific.

White Group Calls Remarks "Rank Calumny"

Atlanta, Ga.

Appalled By Grossly Unjust Congress Talk

Atlanta Daily World

NEW YORK— (S N S)— The American Veterans Committe has registered a vigorous protest against the slurring remark against Negro troops made by Senator Eastland on the Senate floor recently.

7-8-45

In a telegram sent to Senator James Mead, Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Albin Barkley, the chairman of the new veterans organization, Charles G. Bolte stated, "The American Veterans Committee is appalled by the grossly unjust statement on Negro soldiers made on the floor of the United States Senate last Friday."

RECALL IS URGED

In protest to the remark of Senator Eastland of Mississippi that Negro troops had been "an utter and abysmal failure" the telegram continued, "As men who have fought beside Negro troops on every front we know this to be a rank calumny on the heroism of our colored fighting men, and urge you to recall to the Senate and the people the individual and unit accomplishments of our Negro troops."

The American Veterans Committee with executive offices at 554 Madison Ave., in New York, is a new organization for men and women veterans of World War II. Its Statement of Intentions sets a definite policy against discriminations based on race, co' - or creed.

TOLEDO, O.
BLADE
Cir. D. 167,963

JUL 19 1945

FIGHT ENEMY, NOT US

To the Editor of The Blade:

Have we not suffered enough? Have we not lost enough men to realize that sufferings are always main factors in life? I need not tell you what the main factor in life is. We know it is love and love has no substitute.

Our Negro soldiers are fighting and dying on lonely battlefields. Loved ones are crying for some may never return, and, should they return, they are not as they left, physically or mentally. We call it humanity but it is insanity to have to pass laws for FEPC.

Why should we vote for righteousness when God gave all the same amount of love? He died for all. He gave man five senses and certainly we need to use one of them. Our late Franklin D. Roosevelt knew this bill is what we are fighting for and need. That is why he put the thought into action.

We may as well face the fact of what Senator Bilbo is driving at. It isn't that he objects to the bill if it meant all but Negroes; but that is the reason he and others fight against it and because of that, this war has just begun in our own United States, and United means "together we stand, divided we fall."

Instead of worrying about our enemies, they are worrying about the Negro. The Bible has and shall be fulfilled. We couldn't hold the waters back when the floods came.

They couldn't stop Moses from leading his people.

Let's fight our enemies and not among ourselves. We're fighting for love and freedom. The rest of life's rewards shall be given us accordingly.

AUGUSTA HARRIS HOWARD,
No. 39, Port Lawence.

MORE ABOUT BILBO'S KIND

Editor: In re the remarks made in the U.S. Senate against your race I wish to remind you that we have, unfortunately, as members of the white race, some crackpots. However, these fascists are on the way out—dying of their own self-created poisonous minds. These people may slur you and criticize the good Christians amongst you, they may villify those of you who are in the uniform of the U.S. serving overseas while they stay at home feathering their own nests, but rest assured these self-ish, cowardly Negro-haters are not representative of the vast majority of Americans.—TED COLLINS, U.S. Marine.

BARTLESVILLE, OKLA.
EXAMINER
Cir. D. 6,019

JUL 4 - 1945

USE BOTH YARDSTICKS

Two yardsticks have to be used in evaluating the Negro soldier on the German war front. The division in Italy which broke so badly is one. The replacement platoons which accredited themselves so well when used (about one-third Negro to two-thirds white) in the American First army is the other. It is as unfair to condemn the Negro soldier because of one as it to misinterpret his fine performance in the other unwisely. If used properly the two yardsticks will enable us to use the Negro to better advantage in this war and in any future ones, if any. Both prejudice and promotion are bad bases for plannind with and for Negroes.

The Voice

FASCISTS IN SWAN SONG

Editor: Judging from the recent hate letter which has been received by your paper and the poison columns which are published by the leading Metropolitan papers thruout the country, our bigoted, nazi- and fascsit-minded Americans know that the future of world domination is ended for the so-caled "superior" races. In order to stem their complete downfall, one finds a sudden onrush of propaganda slurring Negro soldiers, whose valiant records need not be questioned, and accusing everyone who speaks for the people of being communistic.—SGT. VINCENT A. SHIELD, Fort Dix.

* *

BILBO NO JOKE 7-28-45

Editor: I never thought it possible that people who call themselves civilized and intelligent could be so ignorant. Ordinarily I would just have said that that guy Bilbo is certainly stupid; but it has come to the place where I can no longer look on him as a joke. It directly concerns my life and the lives of thousands of my youthful colleagues.—ALMA THREADGILL.

N.Y.N.Y.

56n-1945
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
INDEPENDENT
Cir. W. 18,054
JUN 2-1945

Again Our Boys Have Proven Themselves

Every Negro citizen in America should be proud of the record our boys on the fighting fronts have made. This week the War Department announced that the Negro troops who fought side by side with white soldiers in the European war theatre would be sent along with the First, Second, Ninth, 78th, 99th, and 104th Infantry Divisions of the First Army to the South Pacific to continue the battle against our enemies.

General Courtney Hodges, as well as other high ranking Army officials, has repeatedly lauded the valor and soldierliness of the Negro troops who volunteered to go into battle lines with their white buddies when the going was tough. Better still is the acclaim that these boys received from their buddies who received them as companions in arms.

These men have accomplished the impossible. Their comrades have without demonstration given them the democracy they deserved and which was their right as American citizens.

The acts and rewards of these boys are but examples of what every American Negro wants to give and receive. Despite the thought and fear of many white people that Negro citizens want citizenship equality only to displace them and revamp the government for the benefit of Negroes, these heroes of ours have demonstrated that they merely want to be citizens—no more and no less.

America's post-war planning might be more easily accomplished if Negro citizens were as completely absorbed into the national pattern and give their share of the burden in running the affairs of this our nation. Nothing, not even the heavy responsibility of official governmental business, could compare to the willingness of citizens to put their shoulders to the wheel and their life on the line to push the heavy machine of war through to a victorious conclusion.

Too much official energy is expended by reluctant reactionaries fighting the admission of Negro citizens to their full citizenship benefits. Too much effort is being exerted to villify the Negro race in the eyes of the world. As strange as it may seem these very acts of degradation are boomeranging in a manner that is making friends for our racial group rather than enemies.

Exemplary conduct of these boys facing death on the battlefields brought the dividends and this is an object lesson to the Negro civilian. Just as the good conduct of those boys in uniform caused this barrier to be lowered, so can good conduct in civilian life cause other barriers to be removed. In this respect we Negroes have our fate in our own hands and no amount of pleading with members of the other race will change this.

When our young folk do more than is required of other groups in the manner in which they deport themselves publicly; whose those who are criminally inclined are brought down to a below the normal percentage in our racial group; when our leadership shows that it, too, can be unselfish, then and then only will we Negro citizens receive the full reward of complete citizenship. That is true because more is expected of us than any other group. We are thought of as supermen and treated as children.

Our men in the armed services have fought two battles simultaneously and we Negro citizens have profited. Let us not forget. Let us follow through on the pattern they have blue printed and we shall also reap the benefits.

One of the greatest thoughts of inspiration is that these were our *young* men and boys who have made this record, and in youth lies the hope of the future.

Real Loyalty

THE STORY OF THE real and basic loyalty of Negroes to their native United States, where often the discriminations and injustices have been unbearable, should go down in history as one of the greatest such examples of all time.

Now it can be told in the history books (it probably won't be, however) that should Negroes in the Pacific, European, African or middle-Eastern theaters have been tempted to desert their country for the promises of the enemy in the light of unfair conditions in the homeland, they could have done so with ease.

—O—

The War Department at one time did reveal that Hitler's cohorts, facing the determined 92nd Division in northern Italy, shelled the Buffaloes with propaganda leaflets, calling attention to the world-known facts that the Anglo-Saxons were pretty free in their dispensation of discriminations, segregation and the arts of national bigotry as far as darker races were concerned. The Germans kept up a steady barrage of propaganda along this line for a long time, but the loyal Negroes refused to desert to the enemy in the most important anchor of the Po River front. The entire story of this attempt at Negroes' loyalty to the flag reportedly could fill a large volume.

The Nazis, alert to the many little evils among their enemies, more than likely would have tried their undermining methods before and behind the Siegfried line had not the lightning drives of Patton, Simpson, Hodges and their Red Ball Highway forces blitzed the German storm troopers faster than they could retaliate.

—O—

The most thrilling chapter of the attempts of the enemy to win over black Americans, however, could be written from the Pacific—from Kiska to Bougainville and to Okinawa.

Pacific theater returnees have recounted to this writer many times of the individual and mass attempts of Japanese soldiers to fraternize with American Negro soldiers over the line and thus win advantageous fire positions.

—O—

On Kiska in the Aleutians, a very trustworthy soldier friend of mine informed me upon his return, elements of a forward engineer outfit fell in the hands of a few of the Japanese troops left there to guard this stepping stone to North America. The Japanese are said to have met them with "our black brothers" salutations and to have sent them back to supply port stations with admonitions to "be careful." However, Japanese soldiers were reported later to have put to death every white face they saw and contacted. The enemy, however, couldn't win over the American blacks with the allegedly friendly greetings and they lost Kiska and every other part of the Aleutians chain with the active participation of Negro fighters.

—O—

On Bougainville and in New Guinea, I have been told on several occasions, attempts by the Orientals to "gain a point" with black troops were most numerous, all having failed.

One account stated that the unsuccessfully Japanese tried loud speakers, leaflets and 'high pitched voices in the night" while attempting to impress the American blacks and remind them of lynchings and injustices back home. They freely called Negroes their colored "friends" and asked they join in the effort to rid the Pacific and the world of white domination.

—O—

And yet, despite the rioting over equal opportunity for work privileges, housing and other accommodations of living and earning a living; despite the rantings of the demogogues in Congressional and state assembly halls; despite lynchings and mass mistreatment based solely upon race, creed and color; despite the use of the same instruments of civil, political and moral brutality towards Negroes that Hitler used in Germany toward members of non-Aryan tribes the enemy could not and did not succeed in a single instance to disrupt loyalty of American Negroes.

—O—

Perhaps the historians of World War II will pass over and leave out any reference to the Negroes' part and loyalty to his country in this global conflict. Our organizations, however, should never let that history die. It should be chronicled and displayed under floodlights in every nook and corner of our land. It should command the respect and admiration of our neighbors everywhere. And, this should be the watchword during reconversion, depression and prosperity forever to come:

"Our sweat and blood helped save and preserve our country, our native land. We expect and demand every right and privilege of citizenship. Nothing less, nothing more."

Negro Soldiers In World War 2

CALL — Kansas City, Mo.

8-17-45

The contribution of Negro troops in World War II will be summarized in THE CALL in a series of weekly articles beginning this week.

This week's and next week's articles deal with combat troops. Subsequent articles will deal with Negro troops with the Infantry, the Signal Corps, Chemical Warfare, Ordnance, Medical Corps, Corps of Engineers and Transportation Corps.

WITH U.S. FORCES, European Theater.—Negro troop strength in the European Theater of Operations increased nearly 100 per cent between D-Day and V-E Day, Headquarters, U. S. Forces, European Theater has announced.

One week before the Normandy invasion, there were 133,765 Negro troops in Europe. The monthly increase is recorded in the following figures:

July, 1944	144,546
August, 1944	156,104
September, 1944	169,847
October, 1944	173,112
November, 1944	210,795
December, 1944	219,687
January, 1945	235,332
February, 1945	236,688
March, 1945	250,190
April, 1945	257,267
May, 1945	259,173

COMBAT TROOPS

Slightly under nine per cent of the 259,173 Negro troops reported in the European Theater of Operations on May 15, one week after V-E Day, belonged to combat organizations.

Twenty-two Negro combat units participated in the operations of the American Expeditionary Forces against the Wehrmacht. These were: the 333rd, 349th, 350th, 351st, 578th, 686th, 777th, 969th, 999th Field Artillery battalions; 452nd Anti-aircraft Artillery battalion; 761st and 784th Tank battalions; 614th and 827th Tank Destroyer battalions; 183rd, 184th, 1695th, 1696th, 1697th, 1698th, 1699th and 1700th Engineer Combat battalions.

The 320th Barrage Balloon battalion was the only Negro combat unit to take part in the initial landings on the Normandy coast on June 6. Classified as an anti-aircraft organization, it was the only American unit of its type in Europe but was transferred from the theater before the end of the war.

8-17-45

Bring Balloons Ashore

Men from the 320th Barrage Balloon battalion waded ashore in the early hours of D-Day, struggling with their "flying beer bottles" which they had brought across the channel on LSIs and LSTs of the first assault waves. They brought their balloons to the shorelines, dug in with infantrymen of the first and 29th Divisions and proceeded under fierce enemy fire to erect a protective curtain of silver barrage balloons

List Casualties of Combat Team

Afro-American

Following are the battle casualties of the 25th Combat Team as reported through May 30, 1944:

First Lt. Oscar P. Davenport, 227 S. Campbell St., Tucson, Ariz.

Sgt. Nehemiah Hodges, 4236 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

T/4 James E. Goodnight, 634 Highland Ave., Corapolis, Pa.

Cpl. Lonnie D. Godley, Route 1, Box 242, Hallettsville, Tex.

T/5 Moses S. Davis, Route 2, Macon, N.C.

Pfc. William W. Ash, R.A. Hallifax, N.C.

Pfc. Hugh Carroll, Box 454, Scrulenburgh, Tex.

Pfc. Wash Carter, Route 2, Box 41, Oakwood, Tex.

Pfc. Alfred J. Davenport, 214 S. Seventh Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Pfc. Marion D. Darden, 326 Holcombe St., Eastpoint, Ga.

Pfc. Dock DeVane, General Delivery, Ivanhoe, N.C.

Pfc. Johnnie L. Lister, Route 1, Box 192, McCalla, Ala.

Pfc. Edgar Phillips, Route 1, Box 367, Morris, Okla.

Pfc. Joseph Redick, 801 E. Washington St., Syracuse, N.Y.

Pfc. Cosey Rivers, 1600 Pittsburgh Ave., Winston-Salem, N.C.

Pfc. Oginal Ryan, 643 W. O'Brien St., Chicago.

Pfc. William A. Woods, 1205-B 26th Ave., North Nashville, Tenn.

Pvt. James W. Batts, 2434 W. Warren Blvd., Chicago.

Pvt. Willie Bowie, General Delivery, Choccolocco, Ala.

Pvt. Horace Ervin, 1322 Plock St., Dallas, Tex.

Pvt. James H. Hancock, 134 Clay St., Henderson, Ky.

Pvt. Joseph C. Mallory, 183 Harrison St., Paterson, N.J.

Pvt. Robert L. Marshall, Jr., 417 Bedford Pl., Walker Springs, Ala.

Pvt. Deormy Ray, Route 2, St. Pauls, N.C.

Pvt. Sims, 221 Jefferson St., Buffalo, N.Y.

Pvt. Ernest Russell, 321 Slope Ave., Westfield, Ala.

Seriously Wounded in Action

Pfc. Andrew Briscoe, 1304 Presstman St., Baltimore, Md.

S/Sgt. Berry Bullock, Route 2, Taboro, N.C.

First Lt. Charles R. Collins, 4638 Indiana Ave., Chicago.

Pfc. Richard A. Hale, 951 Gilly Ave., Big Stone Gap, Va.

Pfc. John W. Hooten, 108 Bush St., Troy, Ala.

Pvt. Gilbert Johnson, S. Lipper Ave., Higginsville, Mo.

Pfc. Tilmon V. Johnson, General Delivery, Grady, Tex.

Sgt. Oscar Hunter, 962 N. 16th St., Baton Rouge, La.

Pvt. William T. Lasiter, Route 3, Box 68, Chapel Hill, N.C.

Pvt. Quillar Rouser, Parker Hill, N.C.

9-29-45

Pvt. Collie J. Simpson, Scranton, N.C.

Cpl. Charles Washington, 56 Crawford St., Pittsburgh.

T/5 Sanders V. Williams, 3509 Cline St., Houston, Tex.

Slightly Wounded in Action

Pvt. Harvy Baccus, Route 2, Social Circle, Ga.

Sgt. Woodrow Bean, Woodville, Tex.

Capt. Harland D. Bently, 4421 Poppleton Ave., Omaha, Neb.

T/4 John E. Black, Winnett, Mont.

S/Sgt. Sammie H. Black, 1016 Jensen Drive, Houston, Tex.

Pfc. Edward Bradford, General Delivery, Danville, Va.

Cpl. Malcide J. Broussard, 2423 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

Pfc. McKinley Cartwright, 1052 Baker St., Shreveport, La.

Sgt. James H. Cobbs, 607 Maple St., Clearwater, Fla.

Pfc. Paul S. Davis, General Delivery, Lafayette, Ga.

Pfc. Jessie Dickey, Route 1, Mc-Connellsville, S.C.

Pvt. Cumet Ford, General Delivery, Cromwell, Ala.

Pfc. James L. Gaines, Mt., Pleasant, Pa.

Pfc. Clarence Goff, 3310 Short St., New Orleans, La.

Pfc. Paris Handy, Route 4, Box 112, San Augustine, Tex.

Sgt. Benford Hawkins, Rural Route, New Market, Ala.

Pvt. Edward Heyward, 10 Westcott Ct., Charleston, S.C.

S/Sgt. Rosco D. James, General Delivery, Daingerfield, Tex.

Pfc. William Johnson, 3886 3rd Ave., Bronx, N.Y.

Sgt. Will B. Jones, Co. K, 25th Infantry.

S/Sgt. Elijah Kirk, 2610-A Gamble St., St. Louis, Mo.

Pvt. Roosevelt Lewis, Box 147, Crockett, Tex.

Pvt. Charlie McCullough, Route 1, Timmonsville, S.C.

Pvt. Thomas L. Miles, 4125 6th St., North Birmingham, Ala.

Sgt. Will H. Morey, 309½ Broadway St., Greenville, Miss.

S/Sgt. Hue S. Morrow, Box 44, Corcoran, Calif.

Pvt. Elmer Neville, 1501 Greenfield Ave., North Chicago.

Pvt. Willie Nix, Route 1, Box 15, Gordon, Ala.

T/Sgt. Charlie Perry, Jr., 506 E. 18th St., Bryan, Tex.

Pfc. Frank Portee, Jr., Route 3, Clover, S.C.

Pvt. Sye A. Ross, Route 1, Box 48, Buckhead, Ga.

Pvt. Isaac, Serman, Route 1, Box 8, Waynesville, Ga.

Pvt. Troy R. Simmons, Co. K, 25th Infantry.

Pvt. Joseph Spears, General Delivery, Evergreen, Ala.

Sgt. Daniel Thornton, Jr., 314 Beck St., Nogales, Ariz.

Pvt. Clifford Tucker, General Delivery, LaGrange, Ga.

Pvt. David Washington, Box 33, Benoit, Miss.

T/5 Mose Wheeler, Route 2, Box 14, Mt. Pleasant, Tenn.

Pfc. Iozey White, General Delivery, Trinity, Tex.

Pvt. George Williams, Jr., General Delivery, Pontotoc, Miss.

Pvt. Samuel Wright, Route 3, Box 151, Littleton, N.C.

56n-1945 Sen. Eastland Foreign Service- Europe

Story of Mass Rape at Stuttgart Pure Fiction

Sen. Eastland's Charges Debunked By the Facts

P.M. N.Y.N.Y.

(Copyright, 1945, by The Newspaper PM, Inc.)

PM Exclusive

STUTTGART, Germany, July 10.—I came here to check a charge made by Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.), on the floor of the Senate last week that Senegalese troops of the French Army had 2000 to 5000 German women in the Stuttgart subway and raped them for four or five days.

I don't know where Sen. Eastland got his story, but it must have been—to reverse the customary newspaper phrase—from unusually unreliable sources. There is no subway in Stuttgart. There never have been more than a bare handful of Senegalese troops here, if any at all. And I failed to find a single soul in this city, either Americans or French, or Germans themselves—including the German chief of police—who had ever heard of any mass rape of the kind the Senator described as having occurred either in the non-existent subway or non-existent elevated or anywhere else outside the brain of the Senator's informants. 7-10-45

Stuff for Fable

There do exist certain elements in the situation which, worked upon by fertile and evil imagination, could have given rise to this fable which the Senator reported as fact.

For instance, while there is no subway in Stuttgart, there is, as in most large German cities, an extensive system of underground shelters, including a huge unfinished tunnel through one of Stuttgart's many hills, capable of holding 12,000 to 15,000 people. If Sen. Eastland wants to refer to underground shelters as subways, I don't suppose it is a capital offense; but whether subways or shelters, there is no evidence they were ever used as wholesale brothels.

What Sen. Eastland referred to as "Senegalese" are Tunisians and Moroccans who formed the great majority of the French forces which took the city from the Germans after a hard siege. The Tunisians and the Moroccans are not Negroes, but Arabs; and their only resemblance to American Negroes is that they are also an oppressed people.

Some Figures

A third fact, which undoubtedly contributed to Sen. Eastland's exercise in fancy, is that unquestionably there was a lot of raping going on in the first few weeks of French occupation.

Americans to whom I talked put the figure at "a couple of thousand." The German police chief put the figure at 1500, and he ought to know.

In any case, I must report, to the Senator's undoubted discomfiture, that whatever rapings there were happened one by one, or two by two, which is in strict accordance with the white man's tradition. As evidence, I cite the behavior of certain white troops on all fronts in this and every war in history.

I don't mean here to defend the rape record of the French in Stuttgart. Most Americans to whom I talked—there has been a special detachment of Americans here since a fortnight after the French took the city on Apr. 20—are inclined to blame French officers, who, they say, either were incapable or did not try to control their men.

The facts are that the Arabs are, in essence, commercial soldiers; they have no country to fight for and no ideals, and a home background which consists largely of poverty and ignorance and oppression. What has been happening in Syria for the last couple of months is a perfect symbol of French policy toward colonials.

Sordid Background

Moreover, the whole spirit permeating the French forces in Germany, certainly at first, was one to encourage looting and raping. I do not say this in disparagement or approval; I say it is a fact. The French hate the Germans with an intensity which Americans, whose homeland has never been invaded and who have never suffered under the Nazi yoke, can never hope to understand. 7-10-45

It is easy for us to forget that this is not the first time Germany has attacked France and spilled the blood of millions of Frenchmen. Perhaps here lies one reason why French white officers refused to bestir themselves to control the Arabs, who need control as any people need control who never have been granted an opportunity to learn how to control themselves.

In any case, I cannot understand by what logic Sen. Eastland connects the actions of the French Arabs in Stuttgart with the behavior of the American Negro soldiers elsewhere. The Senator makes the point that the Arabs were wearing American Lend-Lease uniforms. This is perfectly true of the Arabs. The whole French 1st Army, so far as I could see, is wearing American Lend-Lease uniforms, including 100 per cent white colonels and majors who were sitting a couple of tables away from me in the French officers' mess where I had dinner a couple of hours ago.

If the Senator is against Lend-Lease, let him say so bluntly and directly, and not attempt to make a race issue out of a piece of GI cloth.

Again I confess, not having read the Senator's remarks completely, I cannot, in all conscience, catch his drift. If he thinks the actions of the French troops reflect on American Negroes, then he is worse than Hitler, who always considered the Arabs as "honorary Aryans," and for 10 years tried desperately to woo them. Or if he is not being illiterate on racial matters, then he is insisting naively that the Negroes from America can be expected to act the same as Arabs from North Africa because both are living in exactly the same kind of colonial slavery.

Or if the Senator is worried, which seems unbelievable, that Germans will think less of American Negro soldiers because of what happened in Stuttgart, then I can relieve him of his worry. German civilians know the difference between Arabs of French North Africa and American Negroes, even if the Senator does not. The similarity in uniforms does not confuse them at all.

When I asked Max Weber, German police chief of the city, whether experience with dark-skinned Arabs made the people of Stuttgart resent Negroes, he said:

"But they are altogether different. We have seen many of your Negroes in Stuttgart. We like them because they are jolly and sing and laugh. Our children are always playing with them. The only time we fear them is when they get drunk, but to tell the truth, it is always right to fear drunken soldiers, is that not correct?"

I am not trying to uphold this German police official as an expert on racial matters; I'm simply reporting what he said; and Sen. Eastland was so far off the mark when he charged that the American uniform had been brought into disrepute that the fact remains, as one German civilian told me on the street, "When you Americans take over this city from the French, we will greet you with flowers."

Fact Again

I am not saying whether this is to the discredit of the French policy or of American policy; again I cite it merely as a fact.

One of the dozens of people I have spoken to here is Lt. Gen. Augustin Lion Guillaume, the French commander of the Stuttgart occupation forces.

The vanguard of American troops already is moving into the city, and the French will be out within a few days. I don't imagine Gen. Guillaume is very happy about relinquishing this lovely town, but he seemed to be taking it like a good sport. 7-10-45

One of the things he sought to impress upon me over and over again was his deep personal regard for Americans, alongside whom he had been fighting ever since the invasion of southern France. He showed me proudly a sheaf of letters from U. S. divisional corps generals complimenting him and his troops on their contribution to the French-German campaign.

He was, of course, tremendously impressed by Sen. Eastland's charges, which he termed irresponsible and fantastic." And he added with neat French malice:

"I am sure you are aware that Stuttgart was the capital of the Nazis' 'Association of Germans Abroad'—an organization which was devoted exclusively to spreading discord among the Allies and among the peoples of each Allied nation. I wonder whether your Senator may be a belated victim of this Association's propaganda?"

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL
Circ. D. 59,556

JUL 4 - 1945

Eastland Is Unfair

REGARDLESS of how Senator Eastland of Mississippi feels about the Fair Employment Practice Committee, his attack on our Negro soldiers in Europe was both uncalled for and unfair. What he said is in direct contradiction of Gen. Eisenhower's report on the Negroes in action and as between the two men the public will agree that Eisenhower's statement is more trustworthy than Eastland's

Eastland charged that Negro troops had been "utter and abysmal" failures. The 92nd (all Negro) Division, he went on, proved untrustworthy and worthless.

But, said Eisenhower:

"Negro troops did their duty excellently under heavy fire on Normandy's beaches in a zone of heavy combat and suffered substantial casualties. You may well be proud of the accomplishments of Negro troops."

Moreover, Eisenhower considered the Negro division so good that he had it transferred from Italy to the western front, and that should be proof enough for anyone that Eastland's tirade was nothing more nor less than the typical bigotry so many from the south display, where racial matters are concerned.

Page Eastland

Balt. Md.

More Proof That Miss. Senator Was Wrong

Afro-American

In response to queries on the veracity of Senator Eastland's recent attack on colored soldiers, Francis Yancey, AFRO correspondent in Italy, cabled:

"The 332nd Fighter Group and its attached units have never had a rape case since coming overseas. 7-21-45

"Allied commanders can't give our official figures on British troops, but they hint they are very low, as is the overall number of such cases involving Tan Yanks on the east coast of Italy."

Sen. Russell 'Confirms' Eastland's Attack Story

Atlanta, Ga.
Atlanta Daily World

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Sen. James O. Eastland's mass rape charge against French Senegalese troops was confirmed Sunday by Sens. McFarland (D. Ariz.) and Russell (D. Ga.) Eastland charged that 5,000 German women were raped by Senegalese soldiers in a subway at Stuttgart Germany.

Sens. McFarland and Russell, like Eastland, visited Germany this year on different senate committees. Sen. Eastland, who made his rape charge in the senate on June 29 while opposing FEPC legislation expressed amazement at his Missippi home when contacted about the veracity of his charge.

During his senate harangue against the FEPC, he revealed that he received his story from Jefferson Caffery, American mabassador to France, then aded that its was confirmed by Gen. Devers, then commanding the 6th army and Gen Patch, 7th army commander.

CONFLICT ADMITTED

McFarland, who visited Germany as a member of a senate interstate commerce sub-committee, said he heard the rape story from a "reliable source." Sen Russell, who went to Europe with the joint senate military and naval affairs subcommittee, reported that he heard stories of the alleged rape, but that there was a conflict of details and that he did not determine which was the correct version.

A SHAEF report from Paris last week stated that the story about the rape of 5,000 German women by Senegalese troops was untrue.

7-12-45

"All American liasion officers with the French army corps and lower units which have been in or near Stuttgart at any time have submitted written reports to this headquarters that to their knowledge and belief the incidents such as alleged did not take place," SHAEF declared.

7-12-45

Eastland's rape story involved French Senegalese troops but he also made defamatory charges against American Negro troops, in which he said that they "disgraced the flag of their country." The war department disagreed with him on both points.

"The war department is proud of the record of its troops, which includes Negroes as well as other troops," said Under Secy., Robert P. Patterson. "There have been a number of press releases in the past few months commending the behavior of a number of units made up of Negro troops. General Eisenhower has spoken of the good performance of the Negro troops used as platoons in European Theatre of Operations. The inspector general commented favorably on the performance of the 24th regiment in the Marianas. There have been a number of similar comments."

7-12-45

War Department, SHAEF Statements Spike Solon's Slur

The Informer
Houston, Texas

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) —That Senator James O. Eastland of Mississippi is a vicious liar in his charges against American Negro soldiers and French Senagalese soldiers made on the floor of the Senate last week during the FEPC filibuster, is being shown by statements issued by the War Department here and by the Supreme Headquarters of Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF) in Paris.

Houston, Texas

Eastland said Negro soldiers were lazy, would not work or fight, were an abysmal failure, and a disgrace to the flag of the United States. About the French Senegalese soldiers, he accused them of having herded 5000 German girls into a subway and raped them for five days. Eastland said his information came from high ranking American generals.

The War Department, through Undersecretary Robert Patterson at a press conference last week, said this did not express the view of the War Department.

"If any high ranking general has made such a statement," Patterson declared "I have no knowledge of it. You have already heard views of our leading commanders —General Eisenhower, General MacArthur, General Eaker and others—which do not support any such conclusion.

7-14-45

"The War Department is proud of its troops, and that includes Negroes as well as all other groups.

"There have been a number of press releases in the last few months commending the behavior of a number of units made up of Negro troops. General Eisenhower spoke of the good performance of the volunteer platoons that were used in the European Theatre. The Inspector General went out of his way to comment favorably on the performance of the 24th Infantry Regiment in the Marianas, and there have been a number of similar commendations."

From Paris headquarters of SHAEF came a statement that an investigation into Eastland's charges concerning the French Senegalese troops had shown the allegation unfounded.

"American liason officers with the French Army groups and also units which have been in or near Stuttgart at any time have submitted written reports to this Headquarters," said SHAEF, "that to their knowledge and belief the incident such as alleged did not take place."

In the meantime, the Norfolk Journal & Guide wired the President of the United States, in his capacity as Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, urging that he make a public pronouncement to set the record straight and to right a "great wrong by a denial of the unqualified and unsupported charge" made by Sen. Eastland.

7-14-45

"Sen. Eastland's sweeping and terrible indictment," said the Journal & Guide telegram, "has shocked and dismayed thirteen million Negro Americans and millions more of fair minded and informed white Americans."

A substitution of the truth for Eastland's canard by the President and Commander-in-chief, said the Guide, would be a public service "of a high and useful character." No word has yet been heard from the President, however.

Southerners Rap Eastland

The Informer
Houston, Texas

NASHVILLE — (ANP) — Prompted by Mississippi Sen. Eastland's scurrilous attack on the heroic record of Negro servicemen on the senate floor, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare sent the following telegram Saturday to the President and to Secy. Stimson and Secy. Forrestal:

"Believing yesterday's statement by Senator Eastland of Mississippi, slurring record of Negro soldiers, does great damage to war effort here and on front lines, earnestly beseech you to set the record straight and call to the attention of the country the real story of the heroism of our Negro soldiers and sailors."

7-14-45

The telegram was signed by Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, liberal organization with thousands of members throughout the south.

Hartford, Conn.
Hartford Times

The Eastland Episode

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I am speaking on behalf of the colored mothers, wives, sweethearts and those who have loved ones in the service.

7-14-45

If the colored soldiers are no good, as Senator Eastland said a general told him, why not let them all come home? We will be too glad to have them back. The colored soldier must be good. We of the colored race know that, and some of the white, but as the soldier from Camp Lee said in his letter, how can a colored soldier be a good soldier when being trained in these camps having their morale broken? We glory in his spunk.

Richmond, Va.

We were very surprised to see the statement of Mr. Eastland on the front page of any paper, or on the inside. Why doesn't this same editor put some of the letters written against it on the front page? We all know this war cannot be won by one race alone.

7-14-45

A COLORED SOLDIER'S WIFE.
Richmond.

[Editor's Note: The Times-Dispatch has published on its front page a statement by Under-Secretary of War Patterson taking issue with Senator Eastland and quoting commendations of Negro troops by General Eisenhower and others. In addition, we have published many other articles refuting Senator Eastland, including an editorial of our own, letters from white and colored readers, and an article on the front page of one section of the issue of Sunday, July 8, by P. B. Young, Jr., editor of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, quoting accounts by Negro war correspondents concerning the performance of colored soldiers and the praise given them by several generals.]

7-14-45

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN-PILOT
Cir. D. 77,505—S. 79,630

JUL 16 1945

Senator Eastland's Wanton Attack

Mississippi's Eastland cut a sorry figure before the Senate last Friday in the harangue in which he stated that Negro troops have proved "an utter and abysmal failure" in this war. Senator Eastland was attacking the Fair Employmnt Practices Committee, an appropriation for which passed the Senate despite the efforts of himself and his fellow Mississippian, Senator Bilbo, to talk it to death. The FEPC appropriation, thanks to more Southern opposition, now is bottled up in the House Rules Committee. Senator Eastland's far-fetched point was that FEPC's rule requiring employers with government contracts not to discriminate against Negro labor impaired the chances of demobilized white soldiers for employment.

Senator Eastland's logic—that FEPC actually means discrimination against whites—is as muddy as the source for his information on the performance of Negro troops. He says only that "high-ranking generals" told him the troops were unsatisfactory. If any generals did tell Senator Eastland what he says they did, these commanders hold precisely the opposite opinion of Negro troops which others from Eisenhower downward have expressed time after time. The 92nd Division, which the Senator singles out for disparagement, has been commanded not only by its commanding officer, Major General Allmond, but by the commanding officer of the Fifth Army, Lieutenant General Truscott, and by the overall commander in Italy, General Clark.

Senator Eastland's generalities about Negro troops are even more unfair than his particular charges. Such nonsense as the statement that they "will neither work nor fight" is completely at variance with the testimony of commanders in every theatre, who have paid tribute to colored Army men both as combat and as service and construction troops. So palpably specious are his charges that they answer themselves. The public will more readily believe the opinion of men like Maj. Gen. Raymond G. Lehman, who cammanded Negro troops on Bougainville:

They have the same courage, the same fear, the same fighting spunk as any other soldier. They are quick to learn and eager to perform.

One can hope with reasonable conviction that Senator Eastland's racial poison is its own antidote.

Guide's Reply To Eastland Draws Favorable Comment

Lou Norfolk Va. Journal + Guide

NORFOLK—Widespread comment was aroused among both white and colored persons by the Journal and Guide's strong and factual reply to the allegations against Negro troops by Senator Eastland of Mississippi earlier this month In addition to the comment and articles published in the Guide, a statement by the Guide's editor, supported by comments of three of its war correspondents, was distributed to the daily newspapers of the country either directly or through the three major news services, Associated Press, United Press, and International News Service. This was widely quoted. Typical of reader reactions are the following letters:

Editor, Journal and Guide: May I commend you for the most excellent article which you prepared for the Richmond Times-Dispatch? I am so glad that this information is being released for publicity. I am sure that it will do a great deal of good.

I enjoy reading the Journal and Guide each week. The articles which you wrote during your recent overseas trip were most interesting an informative.

—THOS. C. ALLEN,
Director, Virginia Council of Churches, Dept. of Interracial Cooperation.
Richmond, Va.

7-21-45

"ANSWER TO A PRAYER"

Editor, Journal and Guide: It was an answer to a prayer to read in the Portsmouth Star, "Guide Editor Takes Issue With Senator."

Every Negro serviceman must surely be grateful to you. He must be grateful that you came to the bat for him, through the press, to defy those who would scorn his success.

Those who are far away from both the sight and thought of a newspaper will in time learn of your gesture of splendor. May they, and we like you, continue to launch forth in a constructive defiance of all injustices against our people.

—(MISS) E. C. RICKS
Churchland, Va.

* * * *

"NARROW-MINDED BIGOT"

Eidtor, Journal and Guide: Your article in the Virginia Pilot this date July 2 carefully read. Also Eastland's statements in other papers.

Having carefully followed the war news of all sectors since the start, I have read nothing but good reports of the colored troops' conduct until this man, Eastland, pops up looking for notoriety.

When the information at hand is properly weighed we will be constrained to believe that Eastland is a potent trouble maker, a narrow minded bigot, and that any statement from him is not worthy of consideration.

I advise letting the matter drop where it is, as the source of the recriminating charges against the colored troops is too small and contemptible to quibble over.

—W. S. CASH.
Norfolk, Va.

* * * *

"EFFECTIVE, DISTINCTIVE"

Editor, Journal and Guide: Yesterday morning when I received my News and Observer with an AP item, captioned "Editor Defends Negro Soldier," it certainly made this old timer feel good so much so that I am accepting this chance to congratulate you for majoring so effectively for the race.

This is a distinctive Scoop for the Guide. Of course you know that I have always been deeply interested in the programs and objectives of your paper, and have been stimulated by its achievements.

—GEO. F. KING
Wilmington, N. C.

* * * *

"FINE STAND"

Editor, Journal and Guide: I clipped the enclosed article from the Raleigh News and Observer. The article was also in the Durham Herald. (The Guide's answer to Senator Eastland.)

My hat is off to you for the fine stand taken.

—C. C. SPAULDING,
President, N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Durham, N. C.

* * * *

"POINTING THE WAY . . . ."

Editor, Journal and Guide: During recent weeks the Journal and Guide has maintained its usual high position and excellent quality of service at points and on issues of vital importance to our group and to the well being of America.

I send this note to tell you again of my appreciation for all that your paper continues to do in pointing the way toward what we hope will be a better nation and world.

The job, for those who would work at it, may seem at times thankless and discouraging, but I know you to be of the sort that may be depended upon to see it through. More power and success to the Guide and its staff.

—L. H. FOSTER,
President, Virginia State College.
Petersburg, Va.

7-21-45

* * * *

"SITUATION ENCOURAGING"

Editor, Journal and Guide: I have read the Guide the week of July 7 with a great deal of satisfaction. I appreciate very much the stand the Guide has taken on Senator Eastland's very uncomplimentary statement regarding Negro soldiers, and especially do I wish to thank you for the forceful manner in which you have replied to the Norfolk gentleman who is so apprehensive of Negroes starting fights between the races.

Personally, in my contact with both groups here in North Carolina, I am glad to state that the situation seems most encouraging. Again, I wish to thank you and your entire staff for the fine manner in which they give us the news.

7-21-45

—S. B. SIMMONS,
Supervisor Vocational Agricultural Education in N. C. Negro Schools.
Greensboro, N. C.

White Y. Leaders Assail Eastland For Race Baiting

Louisiana Weekly 7-21-45 New Orleans La.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Richmond, Va., July 18.—Sen. James O. Eastland was bitterly assailed here last week for his race baiting by white YWCA leaders.

A letter, sent him by members of the City-wide Industrial Council of the Richmond YWCA, said: "Dear Senator Eastland:

"We who are doing our utmost to share our responsibility for the war against fascism are indignant that a senator should champion the race-hatred theories of fascism in the halls of congress.

"Your unwarranted injection of race-hatred among our soldiers and those back home is injurious to the united and bitter struggle still to be waged against fascists in the Pacific Theater.

7-21-45

"We demand that you name these generals whom you quote so that they may be exposed to public opinion. Generals with fascist theories cannot be trusted to lead the American people in the fight to destroy fascism.

"In addition, we respectfully urge an adequate appropriation for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, since equality of job opportunity for all minority groups throughout the nation is fundamental to democracy.

7-31-45

"Yours sincerely,

"Members of the City-wide Industrial Council of the Richmond YWCA."

The letter, with signatures of the council members, was forwarded promptly to Sen. Eastland and copies sent to President Truman, Sen. Bilbo of Mississippi and to the United States Wad Department, Miss Dorothy A. Thompson, industrial secretary of the Richmond YWCA, announced.

NEW MASSES
(NEW YORK CITY)

JUL 17 1945

Racism and Veterans

THE American Negro soldier has played a heroic part in the defeat of European fascism and has done so under the most humiliating and insulting circumstances; he returns to this country to find the very ideology he fought to eliminate abroad. The speeches of Senators Bilbo and Eastland against the FEPC deserve Hitler's Iron Cross. These liars from the deep South apparently aspire to be classified among the war criminals. Their reviling of our Negro brothers and particularly of the Negro soldier was a performance equalled only in Hitler Germany.

These American Nazi orators are not the only humiliation the returning Negro soldier must face. The failure of the great body of decent Americans and of their government and of the War Department itself to denounce these slanderous utterances reflects an indifference which is in itself shocking. As Doxey Wilkerson has written in the *Daily Worker*, "a Senate and a War Department that can tolerate such fascist racism as that preached by Bilbo and Eastland last week, without making vigorous and overwhelming protest, could easily accommodate themselves to the ranting of an American Hitler."

The returning Negro soldier faces other critical problems which he shares with the hundreds of thousands of Negroes who have helped man the home front. Cutbacks, chaotic reconversion, the hostile attitude of many AFL unions, the crass discrimination practiced by such enterprises as the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., place an undue share of the burden which the entire nation faces upon the Negro people. All of this is occurring in the midst of war, when the struggle against the Japanese fascists rises toward its climax. If such things can happen while the war is still on what can we expect when the discipline and restraint of war has been wholly removed?

The American people must rise in revulsion against the fascist racism in our midst. No slur upon the Negro people nor upon any other sector of American democracy can be left unanswered.

Our Negro Soldiers

Courier Journal Louisville Kentucky

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

I feel badly after reading Senator Eastland's tirade. My son belongs to the 92d Division. He was wounded in Italy October 11, 1944. I now have his Purple Heart, also his good conduct ribbon. I know he is far above the accusation that Senator Eastland made.

I also have a son in Hawaii, a machine-gunner. Both boys are highly recommended by the best white people here and in Memphis. They were both students at Le Moyne College and both worked in leading department stores in Memphis.

I am heartily sorry that such a slur has been thrown at our valiant Negro soldiers when their officers give them high praise. If the Senator had been facing what they have faced and enduring what they have endured, he would be praying instead of thinking evil of the Negro soldiers who were fighting and dying to save him and the rest of us. Many of our homes are saddened by this war as well as the homes of the white people. We have fine Negro boys in the war who deserve praise anywhere and everywhere and I trust that Senator Eastland will make his apologies both to God and the Negro race. 7-19-45

Hickman, Ky. Mrs. WILLI B. ROBERSON.

Here's More Proof That Senator Eastland Lied

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

More proof that Senator Eastland (Dem.) of Mississippi willfully and knowingly lied on Negro troops is furnished in a letter sent to Mrs. C. J. Williams of 3425 Erato Street by Major General E. M. Almond, commanding general of the 92nd. In the letter Gen. Almond highly commended the 92nd for its gallant accomplishments in the Italian campaign. The letter in full is as follows:

"APO 92
U. S. Army
8 May 1945

To the Officers and Men of the 92nd Infantry Division and Attached Troops:

The war in Europe is over and the enemy which Allied Forces vanquished here in Italy is imprisoned. 7-21-45

The 92nd Division and its supporting troops have performed splendidly; without the arduous effort and unselfish cooperation on the part of each of you it would not have been possible to secure the results obtained in so short a time. The speed with which our forces reached and occupied Genoa was a distinct surprise not only to the enemy but to our own high command. I am sure there exists in each of you a deep appreciation of a task well done and a satisfaction that will remain with you throughout your lives.

Following an arduous period of preparation and training, our units moved to the Italian Theatre and some six months ago entered active combat. Experience has taught us much and has enabled us, during the past month, to have a part in driving a resourceful, cunning and well trained foe from his chosen defensive positions. Great loss has been inflicted on the 148th German Division and elements of two Italian Fascist Divisions. Three German Infantry Regiments were driven disorganized from the field and the Fascist units were forced to flee in confusion, abandoning their arms. The enemy losses in killed and wounded were enormous and many have become prisoners.

Our great victory has not been achieved without cost to us. Many of our brothers-in-arms have given their lives for their country. I am confident that their sacrifice has not been in vain, because victory is ours! 7-21-45

In this hour of glorious victory, we must remember that the war is not yet over. Another enemy—JAPAN—must be subdued. Whatever may be the future mission of this Division and its attached units, I feel confident that you will all approach it with the same unswerving spirit and determination which you have so gallantly displayed in the past.

My warmest thanks and sincere admiration are extended to each officer and man of this command; I am proud to have led you in combat.

(Signed)
E. M. ALMOND,
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding."

It goes without saying that the above letter explains many things that such bigoted political leaders as Senator Eastland would like to keep under cover, so that they could more easily put over their hatred for the Negro race. Our greatest hope is that Major General Almond's statement, "I am confident that their sacrifice has not been in vain, because victory is our!" will have a lasting meaning and that the effects of our boys' sacrifice will be felt upon returning to a true democracy, where prejudice and discrimination will not exist. 7-21-45

SEATTLE, WASH.
POST-INTELLIGENCER
Cir. D. 129,550—S. 251,253

JUL 6 - 1945

Loose Talk

SENATOR EASTLAND of Mississippi got himself far off base the other day when, in ranting mood, he asserted that Negro troops "would neither work nor fight."

The suspicion that the senator was moved by political considerations in loosing his ill-advised blast during a filibuster does not make his utterance any the less obnoxious.

The plain truth is that no authorized spokesman for the armed services has ever made any statement, at any time, that would tend to corroborate the Mississippian's irresponsible accusation in the slightest degree.

On the contrary, such statements as have come from accredited sources have had nothing but praise for the contribution of Negro troops to the war effort.

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL
Circ. D. 59,556

JUL 1 0 1945

Defends Negro Troops

Editor Ohio State Journal:

I regret to think anyone could be so selfish as to say that our Negro troops, or shall I say soldiers, were a failure in doing their part in the battles that were fought in Europe. I thank you for printing this article for perhaps I would never have known what was said as soon as I did. I can think of nothing so low as what one of our senators said about the Negroes that are soldiers and did their part so well.

I heard Ted Malone broadcast from Europe, telling what a grand job the Negro troops were doing. How can people be so ungrateful?

The Negroes have always been a humble, easy-to-understand people. They have never faltered at any task given them to save our country in wars. You know and I know that discrimination, the most deadly weapon, must die out of the white people's hearts before any peace can obtain here or abroad.

In your good conscience I know you hated to print that article in your paper. The way one feels, if our Negro troops haven't been any service in this war it isn't too late to send them home and let the white troops finish defeating Japan.

I think if we all counted our blessings a little bit more we all would be better off. We have no country to back us up, but you can rest assured we put our trust in no man but God. Some day the white people will not have to worry about their Negro citizens, for God will come and take what belongs to Him for He made this world and everything in it belongs to Him.

MRS. EDNA TILLMAN.

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL
Circ. D. 59,556

JUL 1 0 1945

Negro Troops Brave

Editor Ohio State Journal:

After reading the account of the speech delivered by Senator Eastland of Mississippi against the FEPC to the Senate, I felt it my duty as a Negro to voice my opinion of the vicious tirade publicly voiced by the "honorable" senator.

It is indeed regrettable that a man, elected to the U. S. Senate, should be so low in principle, so lacking in decency, as to utter words which every fair-minded citizen of the country should consider a gross insult. Even more lamentable is the realization that the thousands of Negro soldiers who have worked, fought and died, have made sacrifices so that men of Senator Eastland's class could remain free to revile and slander them.

I would like to know the names of the "high-ranking generals" who informed Senator Eastland of the disgraceful incidents he takes such obvious delight in reciting. I cannot bring myself to believe that there are any American generals who would make the statements attributed to them by Eastland, ignoring the record of Negro troops who built the Ledo Road, under the most dangerous conditions, who have fought valiantly and died bravely in France, Germany, Italy and the South Pacific.

Senator Eastland is desperately fighting to defeat the FEPC which would curb racial discrimination in industry. He has the nerve to say that he is not prejudiced; he only wants to keep the Negro from securing profitable jobs; he only wants the public to scoff at Negroes in uniform and he only wants to preserve the southern brand of "democracy" in regards to the Negro population.

I sincerely hope that the Senate passes the FEPC bill and soundly defeats Senator Eastland and his race-baiting colleagues.

EDNA M. STINSON.

Spreaders Of Hate

DAYTON, OHIO
Dayton Herald

To the Editor of The Herald:

Senator Eastland recently made a number of violent attacks on Negro soldiers. He claimed to get his information from army sources which he did not name. Eastland is preaching hate. 7-26-45

The complete refutation of his charges is contained in statements by our highest ranking generals. Eisenhower, Patton, MacArthur, Clark, Eaker, Truscott, Eddy and Almond have publicly testified to the valor and devotion of Negro troops they have commanded. Certainly these generals know more about the subject than Eastland or his informants (assuming that these latter exist). 7-26-45

Let the American people understand that purveyors of hate like Eastland do not spread false rumors just to hear themselves talk. Nor yet because they believe the rumors to be true. No, they are trying to sell a bill of goods to a public which they believe to be extremely gullible.

Such gentlemen have a purpose. It is to achieve exactly what would be achieved if the public swallowed their bait; namely, further disunity among the American people. Senator Eastland owes his office to the poll tax which, in turn, owes its existence to disunity created by spreaders of hate. The poll tax is of benefit to Eastland and his ilk but not to the big majority of Southern white people, for it disfranchises 50 per cent more of them than it does of Negroes.

It must be said that in the North, too, we have inciters to hate and they are not wholly unsuccessful in their search for dupes. These inciters consist in part of American fascists like Gerald L. K. Smith but also of a reprehensible minority of chiseling employers who know that if they can fan up enough hatred and separate the white and black populations far enough, then they can use each group as a club to beat down the wages of the other—hiring Negroes if the whites don't like those wages and threatening to hire whites if the Negroes complain.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.
JOURNAL
Cir. D. 25,026
JUL 17 1945

Points Out Work Done By Negro Soldiers

To the Editor of The Journal:

You are to be commended for your editorial taking Senator Eastland to task for his false and bigoted statements about the record of Negroes in the present war. How ridiculous his statements are will be clear to anyone who has read the thrilling account of the bravery and heroism of Negro stewards on the Franklin in those hectic hours, while she burned fiercely, after the Jap suicide attack.

The account was given by the chaplain on board the Franklin, Joseph T. O'Callahan, in his article: "I Was a Chaplain on the Franklin" (America, June 9.) This is what he says:

"There was a group of steward mates on board, Negroes, and every one of them who remained aboard (remember that many were blown overboard) did a really magnificent job. It was primarily due to their help that our executive officer was able to get a towline from the Franklin to the cruiser Pittsburg, which was standing by. The towline was a terrific weight. There the gang was, lined up shoulder-to-shoulder, officers and men, black and white, sweating and straining, and all afraid. The towline was not to be budged. I have read about things like this, and been rather blase and skeptical, but there on the deck of the Franklin that afternoon, it really happened. All of a sudden, uncertainly and slowly at first, but gathering volume until it pierced the roar of flames, those Negro men started an impromptu chanting, making up the words as they went along. It was almost a Negro spiritual and, as the rhythm of their voices found certainty, the rhythm of the gang's muscles and sinews started to work together, and that heavy towline we hadn't been able to budge, started to move, how, God alone knows; but it was certainly the Negro stewards who led the way to a really superhuman job. All through the day, and most of the night, those Negro men worked magnificently on the deck, and very few people know that when the early morning of the 20th came, a half dozen of them came with me below decks, a little more hesitant than I—and so more credit to them—foraging for food for the crew, groping in complete darkness in compartments that might well be a trap. They had worked all day and night as firefighters, in an extreme emergency; when the fires were partially under control they sank once more; unobtrusively and simply, into their humble role of providing food."

The above words speak volumes for the courage and loyalty of the Negro soldier. One great injustice of this war is that the press and movies have remained singularily silent when it comes to dishing out a little credit to our Negro soldiers.

—FR. MARTIN J. COLLINS.
Winston-Salem, N. C.
July 16, 1945.

EDITOR DEFENDS NEGRO SOLDIERS

Quotes Tributes Paid to Negro Troops in Italy by American Generals

Norfolk, Va., July 3.—(AP)—That "high ranking generals" furnished Senator Eastland (D-Miss) with information upon which he bases his charge that Negro troops have been "utter and abysmal failure" is difficult to imagine in view of the high praise which our top generals publicly have accorded those same fighters, P. Bernard Young, Jr., editor of the Journal and Guide, Negro weekly newspaper, said in a statement issued here.

He said Generals Dwight Eisenhower, George Patton, Mark W. Clark, Ira C. Eaker, Lucien K Truscott, M. S. Eddy and E. M. Allmond had "publicly furnished testimony on the valor and performance of Negro soldiers that repudiates the statements by the Mississippi Senator."

Young's statement was in answer to an assertion by Eastland, who said Friday that "high ranking generals" had told him that Negro troops "are utter and abysmal failures," and that the 92nd (Negro) Division "could not be placed in an important position in the line. If all our divisions had been like it, the Germans would have pushed us to the toe of the Italian boot."

Lem Greeves, Jr., one of the Norfolk newspaper's correspondents serving overseas with Negro combat units, quoted Lt. General Truscott in a Memorial Day interview at Anzio as saying that "Negro artillery, tank, reconnaissance, tank destroyer, combat engineer, ordnance and the quartermaster troops who have served in this theater under my command have done an exceptionally good job."

Greeves said that in another interview the general told reporters that the best general service engineer regiment in his command had been the 92nd Engineer Regiment. "These men were credited by the general with having made possible the Allied assault on Bologna which resulted in the quick ending of the war in Italy," the correspondent added.

Greeves also quoted Lt. General Eaker, acting commanding general of the Army Air Forces, as saying that he had followed the exploits of the 99th (Negro) fighter squadron based near Naples and he was convinced they were "qualified, capable and courageous.

"I have confidence that you can do any job we have to do here. I have arranged for you to be transferred to the 15th Air Force. I have given you the best airplane made and judging by the excellent record you have made, you will do a fine job." Greeves quoted the general.

DAYTON, O.
NEWS
Circ. D. 75,877 - S. 78,997
JUL 19 1945

Generals Defend Negro Troops' Valor

(P. Bernard Young Jr., Editor of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, in the Richmond Times-Dispatch)

Generals supposedly furnished Senator Eastland of Mississippi with the purported facts upon which he based his amazing charge that Negro troops in this war have been an utter and abysmal failure. This is an accusation that is difficult to imagine, in view of the high praise which our top generals, in all major theaters of operations, have publicly accorded those same fighters.

Senator Eastland's charge not only is refuted by famous American generals, but is rebutted by three war correspondents of the Journal and Guide, who, among them, have spent 28 months in active war zones.

Before the European war ended, or since they have returned to this country, Gens. Eisenhower, Patton, Clark, Eaker, Truscott, Eddy and Almond have publicly furnished testimony on the valor and performance of Negro soldiers that utterly repudiates the sweeping claim by the Mississippi senator. Was it these generals to whom Senator Eastland says he talked?

Gens. MacArthur and Lehman, Navy Secretary Forrestal and others have similarly rated the Negro soldier and sailor highly for performances in the Pacific.

The Journal and Guide's war correspondents, Thomas W. Young, Lem Graves Jr. and John Jordan, on the basis of their first-hand experience with our troops in combat, took sharp issue with Eastland's unqualified indictment. Each cited favorable appraisals of colored service men by famous combat generals.

In regard to the senator's direct reference to the Ninety-second Division, Correspondent Graves said: "Maj. Gen. E. M. Almond, who commanded it, declared on the day after V-E day that his artillery, tank and engineer units had maintained throughout the final phases of the Italian campaign the same magnificent performance for which they were previously cited."

"The colored soldiers are doing a damn good job," Gen. Clark told Jordan in September, 1944. He was referring to the Negro enlisted men of the 370th regiment of the Ninety-second division, who were fighting Germans in the mud and mountains along Italy's west coast.

"Has the Mississippi senator," the correspondent continued, "ever glanced at the casualty figures of the Ninety-second Infantry division? Has he ever bothered to note how many enemy prisoners these colored troops were able to take while in their so-called unimportant position in the Fifth Army line?"

Correspondent Young called attention to the record of the 761st Tank battalion which fought with the Third, Seventh and Ninth armies through France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He pointed out that several officers and men have had two and three tanks shot or blown from under them.

Maj. Gen. Eddy, commanding one of the army corps with which it fought, told Young: "I consider the 761st Tank battalion to have entered combat with such conscious courage and success as to warrant commendation. The speed with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops, and the confident spirit with which they emerged from their recent engagements entitle them surely to consider themselves the veteran 761st."

Maj. Gen. Raymond G. Lehman, commander of the Ninety-third Infantry division fighting on Bougainville island, said of his men:

"They have the same courage, the same fear and fighting spunk as any other soldier. They are quick to learn and eager to perform. They can give and take, and they are about the best disciplined in the army."

Young recalled Lt. James B. McCullin and Sherman White, who took off on July 2, 1943, at the controls of P-40 Warhawks protecting American bombers with white crews in the assault on Sicily—and Lt. Paul G. Mitchell, who flew from a field in Sicily, after the island was invaded, in August of the same year, to dive-bomb enemy troops and installations—and Lt. Sam Bruce, who fought so spectacularly in the air defense of the beachhead at Anzio in January, 1944—and Capt. Erwin B. Lawrence, who flew his fighter plane over Yugoslavia to strafe the nazis.

"These men would be surprised and a little bitter if they ever heard about the senator's statement, but fortunately they will be spared that suffering, because none of them returned from their missions," he said.

Equality Before the Law

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

May I side with Corporal Fred Peters, being, myself, a newly returned serviceman? "God never made a man to whom He did not give human dignity equal to that of any other man." Why should we not give, to all our country, equality before the law, "a fair start in the race for life"? Indeed, is not a people capable of giving to the world a Carver, a Booker T. Washington, a Robeson, an Anderson, a Wheatly, worthy the respect due any race capable of progress?

We base our government upon the "compact" theory of government; that we form a group for purposes of mutual protection; that we delegate, to persons within the group, a minimum of power assuring respect of what we deem to be mutual rights. It is not a question of the privilege of the few against the many or of the many against the few, but rather of the God-given rights of all.

Senator Eastland is to be forgiven for so great a thoughtlessness, capable—by virtue of one in a high position of trust—of so great a damage to progress.

SGT. HERRICK L. WILSON.
Langley Field.

More About Eastland

Sir: I am a sergeant in the U. S. Army, being redeployed in the staging area for an unknown destination. I am a great admirer of the "Stars and Stripes"—who thought that Nazism only existed in Europe. But, after reading the "Stars and Stripes," dated July 2, 1945, and regarding the remarks of Senator James O. Eastland, of Mississippi, I regret to say that Nazism is also practiced daily in a small colony called Mississippi. It is very difficult to understand why so many lives were lost to preserve Democracy and crush Nazism, when Negro smearing is going on in our own beloved country. If this is the only reward for those dead heroes, then I prefer death.

A Bewildered Sergeant.

GIs In Southern France Write Guide Their Thanks For Reply To Eastland

(See editorial, page 8)

NORFOLK—The appreciation of GIs for the Guide's widely quoted refutation of Senator Eastland's unproved and far fetched allegations against Negro servicemen was warmly expressed in a letter received Monday from "Somewhere in Southern France" and signed by seven soldiers "and many others."

The letter follows in full:

Editor, Journal and Guide: I am writing in regard to your response to the statement made by Senator James D. Eastland (D., Miss.) as to the "utter and abysmal failure of the Negro soldier in this war." I read the Senator's statement, and then yours, in our overseas newspaper (Stars and Stripes). I am a native of Suffolk and, prior to my induction in the service, I was a resident of Newark, New Jersey. In both places I was a constant reader of the Guide.

I am sure that I can express the sincere appreciation of the many colored troops all over the world, as well as myself, to the papers, our friends, and relatives back home for their protests in response to Senator Eastland's statement.

The Negro soldier, in every branch of the armed services, has tried to the best of his ability to do his part in order to help get this war over, so that he too can return to his family and loved ones. I am in a service unit, which is composed of fine officers, and a fine bunch of men. We all know the meaning of cooperation and unity. By this, we get along as one happy family, and have been praised more times than one for our "magnificent performance of duties."

Such praise as this makes a soldier more eager to jump in and give everything he's got toward winning the war. Praises from commanding generals and officers of many colored service troops caused many of the men to volunteer for combat fighting in the Battle of Europe. These men were highly praised by the white troops with whom they fought side by side.

When a man has thought he was doing a good job, and then reads a statement like Sen. Eastland's, he feels as if everything he has done was in vain. I am sure that Sen. Eastland's statement has affected the morale of every colored soldier all over the world. Right away he starts thinking: "If we have been a failure, why don't they let us all go home?"

There are many colored soldiers that have thought of making the Army a career after the war. Does Sen. Eastland realize how his statement makes these men feel? It is obvious that every soldier in the armed forces has the best equipment and gets the best of training. The 92nd Division didn't have special equipment or special training therefore there isn't any reason why they should be expected to outshine any other division.

In order to acclaim victory, every true American has to contribute some effort. So we hope that any statement that Sen. Eastland has to make in the future, he will refrain from making such a statement public.

Again I want to express my sincere appreciation to you and the folks back home for your cooperation in behalf of all of us boys who are trying to do, to the best of our ability, our part to help win this war so all of the soldiers can come home again. We are praying along with you for complete victory in the near future.

(Signed)
S. Pvt. Elson L. Freeman
Pfc. John Bolden Jr.
Pvt. Alvin N. Kearney
Pfc. John Nevins
Cpl. Louie B. Morris
Pfc. Louis Woodard
Pvt. William Webb
And many others. . . .

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
JUL 19 1945

In Reply to Eastland

Dear Editor:

Sen. Eastland says the Negro soldier is an "utter and abysmal failure." As an officer who has been with them for eight months, I would like to tell the Senator and the rest of America how these "failures" look to us. The Negro does not make as good a soldier as the white man, but the difference is not great and must always be qualified by the phrase "in general." The 92d Division and other colored Doughboys proved that the Negroes in general lacked sufficient education to be good front-line troops. Several tank and TD units performed splendidly, proving that many Negroes were excellent for that work. They were a success and, though far from perfect, I defy anyone to say that any unit which lived and fought up through the misery of Italy was a failure. They accomplished a lot. I think we still judge failure and success by what we constructively accomplish.

I know more about Service troops. I've seen my own men throw up buildings, build POW stockades and wire camps. They sometimes made mistakes (who doesn't) but they did the jobs. Other colored Engineers have done a great part of the ETO construction. Take the QM Truck outfits. They kept whole armies going with the Red Ball Express. They wrecked trucks, but you can't drive trucks as they had to and not have wrecks. Better men could have had less, but there were none to spare and our "failures" *did the job.*

We know that we don't have the best troops in the world, but to stand up in the Halls of Congress and condemn them as "failures" makes our job of improving them no easier. All of us, including the men themselves, welcome direct and constructive criticism, but the Senator's approach does a lot of harm. Before he condemns others as failures I suggest that he take stock of his own constructive accomplishments and see how his actions have furthered the winning of this war.

If I may conclude with a personal opinion, I am damn proud of any soldier who continues to work and fight as ours do in spite of such criticism. That goes for the Nisei and all the other butts of prejudice. They will go on because they know most Americans still believe in that mixture of decency, Christianity and democracy that makes us, in spite of the Eastlands, a community we can be proud to live in.

JOHN FAYERWEATHER, 2d Lt.
APO, N. Y.

* * *

I am a Negro, and it is an appalling find to have discovered at such a late date, almost two months after the cessation of hostilities in Europe, that the Negro GI failed in his efforts, work, blood, sweat and tears, and even death, to contribute anything to its successful culmination.

Just think, after having served 30 months overseas in a port battalion and a Quartermaster unit, my labor is termed as a recognized failure. Poor nonessential me. Why do I have to stay overseas so long as "an utter and abysmal failure?" Poor Negro GI, who trudged and crawled through the foxholes of Africa, who transported ammunition and supplies through the hellhole of Casserine Pass, who lost an arm or leg flying over Lampedusa, who bled at Cassino, and died at Anzio, has through some misfortune turned up a complete flop.

In honor of these Negroes, who have perished in the clefts of the rock, who have fallen beneath the grasses of the mountainside, who have floated as corpses upon the waters, we shall with a revitalized faith remain unshaken in our progressive stride. We shall exert more effort with a renewed spirit and determined continuity in a struggle to remove this cancer-like statement and combat the danger of its contagion.

France CPL. E. B.

Eastland Still Harps on Rape

Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) is determined that—despite U. S. Army denials and on-the-spot reports giving him the lie—"several thousand" German girls and women were raped in Stuttgart tunnels by French Senegalese troops.

Eastland got up on the Senate floor yesterday to repeat his charge, said he got it from "high and reliable sources" and claimed the Army was concealing the truth. Supporting him were Sens. Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.) Senatorial leader of prewar isolationists, John L. McClellan (D., Ark.), Chapman Revercomb (R., W. Va.,) and Burnet R. Maybank (D., S. C.).

All said they also heard the same story from "high authorities" or "responsible sources." One of McClellan's sources was, he said, a general, whom he didn't identify.

Against Eastland's unsupported story, the French Press Agency reports sworn statements by seven U. S. liaison officers attached to the French forces that they had never heard of the supposed mass rape in Stuttgart or of any atrocities committed by the units to which they were attached.

A week ago, PM's Victor Bernstein went to Stuttgart to investigate Eastland's charges. He found:

¶ That no one there, not even the German chief of police, had ever heard of the mass rape described by Eastland.

¶ That there were only a few Senegalese troops in Stuttgart, the majority of French colonial forces there being Moroccan or Tunisian Arabs.

N.Y. Senators Refute Eastland's Slurs, Insert Evidence in Congressional Record

Baltimore, Md.

Afro American

WASHINGTON

The slurs of Sen. James O. Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, upon the performance and conduct of colored troops were proved false on July 6 by Sens. Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead, both Democrats of New York.

Terming Eastland's attack as unwarranted, the two Senators offered abundant proof that colored soldiers, and sailors as well, had served gallantly and courageously in the armed forces.

Their chief evidence was the statements of commanding officers of various theatres commending colored troops for their heroism in action, official citations, individual awards and decorations, and War Department press releases.

White GI's Appraisal Used

Also offered were articles concerning colored soldiers which appeared in service papers or were written by white service men and published in reputable magazines in this country.

Senator Eastland, whose attack occurred during the filibuster in the Senate against an appropriation for the FEPC, did not attempt to reply to Senators Wagner and Mead, nor did any of his colleagues.

Senator Wagner first pointed out that Eastland had offered no evidence to support his charge that colored soldiers were no good and had "no initiative, no sense of responsibility, very low intelligence, and were a failure."

Eastland's Lack of Proof

Eastland had said that "high-ranking generals," whom he did not name, had given him such reports while he was touring American Army posts in Europe.

"Now, if there were any factual basis to these charges, certainly the War Department and the commanding generals of the Army would know about it," said Senator Wagner. "What are the facts?" he asked.

7-21-45

Senator Wagner then read the statement made by Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson at a press conference on July 5 when he was asked whether Eastland's charges represented the Army's views of the performance of colored troops.

War Department's Stand

In that statement, Mr. Patterson said, "The War Department is proud of its troops and that includes colored as well as all other groups."

Continuing, the Senator next quoted from the text of an interview with General Eisenhower at Supreme Headquarters in Paris on June 15.

7-21-45

At that time, General Eisenhower said that the 2,600 colored service troops who volunteered for front-line duty as infantrymen did excellent work and that colored service troops performed equally as well as other service units.

99th and 332nd Praised by Eaker

Citing the reliability of Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, acting commanding general of the Army Air Forces, Senator Wagner read an excerpt from an address General Eaker made to the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Ky.

In that address General Eaker said that the 99th Fighter Squadron and later the 332nd Fighter Group carried out the missions assigned to them and "have won a place on the great Air Forces team.

Terming it "unfortunate" that Eastland did not consult the War Department or General Eisenhower or Lieutenant General Eaker before attempting to indict 13,000,000 American citizens," Senator Wagner defended the 92nd Division, which was made a special target of the attack.

Group, Individual Valor of 92nd

"By Apr. 9, 1945," Wagner said, "members of the 92nd Division had received 65 Silver Stars, 1377 Purple Hearts, 4 Air Medals, and 7 Legions of Merit. There were many cases of individual bravery in the regiment."

He then cited Capt. Charles Gandy, posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry, and Lt. Theodore O. Smith of Washington, killed in action in Italy on Feb. 11, one month after he had been awarded the Silver Star.

The award to Lieutenant Smith, the Senator explained, was for his bravery in leading his 14-man patrol on a mission which netted two prisoners and four enemy dead and enabled the Americans to capture a strategically important point.

Charges Against French Hit

Moreover, he added, Eastland, in an effort to prove that all colored people are inferior, charged that Senegalese soldiers from Africa criminally assaulted several thousand German girls in the subway of the city of Stuttgart.

Not only did an inquiry made at the French Embassy and checked with the French High Command bring a categorical denial of this story, he said, but a dispatch from Supreme Headquarters, dated July 6, corroborates the denial.

Repeating that "the Senator from Mississippi charged that these girls were rounded up and placed in the subway in Stuttgart.," he concluded, "I have checked with the War Department and have been informed that Stuttgart has no subway."

Continuing the refutation, Senator Mead said he had talked with commanding officers in the United Kingdom, in North Africa, the Middle East, in the China-Burma-India theatre, in Australia and in the Islands of the Pacific.

Naval officers at Pearl Harbor, he declared, had told him of the heroic deeds of colored seamen when the Japanese made their surprise attack on this Naval base.

Explaining that he could not allow Eastland's attack to pass without saying something in defense—"if defense is necessary, and I thing it is not"—he stated:

Record in All Wars Cited

"I do so primarily because they deserve it, because the actions of the colored troops, all the way from Lexington down to the Battle of Okinawa in the Pacific, warrant the highest commendation of those in our military and civil life."

He then read from a War Department press release announcing the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to 1st Lt. Vernon J. Baker of Cheyenne, Wyo., who killed or wounded nine Germans while knocking out three enemy machine gun nests and an observation post in Italy.

Correction of Ills Recommended

Pointing out that colored troops are in the Pacific islands "waiting to strike the death blow at our common enemy," he termed Eastland's action "untimely and inappropriate, and in my judgment very distasteful."

Then reading briefly from statements by Generals Eisenhower, Patton, Simpson, and Clark, he asked that the statements, "commending colored troops for their heroism in action" be placed in the Congressional Record.

He then said further that instead of finding fault, we should study the problems so closely associated with the recruitment of a military organization and make every effort to correct them.

Biggest Liar in Congress

Afro-American

We actually feel a bit sorry for Mississippi's Senator James Eastland, whose recent slander upon the integrity, courage and morality of colored American and French Senegalese troops has accorded him the dubious honor of being dubbed the biggest liar in Congress.

7-21-45

We are sorry because Senator Eastland's education has been so sorely neglected that he doesn't know that he doesn't know the facts with which just about everybody else is familiar.

Baltimore, Md.

Generals Eisenhower, MacArthur, Patton, Simpson, Clark and Devers and Under Secretary of War Robert Patterson have all given the lie to Eastland's charge that colored American troops won't work or fight and that they have been an abysmal failure. Eastland's charges have been disproved one by one and he has yet to identify the "high-ranking U.S. officers" who allegedly gave him such a bum steer.

On top of this, his charges that Senegalese troops of the French Army had raped from 2,000 to 5,000 German women in the subway at Stuttgart, have been completely debunked by the facts.

First of all, there have never been more than a handful of Senegalese troops in Stuttgart at any time and there is no subway there. Even if Eastland was referring to underground shelters as a "subway," there has been no evidence produced to show that these were scenes of wholesome attacks—not even from the Germans themselves.

Most of the French troops in Stuttgart were white and a number were Arabs from French North Africa. Unquestionably there were a number of rape cases during the first few weeks of the French occupation but anyone knowing the intense hatred of the French for the Germans can understand this.

Jean de la Roche, French advisor on colonial affairs in New York City told the AFRO that "Eastland is not only a liar but is using Nazi tactics and doing the Germans a great favor." La Roche continued that he is positive that the alleged subway raping never took place. "This is the same sort of thing they said after the last war," he added.

It is regrettable that Senator Eastland's charges received such wide publicity but the avalanche of brickbats which they drew, however, has had its counter effect. He now knows that the next time he shoots off his mouth, he'd better have the facts.

Let's Shut Eastland Up

Afro-American

It seems a bit strange to see so many Congressmen rushing to the defense of the 16 white Army officers and enlisted men whom Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.) sought to smear as Communists and such a comparatively small number sprinting to the defense of colored soldiers whom Senator James O. Eastland (D., Miss.) is still seeking to label as rapists or cowards.

Baltimore, Md.

Not only were War Department officials quick to deny the charges, but Rankin's colleagues, among them Rep. Adolph Sabath (D., Ill.) and Rep. Ewing Thomason (D., Tex.), the latter chairman of the subcommittee, were equally alert and vigorous in denouncing the Rankin smear which Sabath said smacked of Hitler and Goebbels.

7-28-45

Meanwhile, Senator Eastland, in spite of Army denials and on-the-spot reports, continues to spread the lie that several thousand German girls were raped in the tunnels of Stuttgart by French Senegalese troops.

Except for Senators Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead, both Democrats of New York, there were few voices raised in Congress in answer to Eastland's slander that colored troops would neither work nor fight.

Had more Congressmen gone on record in answering Eastland's slurs, the matter would have been quickly silenced. Last week we said that Eastland was the biggest liar in Congress. Nothing has happened since to change our views.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Citizen-Times (Sunday)
Cir. S. 35,627

JUL 15 1945

THE RECORD REBUKES

When Senator Eastland of Mississippi delivered his scurrilous indictment of the Negro serviceman for "utter and abysmal failure" in war, it seemed hardly necessary to register more than perfunctory reproof of this obvious appeal to racial prejudice.

However, the charge has not been taken lightly in some interested but dispassionate quarters. In all probability, too, it is being seized upon by those who would serve Mr. Eastland's ends or who would employ it for their own devious purpose. After all, such studied and deliberate utterances gain currency and appear to borrow authenticity. In this instance, every word is a matter of record—in the Congressional Record which preserves the frenzied filibuster of Senator Eastland.

More than one newspaper in the deep South has come forward to rebuke the Mississippian in vigorous terms. The Macon (Georgia) News in an extended editorial calls it "a disgraceful performance that ought to shock, sadden and make ashamed every Southerner who loves his country and believes in fair treatment for all its citizens."

But it is the War Department itself which directly or implicitly refutes the charges which Senator Eastland essays to document. "The War Department is proud of its troops, and that includes Negroes as well as all other groups," said Undersecretary Patterson in a subsequent press conference. He did not know of any of the "high-ranking generals" to whom Mr. Eastland ascribed military contempt of the Negro soldier.

On the contrary, Mr. Patterson referred instead to Generals Eisenhower, MacArthur, Eaker and others who have praised the conduct of Negro troops. To offer the lie to Senator Eastland on yet another point, Supreme Allied Headquarters in Paris pointed out a few days ago that there were no Negro combat troops in Normandy, where, the speaker divulged, it was necessary "to disarm a good many Negro soldiers" because they broke into farmhouses and molested French women.

Doubtless there have been instances where the Negro soldier, like the white soldier, did not measure up to the demands of duty. Doubtless whole units have been involved—in both cases. Senator Eastland criticized the all-Negro 92nd Division in the Italian campaign, which was an arduous operation for all our troops. Beside this, however, can be set the record of all-Negro Air Forces fighter squadrons in the Mediterranean whose enterprise and daring have been remarked upon to this writer by Southern white pilots.

Yes, the blatant charge needs refutation, and refutation in the record. There can be documentation of a somewhat more dependable nature. Brooks Field at Fort Knox is named for the first armored force soldier—a Negro—killed in this war. The Distinguished Service Medal has gone to Negro Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis. Among Navy heroes on the battered aircraft carrier Bunker Hill were two Negro seamen.

No thoughtful person will countenance a blanket indictment of any race. No patriot will accept Senator Eastland's inference that 870,000 Negro men of the Army and Navy have "disgraced the flag of their country." No Southerner can look upon this miserable screed and fail to resent its injustice, its indecency, and its fearful potentialities for evil-doing.

Northern senators continue defense of Negro soldier

Los Angeles Tribune - Calif.

7-13-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—To further clear Negro servicemen of the "unwarranted attack" made upon them by Mississippi senators during the Fair Employment Practices Commission filibuster, Sen. Robert Wagner, of New York, took the floor July 12, defending the record of Negroes in the Army. Previously, his colleague, Senator Mead, of New York, had read at length from official records, citing heroic acts performed by Negroes in the Navy.

Sen. Wagner quoted from Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson who denied that any high-ranking generals had charged Negro soldiers with failure. He also read General Eisenhower's statement, "I have seen Negro soldiers in this war (as soldiers, not at Negro soldiers) and I have many reports on their work where they have rendered very valuable contributions and some of them with the greatest enthusiasm." He quoted Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker's opinion of Negro flyers, "By their efforts and performance they have won a place on the great Air Forces team. They came on the hard way".

Referring to the 92nd Division, Senator Wagner refuted Senator Eastland's charges against the all-Negro unit during the FEPC controversy. He specifically mentioned the heroism of Capt. Charles Gandy, Washington, D. C. who was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry, and of Lt. Theodore O. Smith, also of Washington, who won a posthumous Silver Star for bravery.

Concluding, Sen. Wagner asked that several official stories on the heroism of Negro soldiers be printed in the Congressional Record.

Later in the day, Sen. Mead commented, in reference to Sen. Eastland, "I know of perhaps nothing more destructive than to have a United States Senator rise on the floor of the Senate and speak in highly derogatory terms of the men who are baring their breasts and making the supreme sacrifice in the war . . ."

Sen. Mead also asked for inclusion in the Record of a press release on the heroism of First Lt. Vernon J. Baker, 25, Cheyenne, Wyo., "the second living Negro of three who have been decorated with the DSC in this war". He further asked to have included the list of 31 soldiers serving in all-Negro units who were awarded Congressional Medals of Honor between 1862-1926.

"It is unfortunate that the Senator from Mississippi did not consult the War department or General Eisenhower or Lieutenant General Eaker before attempting to indict 13,000,000 American citizens," the senator from New York said.

7-23-45

Telling of the 65 Silver Stars, 1,277 Purple Hearts, 1 Air Medals, and 7 Legion of Merit possessions would regard such a country exactly as all decent people regarded Hitler Germany. Far from defending it, he would do his utmost to destroy it. Let every American remember this whenever he hears the hate-mongers vomiting forth their poison.

8-12-45

Fortunately for us, the Eastlands are not America. Listen to General Eisenhower: "I have seen Negro soldiers in this war. They have done their job and they have done the job given them." Listen to General Patton: "The Negro soldiers are damn good soldiers, of which the nation could be mighty proud." Listen to Gen. Mark Clark: "They were glorious." Listen to Gen. W. H. Simpson: "Colored soldiers were magnificent in the historic crossing of the Rhine and the devastation of the Ruhr valley."

Either the generals are wrong and Eastland is right, or Eastland is wrong and the generals right. Obviously both cannot be right. Who then, is lying? Is it these four generals of proven integrity and love of country, or is it the ranting poll taxer who owes his office to the fact that the big majority of even the white adults of his state are denied the franchise.

When will we American people show enough social and political intelligence to make it unprofitable for the Eastlands and other spewers of hate to keep us on their sucker list?

—THE FOUR FREEDOMS CLUB.
Ethel Caulder, Secretary.

Senator Eastland's Slander

8-2-45 Afro Journal-Herald-Dayton

Editor of The Journal-Herald:

This much must be said for Senator Eastland in his slandering of Negro troops with falsehoods: he has a certain kind of consistency in that he is trying to create in life the same kind of Negro soldier that he conjured up in his mind and described on the floor of the senate.

It is inconceivable that any soldier, black, white, red or green, would defend in any way whatever a country whose attitude toward him was the attitude Senator Eastland is trying to create in the United States toward the Negro. On the contrary, any man in his

56n-1945

Sen. Eastland

In Reply to Eastland

Dear Editor: P.M.-N.Y.

Sen. Eastland says the Negro soldier is an "utter and abysmal failure." As an officer who has been with them for eight months, I would like to tell the Senator and the rest of America how these "failures" look to us. The Negro does not make as good a soldier as the white man, but the difference is not great and must always be qualified by the phrase "in general." The 92d Division and other colored Doughboys proved that the Negroes in general lacked sufficient education to be good front-line troops. Several tank and TD units performed splendidly, proving that many Negroes were excellent for that work. They were a success and, though far from perfect, I defy anyone to say that any unit which lived and fought up through the misery of Italy was a failure. They accomplished a lot. I think we still judge failure and success by what we constructively accomplish. 7-19-45

I know more about Service troops. I've seen my own men throw up buildings, build POW stockades and wire camps. They sometimes made mistakes (who doesn't) but they did the jobs. Other colored Engineers have done a great part of the ETO construction. Take the QM Truck outfits. They kept whole armies going with the Red Ball Express. They wrecked trucks, but you can't drive trucks as they had to and not have wrecks. Better men could have had less, but there were none to spare and our "failures" *did the job.*

We know that we don't have the best troops in the world, but to stand up in the Halls of Congress and condemn them as "failures" makes our job of improving them no easier. All of us, including the men themselves, welcome direct and constructive criticism, but the Senator's approach does a lot of harm. Before he condemns others as failures I suggest that he take stock of his own constructive accomplishments and see how his actions have furthered the winning of this war.

If I may conclude with a personal opinion, I am damn proud of any soldier who continues to work and fight as ours do in spite of such criticism. That goes for the Nisei and all the other butts of prejudice. They will go on because they know most Americans still believe in that mixture of decency, Christianity and democracy that makes us, in spite of the Eastlands, a community we can be proud to live in.

JOHN FAYETTEWEATHER, 2d Lt.
APO, N. Y. 7-19-45

I am a Negro, and it is an appalling find to have discovered at such a late date, almost two months after the cessation of hostilities in Europe, that the Negro GI failed in his efforts, work, blood, sweat and tears, and even death, to contribute anything to its successful culmination. N.Y.N.Y.

Just think, after having served 30 months overseas in a port battalion and a Quartermaster unit, my labor is termed as a recognized failure. Poor nonessential me. Why do I have to stay overseas so long as "an utter and abysmal failure?" Poor Negro GI, who trudged and crawled through the foxholes of Africa, who transported ammunition and supplies through the hell-hole of Casserine Pass, who lost an arm or leg flying over Lampedusa, who bled at Cassino, and died at Anzio, has through some misfortune turned up a complete flop.

In honor of these Negroes, who have perished in the clefts of the rock, who have fallen beneath the grasses of the mountainside, who have floated as corpses upon the waters, we shall with a revitalized faith remain unshaken in our progressive stride. We shall exert more effort with a renewed spirit and determined continuity in a struggle to remove this cancer-like statement and combat the danger of its contagion.

France CPL. E. B.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Atlanta Daily World

SOLDIERS PROTEST EASTLAND ATTACK

To the World Editor: 7-25-45

I am a native of Atlanta and I was a regular WORLD reader when I was home. I receive the paper over here now. In our ETO paper, Senator Eastland (D. Miss.) made a remark about the Negro soldier. Here is a letter that I wrote expressing our feeling toward him:

I am a soldier who never likes to complain about conditions but after reading what Senator Eastland has to say about the Negro soldier, I cannot help from expressing myself. Atlanta, Ga.

I am a married man and the father of a lovely daughter whom I have only seen once when she was five days old. I did not come over here or into the Army of my own free will, but since that is my fate I am making the best of it. I have seen quite a bit of action. I have seen comrades shed their blood. I have seen some lose their lives and those remaining to complete their missions successfully. Now, if this isn't work and fight I would appreciate the Senator's definition of WORK and FIGHT.

"They are as abysmal failure", says the Senator. What about the famed 92nd and 93rd Infantry Divisions? What about the 99th Fighter Squadron and many other Negro units together with individuals in all branches of the service who have done and are still doing all that is possible to help bring about a much longed for victory and peace for all? It seems that we will never be included in that group of AMERICANS, as the word is defined, or benefit by its policies of freedom for all. The war is only two-thirds over and such remarks certainly do not boslter one's morale to continue. 7-25-45

We are sincerely grateful for Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson's effort to defend us and trust that more breadminded Americans can and will do something to make this fight for freedom a lasting success. The defeated Germans have shown us more respect and have given us more raise than our U. S. Senator. What does than our U. S. Senator. What does this make to you?

SGT. M. H. JONES
CPL. H. L. GLOVER
and 50 others.

France.

(EDITOR'S Note —We can understand how unwarranted statements such as those expressed by Senator Eastland would not help the morale of Negro soldiers. However, it is hoped that the Negro soldier will do all within his power to bring the war to a successful conclusion. To do otherwise would play into the hands of men such as Eastland whose purpose is to try to minimize our contribution to the war effort. Boys, continue to do your best! When the war is finished over there, come home and help us with the intelligent use of the ballot to get out of office men of the Bilbo, Eastland stripe.)

Editorial Reprints

Southern Editors Come To Defense Of Race

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. 7-28-45

Praise the Negro Soldiers

From The Tampa (Fla.) Tribune

Under-Secretary of War Patterson has performed a distinct service for the Nation in correcting the record on Negro servicemen, which was so cruelly distorted by Senator Eastland of Mississippi during his recent filibustering speech against the Fair Employment Practices Committee. The Senator's cowardly use of sweeping assertions in attacking the courage and Americanism of an entire race called for a forthright answer. Certainly his conclusions are not supported by thinking white citizens of the South.

The average Southerner is fair-minded and tolerant. He believes in giving credit where credit is due. Senator Eastland's charges that the Negro's war record is a bad one, that he has been a cowardly soldier and has "disgraced his flag" do not appeal to Southern people as either accurate or just. Moreover, they act to stir up racial intolerance at the time when the efforts of responsible individuals are in the opposite direction.

. . . The record clearly refutes Senator Eastland and his mysterious informants. We'll accept the opinion of a great American like General Eisenhower any time in preference to the generalizations of a prejudiced Mississippi demagogue.

* * *

The Times-Dispatch

(Richmond, Va.) 7-28-45

. . . It is humiliating to the South for two Mississippi demagogues to misrepresent the Southern people with their unfair diatribes.

* * *

The Macon (Ga.) News

We conceive it to be the duty of every Southenrer to repudiate every appeal to racial prejudice. The white people of the South cannot live on terms of enmity and hostility with a racial minority constituting one-third of the population. Persons who fan the flames of racial hatred are enemies of the people and their free institutions.

This speech of Senator Eastland's is one of the basest appeals to such prejudice and hatred we have ever read. We hope that the entire South will repudiate it, and that the Senator's own State, at the first opportunity, will return him to the obscurity from which he came.

* * *

Courier-Journal

(Louisville, Ky.)

. . . The Senator himself is branded as a dangerous enemy of national unity in his cowardly use of sweeping assertions designed only to discredit a loyal American minority.

* * *

The Item

(New Orleans, La.)

"Truly there is no worse influence in high life than Senator Bilbo. He is a disgrace to Juniper Grove, where he was born; to Mississippi, which he represents; and to the Nation, of which, unfortunately, he is a citizen."

Mr. Eastland should take counsel with himself, unless he is courting a national reputation which reflects itself in such terms as those. Such repute is too high a price for a few votes that could be won by more respectable means than coon-shouting, on infirm and silly canards. Unless the junior Senator takes himself in hand betimes, he is likely to fall a hopeless victim to the ancient aphorism, "Evil Associations Corrupt Good Manners."

GI AFRO Readers Reply to Sen. Eastland's Tirade

Afro-American

Overseas—We have written Sen. Eastland (D., Miss.) that his statement about all colored troops being failures could only come from an ignorant Southern senator.

Baltimore, Md.

No human with a cultural background and intelligence would make such a statement at a time when the soil of Europe is still wet with the blood of all races. If the heart of the people of the worlds was as dark as Sen. Eastland's, then men would have died in vain.

7-28-45

Didn't Fail at Saar

Ask the white soldiers of the 90th Division if we were a failure when our smoke covered their operations for 16 days from the enemy on the Saar River in the heart of the Siegried Line.

Ask the boys of the 5th Infantry Division if we were a failure when our camouflage smoke prevented the enemy from breaking up the crossing of the Moselle River in their drive on Metz.

Ask the Engineer Groups with whom we worked in the building and protecting of vital bridges from the Mayenne River in France to the Main River in Germany.

Team Coordination Won

Victory has been won here in Europe but that perfect coordination of the best team in the world made this possible. How did the Armoured Divisions get much needed fuel to continue their drive in tough spots? Who brought food up to the front to feed the boys in the fox holes? How was the Infantry able to keep up with the fast moving armour? It was the work of a team in which colored soldiers are a large percentage. Our boys of the Port Battalions and the Quartermaster Corps kept them rolling all of the way from the beaches to the front line.

Battle of Bulge

Has the Senator ever heard of the 999th Field Artillery? Did the high ranking Generals give him a full account of the Battle of the Bulge? Does he know colored troops landed in France on D-Day and fought and died like other Americans? Does he know about the 92nd Division that fought in Italy or the 93rd now in the Pacific Theater?

The Senator's case is hopeless. We have met his kind many times here in Europe. They were Americans too, but we have the courage to fight them as we have fought Nazism here. We shall forever fight racial discrimination and racial hate in Sen. Eastland's State of Mississippi and the South.

A Corporal and Members of the U.S. Army.

EASTLAND HAD NO FACTS

Overseas—Sen. Eastland does not know the facts or else he would have given credit where credit is due—to the gallant colored soldiers who have done more than their part in this war.

PFC. WARREN H. COLN

EASTLAND UNGRATEFUL

In France — I was shocked at Eastland's statement. If we were such failures, why didn't the unnamed general who said we were, get some white Mississippians to come over here and fight the Nazis?

We have sweated and helped make victory in Europe possible and we don't appreciate any ungrateful attacks.

PFC. JAMES G. JOHNSON,
formerly of Baltimore

GET RID OF MENACE

Overseas—It will be disastrous if we come home and find the same prejudiced, inhuman standards of living imposed upon us. Do something before it is too late. Get rid of Bilbo, Eastland et al and their inhuman ideas. We have exterminated the Nazi menace over here, it is up to you at home to exterminate it there.

PVT. GEORGE KITTRELL

URGES EASTLAND APOLOGY

In the Pacific—I do not hesitate to tell you that we were all pretty much upset and hurt by Sen. Eastland's infamous remarks.

I don't know whether the Honorable (?) Senator Eastland has ever been a soldier in combat or not. I assume that he has been a civilian all of his life and doesn't know what it means to see mangled bodies, to be the target of rifle and machine-gun fire, to be bombed, to be strafed, and to be exposed to all the other horrible things which are inevitable in war.

7-28-45

His statement that the colored soldier is a failure has prompted me, in behalf of my company whose location is still secret, to lodge a formal protest. I request that you, in conjunction with your professional associates, conduct a campaign for a public retraction of Eastland's statements.

I write this letter with a lump in my throat. We had our baptism of fire and I have seen the results of what war really means with my own eyes. I have had numerous friends, and some relatives already lost in this struggle.

"Thoroughly Disgusted"

Thus far, I personally have been very fortunate, for which I thank God. There are so many boys that I knew and grew up with whom I shall never see again. I cannot feel any way but hurt and thoroughly disgusted when I find that there are people like Senator Eastland in authoritive positions tearing down all that we have fought to accomplish for nearly four years of war.

I have been in the army two and a half years and they have been anything but the happiest days of my life. I was separated from my family.

I have been pushed around so that at times I wanted to quit forever. If I don't see some results of all this suffering which I and thousands like myself are undergoing, I am going to be very interested in finding out why.

T/4 JAMES H. WATSON

A WASTE OF TIME

In Germany—Before the invasion, our company, the 3198th Qm., worked 16 to 18 hours a day preparing food for the troops who were to come over on D-Day. After victory, we worked the same number of hours supplying food for four armies.

Now I pick up a paper and read the Eastland insult. It makes me and a lot of other fellows feel it all was a waste of time.

CPL. ALBERT TILLERY

573RD LICK JAPS

Overseas—I am a member of the 573rd QM Railhead Co., that went through it all in the war against the Nazis. We thank God for victory over here but our job is not yet complete. Even those of us who get discharges will carry on at home until Japan is defeated.

Cpl. Taylor

CPL. RUDOLPH TAYLOR

DO WE FIGHT FOR THIS?

San Diego, Calif.—During a recent liberty, four of us went to the Mission Beach. As we started to enter the skating rink, we were stopped by the doorman and told that we could not enter because of our color.

7-28-45

We tried to get a Yellow cab to take us back to our base but the driver refused to take us. I looked at my sailor suit and wondered what are we fighting for. There may be victory over there but there's none for us over here.

SEAMAN H. F. W.,
Naval Repair Base

EASTLAND "RIDICULOUS"

W. Chester, Pa.—I wrote Senator Eastland and sent him clippings from the AFRO-AMERICAN showing the important part played by the colored soldier in this fight for worldwide democracy. Some of the clippings also showed the strong fight that is being waged throughout the country for FEPC.

I feel that your newspaper is doing a wonderful job in exposing and bringing to the public information on the types of men who are sent to Congress to make laws for this so-called democracy. This is the type of work that needs to be done by the colored press, and just how effective the colored press has been is revealed in the recent attempt of the colored voter to make himself felt as an integral part of the American scheme of things, by the use of his ballot in trying to send into public office the types of men who will champion the cause of democracy and justice.

The clippings which I have sent the Senator will do a lot to show him just how ridiculous he made himself before the world in his attempt to thwart progressive legislation in Congress.

CHARLES. G. THOMPSON
President, NAACP
West Chester, Pa.

WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Gotha, German — I arrived in England, March, 1944. After remaining there until shortly after the invasion, I noticed several cases of marked discrimination.

In one of the larger towns of England, in fact all of the towns where there were Red Cross recreation facilities for American troops, there were always separate clubs for the colored troops.

I am very sure that the money that has been contributed to the Red Cross by colored Americans was never given with the feeling that this money would be used in a segregated manner.

We came on the beach shortly after the invasion with the zeal and feeling that we were fighting for a true democracy. We suffered the hardships of warfare as the American white soldiers. Those hardships were not meted by the Germans by race, color or creed.

French, Belgians Poisoned

After the war, passes were issued to cities of interest in Belgium and France. Rest centers were established, but the minds of a great majority of the French and Gelgians had been poisoned against colored troops; those that were able to get passes were very uncomfortable because of this situation.

We feel that we have given and are still giving as much as any race to this war, but are we being treated the same? What recourse do we have?

I have read in papers that there were USO shows touring this theater of operation, but we have our first show to see. If this is considered a democratic principle, then I have misinterpreted the meaning of democracy.

Same Old Custom

We have hauled ammunition, food and other essential supplies to divisions of the front lines, when the shells were falling and bullets were flying. We fought with them side by side but when we came back to the rear, we met the same American custom of discrimination.

I had the desired occasion to talk with troops that just came on the Continent from America, their job was to guard prisoners. One soldier informed me that there were camps on this particular camp in the States where he had worked, with signs posted over the drinking fountain, "white" and "colored."

The American colored soldier, in the uniform of the United States Army, were not permitted to use the same fountain that the whites, but Germans that were prisoners of war, the Germans who killed the husbands, brothers or sons of American people were permitted to use these fountains.

Now that the war is over in Europe, we sit waiting for the green light for the Pacific, but we do not feel we are fighting for a purpose. What can the purpose be?

W/O C. E. JENKINS

92ND WAS NOT ALONE

New Guinea—Just before the war ended, the 92nd Division in Italy suffered a setback which was played up by the white papers. These same papers forgot that during the tough war against Hitler plenty of white units had to give ground too.

Seaman L. B. Edwards, Henry Epps and J. D. George, U.S. Navy

7-28-45

WHAT A GI WANTS

In France—The world I want after this war is one in which I can forget the mistakes of the past and enlist in a Army of Christian soldiers determined to carry the cross and the light of Salvation into the homes of every individual regardless of color, race or creed. A world that I will know is safe for my children to live in. We know you at home are proud that brave hearts like ours beat strong with the Christian challenge of tomorrow.

We want to meet again with one victory behind us, victory one victory behind us, victory that that will mean a truly democratic world.

T/5 JOHN H. WOODLIN

Stuttgart Rape Stories Part True Writer Says

Louisville Ky.

By PAUL GHALI.

The Chicago Daily News Service.

Courier Journal

With the American Occupation Forces In Stuttgart, Germany, July 23 (Delayed)—The widely publicized disclosures by Senator Eastland (D., Miss.) concerning the mass rape of Stuttgart women during the first days of the French occupation of the city are partly true, but contain certain misrepresentations, according to the best information available at the scene.

(General Jacob L. Devers, former commander of French and American troops in the area, denied in Washington Thursday that there had been any "mass" rape in Stuttgart, but said there were many cases of individual attacks.) 7-28-45

Senegalese Not Involved.

I decided to make a personal fact-finding visit to the city. Parts of the senator's "disclosures" obviously are not true, such as his allegation that the April rapes occurred in the subway of a city which has no subway, and his charges that the rapes were committed by Senegalese troops, when no Senegalese were among the French occupation forces.

I have talked with everyone I could find who was present when the French entered the city, including an American officer with the Fench Military Government, the local Burgomaster, the head of Stuttgart's most important hospital and three of the rape victims. This is their report:

As soon as the French First Army troops entered the town, Algerian, Tunisian and Moroccan troops began looting, pillaging and raping. This lasted four days, until the French General Guillaume ordered 11 "Africans" shot.

Devers' Order Disobeyed.

On April 27 General Devers visited Stuttgart and immediately ordered General Guillaume to evacuate the town. The French general bluntly refused. In fact, the French troops remained here up until two weeks ago.

Estimates of the number of women assaulted vary from 1,000 to 5,000. At any rate, 1,100 cases of rape were reported to police, but City officials say the real figure is nearer to 5,000.

However, the rapes were not as spontaneous as they might appear to a superficial observer. I was informed by one of the victims, a fraulein of 18 years, that a Gestapo agent brought six French African soldiers to her apartment, after plying them with drinks.

Some Germans apparently incited the troops to disorder, recognizing the opportunity to discredit the French.

Germans Philosophical.

German officials whose countrywomen were victims of the rapes have taken a far more philosophical view of the incidents than the American senators or American officers here.

Burgomaster Dr. Arnulf Klett described the bad conduct of the French as "something which the German population could well have expected after the tortures inflicted by the Gestapo on French Patriots."

Even French officers here admit numerous rapes were committed by French troops in Stuttgart, but they raise the question whether these were actually cases of rape, since, they report, the German women seldom opposed their "seducers."

Gen. Devers to Eastland.

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md

General Jacob L. Devers, commander of the Army Ground Forces, who was in command of the Sixth Army when Stuttgart fell late in April, said last week that he personally investigated and found no evidence of mass rape as charged by Mississippi's Senator James O. Eastland.

There were some individual cases of rape, however, he said. Answering Eastland's charge that Senegalese troops were involved in the rape of several thousand women, Gen. Devers added that, to his knowledge, there were only four Senegalese in the entire Stuttgart area. 8-4-45

Eastland has yet to identify the "high ranking" Army authorities who gave him his "information." Gen. Devers is certainly not one of them.

Fomenters of Disunity

Richmond Times Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

It is unfortunate that the legislative body of our great government does not deem it advisable or expedient to discipline any member who delights in making charges based on imagination which tend to disunite our nation at this crucial hour when every American heart, brain and muscle must be strained for the final drive against Japan, our lone but vicious enemy. Va. 8-11-45

Senator Eastland's assertion that Negro soldiers are cowards under combat and rapists comes at a very appropriate time if he is concerned with furthering the interests of the Emperor. It requires no stretch of the imagination to assume that the Senator from Mississippi is held in high esteem in Japan because of his ridiculous utterances. Richmond Va.

The tan soldier in the South Pacific, stripped to the waist, salty sweat dripping from his tired body as he uncomplainingly loads supplies for his country, ponders many questions in his perplexed mind when he reads the diatribes of our so-called national leaders. Likewise, the Negro infantryman in his squalid foxhole, rifle poised, waits for the order to fire, unafraid, but wondering "what am I fighting for?" These questions cannot be answered honestly and sincerely by Bilbos and Eastlands. They must be answered by Americans who believe in this country and all its citizens. 8-11-45

In my humble opinion, there is none more dangerous to our country during these perilous days than the individual who veils himself with the silks of patriotism and then proceeds viciously to foment disunity and foster racial hatred throughout our glorious land. Va.

As an American Negro soldier, I joyfully anticipate the hour of victory on the fighting front, but I pray fervently for the day when God, in His divine wisdom, will strip the outer garments of these "statesmen" and reveal them for what they are. 8-11-45

CPL. JOHN KIRKPATRICK.
Camp Lee.

Richmond Times Dispatch

From Other Columns

Los Angeles Tribune (Calif.)

Eastland Eruption

From the Macon (Ga.) News

Senator Eastland's speech was a gratuitous ~~and slanderous~~ attack on the performance of colored people in this war. The colored soldier, the Senator said, has been 'an utter and abysmal failure' in the war. Colored officers could not be trusted, he declared, and added that colored divisions could not be placed in important positions in battle lines, because colored soldiers 'had no initiative' no sense of responsibility, and very low intelligence.' Also, he said, criminal conduct of colored soldiers all over Europe had 'disgraced the flag of their country.' 8-13-45

The Senator made no exceptions. As Marquis Childs characterized it, it was the most shocking speech ever heard on the floor of the Senate, slandering whole races and armies and damning them down to the last individual.

The Mississippian's authority for these outrageous defamations, he said, were 'high-ranking generals' with whom he talked on a recent junket to Europe; but, significantly enough, he refrained from identifying a single such officer, being content to particularize the helpless victims of his own slanders, but careful not to name as the original authors of them high Army officers who might bring him to book for his recklessness.

We don't believe a single word the Senator said; we don't see how he can believe it himself. It is physically impossible that such a blanket indictment of the 700,000 colored people in the Army and the 170,000 in the Navy can be true. 8-13-45

No doubt there are bad and stupid and untrustworthy colored men in the Army and Navy, as there are also bad and stupid and untrustworthy white men. But that they are all like that, none except a simpleton or a villain would suggest and none except a moron would believe.

Moreover, if the Senator's charges had any basis in fact, or were anything except the creatures of his own poisonous fancy, he would not allow the sources of his information to remain unrevealed. No man, Senator or not, damning in good faith a whole race of his fellow citizens would hide behind the anonymity of unnamed 'high-ranking generals.' In sheer self-defense, he would bring these generals out in the open to speak for themselves. In fact there are no such generals; Under-Secretary of War Patterson told his press conference Friday that he had never heard of any.

Aside from the facts that were available to Senator Eastland in the public records, it is beyond all reason that his sweeping charges can be true. 8-13-45

In March, 1945, Capt. Charles L. Thomas, colored commander of a tank destroyer company in France, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for 'extraordinary heroism in action.'

In an editorial published on April 11, 1945, we noted the fact that Sgt. Jerry B. Davis, a Macon resident, had been decorated with the Legion of Merit, the fourth highest decoration of the American Army for conspicuous bravery in carrying rations to his gun crews in Italy in the battle of the Arno River.

In the same editorial we noted a Reuters dispatch giving an account of one day's activities of our Middle East Air Force over Austria in which American colored pilots in fierce combat had shot down 12 German planes.

We conceive it to be the duty of every Southerner to repudiate every appeal to racial prejudice. The white people of the South cannot live on terms of enmity and hostility with a racial minority constituting one-third of the population. Persons who fan the flames of racial hatred are enemies of the people and their free institutions. 8-13-45

This speech of Senator Eastland's is one of the basest appeals to such prejudice and hatred we have ever read. We hope that the entire South will repudiate it and that the Senator's own State at the first opportunity will return him to the obscurity from which he came.

Even Dixie Can No Longer Stomach Eastland and Bilbo

Macon, Ga., Daily Blasts Senators; Defends Tan Yanks

Baltimore Md. Afro-American

SENATOR BILBO

SENATOR EASTLAND

WASHINGTON.

Even the deep South cannot stomach the tirades of Senator Eastland and Bilbo, it was proved this week when one of the strongest denunciations of the former was published in the Macon (Ga.) News which out PMed the liberal New York PM.

In a three-column editorial titled "Eastland's Eruption," the daily came to the defense of the colored soldier and his contribution to the war. The article said in part:

"Senator Eastland's speech was a gratuitous and slanderous attack on the performance of colored people in this war. The colored soldier, the Senator said, has been 'an utter and abysmal failure' in the war. Colored officers could 'not be trusted,' he declared, and added that colored divisions could not be placed in important positions in battle lines, because colored soldiers 'had no initiative, no sense of responsibility, and very low intelligence.' Also, he said, criminal conduct of colored soldiers all over Europe had 'disgraced the flag of their country.

Made No Exceptions

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"The Mississippian's authority for these outrageous defamations, he said, were 'high-ranking generals' with whom he talked on a recent junket to Europe; but, significantly enough, he refrained from identifying a single such officer, being content to particularize the helpless victims of his own slanders, but careful not to name as the original authors of them high Army officers who might bring him to book for his recklessness.

Don't Believe Senator

"We don't believe a single word the Senator said; we don't see how he can believe it himself. It is physically impossible that such a blanket indictment of the 700,000 colored people in the Army and the 170,000 in the Navy can be true.

"No doubt there are bad and stupid and untrustworthy colored men in the Army and Navy, as there are also bad and stupid and untrustworthy white men. But that they are all like that, none except a simpleton or a villain would suggest and none except a moron would believe.

8-4-45

"Moreover, if the Senator's charges had any basis in fact, or were anything except the creatures of his own poisonous fancy, he would not allow the sources of his information to remain unrevealed. No man, Senator or not, damning in good faith a whole race of his fellow citizens would hide behind the anonymity of unnamed 'high-ranking generals.' In sheer self-defense, he would bring these generals out in the open to speak for themselves. In fact there are no such generals; Under-Secretary of War Patterson told his press conference Friday that he had never heard of any.

Beyond All Reason

"Aside from the facts that were available to Senator Eastland in the public records, it is beyond all reason that his sweeping charges can be true.

"Thus this year Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, one of the colored officers of whom Senator Eastland speaks with unmeasured contempt, was decorated with the Distinguished Service Medal for outstanding work in the field of soldier morale and troop discipline which the citation says 'has been of material assistance to the War Department and responsible commanders in the field.'

Tank Commander Cited

"In March, 1945, Capt. Charles L. Thomas, colored commander of a tank destroyer company in France, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for 'extraordinary heroism in action.'

"In an editorial published on April 11, 1945, we noted the fact that Sgt. Jerry B. Davis, a Macon resident, had been decorated with the Legion of Merit, the fourth highest decoration of the American Army for conspicuous bravery in carrying rations to his gun crews in Italy in the Battle of the Arno River."

In the same editorial we noted a Reuters dispatch giving an account of one day's activities of our Middle East Air Force over Austria in which American colored pilots in fierce combat had shot down 12 German planes.

Made Good in Navy

"Colored men have made such records also in the Navy, a number having been decorated for extraordinary heroism in naval engagements, the latest of these being two colored seamen aboard the aircraft carrier, Bunker Hill, which was turned into a blazing death trap by the attack of a Japanese suicide plane.

"We conceive it to be the duty of every Southerner to repudiate every appeal to racial prejudice. The white people of the South cannot live on terms of enmity and hostility with a racial minority constituting one-third of the population. Persons who fan the flames of racial hatred are enemies of the people and their free institutions

8-4-45

"This speech of Senator Eastland's is one of the basest appeals to such prejudice and hatred we have ever read. We hope that the entire South will repudiate it and that the Senator's own State at the first opportunity will return him to the obscurity from which he came."

Another Repudiation Of Senator Eastland

Philadelphia Penna Tribune

To the Editor:

Recently one of the Senators of Congress made a rather indicative and insulting remark as to the stability and capabilities of the Negro soldier. As for me originating from Philadelphia, may I take this opportunity to let you know just how the

Dixie Editors Do Not Approve Blast At Negro GIs

Southern editors are overwhelmingly opposed to the recent expressions of racial prejudice in Congress and feel such statements do not represent the true feeling of the South, the Southern Conference of Human Welfare has disclosed in revealing the results of a poll of 251 white newspaper editors in the thirteen southern states.

Eighty-seven and one-half per cent of southern editors agree that Mississippi's Senator Eastland was not speaking for southern editors when he stated that Negro soldiers had been an "utter and abysmal failure." Eighty-three per cent of the editors think that this statement by Senator Eastland was a hazard to the war effort.

Senator Eastland's statement, made on the floor of the United States Senate June 29 during the course of a filibuster against the Fair Employment Practices Committee was: "The Negro soldier was a utter and abysmal failure in combat in Europe. . . . He has disgraced the flag of his country. He will not fight. He will not work."

Of the 255 questionnaires and letters received, 23 (eight per cent) showed some agreement with Senator Eastland; 219 (86 per cent) disagreed; and 13 (six per cent) were neutral.

average Negro soldier here in the ETO feels. I'm quite sure that the following declarations are his sentiments and will meet his utter approval. 8-18-45

Ever since the war started here in Europe the Negro has played an important part in the ultimate victory that was achieved recently. We troops under hampered conditions toiled in the coldest weather that came. The boiling sun that beat down on our bodies and caused sweat to drop, did not stop us. Food conditions of which the average civilian knows little, did not cease our actions. Thousands of us did not get half enough to nourish our bodies, but in the regular manner we asked the Almighty's Blessings over what we had. Side-by-side we fought with the white soldier and in most cases he was the initial one to go down to defeat. All these facts, and numerous more, prove that Eastland is a DAMN LIAR. Wish God to my soul that he could glance upon battlefields of Europe and see what was done. Experience and personal survey are the remedies for his ailment.

The Negro has gained experience, knowledge and control that he lacked before the war started. He has learned to creep and crawl on his enemy and to strike with lightning speed before his victim can recover his senses. In civilian life opportunities are opened. Larger quantities of Negroes are attaining education that will surpass that of our forefathers. In industry we operate the vital machines that are mowing down and cover our enemies' planes. All these take their place in numerous convoys on this terrestrial ball. We like comparision, not condemnation. Even as the Almighty, only live to endure equipment, trucks in numerous ways, and anphibian, created man and died in his much sorrow and shame, and many behalf, just as he dominates the then when called before the judgment bar on that resurrection morning, spend the rest of his eternity in that everlasting place in brooks the roaring waves of the ocean, and the dew that lays on the blades of grass, so will He fire. May you, the Mediators of our stamp seas, help us. All down through the our troubles here in the Army, appreciates find some means to rectify this

demnators, who, failing to carry out his fulfillings, and the equality of men, only live to endure much sorrow and shame, and then called before the judgment bar on that resurrection morning, spend the rest of his eternity in that everlasting fire. May you, the Mediators of our troubles here in the Army, find some means to rectify this

8-18-45

S. Sgt. FRANK R. BLAIR

56n-1945

To the People of Mississippi

The Nation

Dear Sirs: A recent issue of the *Stars & Stripes* has brought to our attention the statement of Senator Eastland that the Negro soldier in this war has been "an utter and abysmal failure." This statement was made by a man in high government office who is supposed to help carry the torch of liberty. Many of us are alarmed and saddened to know that the people of the state of Mississippi have entrusted to this man the honor and responsibility of representing them in the government of the United States. 8-18-45

By this statement, and the attitude behind it, Senator Eastland demonstrates that he neither comprehends nor believes in the principles behind this war. Otherwise he would realize that service toward the cause of human liberty can be, and is, performed just as ably by a black man as it is by a white man.

Senator Eastland has betrayed us. He has not represented the cause for which we sent him to Washington. He is not interested in human liberties and promoting human freedom. He is not interested in understanding and helping to eradicate the causes of war. What does he care about the young men of America who have died in Europe, and Africa, and the Pacific, in the past few years? What does he care about the cause of liberty and freedom for which they fought and died, for which men and women of all races and colors gave their lives? Their victories and their heritage are for everyone—for men and women of all races and colors.

We fought the Nazis and Fascists because they represented a threat to our freedom and to the freedom of all people. We fought them because they tried to put one group of people above all others. They were interested in freedom not for all peoples, but for the "Nordic" few. In America we have people like that, too. They also preach a doctrine of racial superiority—the superiority of the white man over the black man—and seek to curb the freedom of the man who does not belong in their little world of hatred and prejudice. These men are fighting America and what she stands for just as much as any Nazi who ever uttered "Heil Hitler" or turned an "88" on American soldiers. These men are just as much enemies of human freedom as were the Hitlers, the Goebbels, and the rest. Some of these men even manage to get into high government positions. Perhaps Senator Eastland is one of them—the people of Mississippi will be able to tell. Other Americans, and the millions of soldiers overseas, have faith in what the people of Mississippi will do to help the cause of free men everywhere. 8-18-45

SERVICEMAN FROM MISSOURI

Somewhere in Germany, July 12

Senator Eastland

Gen. O'Dwyer Blasts Bilbo And Eastland

Atlanta (Ga) Daily World

NEW YORK-(ANP)-Hitting indirectly, but never-the-less forcefully at Sens. Bilbo and Eastland for their recent vicious attacks upon Negroes, especially the Negro soldier, Gen. Wm. O'Dwyer, Democratic candidate for mayor, in a speech at Brooklyn's Holy Trinity church Sunday night not only praised the valor of the Negro soldier but declared that "injustice to Negroes must end and they must have equal opportunity with other Americans to earn a livelihood if American democratic institutions are to survive." 8-26-45

The general was guest speaker at a meeting that had been called by the Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Harten, dynamic pastor of Holy Trinity, to protest against the slanderous charges made by the two Mississippi senators that Negro soldiers couldn't and wouldn't fight.

RECOUNTS DEEDS

Gen. O'Dwyer, who served on special missions in the European theatre of operations, briefly recounted the deeds of some of the Negro units.

"The loyalty of the American Negro is proverbial," he said. "He has not sought to dodge his responsibility in the war. On the contrary, the only thing he asked for was the right to fight for his county alongside his fellow citizens and to be accepted and treated as an American.

"Negro men and women," the general said, " have served ably and heroically on every battlefront in this war--in the army, the navy and the marine corps. There are 7000,000 Negroes in our army alone. Over 500,000 of them have served overseas. They comprised about one 12th of the entire United States army.

"Negro units landed with the western task force at Oran in North Africa in November, 1942. They were on hand for subsequent landings in Sicily, Corsica, Salerno and Anzio, and in the drive into Italy, where I saw them when I was there." 8-26-45

CONQUEST ROLES CITED

O'Dwyer said Negro soldiers filled even bigger roles in the conquest of Normandy, in the invasion of Southern France and in the struggle which finally ended in complete capitulation of the Nazis.

"On V-E day," he said, "over a quarter million Negro soldiers were stationed in the European, Mediterranean, and African-Middle-East theatres of operation. Of these, the most remotely stationed Negro unit on V-E day was probably the 595th Quartermaster company at historic Pilsen in Czechoslovakia."

The general praised the accomplishments of the 92nd and 93rd divisions and the 24th Infantry regiments.

"It has always been one of my major and uncompromising obligations to curb intolerant elements in the community who would seek to draw dividing lines between our citizens of various creeds and colors," Gen. O'Dwyer said, adding that, "'Bilboism" has no place on American life. It must have no place in the life and thinking of the city of New York."

The general gave the answer to those persons who continuously argue that legislation cannot change people, when he said, "Perhaps a law cannot make a man think right, but it can make him behave better."

O'Dwyer declared that he favors wholeheartedly the fair employment practice acts, in the national, state and city governments. These acts, he said, should be permanent features of our public life. Their basic purposes, he said, must become the accepted attitude of practice in our city.

The War Department's 'Reply' to Eastland

Norfolk, Va. - Pilot

The War Department's report on the service record of Negro troops in the European Theater of Operations is the definitive answer to the irresponsible tirade of Senator Eastland during the filibuster against the FEPC. The report has no thesis to argue. It is concerned simply with facts. Those facts speak for themselves. 8-20-45

Some 259,000 Negroes saw active service in the ETO. They comprised 69 per cent of the personnel of the famed Red Ball Express which rushed supplies from the beaches and ports to the fighting fronts, hitting a peak of 6,000 tons a day in the critical periods. They handled 1,500,000 of the 6,000,000 tons of ammunition used by the American forces. Negro engineers built roads and bridges. Negro Medical Corps units cared for the wounded. Negro signalmen strung hundreds of miles of wire communications. Negro battalions of the Chemical Warfare Service laid down smoke barrages "often under heavy enemy fire."

Those are auxiliary, technically known as non-combat, services. That does not mean that the Negro units were not much of the time in the midst of the fighting. The 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion was very much in it when it stormed the Normandy beaches on D-Day in company with the 1st and 29th divisions and set up an effective balloon barrier against the *Luftwaffe*. So too were the 368th and 370th Quartermaster Truck Battalions when they pounded ashore with the first waves of troops on Omaha Beach.

Some 23,000 Negroes gave full combat service in every branch of the American land forces in the ETO. Many of them fought in platoons or companies scattered through the white divisions. The 969th Field Artillery Battalion was with Brig. Gen. McAuliffe's 101st Airborne Division in that stubborn stand at Bastogne that was accorded special Presidential citation. The 761st Tank Battalion battered across Europe with the 26th Infantry Division, receiving 40 Bronze Stars and 8 Silver Stars while 8 of its enlisted men won battlefield commissions. It was a Negro, Sergeant Edgar E. Zeno, who broke a blockade near Siedlinghausen in Germany when troops of the 39th Infantry Regiment were held by enemy machine gun fire. Armed with a Browning automatic rifle and grenades, he advanced over open terrain and rushed the emplacement, killing 7 Germans, wounding 3 more, and enabling his unit to capture 60 prisoners. 8-20-45

These are random examples from a report which contains many more and is confined to the one operational theater, making no mention of comparable service in the Mediterranean and the Pacific. It is a record to be noted with pride and by all Americans regardless of creed or color.

United for Common Interests and Common Needs

The Steuben News

REGISTERED U. S. PATENT OFFICE 1939

A NEWSPAPER FOR AMERICANS

Duty Justice Charity Tolerance

Vol. XVII. - No. 12 The PM August, 1945 New York, New York 10 Cents a Copy $1.00 Yearly

8-16-45

MASS RAPE OF GERMAN GIRLS

DOES HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF?

During the month of June there appeared in the columns of the press a news item to the effect that several thousand German girls had been rounded up and placed in the subway of the city of Stuttgart, and there criminally assaulted by French Sene-

delegation of which I was a member.

Senator Wheeler: It was a different delegation, yes. One Senator was talking with the general and called me over and said, "I want you to listen to this." The general told us the story. I am

doctor's plea for asylum stated that the doctor went to him personally with that plea?

Senator Wheeler: It is my recollection that the doctor did come to him. I am not sure about that particular statement, but that is my recollection about it.

cerned. The action of the military authorities in trying to suppress the truth will, it seems to me, place our Government in the position of condoning the shameful deeds of those who perpetrate the crimes. The American people do not condone them, and I am sure

equip, and clothe soldiers and place them in authority over helpless women and children, it is certainly incumbent upon the American Government to see that, so far as possible, American standards are maintained, and that there is no looting,

The Steuben Society is seeking sympathy for "poor Germany" by playing up the story—officially denied by the Army—of a mass rape of women in Stuttgart by French soldiers from Africa.

The PM New York, New York

of slavery which have kept the German people fettered hand and foot for 15 years." 8-16-45

Now Hoffman writes:

"Commitments made at Yalta and consummated at Potsdam have imposed upon the German people a punishment which, if carried out, will promote unrest and economic chaos in Central Europe. . . .

"We very much fear that the seeds of revenge and hatred have been sown, together with a repetition of what the Allies did to Germany in 1919. . . . Not only is the problem today parallel, but it is infinitely worse. . . .

"Swayed by bitterness at the results of the Nazi regime, the members of the (Postdam) conference prepared a reparations program, which on the whole will prove to be as unworkable as the plan adopted after the first World War. The emphasis today is on the tools and resources of defeated Germany, and Germany is to become an agricultural nation. Do we honestly believe that this will make the German people friendly?"

As a part of the campaign to win sympathy for Germany, the *Steuben News* devoted the entire front page of its August issue to quotations from Sens. James Eastland (D., Miss.) and Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.) supporting the tale (officially denied by Sixth Army headquarters) that French Negro troops raped 5000 German women in a Stuttgart subway.

Headline

The article was run under a streamer headline "Mass Rape of German Girls," and Hoffman appended a note recalling the alleged "dastardly deeds," "carnal lusts" and "acts of beastiality" of French African troops in the Rhineland after World War I. He demanded that the U. S. government punish the French troops responsible for the supposed mass rape in Stuttgart.

Hoffman and the *Steuben News* have exhibited no such indignation about Nazi atrocities; on the contrary, they have consistently sought to excuse, condone and explain away Nazi cruelties, beginning in 1933 with a denial that Hitler was persecuting the Jews. Right after its cry for punishment of French troops for raping German women, the *Steuben News* argued that the butchery of American fliers by German mobs was understandable and excusable, and that the butchers should not have been sentenced to death.

TRUTH About The 92nd

Journal + Guide

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
(Copyright, Reproduction Forbidden)

Appeals, Va.

THE 92nd Division has had just one "all-out" test—the world-highlighted February attack. Early months of the division's history in the line were consumed in a very delicate operation, facts about which have never before been published. It was that touchy task which General Allmond refers to as "inserting units into combat."

5-12-45

Inserting a unit into combat, in cold Army terms, simply means "getting the men shot at; getting them used to their weapons; getting them to realize the power of those weapons when used correctly in actual contact with the enemy; and getting them to realize that there is no problem on the battlefield which cannot be overcome with the effective use of those weapons."

LEARN ONLY IN BATTLE

There is an old saying around the front lines that no matter how much previous training a unit has had it doesn't really learn to fight until it gets out there in that hellish fire that the Germans are famous for.

Technicalities of weapons and fighting are learned at training camps.

Application of this training must be accomplished under fire.

To be fully convinced, the individual soldier must see for himself that running away simply means, in many instances, that he will get shot in the back.

He must be convinced that it is better for him to "hit the dirt" and bring that good old M-1 rifle into action.

LEARN HARD WAY

Cruel experience has taught 92nd soldiers to dig in and use their weapons when they find themselves under fire. Many learned the hard way that this not only stops Germans; it also kills them.

5-12-45

Inserting units into combat was done carefully and without haste. General Allmond was careful not to insert a green unit into a spot that was known to be "too hot." Throwing a new unit into "hellish fire," would make them "gun-shy" before they started.

This task of "inserting units into combat" was something that even many of the officers and men of the 92nd were not aware of. It consumed nearly three months. During that time I had frequent interviews with General Allmond and I constantly visited units in the front line foxholes. I was extremely interested in the morale of the officers and men.

ATTACK PLANNED

Finally, after some successes and some reverses, the troops were considered to be about ready for anything the Germans could offer. The February attack was planned.

Problems arising in a division or a task force are numerous. When the problems arising from "racial sensitiveness" are added, the task of commanding such an outfit becomes involved and difficult.

5-12-45

Many believe that, being a segregated unit, the 92nd is handicapped. Leaders among Negroes and white liberals the world over contend that the ideal way would be to place American soldiers indiscriminately into the same units, leaving the promotions of officers and men to the just evaluation of their capabilities.

Be that as it may, the 92nd Division is now in combat. Its future lies in the hands of God and General Allmond.

I have often wondered which had the most problems. . .

The Truth About The 92d Division

The St. Louis Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

9-14-45

By Roy Wilkins with Permission of Michigan Chronicle and Los Angeles Sentine

NEW YORK, Sept. 10 — The papers have just announced that Major General E. M. Almond, commander of the 92d Division, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. The citation praises not only General Almond for his skill as a division commander, but also praises the 92d Division for its fighting in the difficult Italian theatre of the war. At least one paper, the Afro-American, sees the citation as a "vindication" of the 92d, emphasizing this in its headline.

From another source, a Negro officer who has just returned from Italy, this column has received a story which, if true, (and it sounds like the truth) completely vindicates the 92d Division of the smear charges made against it by Newsweek magazine and by an interview given to American correspondents in Rome last March 14 by Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Was Not In First Lines

The officer did not serve with the 92d, but with a unit of combat engineers, so that he cannot be accused of defending himself, although every man in the 92d has that right. His story is that the 92d Division DID NOT run away and was not knocked out, losing ten or twelve miles of valuable territory in the closing days of last December. The 92d did not run because the 92d WAS NOT IN THE FRONT LINE AT THAT TIME.

All three regiments of the regular 92d Division were taken out of the sector, he relates. One regiment was sent to another sector, miles away. One regiment was withdrawn to a rest camp for recuperation. One regiment was held in reserve, behind the front line.

Into the front line, designed to be held by a triangular (3-regiment) division, was sent ONE formant, was barely long enough for the men to be properly outfitted, to say nothing of being trained for combat. Bear in mind that this regiment had had no actual combat training to enable it to take a front line position against veteran German troops. They were spread thin, so thin that a German patrol could easily punch through their lines. Their Negro colonel was in the hospital at the time his men were suddenly ordered to duty and he is reported to have protested vigorously against the assignment, saying it was not fair to his men to place this duty upon them without training.

So the Germans, finding not only green troops before them, but very few troops, punched ahead, infiltrated behind the American lines, spread panic, and drove our men back a dozen miles. It was several days before the regular 92d men could be thrown back into the breach, but when they got under way they recovered all the lost ground, as reported in the daily papers here January 2.

If this is the true story, then the men of the 92d have a right to be boiling mad. My informant said: "I saw big strong men crying in frustrated rage when they read what Gibson had released to the newspapers. It was like putting a sand lot team in Yankee uniforms and then saying the Yankees got shellacked." Again, if this story is true it means that someone higher up was determined to bring discredit on Negroes as fighting men. This green regiment was deliberately given an impossible task to "show them up" and reflect on the race. In this war all the ju-jitsu and dirty fighting was not used on the enemy; the colored boys caught plenty of it.

92nd Hero, 1 Leg Missing, Tells How Nazi Felled Him

Afro-American - Balt, Md.

4-14-45

WASHINGTON

Pfc. Tom Robinson of Cambridge, Md., a machine-gunner of the 92nd Infantry Division, leaned forward in his bed at Walter Reed General Hospital last week—his right leg missing—and told how he was wounded by a German soldier in in Italian City.

He became a casualty when the Germans, evidently forewarned that they were due to attack at 7 o'clock on December 26, assaulted Robinson's unit an hour earlier.

He had set up his light machine-gun in a little stone house at the end of the street, commanding the only approach for the Germans, but he didn't figure on the church steeple off to his left.

Steeple Hid Nazi

A german bazooka man sneaked up a draw behind the church and climbed up into the steeple. Robinson didn't see him until the rocket struck him, the same time the enemy attack began.

His comrades had to withdraw, leaving him and the platoon sergeant trapped in the house. When the Germans took the town, they hid for five days, living on bread and wine supplied by the Italians, and were rescued when the Yanks recaptured the town, the soldier said.

The son of Mrs. Carrie Butts of Cambridge, Robinson is studying motor mechanics in preparation for the future. Inducted in April, 1942, he went overseas in March, 1944, with the 366th Infantry Regiment. He wears the Purple Heart and other combat decorations.

How Jim Crow Disheartened Negro Division

P.M. New York 6-10-45

Roi Ottley Looks Into Causes of 92d's Troubles

By Roi Ottley
Special Correspondent
(Copyright, 1945, by The Newspaper PM, Inc.)

PM Exclusive

ROME, June 9.—The war brought death to European fascism. But it also drove a nail into the coffin of an American brand of fascism—the all-Negro division within the framework of a white army.

Ottley

The unsatisfactory showing of the 92d Division, the all-Negro outfit commanded by Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, has documented clearly this development. But few have stopped to analyze the reasons.

Everyone I talked with, both Negro and white, were convinced that the division was one of the poorest in the Italian theater. Even some of its members said so.

I found no convincing evidence that the outfit was any worse than others in the theater, nor has there been any official statement as to the failure of the division. But the negative stories persist.

These stories say that Negro "patrols melted away under enemy fire," Negro officers were inefficient, the division had a high rate of AWOLs, it had no spectacular victories, it had the highest venereal rate in the Italian theater.

Magnification

Admissions by Truman Gibson, Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War, concerning certain failures of the division have been magnified here. No one has bothered to quote the explanations he made for the poor showing. 6-10-45

It is almost an unwritten law among the Allied correspondents not to report any show of flinching. The High Command and war correspondents know white patrols have "melted away under enemy fire." They know that there are inefficient white officers. They also know that there are outfits without spectacular victories.

To be sure, much of the criticisms of the Negro division from white troops, is a form of sublimating. They are frustrated and homesick. The complex reasons for their being here escape them. Therefore, they seek a scapegoat. The Negro soldier seems to be the handiest whipping boy. So, with the flimsiest information, they gripe about the failures of Negroes.

Courage

No one here actually questions the courage of Negro soldiers. Their white officers are unstinting in praise of individual acts of heroism. The division's casualties have been high. Few ever were taken prisoner. *Stars and Stripes*, the GI newspaper, recently praised the men of the division. But all this has failed to offset the misinformation that is being circulated.

The 92d Division probably would not have been singled out for criticism if the War Dept. had not sent Truman Gibson to Italy. What the motive was seems vague at this distance, because no noticeable change has been made in the outfit. In any case, the expose has boomeranged. It has placed blazing focus on a disgraceful situation in the U. S. Army. Even the GIs are beginning to ask the reason. 6-10-45

I went up with the Ninety-second to gather some facts. The men had been fighting on the front for a long time, having been activated in October, 1943. They were moving swiftly toward La Spezia, the formidable naval base. They were taking a terrific shelling from the coastal batteries of the Nazis—but they were moving forward steadily.

What I learned saddened and discouraged me—but hardly more than the discouragement and frustration the men themselves were experiencing. For the press reports, particularly those appearing in *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines, in addition to their day-to-day problems, were hard to morale.

Comments

This is the sort of comments that punctuated their conversations:

"I know I'm not going to get a break when I get home!"

To which another would say, "Yeah, so I don't want to be a hero."

The general feeling was, "This is Mr. Charlie's fight"—meaning the war is a white man's affair.

A certain inevitability threaded through their comments: "When I return I'll have to fight this war all over again," was the way they put it.

"No matter what we do, nobody pays us any mind," was the final conclusion.

The fact is, even the most uninformed Negro GI I talked with questioned the usefulness of risking his life.

I asked one of the Negro chaplains what he said to the men to stimulate their morale. He shrugged helplessly.

When I talked with the Chief of Staff, Col. McCaffery, he offered no solution to this distressing morale. The Negro officers frankly admitted they were helpless, except to stir the men with "racial patriotism." They said the men would go to the death for each other, but not for any abstract slogan. They were clearly cynical about the announced objectives of the war.

As it turned out, what actually I discovered in the ranks of the 92d Division reached deep in the social patterns of U. S. life. Neither whites nor Negroes were ultimately responsible. They were all caught up, victims of an ugly condition. For what was wrong with the division could never be corrected in Italy. 6-10-45

So, with this discovery, I sought the facts. I know I have them and I will try to put into perspective a sad chapter in our military history—one that has embarrassed us with our troops, caused racial conflicts and misunderstanding among them, embarrassed us with our Allies, and produced a certain cynicism among the liberated peoples as to the ultimate meanings of America's participation in the war.

These were the first Negro troops to arrive in Cherbourg, France.

92nd Officer Put in Service Outfits

10-30-45

WASHINGTON

Following is the list of 92nd Division officers who have been transferred from combat units to general service and engineer units pending their shipment home:

First Lts. Gerald Walker, Arthur E. Wiggins, Robert L. Doyle, Robert B. Hill, Elridge T. Pankey, Samuel G. Morgan, Millard B Smallwood, George E. Bizzell George E. Pope Jr., Charles Thomas Jr., Noah F. Bradley, Cecil R. LaViscount, Richard W Hughes, Randall F. Brady, Charles W. Jones, George A. Johnson, Louis K. Hanks, and Ossie G Alexander;

Second Lts. George H. Yeadon, Porter L. Baymon, George L. Dickson, Edward A. Johnson Jr.; Capts. John S. Raneo, Alvin P. M. Hall, Percy C. May, Albert A. Briggs, William F. Davidson, Hondon B Hargrove, and Clifford R. Moore; Chaplain (Capt.) John R. Wesley, and W.O. (junior grade) James C. Ball.

Reveal Casualties Of Combat Division

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

5th Army Head In Chicago Calls 92nd 'Valuable Asset' In Battle

6-9-45

A high tribute by General Mark Clark, commander of the 5th Army, to the valor and courage of the all-Negro 92nd Division was heard by thousands of Chicagoans in a moving Memorial Day welcome Wednesday for the hero of Italy.

Lined up along Michigan avenue five and ten deep, cheering Southsiders joined the entire city of Chicago in greeting the general who flew here from Paris. General Clark rode down the boulevard in the heart of the Negro community on his way from the airport and was applauded by the huge multitude that lined the streets.

Flying in with the general were three Chicago Negro veterans of the Italian campaign.

Lt. Thomas Jefferson, 6231 S. Wabash avenue, an Air Medal winner of the 332nd Fighter Group, and credited with shooting down the last enemy plane bagged on the Italian front.

Lt. Albert Loving Jr., 5327 Indiana avenue, a field artilleryman.

Sgt. Zachary Love, 6027 S. Michigan avenue.

Also in the party was Sgt. William C. Chaney, General Clark's Negro orderly.

The Negro soldiers were greeted by their relatives and friends at a reception downtown in the Loop, where General Clark spoke at the Congress Plaza and told some 60,000 Chicagoans: "Our Negro troops were among our most valuable assets."

6-9-45

He spoke of the "glorious 92nd."

Flying here directly from Paris with four Negro heroes among 52 hand-picked campaigners, General Clark refused to discuss the Truman Gibson report that units of the 92nd had "melted away" in face of enemy fire.

"I do not want to discuss the Gibson report," Clark said at his first press conference after admitting he had "heard of" the claim by the Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

6-9-45

"I have given you my account of the 92nd Division. I think that speaks for itself," Clark said flatly.

General Clark spoke openly and warmly about the activities of his lone Negro division, which he had watched carefully since their first entrance into Italy. While refusing to be drawn into any extended argument over tre Gibson report, made after the civilian aide's short visit to the Italian front, Clark definitely indicated that he did not share similar views.

"Many of our troops in Italy were at first confronted with inadequacies," General Clark said in detailing the record of the 92nd which was employed on the West Coast of Italy.

Test Offensive

He said that while the 92nd was not at first "strong enough for a full push," it had been decided "in order to confuse the enemy" and to test the strength of the Nazi Western defense zone to launch the 92nd on an offensive in that area.

6-9-45

"It was a tough assignment," General Clark said. "They did not succeed in taking their first objective—just as many other divisions have been stopped when running unexpectedly into heavy defenses. But they did succeed in accomplishing what they set out for. We wanted to know how strong the Boche were in that sector. We found they were plenty strong."

Delighted With Results

General Clark stated that he had then asked that the 92nd be given "more power to do the job" and to bring up the 92nd to full-scale fighting strength.

"They finally sent us an additional regiment from France," he said, after which the 92nd was launched on a preliminary assignment.

"They took La Spezia immediately," said General Clark, "much to my delight and surprise." He said they went on from there to take Genoa and other important Nazi strongholds.

General Clark's statement that he was "entirely satisfied" with the performance of the 92nd was the first official rebuttal of the highly-publicized report made by Gibson and used repeatedly to discredit Negro troops.

Asked concerning the performance of the 332nd Squadron based in Italy, General Clark referred the question to his Air Commander, Major General Nathan F. Twining.

6-9-45

"The 332nd gave an excellent account of themselves," Major Twining said. "Starting in June, of their first year, they scored repeated successes as escorts for our heavy bombers."

Twining cited Colonel B. O. Davis Jr., as an "outstanding flyer who had turned in a fine job as commander of the 99th Pursuit Squadron."

"At one stage of the fighting, Colonel Davis and his men flew 800 miles on a combat mission to Berlin—the longest combat mission flown during the war," he said.

General Twining also cited Lt. Thomas Jefferson, 6231 Wabash, for having shot down the last enemy plane to be downed during the Italian campaign.

6-9-45

Because of military security, reunions of the Negro soldiers with their families were out of the question at the airport where they arrived in three C-47's with other heroes of the Italian campaign. But at the Palmer House, there were happy moments for Lt. Jefferson who was met by his mother, Mildred, and Lt. Loving who was greeted by his parents.

CLOUD ON FIGHTING ABILITY LIFTED

Pittsburgh Courier Pgh., Pa.

6-9-45

CHICAGO—The man who should know the good points and faults of the Ninety-second Infantry Division has had his say. During a Memorial Day ceremony here in Palmer House, tall, tanned General Clark hailed the Division as "the glorious Ninety-second."

In the Windy City with fifty-two American heroes of the Italian campaign, four of them Tan Yanks, General Clark explained the battle behavior of the Ninety-second, but declined to enter into a controversy with Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, about the contributing factors that caused the Division's publicized retreat.

EXPLAINS "BLOODY NOSE"

Explaining the Ninety-second's "bloody nose," General Clark said the Division was stationed on the West Coast of Italy just before the battle of Bologna and his forces were faced with many inadequacies. The Canadian Corps had been moved out to help General Montgomery in another area, creating a need for reinforcements. He declared there was a movement of troop mobilization in the area and it was necessary to keep the enemy confused as the Germans already were worried about Genoa.

A West Coast attack was planned, the general continued, and the Ninety-second knew the area and was assigned to the objective. "Like many other outfits facing enormous odds, they failed to take that objective at that time. That's how they got the bloody nose."

6-9-45

SAYS HE NEEDED TAN YANKS

Addressing an army of newspapermen, General Clark said members of the Division accomplished "later objectives in splendid fashion. They jumped into LaSpezia, and with other Fifth Army units, took Bologna. Then they moved into Genoa and took it, much to the surprise of the enemy and Headquarters. I needed the Ninety-second and if anyone had tried to take it from me I would have protested loudly."

The General and his fifty-two heroes of the U. S. Fifth Army arrived here triumphantly in C-54 transport planes, accompanied by swarms of fighter ships. They were paid a great tribute. They were welcomed by a seventeen-gun salute and then wined and dined by the Mayor and City officials.

TWO TAN OFFICERS WITH GROUP

6-9-45

The quartet of Negro Gi's with General Clark were Lieut. Albert A. Loving, 5327 Indiana Avenue; Lieut. Thomas Jefferson, 6231 S. Wabash Avenue, and Sgt. Zachary Love, 6207 Michigan Avenue, all of Chicago, and M/Sgt. William C. Chaney of Washington, D. C.

General Clark admitted that the Ninety-second was an inexperienced fighting group and that what happened to the Division has happened to other inexperienced divisions. He also pointed out that the first assignment given the Ninety-second was tough and that the Division had all the elements of a fighting division, but lacked sufficient numerical strength to launch the attack. He said at that time he wrote General Marshall for another regiment to supplement the Ninety-second.

CLOUD OF DOUBT LIFTED

The to-the-point statement by General Clark, himself a Chicagoan, lifted the cloud of doubt that had befogged the performance of the Ninety-second Division in Italy. Already nursing a "bloody nose," the Division was given a black eye when newspapers distorted and twisted a report made by Mr. Gibson.

6-9-45

Also coming in for praise was the 332nd Fighter Group, commanded by Col. B. O. Davis Jr. Backing up General Clark's praise of the Tan Fliers was General Nathan F. Twining, commander of the Fifteenth Air Force. He said: "Those boys were excellent fighters and one of them shot down the last two Germans in the battle of Europe."

PRAISES YOUNG DAVIS

He also lauded Colonel Davis as an outstanding flier and praised his command of Tan Fliers on long range missions to Berlin.

General Clark spoke highly of the cooperation between twlve nationalities who fought together during the campaign against the Germans.

6-9-45

Lieutenant Loving was a forward aerial observer of headquarters battery of the 600th Field Artillery, Ninety-second Division. He was flown in 175 air missions and wears the Air Medal with a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster and three Battle Stars.

SHOOTS DOWN LAST NAZI PLANES

Lieutenant Jefferson, a P-51 Mustang fighter pilot of the 332nd, destroyed two of the last German planes credited to the Fifteenth AAF in a aerial combat. He wears the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters.

Sergeant Love was a platoon leader, mortar platoon. He wears the Purple Heart, a Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge and the ETO Ribbon with three Battle Stars.

Sergeant Chaney has been with General Clark for many years. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and six Battle Stars.

616 Missing In Action; Figures Compared With White Units

Chicago Defender

6-9-45

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The 92nd all-Negro infantry division suffered a total of 3161 casualties in the Rome-Arno campaign, it was learned officially from the War Department this week.

Preliminary figures on troop losses which began with the crossing of the Arno on September 1, 1944, and covering the battles of the Serchio Valley and the Cinquale Canal, give total casualties accounted for through April 30, 1945. These show 330 killed in action—2215 wounded in action—and 616 missing in action making a total of 3161.

Chi. Ill.

These figures are based on a normal division strength placed roughly at 15,000 men, and are subject to revision, the War Department said.

The 92nd Division, officered by approximately 600 Negro and 300 white officers was a part of the Fifth Army under the command of Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott. The Fifth Army was a part of the 15th Army Group commanded by Gen. Mark Clark.

6-9-45

Two Negro Officers

Two Negro officers in the division held command positions over units larger than company strength. These were Lt. Col. Wendell Derricks, commanding officer of the 597th Field Batallion, and Lt. Col. Marcus Ray, commanding officer of the 600th Field Artillery Battalion. Battalion strength is roughly 1000 men.

When the 92nd was committed to combat, on September 1, 1944, it was under the command of General Mark Clark, then commanding general of the Fnfth Army. Following its initial battle experience, the Negro doughboys were told by General Clark that the unit had fought well.

6-9-45

A comparable all-white infantry division in the Italian sector which also participated in the Rome-Arno campaign was the 10th Mountain Division under the command of Maj. Gen. George P. Hays.

Committed to action at about the same time as the 92nd, this division participated in approximately the same number of engagements suffering a total casualty loss of 3576 through April 30, 1945. Of this number 673 were killed in action—2749 wounded in action—and 154 missing in action. Most white divisions have Negro troops attached in some capacity.

6-9-45

In contrast, several white divisions on the western front suffered casualties which exceeded the total number of men in a divisions. Replacements were constantly sent into these divisions. The War Department explained rapidly, the acting secretary said, that men counted as "missing in action" may be dead, prisoners of war, lost, or absent without leave. Acting Secretary of War Robert Patterson said that more than 90,000 former prisoners of war have been returned to our military control, or, are believed to be in the hands of allied forces and in the process of being returned to our control in the European theatre. The return of the men to the United States is going forward rapidly, the acting secretary said. It is not expected that many of those who are carried as missing will appear later as prisoners of war.

Convicted 92nd Afro-American Capt. Now in U.S.

6-16-45

GREEN HAVEN, N.Y.—LeRoy A. Clay of Baltimore, former captain on the staff of the 92nd Division in Italy, is now confined at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks here.

Clay, convicted by court martial on a charge of failing to obey the orders of a superior, was first sentenced to serve 50 years and dishonorably discharged. This was cut to 20 following a review by the judge advocate of the Mediterranean theatre. 6-16-45

Seek Further Review

Efforts are being made for a further review on the ground that an important document was not admitted in evidence at the original trial and that the testimony of some of his superiors was at variance with the facts.

Under Army regulations, six months must elapse from the time a sentence is begun before the War Department will grant a review. After that, an annual review is possible.

Favorable action could result in one of two things, further reduction of sentence or a pardon from the President.

Reports are current that of 20 officers in the Mediterranean theatre, nine have faced court martial proceedings and sentenced to varying terms. Balt., Md.

Clay, who was graduated in 1931 as a second lieutenant from Howard University's ROTC, has been connected with the Army ever since, serving with the Maryland National Guard before it was Federalized. He is married and has one child.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUN
Circ. D. 277,172

JUN 18 1945

92D NEGRO DIVISION TAKES TRACK TITLE

Milan, Italy, June 18 (A. P.).—The Fifth Army's track and field championships wound up in a runaway yesterday for the runners and jumpers of the Ninety-second Negro Division.

They won nine of thirteen events, placed ten of thirteen competitors and finished one-two in four events. The division rolled up 65 points, paced by Pfc. William Dillard, onetime Baldwin-Wallace timber topper from Cleveland, who zipped to a pair of Mediterranean theater of operations records in taking the 100-meter high hurdles in 15.35 seconds and the 200-meter low hurdles in 25.2.

The Tenth Mountain Division finished second with 22 points, winning only the 3,000-meter walk, which John M. Huber, 39-year-old heel and toe specialist from East Orange, N. J., took in 16:41.5.

Hugh Short, onetime ace Georgetown University stepper from Hillside, N. J., now in the Eighty-fifth Division, shattered the M. T. O. record in the 400 meters with a 50.4 victory.

Pfc. Mitchell Williams, who captained Penn State's freshman cross-country team a few years back, captured the 1,500-meter run on a rain check in 4:16.4 after the Tenth Mountain Division's Dave Williams, former Georgetown miler and meet favorite who finished first, was disqualified.

In addition to Short and Dillard, other record breakers were three Ninety-second Division representatives — Sergt. Thenlo Knowles, Santa Monica, Cal. (formerly San Jose State), who won the 800 meters in 2:02.1; Pfc. Russell Jones, Lawnside, N. J., and Sergt. Lloyd Crable, Cleveland, who deadlocked at 6 feet 1 inch in the high jump—and Sergt. Mose Ellerbee, from Tuskegee Institute, former N. C. A. A. sprint champion, who won the 100 meters in 11.6 seconds.

All contestants wore sneakers instead of spike shoes.

Ottley's Probe On 92nd Indicts Democracy

Birmingham Ala. Weekly Review

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The un-Christian indignities heaped upon soldiers of the 92nd division, according to an investigation recently launched in Italy by Roi Ottley, stands as an ugly indictment against American democracy and human decency.

Ottley, who has served as war correspondent, found that both the whites and Negroes are victims of ugly social patterns of American life. What was wrong with the division, he discovered, could never be corrected in Italy. The blame for the division's battle failures must fall on its white commanders.

"If someone should insist on pinning the rap," he said, "the sole blame for the 92nd's poor showing ultimately would fall in the lap of the white command. Because, actually, the division is not an all-Negro outfit. The bulk of the officers are white. Every officer in the high command is white. Negroes therefore had no part in planning operations. If the plans failed, the fault lies with those who originated them."

Ottley said the 92nd division probably would not have been singled out for criticism if the war department had not sent Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the secretary of war to Italy. "What the motive was seems vague at this distance," he observed, "because no noticeable change has been made in the outfit."

That investigation, he said, turned out to be a bomerang against jimcrow by placing a "blazing focus on a disgraceful situation in the U. S. Army. Even the GI's are beginning to ask the reason. 7-7-45

"The indictment, then, must be leveled at the failure of American democracy," Ottley analyzed.

The war correspondent found that even the uninformed Negro GI questioned the wisdom of risking his life. Here are some of their comments:

"I know I'm not going to get a break when I get home," Another replied: "Yeah, so I don't want to be a hero."

The general feeling was: "This is Mr. Charlie's fight" — meaning the war is a white man's affair.

"When I return, I'll have to fight this war all over again," remarked one, while another said: "No matter what we do, nobody pays us any mind."

Among the indignities that the men of the 82nd suffered, one that amazed and even antagonized Italians, was the reprisals directed against Negro soldiers and the Italian girls.

"If you dance with Negro soldiers," one confided, "your permit to go to the offirecs' club (white) will be taken away."

Subtle reprisals against Italian girls for associating with Negro soldiers were particularly resented by members of the 92nd. They said that Italian girls who worked with the U. S. Army were threatened with dismissal for fraternizing with Negro troops.

Other grievances, Ottley discovered, were the mistreatment of Negro officers; their criticism of the use of service and labor battalion troops for infantry duty and the anti-Negro attitude of Maj. General Edward A. Almond, 92nd commander.

Gen. Mark W. Clark, fifth army referred to the 92nd as the "glor- radio speech in Chicago. But Ott- radio speec hin Chicago. But Ottley points out that the battle record of the 92nd, due largely to the morale of the men, is considered in many quarters as a failure and an indictment against American democracy.

36 Soldiers Of 92nd Killed In Italy By Nazi Mine Explosion

N. Y. Age

ROME — 36 Negro soldiers of the 92nd Division and 12 Italians were killed and 48 Negro soldiers and 8 Italian civilians were seriously injured, Wednesday, in the explosion of a store of German mines at Viareggio. N. Y. N.Y.

Names of the casualties were not released pending notification of next of kin. 7-28-45

An American Red Cross enlisted men's club was nearly demolished by the explosion, and 48 Negro soldiers in the club were seriously injured in the blast.

Miss Mary Leach, a Red Cross worker from Montclair, N. J., who was in a hotel seven blocks away, said the blast shook the building violently. Windows were smashed within a radius of five blocks.

All of the dead and injured soldiers were from the 92nd Infantry Division or attached units.

92nd Did Not 'Melt Away' Because It Was Not Even There at Time, Says Eye-Witness

The Call Kansas City, Missouri 9-14-4

NEW YORK.—The 92nd infantry division was not even at the front at the time last December when Newsweek magazine and Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, charged it with "melting away," according to a story told by a Negro officer just returned from Italy.

The officer told his story to Roy Wilkins who used it in his column appearing regularly in the Michigan Chronicle and the Los Angeles Sentinel.

The story as told by Wilkins is as follows:

"This officer did not serve with the 92nd, but with a unit of combat engineers, so that he cannot be accused of defending himself, although every man in the 92nd has that right. His story is that the 92nd division DID NOT run away and was not knocked out, losing 10 or 12 miles of valuable territory in the closing days of last December. The 92nd did not run because the 92nd WAS NOT IN THE FRONT LINE AT THAT TIME. 9-14-45

"All three regiments of the regular 92nd division were taken out of the sector, he relates. One regiment was sent to another sector, miles away. One regiment was withdrawn to a rest camp for recuperation. One regiment was held in reserve, behind the front line.

"Into the front line, designed to be held by a triangular (3-regiment) division, was sent ONE regiment of colored soldiers whose designation was simply that they were "attached to" the 92nd. This regiment was all-Negro, from colonel to the last private. It had been doing guard duty from the outbreak of the war, first on the Eastern seaboard of the United States, and later in Italy.

"In Italy it had been split up and various parts were guarding airfields, becoming known as air base security battalions.

"Suddenly, the parts of this regiment were ordered together and with ONLY TWO WEEKS of preparation, were ordered into the front line to hold a sector that had been held by an entire division. This two-week period, says my informant, was barely long enough for the men to be properly outfitted, to say nothing of being trained for combat.

"Bear in mind that this regiment had had no actual combat training to enable it to take a front line position against veteran German troops. They were spread thin, so thin that a German patrol could easily punch through their lines. Their Negro colonel was in the hospital at the time his men were suddenly ordered to duty and he is reported to have protested vigorously against the assignment, saying it was not fair to his men to place this duty upon them without training.

"So the Germans, finding not only green troops before them, but very few troops, punched ahead, infiltrated behind the American lines, spread panic, and drove our men back a dozen miles. It was several days before the regular 92nd men could be thrown back into the breach, but when they got under way they recovered all the lost ground, as reported in the daily papers here Jan. 2.

"If this is the true story, then the men of the 92nd have a right to be boiling mad. My informant said: 'I saw the big strong men crying in frustrated rage when they read what Gibson had released to the newspapers. It was like putting a sand lot team in Yankee uniforms and then saying the Yankees got shellacked.'

"Again, if this story is true it means that someone higher up was determined to bring discredit on Negroes as fighting men This green regiment was deliberately given an impossible task to "show them up" and reflect on the race. In this war all the jujitsu and dirty fighting was not used on the enemy; the colored boys caught plenty of it."

92nd Division Is Vindicated

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Commander Decorated for Unit's Operations

ALMOND GETS DSM

9-8-45

Credit Given for Gains in Serchio Valley

WASHINGTON

Operations of the 92nd Infantry Division, whose performance in Italy has been alternately praised and damned, were successful, according to a citation awarding the Distinguished Service Medal to Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, its commanding officer.

The citation points out that the division entered combat under adverse conditions and that its troops were spread over a wide area on both sides of the flooded Serchio River, with small detachments scattered throughout the mountains on each side of the valley. Supply across the river was a tremendous problem and communications with the scattered units over bad roads and into the steep mountains were very difficult, the citation states. 9-8-45

Serchio Valley Gains Cited

General Almond is given credit in the citation for the advance which elements of the division made up the Serchio Valley in their first combat assignment in September and October, 1944.

The success with which he solved the problems of supply and communications, the citation states, "is indicated by the fact that the Serchio Valley was cleared of the enemy before the 92nd Division was moved to another sector in October," the citation also states: 9-8-45

Job a "Holding One"

"The division's assignment on the Fifth Army's left flank was a holding one, but he disposed his troops so expertly that the 92nd Division was able to tie down one Italian and two German divisions, preventing their use in more active areas where they were needed.

"With his troops deployed on a front of more than 40 kilometers throughout the winter months, he established an active defense and launched limited-objective attacks while preparing for future operations. 9-8-45

Took Two Cities

"In the initial phase of the Fifth Army's spring offense his division, attacking vigorously, seized the dominating terrain whcih constituted the right anchor of the Gothic Line on the Ligurian Coast and, in ensuing operations, captured La Spezia and the vital port of Genoa.

"Through his determined efforts, the advance of the 92nd Division and attached elements along the Ligurian Coast was conducted with such rapidity that German troops were captured in large numbers and were forcibly prevented from putting into effect their plans to demolish port installations in La Spezia and Genoa.

"His fighting spirit, aggressiveness and rare tactical ability were largely responsible for the success of his division's operations."

General Praises 92nd in Farewell

Afro-American 9-8-45

ITALY — "Always take pride in what you have done when you return to civilian life. Take credit for your accomplishments. You have enough to be proud of — remember that." Balt. Md.

Thus spoke Maj. Gen. E. M. Almond recently in his farewell address to men of the 92nd Division which he activated, trained and led into combat.

92nd's Action Brings Award

While leader of the 92nd, General Almond was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star he received during World War I 9-8-45

The cluster was for his planning and execution of an active defense on a broad front with a minimum number of troops throughout last winter's grueling campaign and for the whirlwind drive he led up the Ligurian coast to crush the last remnants of the enemy in that sector.

92nd Veterans Land in States

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Among 500 Troops to Arrive at Shanks

2 FROM BALTIMORE

Jap Surrender Halted Plans for Pacific Trip

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CAMP SHANKS, N.Y.—Among the 500 colored troops arriving at Piermont Pier on the Sea Scamp Wednesday, were combat veterans of the 92nd Infantry Division who fought the enemy to a standstill in Italy. 9-15-45

Most of the men had at least three battle stars, Bronze Stars, good conduct medals, and quite a few had been decorated with the Purple Heart.

In Aviation Squadrons

Transferred only last July to the 480th, 483rd, 484th and 485th Aviation Squadrons, most of the troops had seen plenty of action as members of the 365th, 370th and 371st Infantry Regiments.

These soldiers were scheduled to go to the South Pacific and were in Naples staging area when the news of victory over Japan was announced. They went wild with joy on learning they would be heading back to the States.

Many Overseas 32 Months

The Sea Scamp left Naples on Aug. 25. Souvenirs brought back by the veterans include German Luger pistols, German P-38's, which are light pistols, and Italian berets. Some of the boys learned how to speak Italian well.

Most of the men in the 484th Aviation Squadron have been overseas 32 months or more and have at least 82 service points.

Among the men interviewed by the AFRO were six colored officers. They were:

Capt. Robert Hough of Catesville, Pa., Lts. Paul Adams of Greenville, S.C., and Stanley L. Braithwaite of New York City, all of the 484th Aviation Squadron and Capt. Robert W. Hainsworth Houston, Tex.; Lts. Oscar J. Young, Milwaukee, Wis., and Thomas Augustine, Oberlin, Ohio, all of the 485th Aviation Squadron. 9-15-45

Former D.C. Patrolman

A former D.C. patrolman, Capt. Hough, previously was with the 365th Infantry Regiment in the 92nd, has 3 battle stars, a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and a combat infantry badge.

"The men are darn glad to ge back," he told the AFRO. "The had a tough life and did a goo job."

Wanted to Stay in Italy

Lt. Adams, who once served as an intelligence officer with the "not too happy about coming back, as Italy is a beautiful country and a good place to live in."

Lt. Braithwaite, on the other hand, was "very happy to be back in the States."

He was wounded while serving with the 599th Field Artillery of the 92nd, has 3 battle stars, a Purple Heart and a Bronze Medal.

Baltimoreans in Group

Former 92nd enlisted men arriving on the Sea Scamp included: Cpls. Clarence Darden and Cecil Bolding of Baltimore; Christopher Blassingame, Philadelphia; Pvt. Joseph F. Booth, Washington; Pfc. Carol Bailey, Philadelphia, all of the 483rd Squadron, and Sgt. Earl Cabell, Newark, of the 484th.

Also with the 484th was Cpl. Richard Woodridge of Newark who served with the 909th Air Base Security Battalion attached to the 15th Air Force. He has four battle stars and has been in the service three years.

"Felt Free Again"

"I felt like a bird when the news of victory came," Corporal Blassingame told the AFRO. "I felt free again." He has three battle stars.

Pvt. Booth, who fought with the 371st Infantry and has 2 battle stars, said he considered the battle of Pietrasanta the toughest because of the heavy artillery fire and natural mountain barriers that had to be crossed.

"I really appreciate being back after going through such arduous battles," he said.

Pvt. Wardlow, who was with the 371st Infantry and has 3 battle stars said, "I feel great on being back. I'm going to call my wife from Camp Shanks."

Tells of Narrow Escape

Cpl. Clandes Marchbanks of Youngstown, Ohio, also of the 92nd, was almost captured during the battle of Pietrasanta, when an enemy patrol attacked the house in which he and 10 other men were staying.

The intruders, however, were frightened off, he said, when the officer in charge fired a carbine at one of the men who had crept into the room where Marchbanks and the officer were staying.

Given Steak Dinners

All the troops were taken to Camp Shanks upon debarkation and given steak dinners with all the trimmings, including double portions of ice cream and cake.

After 24-hour processing, they were sent to various reception centers nearest their homes.

Among other men from nearby and New York City aboard the Sea Scamp were:

NEWARK

Pfc. Robert H. Scott, 28 Avon Pl.; T/4 Otis T. Boatwright, 17 Rose St.; Pfc. James Evans, 37 Barclay St.; Pfc. Lester Mitchell, 42 Pennington St.; Pfc. Thomas Orr, 105 Waverly Ave.; Pfc. Charles D. Simmons, 531 Bergen St.; Pfc. John Burkhalter, 173 Howard St.; Pfc. Benjamin DeShazior, 118 Wright St.; Pfc. James H. Thomas, 32 Chester Ave.; Pfc. George Ingram, 365 Bergen St.;

Sgt. Earl C. Cabell, 274 Prince St.; Cpl. Samuel J. Donaldson, 416 Woodside Ave.; Cpl. Paris Gregory, 139 Fleming St.; Cpl. Richard Woolridge, 108 Warren St.; Pfc. James A. Clark, 70 Monmouth St.; Pvt. James Bell, 62 Barclay St.; Pvt. Gerald B. Spencer, 45 Crawford St.; Pvt. Herbert B. Jones, 29 Hillside St.;

NEW YORK CITY

Cpl. Cecil V. McAdams, S/Sgt. Austin G. Alexander, S/Sgt. Cieto Hewlett, Sgt. Punter W. Jack, T/5 Aldred H. Harrison, Sgt. Leviticus Bacon; Sgt. James W. Mitchell, T/5 Robert A. Bulger, Pfc. George Morgan, Pfc. Thomas Wilson, Pvt. Angel W. Castro, Pvt. LaGrain O. Garrett, Pvt. Francis Mitchell;

Cpl. Johnnie Young, Pfc. O. H. Hudmon, Pfc. Connie J. Smith, Pfc. Bishop C. Rouse, Pfc. Herbert E. Spears, Pvt. Leslie N. Foster, Pfc. John T. I. Smith, T/5 Stanley A. Smith, Pfc. Louis Ball, Pfc. Anderson G. Bell, Pfc. Clarence E. Thompson, Pfc. Boston A Wingate;

Pvt. Wardlow Desmond, Pvt. George Foster, Cpl. James T. Leak, Pfc. Charles W. Congress, Pvt. Leonard N. Nelson, Cpl. William Allen, Cpl. Lincoln Shufford, Pfc. Gerald O. Sewell, Pfc. Henderson Ward Jr., Pvt. Fred Killingsworth and Pvt. Arthur Williams.

BALTIMORE

Pfc. Mason A. Hawkins, 1532 Druid Hill Ave.; Pvt. Howard E. Garner, 1308 Myrtle Ave.; Pvt. Paul W. Speaks, 1341 N. Stricker St.; Pfc. David Collins, 503 N. Stricker St.; Pfc. George O. Frisby, 421 Foster Ave.; Pfc. Henry Jones, 30 Regester St.; Pvt. Irving Nelson, 1616 Bradley Ave.; Pvt. John A. Smith, 102 Fleming Dr.; Pvt. William I. Wells, 2515 Madison Ave.;

Cpl. Howard M. Wilks, 1029 W. Lexington St.; Pfc. Dalfield M. Jordon, 2228 Etting St.; Pfc. Charles E. Poole, 16 N. Bruce St.; Pvt. Thomas E. Williams, 556 Presstman St.; Cpl. Cecil A. Bolding, 908 Central Ave.; Cpl. Burford E. Monroe, 1155 N. Stricker St.; Pfc. James J. Allen, 4 N. Stockton St.; Pfc. Chauncey M. Davis, 1135 N. Gilmor St.; Pfc. Bruce A. Williams, 139 W. Preston St.;

First Sgt. Marion G. Evans, 1317 N. Central Ave.; Sgt. Atlas M. Adams, 921 N. Central Ave.; Cpl. Ralph W. Doran, 1218 Division St.; Pfc. Calvin N. Tinson, 1436 E. Madison St.; Pvt. Alfred Kidd, 1023 N. Wolfe St.; Pfc. Harry Dorsey, 514 Bloom St.; Pvt. Octavious Clark, 1025 Edmondson Ave.; Pvt. Theodore Donnelly, 1707 Llewelyn Ave.; Pvt. Elmer White, 508 Carey St. Cpl. Raymond Winkler, 522 N. Carey St.

PHILADELPHIA

Sgt. Frederick Vaughn, 3838 N. Cevier St.; Cpl. James H. Carter, 27 N. Peach St.; Cpl. Warren Ford, 672 N. 79th St.; Pfc. Walter Harlee, 2547 Ellsworth St.; Pvt. Wesley Roache, 754 S. 15th St.; Cpl. James Kelly, 44 W. Wayata St.; Pfc. John H. Bell Jr., 1530 N. 13th St.; Pfc. Emmitt K. Holland, 3111 Croskey;

Pvt. Freddie Carter, 1627 W. Morris St.; Pvt. Robert Dent, 8418 Bartram Ave.; Pvt. Leroy White, 701 Brooklyn St.; Pfc. Kenneth L. Baylor, 48 53rd St.; Pfc. Richmond B. Crim, 1746 Woodstock; Pfc. Alphonso Davis, 2405 Warmach St.; Pfc. Jesse Dawkins, 926 S. 11th St.; T/5 John Barr, 1110 Pine St.;

Pvt. Ralph N. Kyser, 132 Manton St.; Sgt. Marion Jones, 2700 W. Oxford St.; Pfc. Carol Bailey, 528 Dudley St.; Pfc. Frederick W. Bryant, 1323 Bouvier St.; Pfc. Floyd Hill, 2150 N. 21st St.; Pfc. Joseph Hughes, 22 E. Collom St.; Pfc. Kelly Beard, 2546 Grays Ferry Ave.; Pvt. William R. Douglas, 2118 Naudain St.;

Pfc. John W. Lee, 2115 W. Dauphin St.; Pfc. Raymond W. Wing, 2131 Earp St.; Cpl. Samuel E. Eastom, 5047 Haverford Ave.; Pfc. Clarence Gordon, 5509 Blackman St.; Pfc. Lawrence A. Thomas, 1505 French St.; Pvt. James C. Parks, 1914 Annin St.; Pvt. Franklin Richards, 4717 Runnard St.;

RICHMOND

M Sgt. William N. Dickerson, 1205 N. 1st. St.; Pfc. Samuel J. Briley, 1928 Jay St.; Pfc. Solomon Johnson, 2807 Nine Nile Rd.; Pfc. William Robinson, 1010 N. 1st. St. and Pfc. Phillip Thompson, 1321 N. 32nd St.; Pfc. Nathaniel Hunter, 1912 Wood St.; Pfc. Melvin Calvin, 30 Denny St.; Pvt. Henry J. Fisher, RFD-3.

WASHINGTON

Pfc. Rudolph V. Davis, 203 Myrtle St., N.E.; T/5 Harmon E. Pair, 734 Park Road, N.W.; Pfc. Henry J. Brown, 338 W. St. N.W.; T/4 Bethune Rollinson, 116 16th St., N.E.; Pfc. Charles Chandler, 728 19th St., N.E. Pfc. Ralph C. Coleman, 251 Eve St., N.W.; Pfc. Walter Sims, 502 Second St., N.W.; Pfc. Morris M. Hall, 1013 New Jersey Ave., S.E.;

Pfc. James Jackson, 1502 Kingman Pl.; Pfc. Harry M. Lane, 953 26th St., N.W.; Pfc. Clarence L. Medley, 4529 Dick St.; Pfc. Neal Harris Jr., 5500 Sheriff Road, N.E.; Pfc. Clifton Tyler, 2602 Bowen Rd., S.E.; Pvt. Charles T. Brown, 2812 13th St., N.W.; Pvt. Clarence E. Ford, 1345 28th St., N.W.; Pfc. Clyde G. Lessane, 812 Vernon St., N.W. Pfc. Calvin A. Pollard, 1743 Swan St., N.W.; Cpl. Harry T. Humphries, 950 Florida Ave., N.W. Cpl. Herman L. Jones;

WASHINGTON

Pfc. John E. Bailey, 800 44th St.; Pfc. Joseph F. Booth, 1531 6th St.; Pfc. John Powell, 30 K St., N.E.; Pvt. Louis W. Ferguson, 2226 G St., N.W.; S/Sgt. Ralph B. Gilmore, 1021 51st St., N.E.; Cpl. Jerome King, 14 Defrees St., N.W.; Cpl. Phillip L. Thomas, 4623 Hunt Place, N.E.; Pfc. John E. Dean, 24 B St., N.E.; Pfc. Robert L. Autry, 515 N. Peary St.

92nd Veterans Forced to Clean Ft. Benning Latrines

Afro-American

Former Prisoners of War Say Duty "Bitter Pill to Swallow"

Baltimore, Md.

(Continued from Page 1)

liberation, describe Fort Benning as worse than the Nazi prison hovels because of the "vicious" race discriminatoin at the camp and in the surrounding area.

"Bitter Pill for Combat Vets to Swallow"

In a letter to the AFRO this week, a member of the 92nd who has fought in every battle, was wounded and taken prisoner, writing for himself and other members, reports that their plight is "a bitter pill for combat men to swallow."

(Stories of similar mistreatment of white combat veterans hit the papers this week. At Santa Ana, Calif., 40 veterans and former prisoners of war, were placed on KP duty. Brig. Gen. Arthur E. Easterbrook, commanding officer, announced Monday, however, that the KP assignment was "an administrative error which I have corrected.")

The treatment accorded the 92nd veterans has been called to the attention of the War Department, which is investigating, a spokesman told the AFRO. 10-13-45

Following are excerpts from the letter to the AFRO:

"Many of our comrades we left lying in the dust of central Italy, many more in the ice and snow of the Appenines Mountains. Others moved on to capture key cities in the famous Po Valley offensive. And yet others like us rotted in German prison camps until the glad day of liberation.

No J.C. in German Prison Camps

"First of all, the front-line carries no discrimination. Neither, for that matter, did the German prison camps, but the prison camp that is called Fort Benning, Gt., is worse than Dachau or Nurnberg or Parma or Bologna or Luxembourg.

"When we returned to the States a grateful Government gave us a short furlough, a lovely rest in the Dennis Hotel on the boardwalk in Atlantic City. Obviously we were being fattened for the kill.

"Then the ungrateful Government sentenced us to Fort Benning, Ga. (Infantry School). Upon arriving we found that the Infantry School is a Service Battalion.

"Our main occupation is to wash pots, and keep the barracks and latrines clean for officer candidates.

"We have many pass privileges to Georgia, a State whose theme is suppression and degradation. It is a bitter pill for a combat man to swallow. We've trained hard.

"Regardless of popular opinion, General Almond (Ma Gen. Edward M. Almond, 92nd C.O.) deserves laurels for the strict training we received. It made hardened soldiers out of raw recruits. We were prepared to accept all hardship with a grim sort of logic, but now we're in a labor section, service battalion.

"What Crime Have We Committed?"

"Why should ex-prisoners of war be treated thusly economically, so they palm this fear off as race hatred. When What crime have we committed? Yesterday I observed I see people afraid to walk the streets, afraid to talk or speak German cutting grass. Today I observed an American soldier, colored, cutting grass in the same area. It is obvious for their rights, I shudder.

S.S. Troops No Worse Than Georgia Cops

"Hitler is no more a war criminal than Sen. Eastland. The S.S. Troops are no more vicious than the city police of Columbus, Ga.

"The Gestapo is a religious fraternity compared to the people of Georgia. And the German prison camp at Munichsburg is much better than the guardhouse here in Fort Benning.

"We ex-prisoners of war have made every sacrifice to further the war effort, hoping that some of the conditions that existed in this country might be changed. We have hoped in vain. We have suffered in vain and your friends, fathers, husbands, sons, sweethearts have died in vain."

743rd Vets Told to Police Grounds at Fort Dix, N. J.

FORT DIX, N.J.—Members of the 743rd Military Police unit, veterans of two years service in Africa and Italy, who arrived in the States September 21, were assigned to police the grounds when they reported here two days later.

Why Should Race Baiters Live in Peace?

"How are we to be justified for fighting the Jew 'haiters' when the Negro 'baiters' live in peace in our own backyard? We don't advocate anarchy, but we would gladly attack Georgia as readily as we attacked Lucca or more so.

"We can't see why clear sighted people can't realize that here is the most potent case of slave-labor ever conceived.

"The Georgia 'crackers' are afraid of colored people

56n-1945

6-Month Record of 92nd Reviewed by War Dept.

Balt. Md. 4-14-45

238 Win Merit Awards; 1377 Purple Hearts; 7 Commissioned; Heroes, Artillery Praised

ITALY—Since their first combat team crossed the Arno River last September to capture the City of Lucca, men of the 92nd Infantry Division have won 238 merit awards and 1377 Purple Hearts, the War Department announced Monday.

The former included 7 awards of the Legion of Merit, 65 Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, and 4 Air Medals.

7 Commissioned

At the end of their first six months in combat, the "Buffaloes" had received 5,991 Combat Infantryman Badges. Altogether, 7,000 officers and men of the division had received recognition for their efforts in action against the enemy.

Seven men who stood out in the field of battle had earned commissions on the spot and many others were being considered.

Little Change in Position

Regarding operations, the War Department report said that the 92nd Division had seen only negligible changes in its front-line positions.

It pointed out that one major drive, launched in February, gained some ground before the Germans sacrificed much in men and materiel in pushing the division back to its original starting point.

3 Officers Among Heroes

Listed as heroes of the division's first half-year of combat were Capt. Charles F. Gandy and Second Lt. Theodore O. Smith of Washington, D.C.; Sgt. Rodger Holmes of Hodges, S.C.; Maj. Willis D. Polk, Philadelphia; Sgt. Jefferson H. Hilliard, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pfc. James Robinson, Atlantic City, N.J., and Pvt. Jake McInnis, Prentiss, Miss.

Those commissioned as second lieutenants while on the battlefield were First Sgt. Gilbert Boothe, Forsythe, Ga.; First Sgt. Joseph Bracy, Boston, Mass.; T/Sgt. Frank Whisonant, Washington, D.C.; T/Sgt. Joseph Fry, Homestead, Pa.; T/Sgt. William Hicks, Cleveland, Ohio; T/Sgt. Caesar O. Rucker, Fort Sam Houston, Tex.; S/Sgt. Ernest L. Carlton, NYC, and T/Sgt. John Birdsong, Washington, D.C.

Pricking of the German lines by patrols, which constantly probed for weak points in the coastal ramparts of the Gothic Line, characterized the chief activity of the 92nd Division, the War Department stated.

Baltimorean Cited

In the course of one patrol action, S/Sgt. Mansfield Mason of Baltimore, Md., notably distinguished himself by heroic conduct.

Acting on information that some Germans had been seen to enter a house near a certain village, Mason's patrol, under the command of Second Lt. Wilbur E. Ledbetter of Washington, D.C., surrounded the building and effectively covered all its approaches.

S/Sgt. Mason then crawled to within 30 feet of the dwelling in the face of withering machine gun fire. He hurled three hand grenades into the building and shifted his position slightly. Out walked five Germans, including an officer, to surrender.

Artillery Praised

Among men of non-combatant units who also won their share of awards was Pfc. Walter L. Gillis of Jonesboro, N.C., a member of a medical detachment, who administered first aid to members of an attacking platoon while intense enemy fire created havoc with the terrain.

The War Department report included comments from Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, 92nd commander, who describes his division's artillery as "magnificent," and from Chief of Staff George C. Marshall, who after inspecting the division, said that what he had seen in Italy was "very reassuring."

92nd Advances on Italian Front

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—(By Cable) — This whole Italian front swung into action Monday, opening a large-scale spring offensive which is designed to annihilate larger forces of German troops now trapped in Northern Italy.

The majority of the fighting to date by the 92nd since the jump-off last week, including the capture of the towns of Massa and Carrara on the Ligurian Sea coastal sector of this Fifth Army front, has been done by 442nd and 473rd Infantry Regiments, both of which are now operating with this division. 4-28-45

370th In Action

The former is a Japanese-American unit and the latter is a white American unit recently converted from an ack-ack outfit. The 92nd's 370th Infantry Regiment participated in the jump-off and fighting prior to the fall of Massa.

Following the Eighth Army's action ten days ago in an Adriatic costal sector and the 92nd push two days later, other Fifth Army troops launched an attack Monday marking the first time this entire front has been active this year. 4-28-45

Allied units fighting side by side in this new offensive across this peninsula include Americans of both races, British, South Africans, Brazilians, Polish, Indians, Italians, and Jewish brigades.

The Allies on this front are facing some of Hitler's best trained divisions. These troops have been blocked by our air force from escaping through the Brenner pass back to Germany, and as a result have had many months to prepare excellent defensive positions and thoroughly mine vulnerable areas.

Pilots Support Drive

Fighter pilots of the 15th Army Air Force have for past week operated in direct support of preparations for this new Italian front offensive.

Aided by perfect weather, these pilots have escorted 15th AAF heavy bombers striking at enemy installations against which spearheads of attack were aimed. On other occasions the group strafed similar jerry installations.

Few troops here, even recently captured German prisoners queried on subject, believe President Roosevelt's death will have much bearing on the length and outcome of the war.

It is generally conceded that offensive plans have long been laid minutely and will be followed regardless. 4-28-45

Mention of the post war period in Europe, though, is subject for much controversial discussion among GI's here at present.

Gen. Mark W. Clark, 15th Army group commander, conducted services in Florence Sunday in honor of the late President drawing attendance from all races on this front. Throughout the 92nd, chaplains included similar observances in their services in this forward area.

Foreign Service-

92nd Division

Sergeant Emerges A Hero

The Call Kansas City Mo.

Nazis Surrender When Grenades Find Hiding Place

1-26-45

By MAX JOHNSON
NNPA War Correspondent

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY. — The heroic action of S-Sgt. Mansfield Mason of Baltimore resulted in the capture of an entire German patrol, Mason's feat being the outstanding one Among many reconnaissance thrusts made by both sides over the week-end.

The captured German patrol included a German lieutenant, a sergeant and three enlisted men.

Reports reached S-Sgt. Mason's company at an advanced command post that a German patrol was seen to enter a house shortly before daybreak.

Second Lieut. Wilbur Ledbetter of Washington, one of the officers stationed at this front line area, was immediately dispatched with a small patrol of which S-Sgt. was a member to capture or kill the Germans.

Moving across the mined area up a hilly slope, Lt. Ledbetter's patrol surrounded the house where the Germans were hiding at 8 o'clock. The enemy outlook spotted them in the breaking daylight and opened fire.

The 92nd patrol realized the exchange of fire would accomplish little and the question arose of somebody's attempting to approach the house close enough to try to rout the Germans with hand grenades. 1-26-45

S-Sgt. Mason promptly volunteered for this assignment and slowly began crawling toward the house, which was over 150 yards away. While the rest of his patrol attempted to cover his approach by concentrated fire on the house, one of the Germans spotted Mason and opened fire on him with an automatic pistol.

Mason continued his slow crawling forward despite the fire until he was within 30 feet of the house. Then he suddenly raised on his knees and hurled three hand grenades in quick succession inside the house through a window, miraculously escaping the bullets from the German's automatic pistol which was still firing at him. 1-26-45

Mason's grenades fell with such deadly accuracy that the German officer deemed it wise to surrender himself and his four men immediately.

One of the Germans stuck his rifle with a white piece of cloth on it through the doorway and a few seconds after Ledbetter stopped his patrol's fire, the Germans filed outside, hands raised in surrender.

Fall Of La Spezia To 92nd Actual End Of War In Italy

Pittsburgh Courier 5-12-45 Pgh., Pa.

By COLLINS GEORGE, Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN GENOA—(Via Cable)—V-E Day came as an anticlimax to men fighting in this theatre as the debacle of German troops has long been apparent to men who, for more than a week, followed in the wake of the fleeing Germans. Negro troops were on nearly all sections of the Fifth Army front at the end of fighting in Italy but did very little in the way of fighting as Jerry did not stop to fight.

Following the fall of La Spezia the war was over and there remained for the Ninety-second Division only the problem of taking over cities and towns liberated by Partisan revolution and German evacuation. Leaving other correspondents at La Spezia, I hitchhiked to Genoa, joining the hub to hub movement of men and materials and vehicles that lined the road there.

RIDES TANK, JEEP

5-12-45

I had no trouble hitchhiking. First Lieut. Henry L. Mills of Detroit, and his driver, T/4 McKenna Jordan of Rand, W.Va., both of the 758th Tank Battalion, picked me up and riding both in tank and jeep, I heard the story of the 758th spearhead push into La Spezia.

Changing cars at Chiavari, I rode into Genoa with Capt. Thomas G. McFall of Charleston, S.C., and First Lieut. Richard A. Granger of Corona, L.I., medics of the 758th. From here into Columbus' birthplace was a triumphal procession as Italians lined the road tossing flowers of all descriptions at every vehicle that passed. Arriving at Genoa at nightfall we ran into street fighting between Partisans and Fascists, the latter making a futile last ditch stand.

T/3 Aldric Allen of Port au Prince, Trinidad, loaned me his cot for the night and I fell asleep while discussing Oklahoma school days with Capt. Jaun Tero Bennett whom I taught at Langston.

Next morning I met two men from the Air Force, both of whom served with Partisans after being shot down in Northern Italy and both of whom escaped from the Nazi prison camp in Genoa during the Partisan revolt. When I asked them about men of Col. B. O. Davis Jr., 332nd Fighter Group, they told me it was a Nazi boast that no Negro pilot was ever taken prisoner but the cemetery in the Udine area of Northern Italy was the billet for all Davis' men who fell into Nazi hands.

5-12-45

That evening I went to Allesandria which the Ninety-second Division had taken over, and leaving there went on to Turin, which a few hours before recon troops of the Ninety-second had taken over from Partisans who had overwhelmed Negro GIs of the division with enthusiastic welcome. On the way back from Turin to Genoa I met Brazalian troops on their way to take over the city but it is an incontrovertible fact that Negro troops of the Ninety-second Division were the first Allied troops in Turin.

GIVEN WARM WELCOME

The following day Captain Taylor and his driver, T/5 Ernest L. Jackson and I set out to find a shorter route to Savona into which units of the white 473rd Regiment, attached to the division, moved into the day before. Riding over precipitious mountain trails we entered villages into which no Allied troops had been at all. Partisans with guns leveled at us feared we were hated Germans fleeing in American costume until we produced identifications.

Once they recognized us, however, flowers, applause and all manner of blessings were showered upon us. Mustering every bit of English they knew, they would say "God bless you," "Welcome" or "You should have come sooner."

Rumors of peace had been flying in the air for days and the wholesale surrender of Jerry units trapped in mountains and upper Po Valley made official announcement of the end of fighting anticlimactic. Men who had chased Jerry for days knew that all fighting had gone and the great question was "What's to become of us now?"

5-12-45

On other parts of the front two battalions of the 370th cleared Serchio Valley and gave chase after Jerry. In some places the regiment was so close upon Germans that they crossed wooden bridges set afire by Jerry before flames had a chance to work destruction.

GUARD PRISONERS

Deeper in mountains east of Serchio Valley the 365th Regiment had the same experience but when the Po Valley was reached, men of the unit were put to guarding an enormous bag of Jerry prisoners and now one battalion is reported serving as port battalion in Naples.

Still farther to the east the 371st Infantry Regiment upheld the flank of the Tenth Mountain Division but later joined the ranks of those guarding Nazi prisoners when the Po Valley rout began.

While no Negro combat units fought in or near Bologna, on the day following capture of that town I saw truck loads of men of the 224th Engineers, whose enlisted men were drawn from the defunct 366th Infantry Regiment, on the way to Bologna to begin important work of reconstruction.

QUESTIONS FUTURE

War is now over in Italy for these men but they are just beginning to worry over their future.

5-12-45

"Will we go home?" "Will the division be put back together again?" "Can I go back to the South after the democratic kindliness of the Italians?" are just a few of the queries men ask me. I can tell them nothing as I don't know. But events of the next few weeks will give them all the answers.

Some observers express the opinion that the division will be broken up, inasmuch as many of the members will be released from service under the new point system, and because of the "inadequacy of training as a complete fighting outfit."

It is believed, too, that selected regiments which saw considerable combat action in Italy will be shipped to the Pacific theatre.

Another theory is that portions of the Ninety-second will be shifted from infantry to service units.

C. O. Praises His Men

'92nd Performed Splendidly'—Almond

Pittsburgh Courier 6-2-45 Pgh. Pa.

GENOA, Italy—"The Ninety-second Division and its supporting troops have performed splendidly," Maj. Gen. E. M. Almond, commanding general, declared in a special message to officers and enlisted men who staged a surprise in the last stages of the war by beating back the Germans and taking several important Italian cities.

"Without the arduous effort and unselfish cooperation on the part of each of you, it would not have been possible to secure the results obtained in so short a time," General Almond continued. "The speed with which our forces reached and occupied Genoa was a distinct surprise not only to the enemy but to our own high command. I am sure there exists in each of you a deep appreciation of a task well done and a satisfaction that will remain with you throughout your lives."

In the pointed message, the general said:

"Following an arduous period of preparation and training, our units moved to the Italian theatre, and some six months ago entered active combat. Experience has taught us much, and has enabled us, during the past month, to have a part in driving a resourceful, cunning and well-trained foe from his chosen defensive positions. Great loss has been inflicted on the 148th German Division and elements of two Italitn Fascist divisions. Three German infantry regiments were driven disorganized from the field and the Fascist units were forced to flee in confusion, abandoning their arms. The enemy losses in killed and wounded were enormous, and many have become our prisoners."

6-2-45

The Ninety-second Division, now a part of the U. S. Fifth Army, is expected to be one of the outfits to return to the United States at an early date. Although not made official, it has been reported that personnel of the division will report to the home station at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., after individual furloughs are completed.

Future of the Ninety-second as a unit has caused much speculation. Nazis on the west coast of Italy were strong and the division lacked the numerical strength to launch the attack.

Admitting that the 92nd, supplemented by another regiment, had been driven back with "a bloody nose," he said that the same thing had happened to other inexperienced divisions and that the 92nd later was able to take all of its objectives.

Against Removal of 92nd

The general, who also expressed belief that he and his men would be assigned to Australia, declared, "There were reports about taking the 92nd from me, but if they had, I would have protested loudly."

Lieutenant Loving, a forward aerial observer of headquarters battery of the 600th Field Artillery, 92nd Division, was flown in 175 air missions. A former clerk-typist, he wears an Air Medal with a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster and three battle stars.

Got 2 of Last Nazi Planes

Lieutenant Jefferson, a 332nd pilot, destroyed two of the last Nazi planes credited to the 15th AAF, getting 2 ME-109's on April 6. Commissioned a flight officer on Feb. 26, he has the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters.

A former garage mechanic, Sergeant Zachary T. Love, mortar platoon leader with the 371st Infantry, has a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, and ETO ribbon with three battle stars.

Master Sergeant Chaney, who has been with General Clark for many years, has served in England, North Africa and Italy. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, and six battle stars. He was a machine operator in civilian life.

Gen. Clark Proud of 92nd's Record

After American Baltimore, Md.

Praises Tan Warriors on Tour with Heroes

FOUR IN PARTY

5th Army Expected to Go to Australia

6-9-45

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Fresh from the Italian campaign, Gen. Mark W. Clark, speaking during a Memorial Day ceremony here, credited the defeat of the powerful Nazis to his all-American Army, hailing the 92nd Division as "the glorified 92nd."

The general, who also paid tribute to the 332nd Fighter Group, arrived here with fifty-two heroes, four of whom were colored, in C-54 transport planes accompanied by swarms of fighter planes.

6-9-45

The colored members of the party were 1st Lts. Albert A. Loving and Thomas W. Jefferson and Sgt. Zachary T. Love, all of this city, and M/Sgt. William C. Chaney of Washington, the Fifth Army commanding general's orderly.

Explaining the battle behavior of the 92nd Division, General Clark said that its first assignment was tough inasmuch as the

Wounded 92nd Heroes In Va. Hospital Tell Courage Of Div.s on Under Fire

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

5-5-45

CAMP PICKETT, Va. — As each new train load of casualties arrives at the huge U.S. General hospital here, a new chapter is written in the combat history of the Negro 92nd Infantry Division front in Italy. Each train brings one or more men from the 92nd; each man brings new material for the chronicler.

Each page has a different plot—each plot its own odd twist—but the time and place are always the same—Somewhere in Italy.

Men of the 92nd had to have guts. Take the case of Captain Edgar B. Felton, of Washington, D. C., CO of Company A, 371st Infantry regiment. After having one of his kidneys ripped out by shrapnel, Captain Felton refused medical aid for himself and ordered the medics to care for his wounded men. He then staggered unassisted back to his command post to report that his forward platoons were pinned down in a German minefield.

And the "Buffaloes" had to have grit. Pfc. C. V. Hudson of Wagoner, S. C., a rifleman with Company L of the 371st Infantry, lay in the snow near Gallicano with a bullet through his chest and listened to a searching party from his own company as they frantically called his name—a call he couldn't answer because each time he tried to speak his mouth choked up with blood. He was forced to lay there helpless and unnoticed as his only means of rescue passed within a few feet.

Crawls Through Snow

Hudson lay there all night choking and bleeding in the snow and when morning came, unable to crawl because of his gaping chest wound, he sat up with his back in the direction of his command post. His feet dragging behind him, looking over his shoulder in the direction of his own lines, he literally pushed his near lifeless body backward across the snow for a quarter mile before he was spotted by aid men and picked up.

Fast thinking is necessary in battle. Private First Class Dugar Lee, of Columbia, S. C., though wounded by mortar fire and cut off from his company by the Germans, stayed three days inside the German lines and is living today to add his bit to the story of the 92nd Division.

5-5-45

A member of Company G of the 366th Infantry, Lee was on an outpost near Borgia, Italy, when he and members of his squad were cut off from his company and trapped in an Italian house.

They fought off all German attempts to drive them from the dwelling and finally forced Jerries to call for artillery.

Watches Germans

When the artillery barrage came, most of the men got out of the house but Lee was seriously wounded by shrapnel. Unable to go with his buddies, he unselfishly insisted that they leave him and save themselves.

That night, Lee crawled from the house and dragged his wounded body to the building where his command post had been, only to be told by a woman Italian Partisan that the Germans were now in possession of the town. Crawling into the basement of the house, the wounded infantryman lay there for three days watching the Germans prepare for a counter-attack by the Allies.

On the second day, Allied planes flew over and gave the town a terrific pounding, blowing up the house next to the one where Lee lay. At one time the Germans actually entered the house to set up an antiaircraft gun but changed their minds.

5-5-45

On the fourth day, the Allies attacked and retook the town and the wounded rifleman was saved.

How Gandy Won Star

It's hard to get Sergeant Roscoe Thompson, of Norfolk, Va., to tell you how he got wounded fighting with the 92nd Division in Italy, because the husky Virginia Union graduate always ends up by telling you what a great guy Captain Charles G. Gandy was.

Captain Gandy was Thompson's commanding officer in Company F of the 370th Infantry Regiment, which was the first unit of the 92nd Division to cross the Arno River last fall. For his "gallantry in action" while leading Thompson and his company, Captain Gandy was posthumously awarded the Silver Star on March 5, 1945.

"Captain Gandy was a brave man," spoke Thompson admiringly. "When he got killed, he was 75 yards out in front of the company. He always took the lead when we were attacking. A sniper got him first with a rifle shot and when we started up to get him, we got pinned down with machinegun fire. The Jerries turned a machinegun on him as he lay there on the ground—just to make sure they had him."

Announce Citation

The citation accompanying the award of the Silver Star to Captain Gandy provides official concurrence to Thompson's eulogy. Released this week by the War department, the citation, in part, reads as follows:

"Captain Gandy was ordered to deploy his company in reinforcement of another company in position on difficult mountainous terrain. He personally led his company out in broad daylight and, through further reconnaissance and by personal example of leadership, succeeded in getting his entire company across a canal with an abrupt twelve-foot wall. This was accomplished in rain and under extremely heavy enemy fire.

"Halting the company at its intermediate objective, Captain Gandy went forward alone to reconnoiter the route of the next movement. While engaged in this activity, he was mortally wounded by enemy machinegun fire. His outstanding gallantry and leadership in combat exemplifies the heroic traditions of the United States army."

Lauds Medics

You can't forget the medics, either, when you are talking to Sergeant Thompson. "Those guys really deserve a lot of credit," he asserted. "They come right up in the lines where the bullets are flying and carry men out. The day I got hit, a medic drove a jeep right up on that hill to the front and got me, and in 45 minutes I was at the head aid station getting treatment."

5-5-45

"How I got hit? Oh, it was just one of those things, I guess," said Thompson. "I left my foxhole to go down to the command post to get the password for the night and was about three feet from my foxhole on my way back, when the Jerries fired a mortar from the reverse side of the hill. It landed next door to me."

Sergeant Thompson was wounded by shell fragments in his back, chest, throat and legs.

Scientist Defends 92d from Newsweek Attack

Afro-American Balt. Md.

[The following letter was sent to the editor of Newsweek Magazine by Dr. Percy L. Julian, director of research and manager of the Fine Chemicals Department at Glidden Company, Chicago.]

3-24-45

"Editor, Newsweek: Your report entitled 'The Luckless 92nd' (Newsweek, February 26) is an unhappy and luckless bit of writing. Psychologically it is a distortion of two 'must' grace to the intelligence of News week's reporting, for on the surface it not only reads like hitting a man when he's 'down' but mauling him when he's 'out.'

"The 'supersensitivity' which Milton Bracker ineptly ascribes to the colored press is shared by every thinking colored person, and indeed should be shared by every thinking white, with regard to the colored people in the U.S. Army. There is hardly a colored person alive who does not consider the Army's segregation principle as 'insult No. 1' to his dignity and self respect.

"Every high school youngster knows the story of how, here in Chicago, Filipinos and Chinese were enlisted on the day after Pearl Harbor and colored boys in the same line of volunteers were turned back 'because provisions haven't yet been made for Negro Divisions.'

Southern General

"Yours and other reports talk of Patton's men, Hodges' men, etc., but you neglected to mention that the 92nd 'belonged' to a Southern white general, put over it, we are told, because he 'understood the boys from the South.'

3-24-45

"How does our understanding Southern gentleman take the defeat? Does he acknowledge any of it as his fault or is it merely further proof that 'Negro soldiers are not fit for front-line combat?'

"From Fort Huachuca where the 92nd was trained, many of us have veritable volumes to prove that they fought a war against home intolerance long before they reached the front.

"That 'casualties were high,' according to your report, shows that they did die. Some of us wonder how a man can gladly die for so little in return and your reporting certainly makes one wonder even more.

3-24-45

Hypocrisy

"Do you really believe that the Army has yet made a 'most extensive and wholehearted effort to give colored American troops a role in the war equal to that of white troops?' Shame on you for such hypocrisy!

"The colored man will never believe this and will probably never put his heart and soul completely into his task until the Army accepts him in the same way it accepts any other American, leaving him to fight, die and be forgotten alongside and just like other Americans. Why not face the facts honestly?

"As a scientist I have invent-ions at the base of two 'must' products for the Army and Navy. In our village my wife and I sold in the Sixth Bond Drive twenty times as many bonds as were ever sold in our section of the community.

3-24-45

"The colored press (not Newsweek) tells us that thirty colored fliers on that same Italian front as the 92 have won the Distinguished Flying Cross, that 25 per cent of the famous Burma road was built by colored soldiers, that colored men were commended for bravery at Bastogne.

"I have talked with several of the brave boys who held on Bouganville; I've looked at their decorations for bravery and heard of those who died there.

"On the home front and 'out there' we're doing our darndest under the stinkiest situation any people ever faced in history. And so the 92nd fails and the casualties are high. Let's remember the casualties and hope for better military luck next time.

"Please cancel my subscription to Newsweek. I can't bear to see it any longer in my home. Very truly yours, PERCY F. JULIAN, 152 S. 14th Avenue, Maywood, Ill."

Maybe the Army can learn things by example, which seem not to dent its consciousness in theory. Take, for instance, the theory that Negro officers are better for the morale of Negro soldiers than white.

Los Angeles Tribune

As long as there is going to be a segregated Army, it is common sense to conclude that Negro soldiers, segregated from the whites, would feel the insult to their personalities less keenly if the leadership qualities of individuals within the race were recognized in the staffing of segregated contingents with Negro officers. 3-5-45

But apparently that's too obvious a conclusion for the Army, too simple a deduction, too much "like folks", just the sort of reaction white soldiers would have to a similar situation. So the Army insisted on white officers, and southern ones at that, for Negro outfits.

Then the 92nd Division was sent overseas, to join the Fifth Army in Italy. And gradually the Army, from necessity, began to promote enlisted men, began to request that Negro officers, cooling their heels in the States, be sent over.

SAME.

Now, the 92nd's officer personnel is two-thirds Negro. There are three Negro lieutenant-colonels, two of them in command of all-Negro field artillery battalions, in addition to others.

And the 92nd Division, taken as a whole, is one of the "fightingest" divisions in Italy. Contained in the words of Cpl. Charles Orrett, quoted in the Army newspaper "Yank", is the reason. Said Cpl. Orrett:

"My outfit is . . . the 92nd Division, and I couldn't do better. I know what I'm talking about because I came to the 92nd from another outfit. I've felt like a different man since I got into the 92nd". 3-5-45

92nd Div. Officer Fights Sentence

AFRO-AMERICAN

Questions Interpretation of Disobeyed Order

4-28-45

PERSECUTION HINTED

Court-Martial Followed Cinquale Canal Disaster

BALT., MD.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY. (By Cable) — The case of Capt. Leroy A. Clay of Baltimore, 92nd Division staff officer, who recently received a sentence of fifty years and dishonorable discharge as a result of a court-martial, is expected to come up for review within the next ten days by the judge advocate of the Mediterranean theater of operations. 4-28-45

Captain Clay was court-martialled for allegedly failing to carry out an order and failing to obey a direct order. He was convicted on both charges.

Confirmed by Gen. Almond

The sentence was confirmed by the division commander, Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, who reviewed the case recently, and review by theatre judge advocate is the last resort here prior to shipment to the States for review there if upheld.

The charges grew out of the 92nd Division's Cinqualle Canal operation last February, when Clay, then serving as assistant divisional operational officer, was sent forward to Cinqualle to take charge of stragglers and reorganize them to carry on the attack. 4-28-45

While acting in this capacity, Clay received a call from a superior officer at division headquarters to contact the commanding officer across the canal and determine what he needed to carry on.

Used Radio

Clay made the contact by radio because the Germans were shelling the beach heavily at the time and tanks refused to carry him across.

The first charge grew out of this, because it was alleged that the telephone orders to him: "Get over to the colonel and find out what he needs," were meant for him to make the trip personally, rather than get the information by radio. 4-28-45

Interpretation Challenged

Clay contended that he did not interpret the orders in this light. He argued that he got the required information by raido and afterwards decided to cross the canal for a further check, but enemy fire was heavy on the beach then and no tank would take him across.

The second charge came two days later when Clay was ordered to the field with one of the 92nd Division's regiments to assume command of a rifle company and division officials contended he failed to comply.

Clay argued that after receipt of this latter order he called the adjutant of this regiment and received permission to report the following day, rather than immediately, and that he was arrested before the following day.

Hints at Persecution

He contended that he had had no field work as rifle company commander since 1936, and that his request to have a short period to arm and familiarize himself with this duty was denied.

He laso contended that this latter charge grew out of the first in that the order to take the rifle company was punishment for his alleged refusal to cross Cinqualle Canal when ordered. There was no denial of this. 4-28-45

His defense was quoted from the Bulletin of the Judge Advocate General 165, paragraph 462, subparagraph 4: "It is an established doctrine of military law that military duties will not be degraded by imposing them as punishments."

On that Clay, who is confined to the Fifth Army stockade here, pins hope for having the case thrown out and being returned to duty.

Long Military Career

Commissioned a second lieutenant in 1931, when he was graduated from the Howard University ROTC, Clay has been connected with the Army ever since, serving with the Maryland National Guard until it was taken into the Regular Army.

He since has attended several Army schools, including the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga., and the General Staff Command Schools at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and came to the 92nd Division as an attache to the division's staff as assistant operations officer.

92 Division Unit Denied Chance to Enter Massa

AFRO-AMERICAN BALT., MD.

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

4-28-45

[Copyright. Reproduction in whole or in part expressly forbidden.]

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION, Italy. (By Cable).—After spearheading the attack and fighting valiantly to the outskirts of the town of Massa on the Ligurian Sea's coastal sector of this Fifth Army front, colored troops of the 92nd Division did not participate in the occupation of the town late Tuesday. 4-28-45

This town, the Nazi hub of an important road network in this sector, was captured by elements of the 442nd and 473rd Infantry Regiments, both of whom are operating with the 92nd.

The former is composed of Japanese-Americans and the latter is made up of white Americans.

370th Ignored

The 370th Infantry Regiment of the 92nd, which was denied entrance, with exception of two, has all white company commanders.

After moving to the outskirts of Massa, the 370th was shifted late Monday west to the extreme coastal sector where it fought forward to within several hundred yards of the Frigido River, which flows northeast and southwest from the north of Massa to the Ligurian Sea. 4-28-45

With some elements of the 442nd having capture Mount Belvedere and others having taken several villages northeast of Massa, the town was flanked by our troops. Late Tuesday, the 473rd pushed forward through Massa to cross Frigido River.

Resistance Still Strong

4-28-45

There was strong Nazi resistance, principally from small arms and mortar fire with some artillery fire from enemy guns based at the nearby town of Punta Brianca. The whole area is heavily mined, and many of our casualties have been as result of them.

The failure to participate in the capture of Massa came as a bitter disappointment to troops of the 370th who had shared in the 92nd's attack last February which was designed to move to this town. 4-28-45

"Attack Clicked"

This time, the attack clicked beautifully and prior to their shift those troops I encountered had high expectancy of having the honor of taking this town.

Previously this unit fought its way to the outskirts of the town of Porta, southeast of Massa and was shifted further west prior to its capture.

The only colored troops in Massa, Tuesday, were some 92nd medics and military police.

56n-1945 Foreign Service- 92nd Division

"I Thought of Farm and of Mom . . ."

(Musings of a GI When Wounded)

AFRO-American 2-13-45 Balt., Md.

PRIVATE RICHARD LOW of Chatham, Va.
". . . The shell stayed in my leg for ten hours."

By LOUIS LOMAX

WASHINGTON — How he was pinned to the ground by a German mortar shell for ten hours before he was rescued was revealed this week by Private Richard L. Low of Chatham, Va., now confined to Walter Reed Hospital here.

Private Low is one of the first members of the 92nd to come home. 2-17-45

Describing his experience in Italy while serving with the 92nd Infantry Division, Private Low declared:

Couldn't Go Back

"As we were taking Hill 31 in Northern Italy, the fighting was fierce, and many had died during the night. I was worn and tired, but we had to go ahead. We couldn't go back because there was nothing to go back to.

"I was throwing everything I had at the Germans," Low continued, "when suddenly there were a screaming noise, a cloudy flash and a stinging pain.

"I was still conscious although a mortar shell was through my left leg and I was pinned to the ground. 2-17-45

For Ten Hours

"I couldn't move, so I lay still. For ten hours the shell stayed in my leg—so long that the hurt left.

"I thought of home and the farm and of my pets around the house.

"I wondered whether Mom was okay and whether Papa had been able to gather the crop alone.

"I thought of my buddies who are in the Army. 2-17-45

"I did anything I could to keep my mind off myself.

First Aid

"Ten hours later, first aid came. A friend of mine picked the skin from around the shell and pulled my leg free. The shell was still stuck in the ground. Then I fainted." 2-17-45

Private Low was then taken to an advance hospital base where his left leg was amputated.

On January 15 he was placed in the amputation ward at Walter Reed Hospital, where he has made such articles as belts, bracelets and rings.

In Italy

Private Low reports little concern in Italy over domestic issues. The men were more concerned about the Germans, the veteran said. The Italian people were fine but the white soldiers made every effort to influence them against us. They resented our soldiers mingling with Italian women, Private Low stated.

He served in the company with Chaplain Douglass Hall, former AFRO reporter. When he is discharged, he plans to return to his father's farm.

Shoots 14 Germans in One Day, Awarded Silver Star

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent in Italy

2-2-45

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY. — T-5 Jefferson H Hilliard of Brooklyn, N. Y., was awarded the Silver Star last week for singlehandedly accounting for 14 German casualties during the enemy thrust at 92nd division lines in the Serchio River valley sector on Dec. 26.

Eleven others in the division received bronze stars for heroism in this and other recent engagements with the enemy. They are Sgt. Orva Snelling of Barnwell, S. C.; T-5 William H. Lewis of Arista, W. Va.; T-5 Joseph Hill, Saint Stether, S. C.; Pvt. Williel Wheeler of Clairton, Pa.; 1st Sgt. Frank Clendening, Pvt. Julius Poole, Pfc. Vernon M. Alexander, all of Cleveland; Pvt. Willie F. Teal, Buena Vista, Ga.; Pvt. Frank Walker of Dallas, Texas; Pfc. John Nealy of Chicago; T-Sgt. Charles A. Pulliams of San Antonio, Texas.

Kansan Holds Record

Hilliard's efforts in the Serchio affair made him the 92nd division's second highest scorer in enemy casualties during a single day's activity. Pfc. Ollie V. Ammons of Lonoke, Kas., credited with 15 during a patrol clash last November, holds the record Pvt. Jack McInnis of Mount Olive Miss., is third with 13 in the same month. 2-2-45

Hilliard, member of a Cavalry reconnaissance unit, was holding a flanking strong point when the Germans struck the Serchio area on the morning of Dec. 26.

This strong point was one of the enemy's objectives. Hilliard's citation recounting this experience reads in part, "During this activity he accounted for a least 12 enemy casualties while he and his assistants were targets of intense mortar concentration.

When maneuver and superior forces of the enemy made his position untenable, T-5 Hilliard was ordered to cover withdraw with the other men. He removed his machine gun from its tripod, fired from his hip, carrying the belt on his shoulder while his assistant carried the tripod. He fired in this manner until his ammunition was exhausted. He accounted for at least two more enemy casualties."

Pvt. Teal was Hilliard's assistant in this action and received a bronze star for his gallantry. Hilliard is 26. 2-2-45

Sgt. Snelling won a bronze star when serving as ambulance driver Dec. 5, he evacuated 17 wounded men under such extremely heavy enemy fire that the task was offered only to volunteers.

T-5 Lewis, T-5 Hill, Pvt. Walker and Pfc. Nealy were cited for evacuating wounded men under similar circumstances on other recent occasions.

Pvt. Poole won his star for volunteering and successfully repairing communication wires under enemy mortar fire at one forward artillery observation post Nov. 12 at a time when communications were critically needed for the safety of men in that area.

Pvt. Wheeler was cited for sticking to his observation post Nov. 16 in the face of heavy enemy fire and directing successful artillery fire on German strong points. 2-2-45

Pfc. Alexander was cited for performing similar duty on November 5.

T-5 Pulliams, a member of 92nd quartermaster unit, and 1st Sgt. Clendening won stars for being outstanding examples of the character of men the 92nd division and the Army desires.

Promotion of the week was that of 1st Lt. Millard D. Smallwood of Washington, from second lieutenant. A recent Bronze Star recipient, Smallwood is combat infantry officer of the 92nd.

Apart from the 366th Infantry Regiment of Negroes, the department has identified three infantry regiments comprising Negro and white soldiers and two similar companies. The former are the 309th, 310th and 311th regiments, with the 78th Infantry division. There is also one company with the 66th infantry regiment and one with the 38th infantry regiment.

Combat Outfits

So-called combat outfits of Negroes include five tank destroyer battalions, two tank battalions, five field artillery battalions and one anti-aircraft battalion.

There are 28 engineer regiments and battalions and eight ordnance units, 18 port companies, 32 ordnance companies, four chemical smoke generating companies, three signal construction battalions, two medical sanitation companies, and one company or detachment each of the following: amphibious truck, general hospital, medical service detachment, transportation and special service.

92nd Infantry Division Now In Austria

N.Y. Amsterdam 5-19-45

N.Y.

332nd Fighter Group, Under Col. B. O. Davis, Also Operating There

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—The war department was not prepared to say last week which units in Europe are going to be deployed to the fighting in the far east, nor was it ready to say anything of the order in which any of them might be brought home. The department did disclose, however, the identity of the great bulk of Negro units that are now in that theater. 5-19-45

Perhaps the largest outfit of Negro soldiers is the 92nd Infantry division which is now in Austria with the Fifth Army. Operating from this area also is the 332nd Fighter group under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr.

This Week in Pictures

People's Voice N.Y.

THE RUGGED AND courageous all-Negro 92nd Division met its first general set-back last week when the Germans drove its men back in four days of heavy fighting near Massa, where the doughboys had penetrated as much as a mile on a five-mile front to within 2½ miles of the town. Previously, infantry and tank units of the division had scored great gains against heavy odds. (See story on this page.)

2-24-45

MEN OF THE 92nd INFANTRY on combat duty in the Serchio Valley last week. At left a doughboy directs motor fire with the aid of a walkie-talkie while the man in center gives his attention to a wounded comrade, at right, hit by machine gunfire.

2-24-45 People Voice

TROOPS OF THE 92nd advance toward German positions on the vaunted Gothic Line a couple of months back. The ruined bridge in the background once spanned the famous Arno River.

2-24-45 People Voice

INFANTRYMEN OF THE 92nd marching through Lucca, Italy, last Fall after they had just captured the town.

92nd Division Suffers First Great Set-Back

People's Voice 2-24-45

ROME—Soldiers of the 92nd U. S. infantry division suffered their first great setback last week-end when a large number of the warriors went down under enemy fire in the Ligurian coastal sector of the Italian front. The action was the 92d's first full attack as a division. According to a report from Lt. Gen. Clark's headquarters, "no net gains in terrain were made, and the division was compelled to relinquish the hold it had secured north of the Cinquale Canal and at Strettoia and to fall back virtually to its original position." 2-24-45

Further probing the encounter it is revealed that the 92nd Infantry division suffered adverse weather conditions which effected not only the Negro doughboys but the enemy attack as well. Four enemy aircraft were destroyed while but three allied planes were missing.

HEAVY FOG

Due to a heavy fog which hung low over most of the 8th Army's front, allied troops were forced to withdraw from an outpost on the east bank of the Senio River. Action of the 92nd near the south shore of the Fiume La Foce, a small stream south of Massa, was limited to patroling.

The division's great losses were due also to a series of small scale counter-attacks by the enemy in the Serchio Valley about 15 to 20 miles inland, while south of Bologna the Nazis used smoke screens to shield parties digging strong points and laying mines.

The division's initial setback was tragic in many respects as people on the homefront, both Negro and whites, had cast watchful eyes over the colored boys who many times distinguished themselves as fighters.

Official dispatches earlier had tended to discount as minor this attack of the division, which was launched on the morning of February 8. The doughboys had penetrated as much as a mile on a five-mile front to within two and one-half miles of Massa before the Germans recovered and drove them back in four days of fighting.

56n-1945 Foreign Service 92nd Division

Summarize Activities of 92nd In Combat

The CALL

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy.—Since their first combat team crossed the Arno river last September to capture the city of Lucca, men of the 92nd Infantry division have won seven awards of the Legion of Merit, 65 Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, four Air Medals and 1,377 Purple Hearts, the War department announced today. 4-13-45

At the end of their first six months in combat, the "Buffalo" had received 5,991 Combat Infantryman badges. Altogether, 7,000 officers and men of the division had received recognition for their efforts in action against the enemy. Seven men who stood out in the field of battle had earned commissions on the spot and many others were being considered.

Regarding operations, the 92nd division had seen only negligible changes in its front line positions. One major drive, launched in February, gained some ground before the Germans sacrificed much in men and material in pushing the division back to its original starting point. Sharing the assignment of pinning down Wehrmacht divisions in Italy, the 92nd was confronted by the loftiest peaks and mountains in the Apennines.

Many heroes, whose exploits earned the praises of high ranking Army leaders emerged from the division's first half-year of combat. Daring fighters like Captain Charles F. Gandy and Second Lt. Theodore O. Smith of Washington, D. C.; Sgt. Rodger Holmes of Hodges, S. C.; Major Willis D. Polk of Philadelphia; Sgt. Jefferson H. Hilliard of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Pfc. James Robinson of Atlantic City, N. J.; and Pvt. Jake McInnis of Prentiss, Miss., have lived up to the finest traditions of the United States army. 4-13-45

Receive Quick Recognition

Quick recognition, in the form of commissions as second lieutenants, came to the following men while on the battlefield: First Sgt. Gilbert Boothe, of Forsythe, Ga.; First Sgt. Joseph Bracy of Boston, Mass.; Tech. Sgt. Frank Whisonant, Washington, D. C.; Tech. Sgt. Joseph Fry, Homestead, Pa.; Tech. Sgt. William Hicks, Cleveland, Ohio; Tech. Sgt. Caesar O. Rucker, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas; Staff Sgt. Ernest L. Carlton, New York city, and Tech. Sgt. John Birdsong of Washington, D. C.

Pricking of the German lines by patrols, which constantly probed for weak points in the coastal ramparts of the Gothic Line, characterized the chief activity of the 92nd division. The wily Jerry, who used natural mountain barriers masterfully, made all maneuvering for the attacking elements just about the toughest in modern warfare.

In the course of one patrol action, Staff Sgt. Mansfield Mason of Baltimore, Md., notably distinguished himself by heroic conduct. Acting on information that some Germans had been seen to enter a house near a certain village, Mason's patrol, under the command of Second Lt. Wilbur E. Ledbetter of Washington, D. C., surrounded the building and effectively covered all its approaches. Staff Sgt. Mason then crawled to within 30 feet of the dwelling in the face of withering machinegun fire. He hurled three hand grenades into the building and shifted his position slightly. Out walked five Germans, including an officer, to surrender. 4-13-45

Kill German Officer

First Lt. William E. Porter of Indianapolis, Ind., who was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, exposed himself to enemy arms while his company advanced on its objective under a hail of machinegun fire. With his unit pinned to the ground, Lt. Porter succeeded in eliminating the machinegun nest, killing the German officer in command, and forcing the gun crews to surrender.

Men of non-combatant units also won their share of awards. Pfc. Walter L. Gillis of Jonesboro, N. C., a member of a medical detachment, administered first aid to members of an attacking platoon while intense enemy fire created havoc with the terrain. Although he was in full view of the Germans, he did not falter in his efforts to see that all who needed medical attention were treated. He then assisted in evacuating the casualties. 4-13-45

"Magnificent" is the way Major General Edward M. Almond, Commander of the 99nd, describes his division's artillery. Time and time again, "Buffalo" infantrymen, sweating out a tight spot, have seen perfectly placed artillery fire shatter hostile emplacements and break up repeated and determined German counter-attacks. "Boy, that artillery was great," said many 92nd doughboys upon return from skirmishes with the enemy. 4-13-45

General of the Army George C. Marshall was the first five-star general to inspect the 92nd division. In an official statement, the Army Chief of Staff said that what he had seen in Italy was "very reassuring."

92nd Chasing Crack German Unit In Italy

Kansas City, Mo. N.Y. Amsterdam News 4-28-45

Spearheads Attack Near Nassa As Enemy Puts Up Formidable Resistance

By MAX JOHNSON
War Correspondent
(Amsterdam News and Afro-American)

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—Fighting valiantly in pursuit of thousands of crack German soldiers fleeing in disorganized retreat toward the Northern Po River line, our boys in the Fifth Army opened up with a large scale spring offensive this week and it was believed that the enemy had been hopelessly trapped.

Units of the 92nd spearheaded the attack near Massa, but the Nazis put up a formidable resistance when we arrived at the Frigido River, where the enemy guns blasted back at us in an obviously futile effort. 4-28-45

As we push forward, we are supported on one side by a Japanese-American unit: on the other side by an all-white outfit. The attack now going on marks the first time this year that the whole front has been active at one time.

In retreating, German troops have seen to it that mines should be placed everywhere possible.

Reactions to FDR's Death

News of the late President Roosevelt caused some of our men to predict that his death would have some bearing on the length and outcome of the war in Europe, but nearly all the men are convinced "that it won't be long now."

Memorial services, attended by soldiers of every race and creed, were held at Florence last Sunday

1,615 Men of 92nd Div. Earn Awards in First Six Months of Combat in Italy

Afro-American Balt., Md. 5-12-45

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—Since their first combat team crossed the Arno River last September to capture the city of Lucca, men of the 92nd Infantry Division have won seven awards of the Legion of Merit, 65 Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, four Air Medals and 1,377 Purple Hearts, the War Department announced recently.

The statistics covered the first six months of combat, beginning with initial action of the combat team, commanded by Col. Roger G. Sherman, which had its first scrimmage against the Germans on August 24, 1944.

At end of their first six months in combat the Buffaloes had received 5,991 Combat Infantryman Badges. Altogether, 7,000 officers and men of the division had received recognition for their efforts in action against the enemy. Seven men who stood out in the field of battle had earned commissions on the spot and many others were being considered.

Fight in Peaks 5-12-45

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Md. Sergeant Thus 2-45

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Medical Men Tops

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General Inspects

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Dixie Echoes 92nd Slurs;

Chicago Defender Ill.

India Troops Hit Slander

Ill.

By FRED ATWATER
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ANNISTON, Ala. — Hateful echoes of Truman K. Gibson's statement that Negro soldiers "melt away" in the face of enemy fire thundered through the South this week.

Dixie's rabble-rousing "white supremists" greedily pounced upon the Gibson utterance. 4-7-45

Leading the hate parade was that seasoned veteran of race-baiting campaigns, Judge Horace C. Wilkinson of Birmingham, founder of the infamous League for White Supremacy. In a speech entitled, "Preserve White Supremacy," at the Civitan club here and reprinted in Hamner Cobb's anti-Negro Southern Watchman, Wilkinson had this to say of Negro fighting men:

"The Negro (traditional Dixie small 'n' throughout) is running say, 'let the people rule,' but we must remember that the objective of all good government is to establish, to create, to construct, to develop, not destroy.

For 'Lily-White' Party

"I object to the Democratic party in Alabama holding out any inducement or encouragement to Negroes to vote, no matter what they may profess to believe. If the Democratic party in the South is kept 'lily-white,' it can elect a southern Democrat President of the United States while the two major parties in the North battle for the Negro vote.

"Our schools, colleges and universities may educate the Negro until he can recite Virgil backwards and outdo Einstein in discussing the laws of relativity, but they will never educate any appreciable number to the point where they will willingly part with $5.00 to enfranchise themselves.

"Peoples who have traveled and compared the contented southern Negro with the pernicious, agitating type that dominates and disgraces the Negro race wherever Negro voting is permitted, are ready to testify that the best way to ruin a Negro is to get him in politics.

"The time has come when we cannot trust every candidate in Alabama to spurn the Negro's support. If we are to take the Negro to the bosom of the Democratic party in Alabama, let's take the white supremacy from the emblem of the party in this state and replace it with something more appropriate such as, 'a jubilee of coons, goons and octoroons.'"

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

CALCUTTA, India — Negro troops in the India-Burma theater are incensed and angry over the recent stories appearing in the New York Times and Newsweek "slurring" combat troops of the 92nd Division. 4-7-45

"Let us make mistakes and the papers play them up, but let us do a good job and they never report it," one truck driver who carries supplies to China along the Ledo Road, disgustedly exclaimed.

Though the offensive articles appeared more than a month ago, the GI's stationed out here did not know about them until overseas copies of Newsweek carrying the Times clipping arrived here last week.

Troops at camps stationed along Ledo Road circulated the copies true to form in this war. Read the Newsweek of February 26, 1945, on the 'Luckless 92nd,' the Negro division in Italy that has repeated the experience of the same Negro outfit in the last war and that is being absent when the Germans attacked.

Compares Negro to Mule

"It is no reflection on the Negro to say that he cannot be made a combat soldier; neither can a mule, and yet a mule plays an important role in military and civilian life.

"But it is foolish for the white man to count the Negro as a combat asset. That is not the case. Enough money has been spent at Tuskegee (Army Air Field) to float a battleship in a misguided effort to train Negro fliers. Where would we be today if we were dependent on Negro fliers? Not everyone capable of driving a truckload of gas to an air field will make a flier.

"There are some things a Negro cannot do. His racial constitution will not allow him to do these things. God Almighty has placed limitation on him that man cannot remove. General Bullard told the government forcibly and truthfully after the close of the last war that we cannot make a combat soldier out of the Negro. You might read his book on the subject with profit."

The fascist Wilkinson, pointing out to 'lily-white' Alabamans the need for a $5 poll tax in the state to pay for the financing of a Southerner's candidacy for the Presidency of the United States, went on to say:

"It sounds all right to say that a person who has sense enough to fight for his country has sense enough to vote in it, and that if a voter wants to wreck the country with his vote, he should have a right to do so. It sounds good to

The 92nd Under Fire

DETROIT TRIBUNE

The 92nd Division of colored soldiers in Italy, which recently had to surrender some ground during a vicious German counterattack, has received some rather unfriendly criticism in the February 26th issue of News Week magazine. We quote from the magazine as follows:

Detroit, Mich.

"The 92nd was intended to demonstrate that Negro troops could be used in front line combat, and also to meet criticisms that Negroes were always given menial tasks. Last year, therefore, the 92nd moved into the line on the Italian front. It rapidly acquired a bad reputation among other troops. They claimed that the men of the 92nd were 'trigger happy,' that it was impossible to send out patrols near the 92nd, because they shot at even their own patrols and at Italian civilians as well. 3-3-45

"Then, last December, the Germans launched a strong attack on the Serchio River line. Part of the line a few miles inland from the Mediterranean coast was held by the 92nd. It crumbled under the Nazi assault and another division had to be hastily thrown into the gap."

We do not know how much if any of this criticism against the 92nd division is authentic, but we do know that fighting men of other racial and national groups in this global war have had reverses at times and have had to make temporary withdrawals. This is no disgrace, nor does it indicate inefficiency or lack of courage.

On the Western front, for example, the Germans not long ago launched a terrific counterattack against the Allied armies under General Eisenhower and forced them back for many miles and with serious losses. This reverse, however, was not due to any lack of courage on the part of the Allied soldiers, as subsequent events have demonstrated. 3-3-45

Soldiers at the front do occasionally fire by mistake upon their own patrols. Bombardiers also at times accidentally drop bombs upon their own ground troops, also upon non-combatant civilians, but such accidents are not confined to soldiers of any one race.

22 Wounded 92nd Vets Returned From Italy

Pittsburgh Courier Pa

2-17-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Wounded while battling the Germans in Italy, twenty-two veterans of the Fifth Army's famed 92nd ("Buffalo") Infantry Division have been returned to the United States for hospitalization, the War Department reported. They were received at Stark General Hospital, Charleston, S. C., where they were processed for transfer to other medical installations.

Following is a list of the returned Infantrymen who were wounded during 1944 in actions ranging from the Arno River sector to the Serchio Valley:

Pvt. Shan Z. Brooks, 21, of 23 East Forty-seventh Street, Chicago, Ill.; first saw action in Italy in October at Mt. California; wounded on Nov. 9, near the Po Valley, by both machinegun and mortar fire, while attempting to knock out three enemy machineguns that were halting the advance of his night patrol; transferred to Kennedy General Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.

S/Sgt. Samuel Carlisle, 22, of Route 1, Box 24, Brent, Ala.; wounded on Nov. 15, near Mount Belvidere by small arms fire; wounded again same day during enemy counter-attack as he walked back to aid station and lay in bushes unable to move and unattended for four days, while enemy troops passed over him; wears Combat Infantrymen Badge, Purple Heart and Silver Star; transferred to Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colo. 2-17-45

Pfc. Leon Byrd, 21, of 625 Lenox Avenue, New York City; entered combat Nov. 22, and wounded next day by hand grenade, while holding an outpost position; transferred to Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D. C.

Pfc. Nathan Smith, 22, of Jackson, Ala.; first saw action in Po Valley and wounded Nov. 8 near Gerezzio by mortar fragments while attacking enemy pillbox; wears Purple Heart, theatre, and Good Conduct ribbons; transferred to Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Ga.

Sgt. Henry Powell, 21, of 1509 Tremont Street, Selma, Ala.; first saw action in Arno River sector and was wounded Sept. 14 in vicinity of Lucca after leading platoon to new position; transferred to Oliver General Hospital, Augusta, Ga.

Sgt. Eugene Larkins, 25, of 64 Grant Avenue, Jersey City, N. J.; first saw action near Lucca, wounded near Pisa by machinegun fire while attacking enemy position on hilltop; wears Purple Heart, Good Conduct, theater and American Defense ribbons; transferred to Woodrow Wilson General Hospital, Staunton, Va.

S/Sgt. Sherman Fisher, 32, of 1513 West 10th Street, Chester, Pa.; first saw action outside Pisa on Dec. 1 and was wounded Dec 5, near Lucca, by fragments from hand grenade when enemy left position and zeroed-in with everything that could shoot; transferred to Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Ga.

First Lieut. Arcilous E. Jackson, 35, of 745 Macon Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; first saw action Nov. 3 at Pisa and wounded Nov. 20 by artillery fragments; wears Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge and theater ribbon; transferred to Woodrow Wilson General Hospital.

Pfc. Leo Watson, 24, of Kershaw, S. C.; first saw action in November and was wounded while attacking enemy lines; transferred to Kennedy General Hospital.

Pfc. Kenneth E. Layne, 31, of 133 Jefferson Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.; wounded Nov. 26 between Lucca and Bologna when his anti-tank gun drew fire from German .88; transferred to Cushing General Hospital, Framingham, Mass.

Pfc. Lawrence Chapman, 26, of West B Street, Easley, S. C.; first saw action along Arno River on Aug. 15 and was wounded Oct. 16 near Mount Belvidere when enemy patrol attacked his party; transferred to Woodrow Wilson General Hospital. 2-17-45

Pfc. Clifton Traylor, 28, of 1922 East 103rd Street, Los Angeles, Calif.; first saw action in August near Lucca and was wounded Oct. 4 while attacking a hill; transferred to Woodrow Wilson General Hospital.

Pfc. Ray Penn, 19, of Rome, Ga.; entered line of combat in August, wounded Oct. 26 by fragments from mortar shell; transferred to Oliver General Hospital.

Pfc. Isaac Jemison, 27, of 1508 Cedar Street, Chattanooga, Tenn.; entered combat Oct. 31 above Leghorn and was wounded Nov. 27 by machinegun fire; transferred to Kennedy General Hospital.

Pvt. Flander McElway, 22, of Crampron, Ark.; first saw action in October and was wounded north of Lucca Nov. 8, while returning from checking artillery communication lines; transferred to Kennedy General Hospital.

First Sgt. Jack A. Ellis, 29, of 245 Dunbar Street, Dayton, Ohio; first saw action Aug. 26 along Arno River; his regiment broke the Gothic Line and was the first to reach Lucca; wounded by .88 fragments at Guggio just beyond Mount Belvidere while on patrol; transferred to Kennedy General Hospital.

Sgt. Frederick D. Thornton, 27, of Coaldale, West Va.; first saw action near Lima di Sota and was wounded on Nov. 18, near Bologna, while attacking enemy positions; transferred to Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, West Va. 2-17-45

Pfc. William D. Henins, 22, of Luxora, Ark.; entered combat late in October, was wounded Nov. 26 by artillery shell fragments; transferred to William Beaumont General Hospital, Fort Bliss, Texas.

S/Sgt. Forrest G. Manning, 24, of San Marcus, Texas; first saw action in Arno River sector, wounded Oct. 7 by enemy heavy artillery fire near Cerezzio; transferred to Hammond General Hospital, Modesto, Calif.

Pfc. Travis L. Johnson, 24, of 712 Forty-first Street, Newsome Park, Newport News, Va.; entered combat Aug. 24, and was wounded the same day near Pisa; transferred to Woodrow Wilson General Hospital.

Pfc. Elzie Timmons, 24, of Route 1, Ellabelle, Ga.; first saw action in the Arno River sector, wounded Oct. 6 while attacking machinegun nest on hill near Leghorn; transferred to LeGarde General Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Pvt. Leroy Cox, 22, of Cortelyou, Ala.; entered front lines Oct. 10, wounded Nov. 9 while attacking the enemy; transferred to Oliver General Hospital.

92nd Division Casualties Are Heavy In Italy

New York Age N.Y. N.Y. 2-17-45

(EXTRA — A full page of pictures of wounded veterans of the 92nd Division recently returned to the U. S. for hospitalization, appears on page twelve.)

ROME—The 92nd ("Buffalo") Infantry Division, principal U. S. combat ground unit with the Fifth Army in Italy, and its supporting armor were mauled severely in weekend fighting attendant upon their abortive attack in the Ligurian coastal sector, 15th Army Group headquarters anounced Tuesday. 2-17-45

A special report from Lieut. General Mark W. Clark's headquarters concerning the attack, which official dispatches earlier had tended to discount as minor action, said:

"Casualties and tank losses were relatively high and no net gains in terrain were made."

Sharp German counterattacks, supported by a concentrated artillery and mortar fire, repulsed the Negro fighters after they had gained as much as a mile on a five-mile front. The 92nd's first full attack as a division was launched last Thursday and penetrated to within two and one half miles of Massa before the enemy recovered from surprise and drove them back in four days of fighting.

Peoples Voice

92nd Division In Headlines

Peoples Voice N.Y. N.Y. 3-24-45

A Record of Heroism and Gallantry

[NOTE: The highly commendable combat record of the all-Negro 92nd Division, now operating with the Fifth Army in northern Italy, is known to all who have followed the daily and weekly press during the past year. Just as a reminder, PV reproduces below a few headlines from on-the-spot stories sent to the Norfolk "Journal and Guide" and the "Pittsburgh Courier" by their foreign correspondents.]

Sept. 2, 1944—92nd WITH 5th ARMY

Sept. 16—92nd SMASHES INTO GOTHIC LINE

Sept. 23—92nd SLOWED DOWN BY GRIM NAZI DEFENSE OF TOUGH GOTHIC LINE

92nd WINS PRAISE FOR SUCCESS AT LUCCA

Sept. 30—92nd AIDS GOTHIC LINE BREAKTHROUGH

Oct. 7—92nd CAPTURES KEY HILL

Oct. 14—92nd LEADS 5th ARMY DRIVE

Oct. 21—INFANTRYMEN IN FIERCEST BATTLE

Oct. 28—3 SILVER STARS WON BY 92nd 3-24-45

Nov. 11—92nd DRIVES TO WITHIN 8 MILES OF BOLOGNA

Nov. 18—92nd LIQUIDATES 2 DIVISIONS

Nov. 25—DECORATE 16 92nd HEROES
14 GET STARS FOR GALLANTRY IN 92nd DIVISION

Dec. 2—92nd SOLDIERS PAUSE FOR THANKSGIVING PRAYER
NO MAJOR GAINS BY 92nd; ATTACK IN ICE AND SNOW

Dec. 9—MYSTERY — VEILED PEAKS FACE 92nd
92nd TAKES 1,000 NAZIS

Dec. 16—RAIN STEALS SHOW ON 92nd FRONT

Dec. 30—25 HEROES OF 92nd DIVISION HONORED
NAZI PLANES BOMB 92nd

Jan. 6, 1945—92nd HALTS GERMAN OFFENSIVE
92nd BREAKS OUT OF NAZI TRAP

Jan. 13—STIMSON LAUDS 92nd's STAND AGAINST NAZIS
92nd RAIDS BEHIND NAZI LINES

Jan. 20—92nd CAPTURES FIRST LINE NAZI OFFICER

Feb. 17—GERMANS HALT 92nd ATTACK 9-24-45

Feb. 24—ALMOND PINS 92nd HEROES
92nd UNITS LICK WOUNDS AFTER

Special

Negroes can't fight. Negroes can't fly. Negroes are temperamentally unsuited for combat—unable to master the intricacies of modern machines and weapons—fear the dark—spooks—fry chicken better than any other people—are always grinning. These and many other lies have become popular American lore over a period of decades. Serious attempts have been made to find scientific reasons for these peculiarities. They were circulated widely. Other attempts were made to disprove the existence of basic racial traits. Circulation was usually forbidden. Adolph Hitler shaped a program of world conquest on a pyramid of similar racial beliefs and being a rather fundamental character began to liquidate various stratums of inferior races. 3-24-45

Pittsburgh Courier N.Y. N.Y.

A recent dispatch from Rome, joyously forwarded by correspondents to their newspapers and radio commentators, discloses the fact that Truman Gibson, a civilian aide to the Secretary of War, had been packed off to investigate charges that Negroes can't fight—the Negroes in this particular instance being members of the 92nd Infantry Division.

NEGROES CAN FIGHT

Mr. Gibson has finally solved the question. The solution, boiled down to a thick paste, seems to run along these general lines. Negro troops can fight. Or, if there are instances which might tend to prove that they can't it is because there are so many illiterate GIs in the 92nd Division.

To be more specific Mr. Gibson adds these observations. The 92nd Division shows 17% of its personnel in Class 5 of the Army literacy tests. Class 5 is the lowest class there it. Seventy-five per cent of the Division is in Class 4, which is very low, too. General Army figures show 46.4% of Negroes in Class 5 and 35% in Class 4.

Mr. Gibson concludes: "You can't apply the same training schedules where that many men are illiterate as where only 4% are."

DUG INTO RECORD

We had certain misgivings about the whole affair and went back into the record. Our findings were interesting. We discovered among other things that Negroes had fought constantly since Pearl Harbor for a chance to fight in America's armed forces. Negro youths, young men and women from all parts of our country, answered the call to arms—just as black Crispus Attucks did a long time ago at Bunker Hill. They asked for a chance to fight in the air, in infantry, and at the guns of our mighty warships.

But there were no places in most branches of the services for them. Because of certain racial tendencies (as it is usually implied), they almost inevitably found themselves sweeping, digging, or lifting. In our proud fleets they could only wait tables or "buist suds." Dorie Miller shot his way to glory at the hot breech of a gun whose crew had been levelled by a strafing Jap plane. Under his life-jacket he wore his usual waiter's jacket. We wonder where he would have wound up on the all-important Army literacy tests.

Back in 1941 some daring soul wanted to know if the Army Air Force would train Negro pilots. When all hell had died down, after Bilbo, Rankin, Talmadge, and many others had regained their composure after such an unheard of question, a few more voices wanted to know 'why not?' The answer was the same time-worn one. Negroes just weren't suited temperamentally or intellectually for such things.

NEGRO PILOTS 3-24-45

The War Department was thoroughly exasperated when William Hastie, then civilian aide to the Secretary, resigned

over the disgraceful situation. Finally, in the face of a storm of protest, training for Negro pilots was reluctantly instituted —at a completely jimcro base. According to reliable reports many brass-hat diehards assumed the attitude of "All right, put the 'Niggras' in airplanes and let 'em break their necks." Fortunately for a hell of a lot of hard-pressed infantrymen on the Anzio beachhead in January 1944, they didn't break their necks.

HARRINGTON REPORT

But back to the 92nd Division. Not so very long ago we attended an extremely interesting lecture at the Schomburg Collection. The speaker was Oliver Harrington, *Pittsburgh Courier* war correspondent and ex-*PV* art editor, who had just returned from Italy. As a matter of fact he'd just left the 92nd Division. He had spent two months or more with the battalions and patrols of the division, crossing the Arno River with them and driving into the stoutly defended hill positions of the Gothic Line. He had gone out with their patrols, feeling at the empty lines gingerly, leaping into ditches to escape the machine gun and mortar fire of the Nazis. His talk was as good as his cabled dispatches had been and it was our first authentic report from the front. But we can't remember his having mentioned the term illiteracy.

He spoke of a world beyond our comprehension. A world of miserable, wet, suffering men who spent their days and nights shooting, stabbing, or clawing the Nazis. There was no rest in this world. Only a bullet or a whining shell fragment brought rest. In the darkly ominous Italian hills reverberating with the chatter of angry machine guns and the awful crunching of heavy shells, it was difficult to distinguish the skin coloring of the silent, helmetted men, moving relentlessly into the Nazi positions.

CALLED ANIMALS

He'd seen them turn and run too. Groups of frightened boys moving up a black hill which suddenly blossomed with a cone of orange flame. Yes, they'd dropped their arms and ran—those who could run. And he'd been at Cassino, where the same thing happened many times. And at Anzio. But there were no Negro infantrymen there. Yet in the rear areas white GIs and their officers too, spoke of Negroes—and how frightened they were under fire.

They also printed pamphlets telling the Italian people that Negroes were animals who lived only to rape white women. And the Italian people were told that in America Negroes were not allowed in restaurants, street cars, buses, or theatres. And that they could not live in white communities. They were criminals and they were lynched and tortured by Americans because they were criminals. But the pamphlets never mentioned illiteracy.

Seriously, we wonder just how important it is, up there in those hills the correspondent talked about, to be able to wind up in the top classes of the Army literacy test. The fiercest fighters in Italy, judging from all reports, were the Goums, from North Africa, and the British colonial Ghurkas. These grim fighters filled the Nazi ranks with terror and their night fighting exploits became legend in Italy. It would be extremely difficult to find a Goum or a Ghurka who could write his own name.

Take Objective Despite Dangers

Atlanta World - Ga.

AAF REGIONAL AND CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, MIAMI, Fla.—Blinded in both eyes and with his left leg cut off below the knee as a result of German land mines, S.-Sgt. James H. Brown, of Pulaski, Tenn., lay in his bed here at the AAF Regional Convalescent Hospital and related one of the grimmest stories yet to be told of the bloody struggle which the 92nd Infantry Division is waging against the Germans in Italy.

On February 8, when the 2nd Battalion of the 370 Infantry Regiment received orders to attack, the 21-year-old Negro infantryman was a squad leader in Co. F, spearhead of the assault. What happened later is best told by Brown himself.

MISSION WAS HILL

"Our mission was to take a hill beyond Pietrasanta and we were told that when our objective was won we would be close enough to throw small arms fore into 'Maine' Brown began.

"The Germans had laid mines all over the hill but the engineers quickly cleared a trail which they marked off with tape, and we jumped of at 1500 (3 p. m.

"About the time we reached the end of the cleared are the Jerries hit another part of our line and my platoon got orders to withdraw But our platoon sergeant, Technical Sergeant Fred Rose ,of Louisiana, who loved to tangle with the Jerries, said. We're not going to withdraw. We're going to bulid up a line and stay right here and fight.'

STEPS ON MINE

'He then ordered me to set up my BAR. (Browning Automatic Rifle) and told the other squad leader to do the same. We had built a fireline when the order again came for our platoon to fall back to the battalion line. Sergeant Rose reluctantly decided to withdraw.

"As we started to fall back, I stepped on a land mine and set it off. The explosion knocked me down and my left leg was broken in two places. Pvt. Robert Cheney crawled over to me and said he was going to get me out of there. Just as he put his arms under mine and started to move me, his foot struck a mine and it went off breaking his leg and blinding me in both eyes. He fell down beside me.

"It had been getting dark when the first mine got me and although I couldn't see, I realized that it must be very dark by this time and that the men could not see. So I issued orders that no man was to come up near us and try to get us out until daylight, because I was afraid they would step on a Jerry mine. However, one of the men sneaked up to me and tied a tourniquet o my leg. After that Cheney and I lay there all night. The next day the aid men from my company picked us up.

CASUALTIES HEAVY

"Our casualties were pretty heavy in that action. Sergeant Rose stepped on a mine that night, next day the CO., Lieut. Miles had, his leg blown off by a mortar shell, and the following day Sergeant William Smnth, our first sergeant was killed by a mortar shell that landed in his foxhole."

"Nevertheless," smiled Brown "we took our objective.

92nd Division In Hard Fight With Germans In Italy

Nashville Globe - Tenn.

With the Fifth Army in North ern Italy—For weeks now the 92nd Division famous American Negro outfit, has been fighting steadily on this bitterly contested front. Gains have ben slow, small and hard fought for. Mines, mud misery of cold, and the menace of extraordinarily heavy enemy shell fire have impeded progress.

Today, nowever, the men of the 92nd have much that will help them at least to grin and bear it much that they did not have when they first went into the line. For the 92nd has gone all out for the services of the American Red Cross and the men are delighted and proud of these newest aids to their comfort and well-being.

When these fighting men first arrived in this theatre from the States, their knowledge of Red Cross services had been gained from the activities of the four Red Cross field men attached to the division. They saw to it that men in the ranks had the advantage of small emergency loans, of welfare reports on their families, of honest man-to-man advice and counsel on personal matters, of emergency supplies of toilet and comfort articles, and of recreation facilities whenever possible.

Chief of the quartet is Field Director Francis I. Long, 319 Fair St., S. W., Atlanta, Ga., who holds an M. A. degree from the University of Atlanta, and possesses an exceptional background in music education and the social science that makes him especially well equipped for his present welfare work with the division.

One of Mr. Long's three assistant field directors is Ernest Hemby, 50 Morningside Ave., New York City, also a musician, prominent in the work of the Urban League and for several years a worker in the New York City Department of welfare and in various other branches of the city government.

The other two Red Cross men are Daniel Lang, 131 Spruce St., Buffalo, N. Y., and Alexander R. Belden, of 659 East 41st St., Los Angeles, California.

56n-1945

Foreign Service- 92nd Division

Losses Heavy in Men, Equipment

AFRO-American
Balt. Md.

Infantrymen Pushed Back After Offensive

HOLD OLD POSITION

2-24-45

Unit Trapped as Others Fail to Take Objectives

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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BULLETIN

WASHINGTON

Secretary of War Stimson revealed at his press conference Thursday that "strong enemy resistance" was encountered by the 92nd Division troops in their recent unsuccessful advance in Italy.

WITH 92D DIVISION IN ITALY—Launching its first major attack since being assigned to this 5th Army front, the 92d Division has just been beaten back to its original jumping-off positions by German counter-attack, suffering heavy casualties and losses of equipment.

The failure of this attack operation, which began last Thursday and ended Sunday, is not officially disclosed, if yet determined. 2-24-45

Nazis Surprised

It is known that the operation had the benefit of complete surprise to the enemy. Preparations were so secretively that correspondents working with the division were not alerted to the operations before their launching.

Elements of the 92d assigned to secure a beachhead between the Cinquale and Marro Canals at the edge of the Tyrrhenian Sea reached their objective.

However, they were later forced to relinquish this gain when other elements failed to take their objectives in the nearby Apennines and the Germans there turned heavy artillery on the beachhead, making our troops there the target of enemy shelling from three sides.

Fifth Army officials made releaseable today a 336-word communique on the 92d's action. This first full-text release is the first I have ever seen in such complete detail on similar operations either in the French or Italian campaign. The communique stated:

"After four days of action characterized by some advances against enemy resistance, regiments of the 92d Infantry Division operating in the Fifth Army's coastal sector were compelled to yield ground in face of repeated counter-attacks and yesterday (Feb. 12) were consolidating their positions approximately along their original line.

Struck February 8

"The attack, with tank, artillery and air support, started on the morning of February 8. The initial gain was made in the area of Mt. Canala and Strettoia. In the extreme coastal area, tank-supported infantry advanced across the mouth of the Cinquale Canal, reaching a general line some 800 yards north of the jumping-off position. "During the night of February 8-9, the coastal sector was relatively quiet.

Mine Fields Encountered

"The attack was resumed February 9, but only slight improvements in positions were made. Anti-personnel mine fields and mortar fire were encountered in the Mt. Canala-Strettoia areas as well as numerous small counter attacks.

"The unit made slight advances, suffering some tank losses, and encountered artillery and mortar fire.

"On February 10 the attack was again resumed, but only limited gains were made. Enemy resistance increased, with small arms fire developing. Leading elements of the 92d dug in and attempted to hold its positions, extending generally from the northern slopes of Mt. Canala, just south of Strettoia and thence about 100 yards north.

"Mortar and artillery fire caused the withdrawal of 92d Division forces all the way back to the southern side of the Cinquale Canal, and additional tank losses were sustained.

On February 11, our forces withdrew. The consolidated positions of 92d Division in the coastal sector were substantially the same as those from which the attack was started on February 8."

During the operation, the 92d took over 200 German prisoners and inflicted more casualties to enemy forces.

Retreat of the 92nd

AFRO-American

War Secretary Stimson, in a press conference last week, emphasized the stiff opposition facing the 92nd Division in Italy.

He pointed out that the Nazis opposite the advancing colored division defended an important communications center in force and pushed the 92nd back to its jumping-off position. 2-24-45

The battle lasted from Thursday to Sunday of last week and the defeat came, according to the AFRO's war correspondent, Max Johnson, when other elements in the advance failed to take their objectives, so that the enemy's heavy artillery was able to shell the 92nd from three sides.

Mr. Johnson says the original offensive was a surprise so secretive that correspondents with the troops were not advised beforehand, and that never before have they been permitted to publish such a detailed text of infantry operations.

Milton Bracker, white, New York Times correspondent, explained the unusual publicity Wednesday in a cable to his newspaper in which he said that headquarters was troubled by the "super-sensitivity" of some colored papers. Bracker then attacked the whole colored press because, as he said, one newspaper stole one of his dispatches and misquoted it.

The AFRO is not interested in quarrels between war correspondents of the Times and other newspapers.

The AFRO has its own correspondents overseas and, so far as we know, they and the editors of this paper observe the ethics of their profession. Balt. Md.

If the Times or Bracker want to accuse other papers of larceny or mayhem, let them name the papers and omit any general references to the colored press as a whole.

No matter what the real reason for the publicity on the 92nd, we are obliged to Mr. Stimson for acknowledgement that the 92nd is up against tough opposition.

We know it will take its reverses just as the First Army took similar defeats. We don't think these boys of ours want any special favors. They can dish it out and they can take it.

92d Suffers Severe Losses On Italian Front

Louisville, Ky.
Courier-Journal
2-14-45

Rome, Feb. 13 (AP)—The U. S. 92d Infantry Division and its supporting armor suffered "relatively high" casualties and tank losses when its week-end attack in the Ligurian coastal sector of the Italian front was repulsed, 15th Army Group Headquarters disclosed today. 2-14-45

Official dispatches earlier had tended to discount as minor this attack of the Negro division, which was launched last Thursday. It was the 92d's first full attack as a division.

A special report from Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's headquarters said "no net gains in terrain were made," and the division was compelled to relinquish the hold it had secured north of the Cinquale Canal and at Strettoia.

General Marshall Reviews 92d Div.

AFRO-American
Balt. Md.
2-24-45

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH 92ND DIVISION, Italy—Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the U.S. Army, reviewed 92nd Division installations today, but accorded no interviews to war correspondents. 2-24-45

In a 2-hour-and-45-minute stay at 92nd headquarters, the general accompanied by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of the Allied armies in Italy; Lucian K. Truscott, Fifth Army chief; and a host of other military lesser greats in a twenty-jeep convoy, was observed by this correspondent viewing a field artillery battalion where Lt. Col. Marcus H. Ray of Chicago had his men fire six rounds from 105's.

Correspondents Barred

Whatever else was included in General Marshall's activities prior to the luncheon at division headquarters — from which correspondents were also barred — was not observed by me who, along with other newsmen, took seriously the umpteenth warning from pro officials not to stick in the vicinity of General Marshall's party, giving up in disgust.

The reason for the exclusion of correspondents was not made clear, particularly in view of the fact that amateur as well as acond, he had goten rid of some credited photographers dashed about unrestricted.

After it was all over and the general had departed, a broad statement was issued to the effect that what he had seen on the Fifth Army front "was reassuring" because, among other things, "a large German force has been held in Italy and prevented from bolstering the enemy's hard-pressed troops on the Eastern and Western fronts."

As far as I could learn, he made no direct mention of the 92nd Division.

Norfolk, Va. Journal & Guide
4-21-45

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE 92ND

Why Did Unit Withdraw At Serchio
By John "Rover" Jordan

In some ways the 92nd Infantry Division, with its Negro enlisted men and mixed officers seems to be growing into a problem child.

The division started its hectic combat history with the eyes of the world focused on it. Early it became a "story" for America's newspapers. Some carried stories of its contributions. Others noted its faults. On every move, the segregated outfit found itself on trial before the world piercing eyes.

The 92nd Division has had its ups and downs. But, so much emphasis has been placed on its downs that some observers have wondered if there wasn't something wrong with the outfit; indeed, if the colored soldier actually had the courage to fight.

GIBSON MAKES TOUR

With this situation in mind Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, recently spent a week on a tour of inspection of the 92nd Division, which is fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy.

After his inspection tour, Mr. Gibson held a press conference in Rome in which ed told correspondent that the 92nd was in effect, "good and bad."

He pointed to the discriminations against the soldiers in southern training areas before they came overseas, indicating that this might have affected their will to fight. He told of the high rate of illiteracy among enlisted men of the division being a handicap to their combat efficiency. In spite of these handicaps, however, he stated that the outfit was far from hopeless.

"MELTED AWAY" STORM

In the course of the press conference Mr. Gibson allegedly asserted that on occasions some units of the 92nd had "melted away" in the face of enemy opposition. Use of the "melted away" term has drawn criticism from certain colored leaders who contend that it was an insult.

The term may be brutal, but Mr. Gibson might not have been as wrong as some would like to believe that he was. At times certain units of the division, or its attached units, have "melted away." Situations arise on the battlefields in which such maneuver seems to be the natural thing to do, especially to green troops.

Army news releases, however, carefully refrain from the use of such terms as "melting away." Instead, the official communique would read that "our troops withdrew to lines they could b better defend," or something of that tactful nature.

92ND WITHDREW

Perhaps the best remembered instance in which 92nd units allegedly "melted away" came when the Germans attacked our positions in the Serchio River Valley sector of Italy last December 26. Using about three battalions, the Nazis struck hard to rupture lines held by the colored troops. This little attack came as electrifying news because it coincided with the famous "Belgium bulge" enem thrust on the Western front.

When the enemy overran our positions in the Serchio area, the official communique said simply that our units had withdrawn to previously prepared lines.

Why did our troops withdraw when the Germans attacked at the Serchio?

There were many reasons for the withdrawal, among them being:

(1) Our line across the sensitive Serchio sector was thin. It was comparatively easy for the Germans to score limited gains at any point where they concentrated strength.

(2) Units which bore the brunt of the Nazi attack were comparatively new troops, lacking the experience of fierce combat. Attacking German troop were veterans who were executing a carefully planned attack

(3) The superiority of numbers in the attacking force, coupled with their method of attack, made it evident to f frontline men that withdrawal was in order. And some of them lost little time doing it.

Even in this highly publicized retreat, not all of the 92nd units in the sector withdrew without a fight. Some of its squads and platoons fought valiantly. Many soldiers have been decorated for heroism growing out of the deeds accomplished during the German attac in the Serchio Valley.

The 92nd Division learned valuable lessons from the Serchio attack. Weakness were found and in later weeks were corrected. Our troops have vastly improved since those bleak days of December 26-27. Now they are more "combatwise."

Experience being a good teacher, the 92nd Division might not give Mr. Gibson further opportunity to use that "melted away" termc come future operations.

The Troops' Own Story of the 92d Division's Record

P.M. N.Y. 6-11-45

(This is the second of two articles on the fate of the Negro 92d Division.)

By Roi Ottley

Special Correspondent

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ROME, June 11.—The campaign in Italy has closed with a distressing aftermath. The 92d Division, the Negro outfit commanded by Maj. General Edward M. Almond, has been pronounced a failure by certain elements of the press. I discussed in yesterday's story the charges and rumors for which no convincing proof has been produced.

Ottley

6-11-45

To be sure, the morale of the 92d was poor. The bad press devastated it. But no one yet has questioned the bravery and courage of Negro soldiers.

What fundamentally was wrong with the division was the direct result of the inconsistencies in American life—perhaps magnified. Hence I point no finger at individuals. Negroes were in no position to do anything about the situation. Whites were caught up in the snarls of prejudice and misinformation.

The indictment, then, must be leveled at the failure of American democracy.

To put the whole situation into perspective, it must be recognized that the 92d Division is a Jim Crow outfit with all the faults inherent in Jim Crow. Everyone knows that Jim Crow—a vestige of the bourbon South—has been a failure.

Yet this archaic concept—the artificial racial separation of men from the same country—was carried over into a modern army—fighting, ironically, a war for the liberation and freedom of all peoples.

Army brass hats explained that it was not their job to change the social patterns of the country. In this, they were aggressively passive.

If someone should insist on pinning the rap, the sole blame for the 92d's poor showing ultimately would fall in the lap of the white command. Because, actually, the division is not an all-Negro outfit. The bulk of the officers are white. Every officer in the high command is white. Negroes therefore had no part in planning operations. If the plans failed, the fault lies with those who originated them.

Actually, the 92d did carry out its assigned tasks—but at tremendous cost in life and materials.

The troops lacked confidence in their white command. Hence, even ordinarily trivial matters were heightened sharply by racial misunderstanding. Translated into effect—the men felt, almost with a passion, that they often were being sent forward to be slaughtered.

There were those white officers—in and out of the division—who believe Negroes are inferior to whites. This belief was translated into an attitude which betrayed itself in their dealings with Negro troops.

Negroes felt this keenly, and resented it. Negroes expected the simple dignities and recognitions that are accorded men in uniform.

One of those rights—and a vastly important one—was social freedom. They thought it right and just that they be allowed to associate with whom they chose—without being threatened with subtle reprisals and humiliations.

This was the background. Specifically, the men overwhelmed me with instances to illustrate what they called the incompetence, prejudice, lack of sympathy and understanding, viciousness, and sometimes sheer stupidity on the part of some of their white officers.

I only report those that seemed to me to have solid validity. Many of the white officers with whom I talked refused to be quoted. But in off-the-record conversations they gave me sufficient documented information to form a background.

They claimed there had been wholesale courts-martial of men without proper investigation, and on at least one occasion, the men were given long detentions without trial. These men were held in confinement from one to three months; at a place under harassing enemy artillery fire. P.M. N.Y.

The men complained against this treatment, but more than one officer, they related, who complained was discharged or transferred.

When units were pulled off the line for rest, they often were assigned to areas where all recreational facilities were "off limits" to Negro troops. This was offered as one reason why men went AWOL.

Particularly did the men resent the reprisals against Italian girls for their associations with Negro soldiers. They said Italian girls who worked for the U. S. Army were threatened with immediate dismissal. 6-11-45

One girl told me, "If you dance with Negro soldiers, your permit to go to the Officers' Club (white) will be taken away."

The Italian people were harassed to the point where they concluded the association with Negroes was not worthwhile. This eventually confined Negro troops to the worst sections of town.

Even men without combat training have been sent forward, as well as limited-duty men. The use of quartermaster and service troops, without previous basic training, has discouraged many Negro officers. One told me of being under fire with his men and one man saying to him, "Say, Lieutenant, how do you work this damn thing!" The soldier was fumbling with a rifle.

The troops feel keenly about what they describe as the unfair treatment of their Negro officers. I found this to be a fact and well known in the Italian theater. They say Negro officers often are not permitted to remain long enough with an organization to attain seniority necessary for promotion. Some have been in grade as long as 20 months without promotions.

Indignity was added to this. In at least one group of officers, the whites barred Negroes from the Officers' Club. There were differentials in the allotment of whisky, beer, Coca-Cola and cigars.

Any Negro who lifted his head above the crowd was slated for some form of reprisal.

Even their combat duty came with a veiled threat. The men quote Maj. Gen. Almond as saying that the Negro press had demanded combat duty for Negro soldiers—and now they were going to get it. The implication was strong that they were given combat duty as a penalty for the aggressiveness of the Negro press.

This distressing situation amply documents the reasons why a Jim Crow army is a failure—for the racial misunderstanding inherent in such a setup never can be eliminated.

National self-interest demands the end of Jim Crow in the U. S. Army and Navy.

Blame Officers In Showing Of 92nd In Italy

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Despite Gen. Mark Clark's words, "the glorious 92nd," during a Memorial Day radio speech in Chicago, the division's showing in the Italian campaign is considered in military circles as a failure, which Roi Ottley, war correspondent, sees as an indictment on American democracy.

Ottley found that both white and Negro soldiers in Italy were victims of ugly social patterns of American life. What was wrong with the outfit could not be remedied in Italy. The blame for the battle failures must fall on its white commanders.

The 92nd would not have singled out for criticism had not the War Department sent Truman Gibson civilian aide to the secretary of war, to Italy. The motive for Gibson's visit is still vague, for there has been no noticeable change in the unit, Ottley writes. 6-23-45

Among the indignities that the men suffered and one that amazed and antagonized the Italians was the reprisals directed against Negro soldiers and Italian girls.

Subtle reprisals were taken against the girls for associating with colored men, namely the threat of withdrawal of their passes to the officers club (white), if they dance with the Negro soldiers.

Other grievances, Ottley discovered, were the mistreatment of Negro officers; their criticism of the use of service and labor battalion troops for infantry duty and the anti-Negro attitude of Major General Edward M. Almond, 92nd Division commander.

TRUTH About The 92nd

Journal & Guide

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Journal and Guide War Correspondent
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If there have been failures of the 92nd Division, they do not necessarily reflect unfavorably on the courage of its enlisted men.

4-28-45 Norfolk, Va.

Many things have contributed to certain "reverses" allegedly suffered by the highly publicized outfit—some things which security censorship hid from the public and other things which might have been overlooked in the national discussion of the division's early history in combat with "race sensitiveness," this writer believes that the 92nd Division is, as Mr. Gibson put it, "not hopeless." It has been proved that the 92nd men will fight heroically when led by good officers.

The 92nd Division has many problems which are peculiar to a segregated outfit that has mixed white and colored officers, not the least of these being the so-called "race problem." It is very easy for the officers, white and colored, to bring out the old race angle as an alibi for their own failures.

MIXTURE OF ATTITUDES

There are many efficient officers in the division, colored and white. There are some officers which might not be classified in the top bracket of efficiency—white and colored. There are some white officers who have shown no racial sensitiveness in the performance of their duties and are apparently doing their utmost to promote the advance of the division.

There may be some white officers who have shown prejudices on certain occasions. This mixture of attitudes has probably done more to hinder the progress in the division than any other single factor.

If there have been failures in the 92nd Division it will be shown in unit histories that these were no reflection on the courage of enlisted men generally. Time and again individual units of the division have displayed the acme of courage in combat. These displays of courage and gallantry have come consistently when soldiers were inspired by the officers who led them into battle.

Maj. Gen. E. M. Allmond, commander of the 92nd Division, has repeatedly emphasized during interviews with this reporter that "my chief aim is to make this a good fighting outfit—to see to it that the squads and platoons are led into battle by the best men available. . . 4-28-45

The best of battle plans must fail unless the junior leaders carry out their orders efficiently, Gen. Allmond contends.

"RACE SENSITIVENESS"

Despite the fact that it is a segregated unit with mixed officers, many of whom are haunted by good officers.

On at least one occasion the news releases on 92nd operations have been definitely on the "cool" side. This came in mid-February when the division had just completed an "all-out" attack against Germans on the left flank of the Gothic Line, where the formidable Nazi defenses are anchored to the Tyhrennian Sea. The 92nd fighters were badly mauled in this struggle and were forced to yield early gains and to retire to lines which they occupied prior to the offensive.

SPECIAL COMMUNIQUE

Shortly after "the battle of the Cinquale Canal" was over, the Public Relations Section of the Fifth Army released a special communique stating in effect that the 92nd Division had made an all-out attack, had lost a lot of men and equipment, and had failed to gain any ground.

This was an extra sort of a news release, aside from the usual daily communiques which had carried running accounts in a general way of activities along the Fifth Army front, including the area in which the 92nd was operating.

It was a release which left no doubt to the world's waiting editors that the 92nd had failed in its first imp[illegible] test.

92nd Finds Unburied Bodies Of Comrades

4-28-45

By LEM GRAVES JR.

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION, Italy—When Negro soldiers of the 92nd Division scored advanced along the Ligurian coast line last week they came upon the bodies of many of their comrades who were slain during the ill-starred all-out division attack last February when our troops were forced to yield their ground gains after suffering heavy losses in men and material.

The bodies of colored soldiers have been resting on the ground north of the Cinquale Canal with no apparent attempt being made by the Germans to bury them.

These Negro soldiers will not soon forget this potent violation of human decency on the part of the Germans.

92nd Finds Ashes of Columbus

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
6-15-45

Return Urn to Resting Place In Genoa, Italy

By MAX JOHNSON

GENOA, Italy.—Troops with the 92nd Division on Wednesday returned the urn allegedly containing Christopher Columbus' ashes to its pre-war resting place in the municipal building here in the beautiful city of Genoa, during one of the most colorful and impressive ceremonies ever held in this theater with allied participation.

Over 400 92nd troops with another 1,000 British troops and sailors took part in this memorial ceremony held in the city's two block square piazza, Della Vittoria, while an estimated 10,000 Germans in the ridged area witnessing the affair from every possible vantage spot, including windows and roof tops. 6-15-45

92nd Returns Win

The urn said by Italians to hold a portion of the ashes of Columbus, famous 15th century explorer and discoverer of America had been taken by partisans into the hills for safe keeping along with a small silver box containing some of his letters and documents after the initial bombing of the city in the early stages of the Italian campaign.

At 2:05 Wednesday afternoon, a special guard of honor composed of personnel from the second battalion with the 92nd and 370th Infantry regiment with "B" battery in divisions 598th field artillery unit filed into the beautiful piazza Della Vittoria at slow pace with the funeral march played by the 92nd band.

They were escorting the urn carried on a caisson drawn by six horses. Halting in front of the walkway leading up to the arch in the center of the square erected in honor of King Victor Emmanuel, six enlisted men from the 598th former honorary bearers and escorts of the urn to the marble pedestal beneath an archway for the first phase of the ceremony. 6-15-45

Impressive Ceremony

Carrying the urn was Pfc. H. I. Zackary of Legrange, Texas, and escorting him were: Sgt. Sylvester Austin of St. Louis, and T-5 Hardy W. Wilcox of Tennille, Ga. Carrying the silver box and Columbus documents were: Pfc Floyd Miller of Florida escorted by Sgt. Worth Dallas of Virginia and Pvt. William House of Texas.

These men had been selected as the results and the winning of the highest good soldier ratings in their unit in a contest conducted by 1st Sgt. Carl Lynon of Lexington, Ky., an officer helping to arrange the affair.

After the urn was placed on the pedestal six soldiers stood at attention beside it. The 598th B. battery under Lt. Garland Borden of Chicago fired an 11-round salute from four 105's. Major General Edward M. Almond, division commander placed a floral wreath against the pedestal and Lt. Col. Louis J. Beasley of Florence, Ala., division chaplain gave invocation.

Wings Over Jordan chorus of 21 voices under the Rev. Glynn T. Settle of Riedsville, N. C., with Miss Hattie E. Easley of Guthrie, Okla., conducting, sang "God Save America." The chorus is in this theater. 6-15-45

Memorial Address Given

Major General Almond followed with a memorial address and said in part "I am restoring this symbol of your distinguished son, just as our troops restored your city to peace and security little more than a month ago. I perform this service in all humility with great pride in the accomplishments of our troops. May this symbol of Columbus never be driven from your city again."

Following the firing of volleys by the firing party and the blowing of taps, six enlisted men took the urn and the box of documents back to the caisson and the procession filed slowly through the street to the municipal building where the urn was placed on the pedestal it formerly occupied before the war.

Appreciation expressed

Vanduccio Paralli, Genoa's mayor, then expressed appreciation of his city's population by bestowing honorary citizenship upon General Almond and formerly offering freedom of the city to his troops.

The Mayor said "I hope free movement of your troops here will be a token and fraternization among our peoples which springs up, and gets strong in the common effort for actuation of ideas of universal peace, freedom and welfare." 6-15-45

Then at 5:6 o'clock the affair was over but Genoas', as well as, the 92nd troops continued to make the holiday an occasion with various lesser celebrations.

It is claimed that this urn was given to the city of Genoa by Giuseppe G. B. Cambisso to his brother, Lugi, general consular of Italy at Santa Domingo, July 24, 1878.

The 370th infantry officers participating as part of the processials guard of honor included: Capt. Raymond Montgomery Jr., 318 Third S.W., 2nd Lt. Frank Whisnot, 1418 Way, both of Washington; 2nd Lt. Richard Pippen of New York City, Lt. Harold Jenkins of McKeesport, Pa., and 2nd Lt. James Gilliam of Baltimore, Md.

Army Hospital Staffed by Negroes Is Highly Rated

Black Dispatch Okla. City, Okla. 3-17-45

LANCASHIRE, Eng.—(ANP)—The 168th U. S. Military hospital here is rated highly. The hospital is manned by an all-Negro staff under the command of Capt. Marry Petty.

"The experiment of staffing a military hospital with Negro nurses has proved a real success," said Patricia Strauss, a white daily newspaper correspondent. "I must record that I saw one of the operating rooms 45 minutes after the last operation of the day was finished. It was not just clean and tidy. It looked as if it had never been used. It might in fact have been an exhibition operatin room in a windor of Macy's.' 3-17-45

The bulk of the operations is skin grafting. With the use of the modern dermatone, which cuts one-100th of an inch thin, no scars are left on the patient's face nor the donor's face. No stitches have to be removed any more because the skin is pasted on with a paste made of plasma and a leucocytic extract.

Fifty-four of the nurses have managed to survive the dampnes of the English climate although Capt. Petty is reported to have been confined recently by pneumonia. Many of the girls are reported to have purchased bicycles and take rides around the English countryside. 3-17-45

Second Lt. Alice Ismael, New York City, is among those who hope they will be able to spend leaves in Paris soon.

Birmingham News 5-20-45

TALENT. Fighter Bob Robertson entertains fellow patients in France

The Negro Soldiers In Italy

Daily Worker 3-8-45

Manhattan

Editor, Daily Worker:

An officer friend of mine in Italy sent me a clipping of an editorial from the Stars and Stripes entitled We Are Not Amused. It has to do with a humorous Italian weekly, Pettirosso's attitude towards the Negro soldiers and says in part: "For the possible benefit of the editors of the Pettirosso, a few simple facts might be made clear. The thousands of Negro soldiers in Italy are citizens of the United States. Many of them are living in the cold and discomfort of the Italian front and some are being wounded and killed. The Negro soldier is fighting like all other Americans against fascism and Nazism and for a peaceful democratic world. He is fighting and dying to help liberate the rest of Italy. The American Negro is not a stranger to shoes, nor to literacy, to ideas, to democracy. If Italians don't have shoes it is certainly not because any Allied soldier has them." 3-8-45

I hope that you may find this worth noting in your paper.

E. S.

1st, 7th ARMIES ABOLISH JIM CROW POLICY

Pittsburgh Courier 3-24-45

European

PARIS — Negroes and whites are now fighting shoulder to shoulder in the same outfits in both the First and Seventh Armies, marking a break in the United States Army's traditional policy of segregation, Stars and Stripes recorded this week from the First Army front.

Negro platoons have been assigned to rifle companies of infantry divisions in both armies in response to the repeated requests from the Negroes themselves for a chance to fight for their country as well as work for it, the Army newspaper reported.

GROUP REACHED RHINE RIVER 3-24-45

They were chosen from thousands who answered a special appeal Dec. 26 from the Communications Zone commander, Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, to the service troops in his command.

In one engineer company, 171 men out of a total of 186 volunteered to fight. Four first sergeants accepted reductions to privates to qualify for infantry training, the paper reported. In one Quartermaster Laundry company, 100 out of a total of 260 volunteered for the front lines, but only thirty-six were allowed to go.

About 2,500 in all were accepted, Stars and Stripes reported, and two platoons were attached to the company which crossed the Roer and helped take the Rhine.

"I came to the Army to fight, not to labor," Pfc. George Freeman Dunning told Stars and Stripes.

"We are all in this thing together now, white and Negro Americans in the same company," said Pfc. Leroy Douglass Kent of Atlantic City, N.J. "That's the way it should be . . . we've been giving a lot of sweat. Now I think we'll mix some blood with it."

The Army newspaper quoted Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, Service of Supply commander, as telling the Negro volunteers: 3-24-45

"It is planned to assign you without regard to race or color to units where your assistance is most needed. Comrades at the front are anxious to share the glory and victory with you.

"Your relatives and friends are urging that you be granted the privilege. The Supreme Commander (Gen. Dwight Eisenhower) is confident that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to carry on in keeping with the glorious record of colored troops of former wars."

AMAZING FACTS ARE EXPOSED BY AIDE

Pittsburgh Courier Pgh., Pa. 3-24-45

Truman Gibson Reveals War Department Used Large Percentage Of Illiterates in Division

"You can't train a man to be a fighting soldier for eight hours a day, then slap him in the face with his race when he leaves camp at night."—TRUMAN K. GIBSON.

By COLLINS GEORGE
Courier War Corespondent 3-24-45

ROME, Italy—(Via Cable)—Stressing the fact that every combat soldier needs proper training and motivation, and that any generalizations on the Negro soldiers' fighting ability based on race are false, Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, concluded his tour of Negro units in the Italian theatre with a press conference here last Wednesday.

Mr. Gibson opened his talk to reporters by reading part of a letter to him from Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy, sending him abroad for the specific purpose of observing the performance of Negro troops and studying attitudes of both officers and men. He pointed out that his trip was evidence of the flexibility of the War Department, which wants to know the underlying reasons behind the good or bad performance of Negro fighters.

MORE ILLITERATES THAN OTHER DIVISION 3-24-45

Mr. Gibson stated that it is too late to expect any major change in the racial policy of the War Department, but that questions of the disposition of Negro soldiers will play a large part in any Congressional legislation for universal military training.

Much of Mr. Gibson's discussion dealt with the 92nd Division, which, because of reverses in Serchio and in Cinquale is acquiring a name as a "poor" outfit. In this discussion he pointed out the fallacy of racial generalizations concerning Negro soldiers.

The 92nd, which was activated three years ago, is composed of enlisted personnel mainly from Southern States with poor educational opportunities. The proportion of men in the division in the two lowest education classes are many times higher than in other divisions of the Army.

92 PER CENT IN LOWEST CLASSES

Mr. Gibson felt that the high percentage of illiteracy accounted for part of the trouble in the division and was the key to its poor combat record. Ninety-two per cent of the 92nd is in Class 4 or Class 5 in Army literacy tests.

Seventy-five per cent of the 92nd Division soldiers were in Class 4, semi-illiterate, according to division records. Class 5 is the worst classification.

Normally, he declared, men in Class 5 had a special period of basic training, but at the time of activation of this division lack of facilities for Negro soldiers caused men of the division to miss thirteen weeks of infantry basic training, now required of all soldiers.

In the matter of replacements for the division, only a small proportion are from infantry trained outfits.

BLAME DIXIE CAMPS FOR ATTITUDES 3-24-45

Mr. Gibson stressed that the low learning level of the division had no connection with the native intelligence of soldiers, but that because of makeup and training the 92nd Division cannot fairly be compared with other divisions.

In discussing motivation of troops, Gibson pointed out that the super-sensitive attitude of the Negro GI and officer concerning race is a definite factor in the development of combat troops and that their racial anger began in Southern training camps back home.

"You can't train a man to be a fighting soldier for eight hours a day, then slap him in the face with his race when he leaves camp at night," Gibson declared.

In a review of the racial grievances of the 92nd Division, Mr. Gibson mentioned the segregated officers club at division headquarters and run-ins with white MPs who resent the sight of Negro officers with Italian girls.

PROMOTIONS CAUSE FOR DISCONTENT 3-24-45

He added, however, that much of the racial grievance is sheer super-sensitivity to race, as when, in a recent reorganization of the division, a so-called crack regiment was thoughtlessly given all white company commanders, with the immediate results of charges of racial discrimination arising.

The question of proper motivation of men, who have always been well treated by the better white officers of the division, is now receiving increased attention throughout the division, Mr. Gibson pointed out. "In spite of occasional bad reports, particularly in the number of 'stragglers' in

combat, the division is still doing its job and will continue to do so. But the problem of poor attitudes of both white and colored in the division is yet to be solved," he stated.

Mr. Gibson also mentioned the system of promotion of Negro officers in the 92nd, which has caused widespread discontent. He stated that he thinks it may be changed to a more satisfactory system.

REFUTES CHARGE OF COWARDICE 3-24-45

Reminding the correspondents that in no instance was the courage of the division in question, Mr. Gibson said: "Its record of casualties and of decorations is refutation of any charge of cowardice on the part of Negro soldiers."

Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group and a roommate of Mr. Gibson at the University of Chicago, attended the press conference.

Mr. Gibson will make his report to the War Department's advisory committee on special troop problems.

Nazis Pull Blackface Stunt; 4 Killed

Informer Houston Texas

With The American 5th Army In Italy—(ANP)--Four black face Nazi soldiers were killed here last week when they attempted infiltration into positions of the famous 92d division. The "minstrel show" infiltration marked the latest unsuccessful Nazi stunt.

Aware of facing a Negro division, the Germans decided to black their faces. They were armed with regular GI carbines and wore American uniforms. The trick failed and all four were cut down by the guns of Negro soldiers.

Combat Engineers Are Tough

Pittsburgh Courier P2.

Officers Proudly Pay Tribute To Their Men

Pittsburgh Courier 3-3-45

By COLLINS GEORGE, Courier War Correspondent

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY—It is the proud boast of the combat engineers that "we lead the infantrymen into battle," and in the recent battle of the Cinquale Canal the combat engineers attached to the Ninety-Second Division, not only lived up to that boast, but served as rifleman as well. Paving the way for the initial assault wave, clearing minefields of the deadly schu-mines and the tank-destroying demolition mines, building bridges to aid the movement of men and supplies, establishing strong points, their platoons were under continuous enemy fire for four full days.

HEROES OF CINQUALE CANAL—Two of the innumerable heroes of the Ninety-second Division's recent action in the vicinity of Cinquale Canal are S/Sgt. Joe N. Dozie and First Lt. John W. Bailey of Easton, Md. Dozie, with a soldier's modesty, has refused to accept the recommendation of his superior officers that he be granted a battlefield commission.

Typical of their effort is the story of one engineer company under the comman of First Lieut. Robert L. Ward of Memphis, Tenn., whose mine-clearing units not only preceded the infantry in the initial crossing of the canal, but also cleared a way through the mine-strewn beach for the spearhead of tanks. 3-3-45

First Lieut. Edward W. Williams of Albany, Ga., followed in the wake of the first assault wave to aid in the endless task of mine-clearing and to establish a strong-point. By this time Jerry had zeroed the beach in with his artillery and mortar fire and under cover of that had organized a severe counter-attack. Joining forces with the infantrymen, the engineers aided in repelling the counter-attack and accomplished their mission.

Lieutenant Williams says much of the credit for the success of his unit should go to First Sgt. Benjamin K. Boone, Durham, N. C., who, aided by S/Sgt. Leroy Smith of Ossining, N. Y., took charge of the platoon whenever the lieutenant's absence was necessary and who organized and carried out the evacuation of the platoon's casualties. 3-3-45

MICHIGAN MAN TOPS

Heading another platoon, whose double mission was to serve as flank guard for the assault waves and to establish a strongpoint, was Second Lieut. John Kitzmiller of Battle Creek, Mich. By the time Kitzmiller's platoon was to cross the canal, the enemy shelling had become so severe that only half his men could make the crossing. Determined to accomplish his mission, Kitzmiller returned to lead the remainder of his men across and himself pinned down by artillery fire for so long that his men had listed him as "missing in action." When he returned, he found that without him his men had established their strongpoint and were engaged in defending it.

Kitzmiller, however, reserved his highest praise for Sgt. Morris Upshaw of New Jersey, and T/5 John Moncreary of Mississippi, for their feat in evacuating a wounded officer through heavy shelling in full daylight from the spot now known as the Ninety-Second's "Little Anzio."

NEGRO UNIT AT BASTOGNE

New York Times

969th Field Artillery Battalion Filled Heroic Role 1-29-45

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (AP)—The 969th Field Artillery Battalion, with Negro enlisted men manning its 155-mm. howitzers, has fought all the way from Normandy to Bastogne.

The War Department reported today that the battalion stuck to its guns and helped beat off waves of German attackers at Bastogne, where for a time American forces were isolated in the German breakthrough push. 1-29-45

In the heaviest fighting at Bastogne all except the actual cannoneers fought infantry fashion, taking thirty or forty prisoners.

The battalion set up its guns under the direction of the 101st Airborne Division, to which it was attached. Enemy tanks and infantry approached. With the help of a few scattered tanks, the battalion poured out fire that held the enemy at bay. Casualties became heavy before the tide turned with the appearance of supply planes and armored forces from the south.

Reporter Sees Only One Tan GI In Berlin

The Informer Houston, Texas

By OLLIE STEWART

Afro-American-Informer War Correspondent

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BERLIN—At long last I met my first and only colored GI in Berlin. He is here by accident since the present policy calls for whites only in this area, but his presence makes true saying that you find one, notwithstanding there are Army police everywhere. 7-14-

Meet Pvt. Carl Honesty who can tell his grandchildren he was the first tan yank in the Reich capital and made it by getting lost.

I hopped from a jeep at the Second armored finance office and there stood Carl on the back of a truck unloading coal. He belongs to the 365 quartermaster company which is somewhere in south Germany. Carl was lost and picked up but hopes to rejoin his outfit when it is found. 7-14-45

GI Weds French Heiress in Nice

(Afro-American) Baltimore

SOUTHERN FRANCE — The marriage of Sgt. Willie Johnson of Enfield, N.C., to Miss Elsa Truse, wealthy real estate heiress, in the Cathedral de St. Reparate in Nice on April 10, was announced recently. 7-14-45

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. P. Belgrand, before a candle-lit altar.

Plan to Live In New York

The bride wore a powder blue Parisian sports ensemble, carried the traditional Catholic prayer book and held a bouquet of lilies of the valley and lace fern, entwined with white ribbon which cascaded to her right.

Following the rites, the newlyweds were honored with a reception at the bride's home. The Johnsons plan to live in New York City after the war.

Sergeant Johnson, is a member of the 41st Engineers now on duty in France, is the son of Mrs. Rosa Scott of Enfield.

The Negro Soldier Betrayed

Louisiana Weekly

From The Crisis.

THE Truman K. Gibson report on the 92d Division in Italy marks a betrayal of the Negro soldier in this war. For Mr. Gibson, wittingly or unwittingly, has carried the ball for a War Department policy on Negroes that was certain to result in the confusion now evident in Italy.

That policy has been (a) that the army is not concerned with the race problem but with training soldiers; (b) that combat services of Negroes should be restricted and most Negroes placed in service and work units; (c) that Negro officers shall be held to junior ranks and in no case promoted to where they will outrank and command white officers or troops; (d) that while segregation is not the "official" policy of the army, it shall be left largely to individual commanders.

After so-called "disappointing" reports had come on the performance of the 92d Division, Mr. Gibson was sent over in his capacity as civilian aide to the Secretary of War to make an investigation. He called a press conference of correspondents in Rome March 14 and on March 15 the principal daily papers in America carried stories saying Mr. Gibson had declared (a) whole platoons of the 92d had "melted away" in the face of danger; (b) the performance of the 92d presented a "dismal picture" and that this was due to the fact that the division has 92% illiterates or semi-illiterates, plus the fact that it was given inadequate training before being placed in the front line; (c) a large percentage of 92d officers killed was Negro and that their deaths "reflected more credit on their courage than their judgment." 4-28-45

In passing, according to the New York Herald Times, Mr. Gibson remarked upon the block system of promotions for Negro officers being "unfair to individuals," and also upon the officers' club for "white only." The Herald Tribune writer thus sets down his impressions of the remarks on segregation:

"A mixture of white and Negro officers in the same units causes hard feelings because . . . separate officers' clubs develop and incidents of race prejudice **tend to be exaggerated.**" (Bold face ours.)

Milton Bracker of the New York Times says Mr. Gibson's appraisal "must be taken most seriously because he is the official representative of the War Department and is a Negro."

That completes the picture. The policy was instituted and allowed to work toward the accomplishment of a desired result, namely, the plain indication that Negroes, as a whole, are unsatisfactory as combat soldiers. The final touch of artistry was to have a Negro spokesman place his observations into the record.

If the 92d Division is made up of 92% illiterates and near-illiterates, whose fault is it? Certainly not the Negro's. The War Department knew the type of men who went into the 92d. It knew the commanding officers. It must have known that the 92d, when it was slated for the Italian front, was to be the "test" of the Negro soldier in combat. Why would the War Department, if it really wanted to give a fair test, send a division into the front line with 92 out of every 100 men in the two lowest classifications in the army? The 92d was licked before it started. Its men were betrayed, not in Italy, but in Washington even as they trained under the Alabama sun at Ft. McClellan and on the sloping mountains of Arizona at Ft. Huachuca. 4-28-45

But the cards were not stacked against them solely because the army placed Phi Beta Kappas and college and high school graduates in trucking companies, quartermaster outfits and other service units. The treatment they received from their white officers and the whole atmosphere in which the Negro soldier was trained constituted a major factor in the situation.

You cannot separate a man from his fellows at the induction center, train him in a separate unit, send him, even, to a separate all-Negro isolated training post (Ft. Huachuca, Arizona), humiliate him with all manner of little differentiations and then expect one day that he will "join the team" after a little pep talk and give a superlative performance. It must be remembered that these men were beaten up by bus drivers, shot up by military and civilian police, insulted by their white officers, denied transportation to and from the post, restricted to certain post exchanges, and jim-crowed in post theatres. Everywhere they turned there was a rule for a white and a rule for a black. At Ft. Huachuca they saw their Negro commissioned officers denied admission to the officers' club and shunted to a "Negro" officers' club. They took orders from a Dixie-born general who had his own conception of the place of the Negro as a man, a citizen, a soldier.

No one knows (unless a transcript was made) all that was said in the Rome interview. The paragraph quoted above from the Herald Tribune suggests that Mr. Gibson brushed aside, or even offered an apology for the "sensitiveness" of Negroes on segregation and prejudice. The Journal and Guide correspondent, friendly and cooperative, stressed that Mr. Gibson had praised Gen. E. M. Almond, and defended the white officers of the division and the War Department. The Crisis does not believe that Mr. Gibson would deliberately cast slurs on our soldiers. The righteous resentment of Negro citizens must not be misdirected and wasted against him. 4-28-45

The fight is to make the War Department realize that the race problem is important in the making of Negro soldiers, and that their experience in civilian life cannot be separated arbitrarily from their training. Moreover, while it has made some moves to improve conditions, the War Department itself has contributed to the low morale of Negro fighting men. It should never have permitted the establishment of a "Negro" officers' club at Ft. Huachuca. It should have abolished at the outset—instead of last August—segregation within army posts. It should have abandoned its morale-crushing system of promotions for Negro officers, for not only are the officers affected, but formerly enlisted men as well. It should now, without delay, direct that the insulting and humiliating "white" officers' club of the 92d in Italy be closed, or Negro officers admitted on a par with others. 4-28-45

Above all, the War Department ought to move as rapidly as possible to wipe out segregation of fighting men according to color. A step has been made in the armies on the western front where a few thousand Negro volunteers, for in supply and service units, have been re-trained and assigned to fight along with white troops. The pattern of slander and rumors and lies about Negro which came out of the last war must not be repeated. The Negro soldier must not be betrayed by the War Department or any of its spokesmen. He can fight as well as any man and is proving it every day. What he needs is a War Department behind him whose policies, however strict, are not shaped along the color line.

Notable Record Being Made, Says Encyclopedia

Memphis World
Tenn
4-20-45

CHICAGO—(SNS)— More than 800,000 American Negroes were serving in the armed forces by the end of 1944, according to an article on this subject in the Encyclopaedia Britannica's 1945 Book of the Year to be published early May 11. Of these, the article states, 701,678 were in the army and of them more than 425,000 were overseas; 148,769 were in the navy; 5,702 in the marines, and 3,556 in the coast guard.

"In addition to numerous individual citations, a notable general record in both the combat and service branches was recognized in an official army release," the article says, "with special mention made of the combat records of the 93rd division in the Pacific, the 761st tank battalion in France, the 92nd division in Italy and the 99th pursuit and 332nd bomber squardron air corps units under the command of Major George Roberts and Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., and many members of these units, received the distinguished flying cross and other decorations."

28 ENSIGNS

4-20-45

The Navy commissioned twenty-eight Negro ensigns and lieutenants during 1944; and on presidential order open the ranks and commissioned ranks of the WAVES to Negro women, according to the Book of the Year.

The Book also says that on the industrial front nearly 2,000,000 Negroes were reported in war jobs, with considerable increase in skilled and semi-skilled employment also in union, particularly CIO membership.

Hitler's Secret Weapon:

Journal & Guide
4-28-45

"Divide And Conquer!"

4-28-45

By John "Rover" Jordan

JOURNAL AND GUIDE WAR CORRESPONDENT

That is an old, old proverb that worked well for the Nazis during the early stages of World War II.

It was a strategy that was as old as the Alps, but it remained for Adolph Hitler to really bring out its effectiveness with his new streamlined version during the thundering thirties: "In Division lies Salvation!"

Using race hatred and class hatred as principal wedges for dividing innocent peoples, it, then, became easy for the powerful Nazi war machine to roll ruthlessly over the troubled nations of Europe. Even powerful France, pitifully divided, fell easy prey to Hitler's hordes.

Racial Unrest The World Over

4-28-45

Flushed with this success, the Nazi propagandists got busy on America, England, Russia and the rest of the world that was not yet under Axis domination. And the Germans achieved some success. There was a marked racial unrest the world over.

The Allied leaders, however, succeeded in exposing the Nazi propaganda tricks and set about to execute effective counter measures.

When Allied armies invaded North Africa and Italy, the Nazi propaganda machine went to work on the soldiers of the international armies.

One of their notorious features was a radio broadcast, featuring "Axis Sally," a personable feminine vendor of the Nazi speel. "Sally" would call our soldiers by name and tell them some gross untruths about their "loved ones" on the home front. But the Nazi gossip didn't work. "Sally's" broadcasts proved to be a backfire. Instead of causing despondency among Allied soldiers, it brought amusement. Laughter provoked by "Sally" has served to enliven many a lonely evening on the fighting fronts of the Mediterranean Theatre.

The Girl Left Behind

For more than a year now the Kraut propaganda gang has been showering our front-line positions with leaflets, all carrying messages designed to lower the morale of soldiers. The enemy sought to create discord between the homefront and the soldier with leaflets such as the series on "Joan Hopkins."

These were entitled, "The girl you left behind you" and told a sad story of Joan, who worked at a 3rd avenue dime store until fiance Bob Harrison went overseas. Then Sam Levy, wealthy pal of slick-haired bureaucrat Mordecai Ezekiel, hired Joan as his private secretary. Sam, the louse, wooed her with wine and fine clothes.

Negro GI Special

Months passed. Then one day Joan stepped from a swanky club towards Sam's limousine—to be confronted by a betrayel Cpl. Bob Harrison, back from Italy a cripple. The "Joan Hopkins" series carried illustrations that a burlesque barker would call "spicy bedroom scenes."

When colored soldiers of the 92nd Infantry Division joined the Fifth Army in Italy, the German propaganda boys had a field day. Special leaflets with appeal to colored troops were scattered around frontline positions.

One of the first of the special series carried pictures of the Detroit riot, showing a colored man being flogged by race-crazed white people on a street of that great American city.

The reverse side of this Detroit mob leaflet carried an appeal to colored soldiers, denouncing America's treatment of its colored citizens, and urging the tan yanks to desert the Army and come over to the German side where "jerry will give the colored man a square deal."

4-28-45

In a few days the Nazis followed up with more leaflets, this time picturing a colored soldier playing a saxophone under the caption. "Way Down Upon the Swanee River."

"Come Over To Us"

On the other side of this leaflet was this message: "What wouldn't you give to be at home with the old folks again? There is hardly a chance of your seeing them again. A shell may tear you to pieces or leave you bleeding to death thousands, of miles from them. But wait a minute. There is a way of getting out of this damned war and returning safe and sound. Come over to us!"

At studied intervals the Germans have pounded away on America's delicate race problem through a varied and amusing assortment of leaflets.

One batch of leaflets featured the pictures of two very cute and appealing colored children which were captioned: "TINY TOTS WANT DADDY HOME." The reverse side carried a reminder that the soldiers had "loved ones" back home and that there was a mighty slim chance of the tan yanks ever seeing them again. That is, unless they came over to jerry's side.

Captives Pictured

And then, one unfortunate day the Germans were able to capture a couple of colored soldiers during fierce clashes in those Apennine mountains. Of course, the propaganda boys exploited that feat to the fullest extent.

It wasn't long before the Nazis deluged our frontline positions with leaflets carrying the smiling pictures of two of the captured men. "Why Is He Smiling?" one of the leaflets was captioned.

Then, on the other side, it went on to say: "He Is Out Of It! That's Why He Is Smiling. He and his pals have found out that the Germans give the colored man a square deal. If you should be captured you'll see for yourself. In a POW camp you enjoy PEACE and SAFETY under the supervision o the International Red Cross."

On this same leaflet was a reproduction of what was inferred to be a personal note from the captured men, in their own handwriting. The note said simply, "I have been treated very nicely by the Germans since I have been captured" and it was supposedly signed by two colored soldiers who were identified by name and unit.

"Get Home Alive"

4-28-45

There was a little footnote at the bottom saying. "Remember, the most important thing in a war is to get home alive."

Why did those captured tan yanks allow themselves to be photographed in that smiling, happy-go-lucky pose? Why did they sign that note praising the hospitality of the Germans?

When a man has a machine pistol jammed into his back, he is in no position to argue. He has to do what he is told to do!

Jerry continued his propaganda until the last. But he has found that the poison which warped the minds of peoples of once-conquered Europe had no effect on fighting yanks. His scheme to "divide and conquer" has failed.

Allied soldiers, however, were glad that the Nazis did distribute so many of those leaflets. They are perfect as souvenirs of World War II.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023

JUL 6 - 1945

Patterson Says Negroes Are Doing Well in Army

Knows of No High Generals Who Have Been Critical

WASHINGTON, July 5 (AP).—Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War, said today the Army is proud of its Negro soldiers and that he knows of no high ranking general who has condemned their performance.

Mr. Patterson thus took issue with Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat, of Mississippi. The latter declared last week during Senate debate on the Fair Employment Practices Committee that high ranking generals told him on a recent overseas trip the Negro troops "would neither work nor fight." Senator Eastland called them an "utter and abysmal failure."

Asked at a news conference whether Mr. Eastland's views represented those of the Army, Mr. Patterson replied that he had no knowledge of any high ranking general making such a statement and that the expressed opinions of Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur and others "do not support any such conclusion."

"The War Department," Mr. Patterson added, "is proud of its troops and that includes Negroes as well as other groups."

He added that General Eisenhower had commended volunteer Negro platoons in Europe and that the Army's inspector general had praised the work of the 24th Infantry Regiment, a Negro outfit, in the Marianas.

Colonel Rowny's Story Proves

Race Prejudice Surest Way to Advancement in 92nd Division

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

By COLLINS GEORGE
Formerly Attached to the Ninety-Second Division

12-1-45

(LAST OF A SERIES)

The quickest and surest way to win advancement in the Ninety-second Division, if you were white, was to exhibit the fact that you subscribed to all the anti-Negro prejudices established by Southern tradition and sanctioned by the racial reactionaries of the Army and the Ninety-second Division high command. That fact is nowhere better illustrated than in the case of Lieut. Col. Edward Rowny.

Colonel Rowny, a West Pointer whose original home is Baltimore, Md., first attracted attention to his racial bias when, in 1942 before coming to the Ninety-second, he, a second lieutenant at the time, attempted to enforce segregated services on a transport carrying a Negro engineer unit to Liberia. In this he was aided by the present Brig. Gen. Wood, who commands the division at this moment.

MEN MUTINY

Following the Liberian trip, Colonel Rowny was brought to the Ninety-second Division where he commanded the 317th Combat Engineer Battalion. I know little of the colonel's activities at Fort Huachuca, but I doubt that they were popular for his outfit mutinied against him at Camp Patrick Henry as they were about to embark for Europe. The mutiny was short-lived, however, and the men were persuaded to obey their sailing orders. 12-1-45

Frightened by the near success of his men's revolt, Colonel Rowny attempted to curry favor among his Negro officers by staging a party for them on board ship. Not a single Negro officer attended. Absolutely furious at this turn of events, the colonel then sent an order about the ship demanding that the Negro officers attend the party. The refusal continued.

Once in Italy, Rowny attempted to enforce segregated tables in his mess for white and colored officers. In this he was thwarted by Capt. Cary Freeman, the battalion medical officer, a Meharry graduate, of Washington, D. C., who, in spite of the colonel's insults, insisted upon his right as a staff officer of the unit to eat at the "white" staff officers' table. In this he was upheld by the division command which would not sanction that particular type of discrimination. 12-1-45

In the meanwhile, resentment against the command had become so great in the 317th, that the Negro officers and men organized a plot against the life of the colonel. In some manner Rowny is reported to have got wind of the plot. At any rate, on the night it was to take effect, the colonel's bed was occupied by his close friend, the battalion adjutant. Sleeping in a position the reverse of that customary with the colonel, the adjutant received the bullet meant for Rowny's head in his feet.

ASKED ROWNY'S REMOVAL

The division command was by no means ignorant of the manner in which Rowny's racial prejudices made his work ineffective and lowered the morale of his men. The division chaplain and the assistant chaplain, Lieut. Col. Louis Beasley and Maj. George Bowser petitioned the division command in person asking the removal of the man from the division as necessary for both the effectiveness of the division and for its morale. Their request was ignored.

In February 1945, Colonel Rowny was placed in charge of the task force operating along the beaches in the Cinquale attack. At one time, during the most vicious period of shelling, the enlisted men whose duty was to go out onto the beach to nearly certain death, heard the colonel urge them on with this cry, "Go on out there (across the Cinquale canal) and get those men. They are your people, not mine."

The reaction of the enlisted men was immediate when this statement became known. "Let's go back there and kill that s— o--b— before we go out here to get ourselves killed," and they were restrained in this resolve only by the efforts of that splendid fighting man of God, Major Bowser, and another Negro officer. 12-1-45

Following this period, I asked the division chief of staff, Colonel McCaffrey, why a man of such known racial prejudices had been used in such a position in the attack in the first place, and particularly why had he been used to command troops of the 366th Infantry Regiment, a unit inordinately proud of its colored command.

Colonel McCaffrey replied: "Colonel Rowny has proved himself a good soldier."

GOOD SOLDIER?

I should have asked the chief of staff what constitutes a "good soldier." In this instance it seems to have meant a man who had the respect neither of his men nor of his officers, and whose forces in attack received great publicity for their failure.

Of the men and officers who served in Coloney Rowny's task force at the Cinquale, seventy-five were court-martialed for various reasons, so bitter was the division command at its own failure. Among them was Capt. Leroy Clay, who, under a more reasonable command, might have become the division G-3, operations officer. Colonel Rowny was not among them, instead, he was awarded the Silver Star (which caused several Negro winners of the same award to lose their respect for the award and pocket the decoration) and promoted to the position of Division G-3.

SUCCESS STORY 12-1-45

Despised by his own men and officers, leader of a disastrously mis-planned attack . . . but an open Negrophobe, a West Pointer and friend of the West Pointer division chief of staff, Coloney Rowny found the surest way to success in the division, race hate and political coddling.

In these four articles I have attempted to show the absurdity of giving a "Negro" unit white commanders whose racial beliefs are those of Bilbo and Rankin, the equal folly of the use of all-Negro outfits which must inevitably run up against racial discrimination in the larger outfit to which they belong.

The performance of the Ninety-second Division shows only that Negro soldiers as individuals are exactly like any other individual soldiers, and if given the same treatment as other soldiers, will perform in the same manner. They do not intend to perform well under the command of people who are motivated by racial prejudice and selfish political ambitions.

As civilians, the Ninety-second enlisted men and officers, typical of Negro soldiers in all outfits, will oppose with the bitterness of experience any attempt at future conscription of Negro citizens into a U. S. Army which continues its traditional policy of separation.

FOR ARMY DEMOCRACY

In equal measure, the Negro soldier of this war, as American citizens, will support with enthusiasm any measure which will make of the army a truly American army in which, as in America's cities, one will find side by side in every capacity, Americans of all description . . . no longer separated into Japanese-American, Negro-American, or any other kind of American units.

Famed 92nd Disbanded

Division Won 12,096 American, Foreign Awards for Valor

The Pittsburgh Courier 48 Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON—On Nov. 22, 26 and 27, the Ninety-second Infantry Division came home. Four thousand men debarked at Boston, New York and Norfolk. These four thousand were all that was left of the once 12,000-strong "Buffaloes" whose ranks, like that of other divisions that fought overseas, had been thinned by death, transfers and discharges.

At Boston on Nov. 22, the last of the Divisions' Field Artillery units were landed, also its Medical Battalion and Company M of the 371st Infantry Regiment. At New York City, on Nov. 26, the Division's Headquarters and Special Troops—Ordnance, Signal, Military Police, and band—landed. At Norfolk, Va., on Nov. 27, the last of the division's combat units, the 365th and 370th Infantry Regiments landed at Hampton Roads.

With forty-eight hours after their arrival at the three large Eastern ports, the 4,000 men—with the exception of those who elected to re-enlist—were on their way to the twenty-three centers throughout the country—from Fort Devens, Mass. to Camp Beale, Calif.—to be separated from the service. Colors and standards of the division and its regiments were furled and put away, ending the one Brazilian War II.

LAST COMBAT UNIT SERVING IN ITALY 12-1-45

The 370th also was the first combat team of the division to go into action. Attached to the Fifth Army on Aug. 24, 1944, it served continuously in frontline action until the termination of hostilities in May 1945. The men of the 370th wear three Battle Stars on their European Theatre Ribbon, one more than is worn by other units of the Ninety-second.

These were the last units of the Ninety-second to return from overseas. The division itself was next to the last combat unit serving in Italy.

the period of May-November, the division operated from Genoa back to the vicinity of Pisa.

After the first World War, the Ninety-second Division went out of service in February of 1919; it was reactivated for World War II on Oct. 15, 1942. 12-1-45

WON 12,096 AWARDS

Under these colors, according to figures not yet final, 623 men had died, 6,293 were wounded in action, and still listed as "missing in action." Under these colors, 12,096 American and enlisted men, including twelve Distinguished Service Crosses, one Distinguished Service Medal, sixteen Legion of Merit awards, ninety-five Silver Stars, six Soldiers Medals, 723 Bronze Stars, 1,095 Purple Hearts, and 7,996 Combat Infantryman Badges.

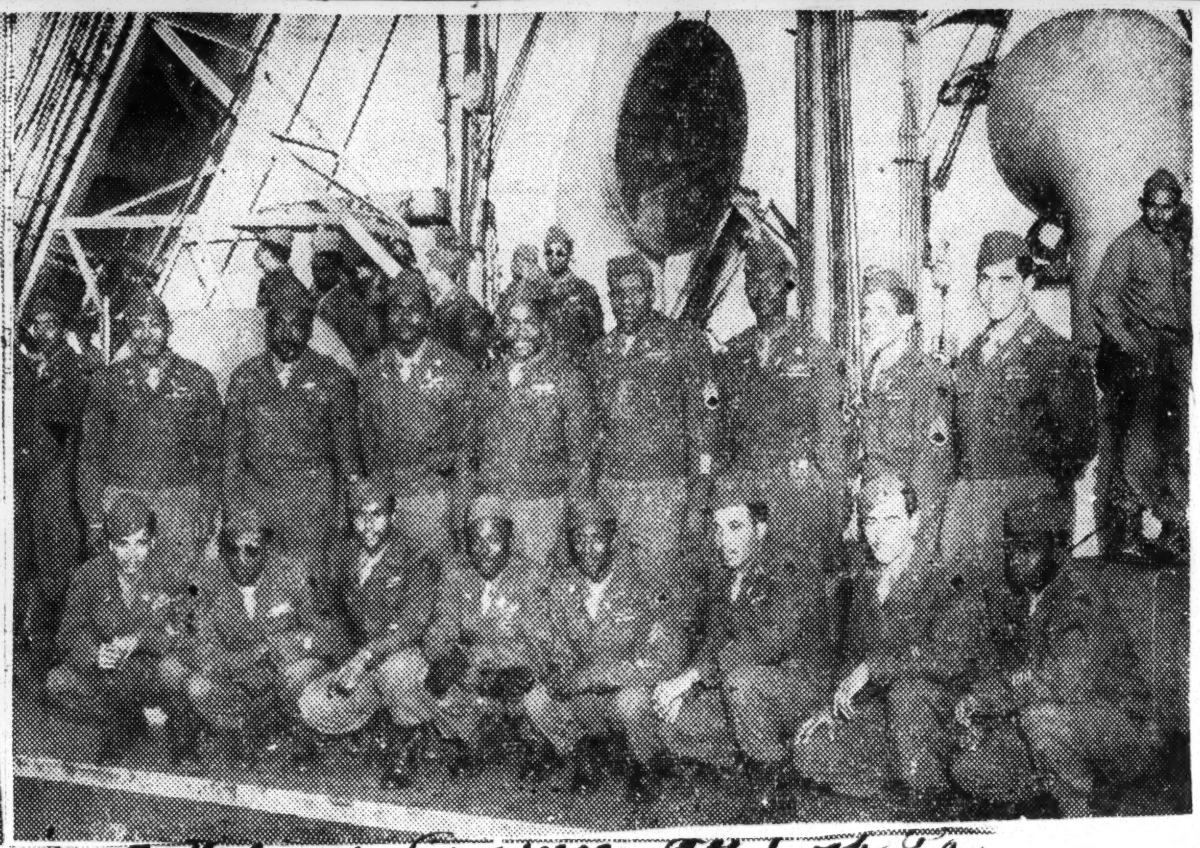
Men of the division won forty-eight additional foreign awards, the 370th also was the first combat team of the division to go into action. Attached to the Fifth Army on Aug. 24, 1944, it served continuously in frontline action until the termination of hostilities in May 1945. The men of the 370th wear three Battle Stars on their European Theatre Ribbon, one more than is worn by other units of the Ninety-second.

These were the last units of the Ninety-second to return from overseas. The division itself was next to the last combat unit serving in Italy.

Under these colors, in early October 1944, the famed division was formed as a unit on the Ligurian Coast and took over the sector from the vicinity of Bagni Di Lucca, approximately forty-five miles.

It operated in this sector from October until the conclusion of hostilities in May, which included the April offensive in the winter lines to a point near Torino, which was highlighted by the capture of Genoa on April 27, 1945. This represented a depth of about 180 miles. From

12-9-45



The Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

12-9-45

HEROES OF NINETY-SECOND RETURN TO STATES—Among the first of the 1,800 officers of the 365th and 370th Infantry Regiments of the Ninety-second Division to land in the States at Hampton Roads after seeing action in Italy were the men pictured in photo at left. They wear three battle stars and the ETO Ribbon. Kneeling, left to right: 1st Lieut. Edmund H. Oxley, 1st Lieut. Benjamin L. Davis, Chief Warrant Officer Edward Millinder, 1st Lieut. Everett W. Johnson, 1st Lieut. Howard B. Campbell and 1st Lieut. Charles Bracy. Standing, left to right: 1st Lieut. Joseph H. West, 1st Lieut. William P. Jones, 1st Lieut. Hiawatha W. Harris, 1st Lieut. Jack D. Phoenix, 1st Lieut. John W. Holland, Red Cross Director Nelson A. Long and 1st Lieut. Charles E. Dobson. Center photo shows commanding officers of companies of the 365th, Ninety-second Division. They arrived Nov. 27, aboard the SS Frostburg Victory. Kneeling, left to right: Capt. Waino L. Estola of Detroit, 1st Lieut. Andrew W. Walker of Tuskegee, and Capt. William S. M. Banks of New Orleans. Standing, left to right: Capt. Elroy F. Whitlock, Texarkana, Ark.; Capt. James E. Ray, Quincy, Fla.; Capt. John W. Robinson, Yonkers, N. Y.; Capt. William D. Davidson, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Capt. Clyde A. Worthen, Chicago. Photo at right shows sixteen of the Ninety-second's 1,891 wearers of the Purple Heart. These men returned to the States Nov. 27, also.—U. S. Signal Corps Photos.

92nd Vet, Former PW, Must Do KP

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 10-13-45

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland

Pfc. Nathaniel H. Evans, who is among the 92nd Infantry Division veterans and former prisoners of war who are forced to do KP duty, clean latrines and wash pots at Fort Benning, Ga., where they have been stationed since their return to the States. This exclusive AFRO photo shows him on KP duty. Evans, who hails from McRoberts, Ky. and has been in the Army three years, was wounded twice in action – and later taken prisoner by the Nazis. 10-13-45

Ex-Captain Clay Freed from Prison

The Afro American Baltimore, MD

Twenty-Year Sentence Remitted by War Dept.

12-15-45

RE-ENLISTS AS PVT.

Term Cut for ex-92nd Officer Had Been Asked

GREEN HAVEN N.Y. — Leroy A. (Hickey) Clay, former captain of the 92nd Infantry, was released from the General Prison here this week following announcement by the War Department that the unexecuted portion of his 20-year sentence had been remitted.

He will be re-enlisted as a private on Wednesday, and after a seven-day furlough at his home in Baltimore will report to Fort Hancock, N.J., for assignment.

The former 92nd officer was originally sentenced in Italy last April by a court-martial to 50 years and dishonorable discharge for allegedly disobeying an order from a superior officer, but the term was later cut to 20 years.

Cut to Year Asked

Last month, it was revealed that the War Department had been asked to reduce Clay's sentence to one year and grant him the privilege of "parole-induction."

In a letter to Andrew Johnson, president of the Baltimore Social Workers' Rountable, Col. George J. Schultz, commandant of the Eastern Branch, U.S. Disciplinary Barracks here said: 12-15-45

Called "Victim of Circumstance"

"These recommendations were made since it was felt that Clay fell victim of an unfortunate circumstances while in combat, and that there was absolutely no intention on his part to violate military law. It is also believed that he is of excellent character and possesses high patriotic ideals."

At the same time a clemency review of the case was pending before the Army Board of Review, with Clay being represented by Thurgood Marshall and Robert Carter, NAACP attorneys. 12-15-45

A native Baltimorean, Clay is a graduate of Howard University and served as an officer with the Maryland National Guard until it was taken into the Regular Army. He served as assistant operations officer with the 92nd.

12-15-45

LEROY A. CLAY

A Little "Secret" About The Brazilians In Italy; Morale In The Much-Discussed 92nd

The Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va.

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN

The notebooks of war correspondents usually were spiced with many little "secrets" of war which were not suited for publication while our fighting men were still on the field. Some of those items in print would have caused the units a little embarrassment at the time. Others would have surely been blue-penciled by censors. Now that the war has been won, many of these little "secrets" may be harmlessly told.

QUITE A BATTLE

Here's a little "secret" on the Brazilian unit which was fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy, in a sector adjoining the 92nd Division area: 12-29-45

One night early last winter, two units of the Brazilian task force, mistaking each other for enemy troops, opened fire, and a spirited fire-fight ensued. The thing developed into quite a fracas, the battle raging practically all night.

When things were finally brought under control, it was found that they had inflicted over 150 casualties on one another!

(The Brazilian incident was unfortunate, but not unprecedented. Unseasoned troops have often been known to fire on one another out there in that weird place known as "No-man's land." This correspondent on several occasion, for instance, barely missed being shot by American sentries who didn't recognize me in the dark!)

SECRET OF MORALE

And, here's a little "secret" of why morale was low at times in some companies of the 92nd Division:—Some of the white officers in positions of command did not have confidence in the colored soldiers. And the soldiers in turn, did not have confidence in some of the officers. The result was that these disgruntled units sometimes made an unfavorable showing in combat.

It was the old, old story—You can take a white man out of the South, but too often you can't take the South out of him!

Then, there were the little "secrets" of the war correspondents at the Seventh Army press Camp during the Southern France invasion. The war reporters on this operation were a devilish lot, always planning some daring scheme for a story.

You will probably recall the three correspondents who made their way through the German lines, finally winding up in neutral Switzerland. That was quite a shock to the Army big-wigs, and the three reporters were "expelled" for 30 days! 12-29-45

Well, John C. Smith of the New York Herald Tribune and this reporter had cooked up a similar scheme. Only, we had planned to go through the German lines to Paris. In other words, we had planned to make our own private junction with the Normandy forces, days ahead of the rest of the Seventh Army.

Only reason we didn't attempt it was because the Fifth Army in Italy was planning to "jump" and reach objectives AHEAD of the Army! 12-29-45

SECRET WEAPON

Speaking of "War Secrets," the secret of the success of many of our military operations was the uncanny efficiency of colored truck drivers, who hauled up the ammo, come hell or high water! Correspondent Lem Graves Jr., of the Guide, used to say that America's secret weapon was "a Negro in a six-by-six truck."

56n-1945

92nd Painted As Unit With Grit

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

5-1-45

U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL, Camp Pickett, Virginia —(SNS)—As each new train load of casualties arrives at this huge U. S. General Hospital, a new chapter is written in the combat history of the 92nd Infantry Division on the Fifth Army Front in Italy. Each train brings one or more from the 92nd; each man brings new material for the chronicler.

Each page has a different plot—each plot its own odd twist—but the time and place are always the same—Somewhere in Italy.

They come from all walks of life, these casualties of the 92nd Division. Some were clerks, filling station operators, mechanics, lithographers, dental technicians, lumbermen and factory workers — a good cross section of American manhood.

HAD TO HAVE GUTS

Men of the 92nd had to have guts. Take the case of Captain Edgar B. Felton of 727 Harvard St., N. W., Washington, D C, CO of Company A, 371st Infantry Regiment. After having one of his kidneys ripped out by shrapnel, Captain Felton refused medical aid for himself and ordered the medics to care for his wounded men. He then staggered unassisted back to his command post to report that his forward platoons were pinned down in a German minefield.

3-1-45

And the "Buffalos" had to have grit. Private First Class C. V. Hudson of Wagoner, South Carolina, a rifleman with Campany L of the 371st Infantry, lay in the snow near Gallicano with a bullet through his chest and listened to a searching party from his own company as they frantically called his name—a call he couldn't answer because each time he tried to speak his mouth choked up with blood. He was forced to lay there helpless and unnoticed as his only means of rescue passed within a few feet.

LAY IN SNOW

Hudson lay there all night choking and bleeding in the snow and when morning came, unable to crawl because of his gaping chest wound, he sat up with his back in the direction of his command post. His feet dragging behind him, looking over his shoulder in the direction of his own lines, he literally pushed his near lifeless body backward across the snow for a quarter mile before he was spotted by aidmen and picked up.

Fast thinking is necessary in battle. Private First Class Dugar Lee, of 1020 House Street, Columbia, South Carolina, though wounded by mortar fire and cut off from his company by the Germans, stayed three days inside the German lines and is living today to add his bit to the story of the 92nd Division.

A member of Company G of the 366th Infantry, Lee was on an outpost near Borgia, Italy, when he and members of his squad were cut off from his company and trapped in an Italian house.

They fought off all German attempts to drive them from the dwelling and finally forced the Jerries to call for artillery.

WOUNDED BY SHARPNEL

When the artillery barrage came most of the men got out of the house but Lee was seriously wounded by shrapnel. Unable to go with his buddies, he unselfishly insisted that they leave him and save themselves.

5-1-45

That night, Lee crawled from the house and dragged his wounded body to the building where his command post had been, only to be told by a woman Italian Partisan that the Germans were now in possession of the town crawling into the basement of the house, the wounded infantryman lay there for three days watching the Germans prepare for a counter-attack by the Allies.

On the second day, Allied planes flew over and gave the town a terrific pounding, blowing up the house next to the one where Lee lay. At one time the Germans actually entered the house to set up an antiaircraft gun but changed their minds.

On the fourth day, the Allies attacked and retook the town and the wounded rifleman was saved.

There are others like Private Leander Robinson of 35 N. 8th Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, BAR man, Sergeant Francis Thomas, of 1305 Q Street, N. W., Washington D. C., a heavy weapons platoon leader, Private First Class Raymond Dantzler, 134 Peabody Street

Regular Army 92nd Division

Orangeburg, South Carolina, infantry lead scout and Private First Class Calison Roache of Swanson, South Carolina, rifleman—all brove, hard-hitting men, all wounded in action against the Nazis.

Report on the Negro Soldier

Time - N.Y. 3-26-45

From a sympathetic observer last week came a report on an infantry division which the U.S. Army has watched with keenest interest: the Negro 92nd. The man who made the report was Truman K. Gibson, Negro civilian aide to War Secretary Stimson. The essence of what he had to say: the 92nd's battle performance had been something less than good.

Censors have never permitted correspondents to tell the whole story of the 92nd. It is recorded that the division was activated in October 1942 and, under its white commander, Major General Edward Mallory Almond, and key white officers, packed off to Italy last summer. Three weeks after their arrival in Italy they were assigned to the front, east of Pisa.

After that, few stories of the 92nd came through; those that did were wistfully played up by the U.S. Negro press. Gibson, on a special assignment to Europe, made his report from firsthand sources. In an interview in Rome he told some of the things which correspondents have never been allowed to cable.

3-26-45

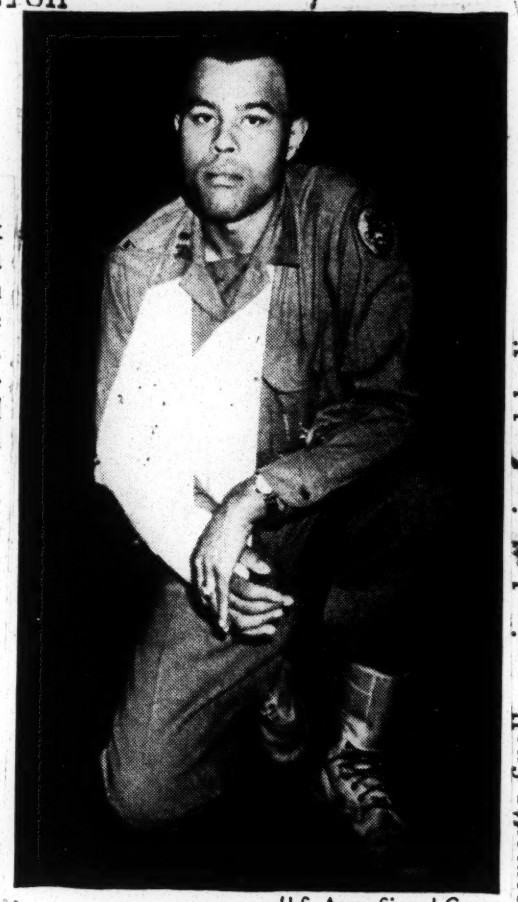
He cited many instances of personal bravery on the part of the men of the 92nd. But, he admitted, units of the 92nd have too often "melted away" before the enemy. Certain units have been thrown into "more or less panicky retreats, particularly at night when the attitude of some individual soldiers seemed to be, 'I'm up here all alone; why in hell should I stay up here?'"

Gibson said he had found cases of panic in other units of the polyglot Allied outfits on the Italian front, but these were mostly individual cases. With the 92nd, he admitted, "the disintegration was likely to be the behavior pattern of . . . patrols or platoons."

Said Gibson, commenting on his own account: "It does not prove that Negroes can't fight [*see below*]. There is no question in my mind about the courage of Negro officers or soldiers and any generalization on the basis of race is entirely unfounded."

3-26-45

His chief explanation for the 92nd's poor showing: 17% of the division's men are illiterate; 75% are semiliterate. (Among white troops only 4% are in the illiterate class; only 16% are semiliterate.) The bewildered blacks, according to Gibson, were never given the psychological preparation they needed.



U.S. Army Signal Corps

CAPTAIN CHARLES THOMAS
First in World War II.

Report on a Hero

3-26-45

The mountain road out of the Alsatian village of Climbach was crawling with German supply trucks. Climbach had to be taken; a task force of infantrymen, tanks and tank destroyers of the 103rd Division set out to do the job. In a scout car, jouncing along at the head of the little column, was Lieut. Charles Thomas, a Negro company commander in the Negro 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion.

Thomas' car was on the crest of a hill when the Germans opened up on them. Thomas was wounded, but he grabbed the car's .50-caliber machine gun and raked the woods and the buildings ahead while his wounded companions crawled away. When Thomas followed them, he was struck again in the chest, legs, arms.

Badly wounded as he was, he ordered the emplacement of two antitank guns, called his junior officer and gave him cool and careful directions for bringing other guns into position to blast out the enemy. Only after he had everything in order did he allow himself to be carried from the fireswept hilltops. Climbach was taken.

3-26-45

Last week 24-year-old Charles Thomas, of Detroit, Mich., onetime metal pourer and molder at Ford, now a captain, became the first living Negro to get the Distinguished Service Cross in World War II. The only other Negro to get the D.S.C. in this war: Private George Watson, who gave his life helping men to safety from a sinking boat off New Guinea two years ago.

When reinforcements finally arrived, their dead bodies were found outside the wrecked building which they had given order to shell.

Ability to inflict high casualties upon the enemy and willingness to die for their own men attest the high degree of resourcefulness and sacrifice of our own fighting men on all fronts.

In no other war has the nation been so quick to recognize the gallantry of its colored fighters nor has the War Department ever before been so helpful in making it possible for correspondents to tell folks back home of their exploits.

Wherever the story of the 92nd Division is told in this war, the names of Lt. Graham Jenkins, of Philadelphia, and Lt. John R. Fox, of Ayer, Mass., must be listed among its heroes.

Heroes of the 92nd Division

AFRO-American - Balto., Md.

War Correspondent Max Johnson's cable from Italy last week announcing the decoration of T/5 Jefferson Hilliard for killing fourteen Nazis with a machine gun brought surprise and joy to the Brooklyn home where Mrs. Hilliard lives with their 6-year-old son.

The Hilliard award was one of twelve decorations pinned on members of the 92nd Division fighting in Italy.

In later editions of the AFRO was featured another war, the Johnson cable reciting the heroism of two 92nd Infantry officers who, when surrounded by a superior force of Germans, directed heavy artillery fire upon their observation post so that their command might have a chance to retreat and reorganize.

War Department reports on 92nd Division, finally

Los Angeles Tribune 4-7-45

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—Before the bitter counter-charges made by the Negro press against the report of Truman Gibson, No. 1 Negro public relations man for the Army, on the unsavory combat record of the 92nd Division in Italy had subsided, the War Department came forward this week with slightly watered 'carte blanc' for the division's combat behavior in an obvious attempt to quiet matters. Said the department: 4-7-45

"Since its first combat team crossed the Arno River last September to capture the city of Lucca, 92nd Division infantrymen have won seven awards of the Legion of Merit, 5 Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, four Air Medals and 1377 Purple Hearts.

CALIF.

"At the end of their first six months in combat, the "Buffalos" had received 5991 Combat Infantryman Badges. Altogether 7000 officers and men of the division had received recognition for their efforts in action against the enemy . . . Seven who stood out in the field of battle had earned commissions on the spot, and many others were being considered.

"Regarding operations, the 92nd Division had seen only negligible changes in its front-line positions. One major drive, launched in February, gained some ground before the Germans sacrificed many men and materiel in pushing the division back to its starting point. Sharing the assignment of pinning down Wehrmacht divisions in Italy, the 92nd was confronted by the loftiest peaks of the Apennines. 4-9-45

"Many heroes, whose exploits earned the praises of high-ranking Army leaders, emerged from the division's first half year of combat. Daring fighters like Capt. Charles F. Gandy and 2nd Lt. Theodore O. Smith, of Washington, D.C.; Sgt. Rodger Holmes, of Hodges, S.C.; Maj. Willis D. Polk, of Philadelphia, Penn.; Sgt. Jefferson H. Hilliard, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Pfc. James Robinson, of Atlantic City, N.J., and Pvt. Jake McInnis, of Prentiss, Miss., have lived up to the finest traditions of the United States Army."

As if to say the 92nd Division wasn't really all that bad, the well intended War Department mentioned the fact that Five-Starred Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff, had inspected the division, had officially reported that what he had seen in Italy was "very reassuring."

Jimcrow Can't Inspire Men of the 92nd

Daily Worker reporter Eugene Gordon was himself a member of the 92nd Division in the first World War. He went to France as a sergeant of an officers' training school in April, 1918, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in July. His first published story in any daily newspaper was an account of two daylight raids made by patrols he led behind the German lines on Nov. 6 and 7, 1918, when he commanded a platoon of Co. C, 367th Infantry. The whole First Battalion was commended for these feats.

Daily worker N.Y.N.Y.

By EUGENE GORDON

The War Department, according to news dispatches from Rome, is making a special effort to find out why the 92nd Division and other all Negro combat units have been making "unsatisfactory showings" and to work out methods of solving this problem." 3-17-45

What is the "problem"? It is the problem of making men behave like full-fledged men when they are treated like creatures less than men.

We Negro officers and men of the 92nd Division in 1918 used to say bitterly that a segregated outfit was an inferior outfit. Regardless of what you may think to the contrary, the men of that division today feel and say precisely the same thing. 3-17-45

Negroes from such relatively progressive centers as New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Detroit, men whose native intelligence is buttressed by formal schooling, are segregated into jimcrow outfits, deprived of the ranking Negro officers who trained them as National Guardsmen, and are otherwise treated as inferiors. They take it all in their sritde, however, though resenting it deeply. They take it because they know that, even as they fight Hitler they are fighting jimcrow. 3-17-45

Negroes from the heart of the jimcrow country, on the other hand—from the rural areas of backward Mississippi, for instance never having realized their dreams of schooling or the right to belong to a National Guard outfit with Negro officers, are a special "problem" to the War Department.

TREATED AS INFERIORS

Truman Gibson, the Secretary of War's civilian aide, quotes War Department figures to show that 17 out of every 100 men in the 92nd Division in Italy cannot read or write and that 75 out of every 100 can barely read or write. These men, largely from the most unenlightened sections of the South, cannot be expected to see this war as benefitting **them** as they believe it will benefit their white fellow soldiers. **They were treated as inferiors back in Mississippi and they are treated as inferiors in the front lines facing the Nazis.** 3-17-45

Stories about the "problem" of the 92nd Division will continue to be written until something is done to solve it. What? Abolish second-rate gradings as applied to Negro troops!

The men of the black 92nd Division of the black 777th Field Artillery, of the black 784th Tank Battalion and of black Col. Benjamin O. Davis's Fighter Group are sons of people who know they must win this war.

Heroes of the 92nd Division just last week were awarded 11 silver and 27 bronze stars. They got these prizes not for running away from but for killing just such Nazis as those who, at the Camp Swift, Texas, regional hospital, enjoy what the Negro press calls "food priority over Negro soldiers."

The 777th Field Artillery fired the first gun of the 9th Army 16th Corps into Mehrun across the Rhine. It was black 784th Tank Battalion of the 9th Army which spearheaded the attack for white 35th Infantry Division into the Nazi town of Sevelen. It is the flying outfit headed by Col. Davis which was recently decorated by Col. Y. H. Taylor, commanding officer of the wing to which this group is assigned, for "meritorious achievement and heroism in combat against the enemy."

The "trouble" with the 92nd, as with every other all-Negro outfit, is jimcrow and discrimination. Get rid of those anti-democratic evils, at home and in the armed services, and you get rid of all such "troubles."

Attorney Urges Magazine Ban for Attack on 92nd

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt. Md

PHILADELPHIA—John F. William, attorney, cancelled his subscription to Newsweek magzine on February 27, in a blistering letter of protest aganist the "contemptible" article of February 26 on the heroic 92nd Division of the U. S. Army. 3-10-45

In addition to this action of resentment aganist the magzine's charge that "so far, the outfit's record has been a disappointment and failure," Mr. Williams told Malcolm Muir, president and publisher, that he is leading a fight to have Newsweek put on the blacklist of colored families.

Plans Campaign

"Iam going to undertake a personal campaign with the NAACP and other organizations throughout the country to eliminate Newsweek from the homes of colored people to the fullest extent" he said." 3-10-45

"You have shown by this article that you are most biased and prejudiced, and underseving of the patronage of the 13,000,000 colored people of this country, and I might say also, of other fairminded Americans."

He called the article a "brazen attempt to discredit on of the country's most loyal and persistent elemnts of its population," "which is not only unpatiotic and disgusting, "but fails to square with either the facts or the truth."

No Segregation Wanted

Mr. Williams reminded Mr. Muir that the colored American did not have to wait until this war to show his valor and devotion to this country, and also his fighting ability." 3-10-45

"Colored people do not want any separate segrated army", he added "but desire to fight along with their other fellow American. "The lawyer cited praise for colored soldiers by Southerners and blated the magzine's "gross ignorance" of the true situation.

All 92nd Wounded Not In Mississippi

Chicago Defender Ill. 4-7-45

WASHINGTON — Reports that all casualties of the 92nd Division stationed in Italy were being shipped to an army hospital in Mississippi have been denied by a War Department spokesman.

Alluding that men are dispersed according to wounds he said that nine enlisted men and one officer of the 92nd had been sent to the Foster General hospital in Jackson, Miss.

56n-1945

Truman Gibson and the 92nd

Gibson Denounces Afro-American Army Segregation

Balt., Md. 4-14-45

Holds 4-Hour Press Conference; Denies He Said 92nd Division Failed

WASHINGTON

Despite a constant refusal to participate in public criticism of War Department policies, Truman Gibson, Jr., spotlighted the complete failure of Army segregation practices at a press conference held Monday.

The civilian aide to the Secretary of War opened the conference with a glowing account of the performance of colored troops transferred from all-colored service outfits to mixed combat units in the European theatre.

Later he discussed the 92nd Division, the doubtful performances of some of its units, and his recent press conference held in Rome.

Men Used Where Needed Most

"In France," he said, "I visited some of the colored platoons before they left for the front and talked with men being trained at the reinforcement training center.

"What I saw and heard was evidence that the supreme command in SHAEF was following in racial matters what must be the basic policy of any army in any war, namely that of utilizing most efficiently all available resources of men and material to defeat the enemy."

Under the barrage of questions from colored and white reporters which lasted for four hours and a half, Mr. Gibson denied having stated that the 92nd Division was a failure or that colored troops could not, would not, or can not fight.

He said that while there have been instances of "melting away" of 92nd units under fire, this has happened before and is not by any means "the sole prerogative of members of the 92nd Division or of colored troops."

Differences Not Due to Race

"If there is any general conclusion to be reached," he said, "it is that there is no difference in soldiers (because of color). Train them properly, treat them right, and they can and will fight."

Attributing much of the 92nd's difficulty to the training, motivation, and environment of its men, Mr. Gibson said that conditions harmful to the efficiency of the unit had been found and that steps had been taken to remedy them. He declined, however, to describe or elaborate upon the "steps."

Evades Query on Illiteracy

Asked whether the effectiveness of the unit had been hampered by the high number of illiterates among its personnel, he replied that the question was a difficult one to answer, but that the difficulties had been presented to the theatre commander and it was his problem to work out the unit's most effective use. 4-14-45

He also declined to comment upon whether the theatre commander's problem might not have been easier had the Army followed a policy of integration in the training and use of the men.

"I will leave that one for the editorial writers," he said, "but there are a lot of factors involved."

Mixed Units "Big Question"

While denying that the integrated use of colored and white troops on the European front was in the nature of "an experiment," he said that whether or not the new practice would be developed into general Army policy was "a big question."

"It was begun by Generals Eisenhower and Lee," he said, "and is working, which will have a tremendous effect upon future policies. The use of the new plan in Europe shows that a real effort is being made to find a plan that will work."

Reason for Rome

Questioned concerning the reason for his holding of the Rome press conference, he said that the conference had been arranged by the Army after he had agreed to talk to correspondents in order that they might obtain accurate information concerning the conditions in the 92nd.

He also said that for the most part the reporters had presented a truthful account of the conference, although no one correspondent wrote all that was said, while different correspondents emphasized different parts of what was said in keeping with the attitudes and background.

The text of Mr. Gibson's prepared statement follows:

"The press has already reported that colored and white infantrymen are now fighting side by side in Germany.

"In France I visited some of the colored platoons before they left for the front and talked with the men being trained at the Reinforcement Training Center.

"What I saw and heard was evidence that the Supreme Command in SHAEF was following in racial matters what must be the basic policy of any army, in any war, namely, that of utilizing most efficiently all available resources of men and materiel to defeat the enemy.

Citations on Army Policy

"Such a policy is working. At the training center a white non-commisioned veteran, who was assisting in the training program, said graphically, if ungrammatically, about the colored trainees:

"'Sure they'll get along all right. It don't matter who's firing next to you when you're both killing Krauts.'

"The Texan-born, battle-scarred commanding officer of the center was confident that the trainees, all of whom volunteered for the training course with all non-commissioned officers taking a reduction to the grade of private, would do well in combat.

AWOL, Return to Fight

"He said: 'These men will fight because they have been trained and treated just like the other soldiers here and they know they are going to be used in the same manner, the same divisions.

"'They want to fight. When the first group went out, we had only two cases of AWOL among all the colored soldiers in the center.

"'We found out where the two men were when we received a wire from a front-line division commander informing us that they had reported to him to fight.'

Mistakes Not Racial

"The estimate of this officer has been confirmed by the report of an official observer who spent time with some of the platoons in the fighting around Remagen, where the first of the units was committed to combat.

"He reported that the colored soldiers fought as well as any others and that the mistakes they made were the same as those made by other troops lacking battle experience.

"This policy of making the best use of all soldiers is further evidenced in the excellent performance of the Service of Supply troops throughout the theater.

Supply Soldiers

"These troops, a large percentage of whom are colored, regard themselves as soldiers performing vital jobs. They had a very real identification with the fighting front.

"In one quartermaster depot, manned by colored personnel, the first sergeant, when questioned as to why the men were working voluntarily around the clock, replied:

"'We have got to keep the supplies moving and all of us want to do our part.' The officers in this unit were white and were enthusiastic about their men and their work. 4-14-45

Nurses and Wacs

"Discussing their men, colored officers in a quartermaster truck company said that, on many occasions, their drivers had insisted on delivering white infantrymen into dangerous territory late at night far in advance of the debarkation points because 'they hated to see the "Doughs" walk.'

"In the European Theater of Operations are the first units of colored nurses and Wacs to go overseas. The nurses, stationed at a hospital in the North of England, are busy treating American soldiers who have been wounded in action.

"They are described by the commanding officer as being the equals, professionally, of any nurses in the area. The Wacs officer and man the Central Postal Directory for the entire European Theater of Operations.

"Their efficiency has drawn repeated praise from the commanding officer of the United Kingdom base section. They have adjusted exceptionally well in the short time they have been overseas to their work and the community in which they are situated.

Discrimination Unofficial

"Generally, on both the continent and in England, it was apparent that the attitude of the Supreme Command that there should be no discrimination against any soldier on account of his race had reached all elements of the command.

"Discriminatory acts and incidents that have occurred where regarded by the soldiers as being individual in nature.

"As a result of my trip to the Mediterranean and European theaters, I am impressed that such differences as exist between soldiers are not due to racial characteristics but to such factors as training, motivation, and environment.

"The fact that the commands in these theaters believe this is encouraging. Certainly the record being made by colored soldiers gives the lie to any charge that they cannot and will not fight."

92nd Fights 2 Battles-Gibson

AFRO-AMERICAN

3-24-45

Obtaining Justice in Own Unit a Problem

TRAINING SCORED

War Department Aide Reports on Probe

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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3-24-45

ROME — Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, gathered some fifteen war correspondents about him in a press conference here Wednesday to talk about the 92nd Division.

Having just returned from spending six days with the 92nd and already possessing inside background of its history since its activation, Gibson said he had been sent to Italy to observe colored troops, particularly the 92nd.

He said his visit to this theatre where he has been for the past seventeen days, was part of a previously planned tour and not a result of the 92nd's recent setback. He added that he planned to leave Italy immediately for the European theatre to continue the tour.

"Far from Reassuring"

Indicating that the situation he found at the 92nd was far from reassuring, Gibson said he believed the division's commander, Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, would move to correct some situations pertaining to strained race relations between the division's colored and white personnel.

Eight out of nine 92nd replacements are men from port battalions and quartermaster units, sent into the line after a short period of intensified training in infantry tactics.

Balt, Md.

Training Criticized

Adding to the overall picture of ill training, Gibson observed, is the point that the 92nd, since its activation, has been composed of high-rate Class 4 and Class 5 men, according to army literacy ratings.

3-24-45

The second major problem Gibson brought out was that of motivation — the too apparent lack of willingness on the part of 92nd Division men to fight. Most of them have a "what the hell am I over here fighting for?" attitude.

Citing some instances to illustrate the abuses of colored soldiers stationed in Southern States, where they were taught to soldier and fight to protect their country for eight hours of the day and then faced with the race question for the other sixteen, he said colored troops here are still aware of this and other injustices still alive at home.

Two things at the 92nd base which help keep this type of racial injustice before the division's men are the segregated club for white officers and the fact that General Almond, who has whites in all top jobs, will not add colored officers to his staff or promote one to a key position.

Ruse Used at Club

Formerly operated by a white tank unit which is not now connected with the division, the controversial club is now operated by the division under the guise of this unit's name, right in the midst of the 92nd Division's headquarters' busiest area. A majority of General Almond's white officers frequent the establishment. The division's band plays there often. Colored officers are denied admittance on the subterfuge that the club still is operated by the tank unit, which prefers to invite non-members.

Thus these main faults of the 92nd, none of which can justly be attributed to its colored personnel, really prove that the division is doing a good job by holding its own on the Fifth Army Front under the circumstances. "If the 92nd is proving anything," said Gibson, "it isn't proving that colored soldiers won't fight. Any generalities on the basis of race are unwarranted."

9-24-45

Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., commander of our group of fighter pilots and long-time friend of Gibson, accompanied him to the conference, answering several questions of newsmen about his group, where points of motivation and the overall racial picture are significant determining factors also.

Gibson Statement May Do Good

Ch. Ill.

Chicago Defender

Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide on Negro affairs to Secretary of War Stimson, perhaps unwittingly did the American people a service when he made his statement that Negro troops melt away under fire.

There are two important questions raised immediately by Mr. Gibson's remarks. Is it another link in the chain of propaganda against Negroes? Is the army sending soldiers unfit for combat duty overseas?

4-21-45

No one in his right mind is able to believe that the stunning American victories could be achieved by men unable to stand the rigors of modern war. This automatically knocks the latter question into a cocked hat and even if it was true, it is no criterion as to the courage and fighting ability of any man when he is facing death.

The publicity given Mr. Gibson's statement in the daily press will benefit white and Negro Americans greatly. The people have become more interested in dispatches relating to the conduct of Negro service men in combat areas—around the world. Even if only one-tenth of the heroic exploits of Negro soldiers are made public it will give the lie to the tale that one's race is a determining factor in the behavior of trained soldiers under fire.

4-21-45

The statement of Truman K. Gibson, Jr., has been refuted by Dorie Miller, Charles David and other Negro heroes of World War I and II. The 92nd Division has won the praise of Field Marshal Montgomery who is better qualified to judge first class fighting men than Truman Gibson. The result of this unkind smear against men fighting for democracy will be to focus attention not only on the conduct of Negro troops, but also on the treatment they have received while wearing the uniform of their country. Already a better understanding is emerging between Negro and white soldiers serving together. Let us hope that it will be carried over into civilian life.—Seton Beresford Eversley, New York.

STIMSON'S AID HAILS NEGROES' RECORD IN WAR

Chicago Tribune-Ill

Washington, D. C., April 9 (AP)—Truman K. Gibson, War Secretary Stimson's civilian aid on Negro affairs, asserted today "The record being made by Negro soldiers gives the lie to any charge that Negroes cannot and will not fight."

4-10-45

Gibson, a Chicago attorney, told a news conference that as a result of his recent inspection trip to the Mediterranean and European theaters "I am impressed that such differences as exist between soldiers are not due to racial characteristics but to such factors as training, motivation, and environment."

Asked about allegations that elements of the 92d division, a Negro outfit on the Italian battleline, had "melted away" under attack, Gibson replied that the 92d is still in the and is still fighting."

92d Corporal Answers Slur

People's Voice N.Y.

[Editor's Note: The following article came in the form of a letter from a well-known Harlemite, now a corporal with the 92nd Division, who wears the Purple Heart. It was dated March 14, 1945, before the Truman Gibson report was issued. It is extremely significant now when the 92nd Division is under attack.]

By a Corporal in the 92nd

That article entitled **The Luckless 92nd** in the February 26 issue of **News Week** should be called **The Stab In the Back.** Its implications are treasonable. It must be answered back home.

3-31-45

It implies that Negro troops are no good for combat; quotes a group of mysterious and anonymous white troops that "the 92nd is a bunch of scared trigger-happy soldiers who kill their own patrols and Italian civilians"; calls the attack of early February, which did not lose any of the original ground we held, a complete failure; and infers that the reason for this is that all of the men and two-thirds of the officers are Negroes.

What it doesn't mention is that the command positions, 99 per cent of them, are held by whites but that is only a small part of it. I say that because it is not a Negro issue, but an issue for all America. It is evident that a concerted attack or counter-offensive is in progress against the unity achieved at Yalta and also within America.

It's aim is to spread disunity, nullify democratic progress and create the grand illusion that this war is not a people's war. All of this is to achieve the strategic goal of salvaging some remnants from the crash of fascism's death in Europe.

The publication of this article in a supposedly pro-administration, win-the-war magazine is a dangerous signal. German propaganda leaflets fired to our troops have had little effect—attributable to the deep-rooted anti-fascism of the Negro soldiers. But this article is having its effect because it comes from America without the Berlin trade-mark and this catches our men with their guard down.

I was in that attack mentioned and worked communications under mortar and shell fire to within 200 yards of one of our spearhead companies. I saw men's bodies lying on our path or being carried back to the aid station while other men, Negroes, would look at the result of the destruction before them, brace their shoulders and march into that destruction. They were and are heroes. The men who died are heroes. They gave their lives so that America would live, so that the world would go forward out of this stinking hell.

3-31-45

The tongue-in-cheek reporters, the editors, the other people who committed or fostered this filth of journalism should be ferreted out of their holes.

All the hullabaloo over the fighting ability of the 92nd Division, which came to light following an "investigation" of the division in Italy by War Civilian Aide Truman Gibson, continues to have its reverberations this week. Reports from Walter White in the Pacific area, point to the conviction of many that recent doubts expressed concerning the 92nd's efficiency in combat are part of a well-laid underground propaganda plan to smear all Negro combat troops and thereby halt progressive trends recently shown by the army.

3-31-45

Mr. White, secretary of the NAACP, in a report from Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, where he interviewed General Douglas MacArthur, proves almost conclusively that something is rotten in Denmark, as far as the criticism of Negro combat troops is concerned.

General MacArthur spiked rumors going the rounds that the 93rd Division, the other full-colored division, had failed at their posts. "Recent developments in the attempt on the part of certain persons to brand Negro combat troops as failures and cowards may backfire," White's report stated. He referred to recent publicized rumors that the 93rd had been broken up into port battalions and other labor units because its reported cowardice at Bougainville resulted in heavy casualties in the white division next to it.

General MacArthur told Mr. White, "Any man who says that another man's fighting ability can be measured by color is wrong. I learned that in serving as a junior officer with the famous 25th Regiment. One of the greatest armies I have ever commanded was a Filipino one."

3-31-45

"In the first place," White's release states, "the 93rd has never been assigned as yet to any beachhead action anywhere. The assault on Bougainville took place late in November, 1943. The 93rd was not ordered to Bougainville until the following April. Even Japanese air activity over the beach had by then been stopped to such an extent that movies were being shown on the beach.

3-31-45

"Instead of failing in the assignments given it, the 25th Combat Team of the 93rd, roughly one-third of the division, which was the only part given combat duties, performed in such creditable fashion as to elicit high praise from officers of the America and 37th Divisions. This was particularly true of the artillery, which was commended officially by Brigadier General W. C. Dunckel."

Although Mr. Gibson pointed out in his report to the War Department last week

that intolerable jimcro conditions facing the members of the 92nd on the fighting fronts in Italy and the persecution they had undergone on the home front before they left for battle were the real reasons behind demoralization of the troops, he emphasized the high ratio of illiteracy existing in the division. For this, he was roundly criticized by the Negroes who believe that emphasis should have been put upon denial of any lack of combat ability and on jimcro conditions.

So John Jones who lives in a Tedeschi mine field with both legs blown off is "trigger-happy"! 3-31-45

So Bob Smith who knocked out a machine gun nest single-handed is better at "shooting his own patrol or Italian civilians"!

This is terrible, my blood boils; yet I have an ice-cold hatred for these liars. This damnable article is the epitome of all the slanders, insults and scurrulous attacks on America in the guise of war reporting. The truth must be told about the 92nd. It must be found out.

The focal point of the relationship of the Negro to this war is his participation in it; the measure of his progress, and, therefore, of all oppressed peoples, particularly the colonials, rests on the 92nd. The 92nd is the largest token of the Negro's contribution to the war. It is the American Negro representative in the United Nations' front. The American Negro, as the vanguard of all colored peoples in the struggle for democracy is therefore the guide to the colonial peoples and the standard by which they will judge this war.

Negro Soldiers

D.C. Washington Post.

Truman K. Gibson, jr., civilian aide to Secretary Stimson, who has just returned from Italy, is refreshingly frank in his comments on the reasons for the unsatisfactory record of the Ninety-second Infantry Division—an all-Negro combat unit on the Italian Front. The proper handling of problems that arouse racial or religious antagonisms is all too often hampered on the one hand by well-meant efforts to soft-pedal unpalatable facts and on the other hand by vicious attempts to prejudice the issue. Since Mr. Gibson is himself a Negro, his candid admission that the Negro combat troops in Italy have not acquitted themselves well cannot be waved aside as prejudiced evidence. A whole Negro platoon, he says, will frequently "melt away" in face of the enemy, panicky conditions developing especially at night. By thus facing up to the facts, Mr. Gibson is able to concentrate on the causes of demoralization and to look for remedies. 3-18-45

Personal courage is not the exclusive possession of any race or people, but, indeed, is a common attribute of mankind. Individual Americans, white and black alike, have given abundant proof throughout our history of their fine fighting qualities. And in this war Negroes have in numerous instances displayed a heroism under fire that has caused them to be singled out for distinctive honors. "There is no question in my mind," Mr. Gibson says, "about the courage of Negro officers or soldiers, and any generalization on the basis of race is entirely unfounded." Only yesterday, indeed, *The Post* published a dispatch from its own war correspondent, Shirley Povich, praising the splendid fighting record of an all-Negro infantry regiment of the Regular Army, at present engaged in a mopping-up job on Saipan. 3-18-45

The qualities that make good soldiers, white and Negro, and keep them steady and dependable under the terrifying conditions of modern warfare are a product of training and mental discipline of a rigorous kind. Fear is known to everybody, and it requires more than physical courage to prevent that fear from degenerating into contagious panic in times of great stress and danger. It is lack of education and lack of training that, in Mr. Gibson's opinion, provide clews to the poor performance of the Ninety-second Division. More than 90 per cent of its members are either wholly or nearly illiterate. Furthermore, many of them went straight from reception centers into the division without preliminary basic training. The blame for the poor record of Negro combat troops in Italy, therefore, is clearly attributable to the shocking deficiencies of State educational systems that have failed to provide even the rudiments of an education for a large percentage of their Negro populations. The training of these illiterates and semi-illiterates presented a problem that the Army was not ready to deal with when the National Service Act was passed. Consequently, Negro units were organized without adequate preliminary training of a kind suited to their special needs. 3-18-45

Apart from these educational handicaps, Mr. Gibson acknowledges the existence of a feeling of resentment by many Negro soldiers engendered by racial slights, and, above all, by the policy of segregation upon which the Army insists. From the Army viewpoint, segregation is regarded simply as a means of avoiding frictions that would seriously retard the war effort. Nevertheless, this separatist policy points to the existence of racial antagonisms that do not jibe with our professions of belief in the equality of all men without regard to race. To Negroes who are thus set apart, the fight against the forces of intolerance abroad may sometimes seem less important than the battle against the foes of racial equality at home. Not all Negroes share this aversion to segregation and many of them, of course, realize that the Army cannot undertake to effect a revolution in our social institutions. It has to take conditions largely as it finds them and adapt its policies to the structure of our society and, within limits, to the customs and prejudices of the great masses who make up a citizen army. 3-18-45

By his frankness, Mr. Gibson has contributed to a better understanding of the problems of the present war as they affect the Negro. Only by getting at fundamental facts as he does and not hesitating to draw logical deductions can the Army hope to develop training programs adapted to the special needs of a generally under-privileged group.

56n-1945 Truman Gibson and the 92nd Foreign Service

Gibson Slurs On 92nd Division Draw Heated Fire From Nation's Leaders

Ill. Chicago Defender 3-24-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—"Gibson must go!" 3-24-45

That angry demand reechoed through the nation's capitol this week in the wake of a slanderous, open attack on the fighting ability of Negro soldiers by Truman K. Gibson Jr., of Chicago, Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Negro leaders here were aroused by Gibson's statements at a Rome, Italy, press conference in which he said that the all-Negro 92nd Division had turned in an unsatisfactory showing in combat.

What particularly angered several outstanding liberals who have been fighting to get Negroes out of labor battalions was Gibson's bland declaration that Negro troops so often "melt away" in the face of the enemy. 3-24-45

Panicky Retreats

Reports of Gibson's sniping at the 92nd were published in the New York Times and Chicago Sun in detail. The Times account by War Correspondent Milton Bracker, who recently leveled an attack at the Negro press for overplaying the deeds of the 92nd, was used to reinforce his contention that Negro newspapers were inaccurate in reporting news of the 92nd.

Bracker quoted Gibson as conceding that certain units had engaged, in Gibson's words, in "more or less panicky retreats, particularly at night when the attitude seemed to be 'I'm up here all alone; why in the hell should I stay here." 3-24-45

Bracker quoted Gibson as declaring that in white divisions, retreats were by individuals while

Five Negro Illinois state legislators this week planned a conference with U. S. Senator Scott Lucas to ask that Truman K. Gibson Jr., be relieved of his duties as civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

The Illinois lawmakers joined with prominent religious, political and labor leaders in denouncing the former Chicago attorney for his statement in Italy that the 92nd Infantry Division "melts away" in the face of enemy fire.

Rep. Charles Skyles of the Illinois Fifth District made it known that he and fellow-members of the Illinois House of Representatives do not intend to stand idly by while Negro fighting men were being made objects of a slanderous attack. 3-24-45

Said the vigilant young legislator: "I do not believe that there is any truth whatsoever in the statement made by Truman K. Gibson Jr., that Negro troops in combat melt away. The 92nd Infantry Division has one of the most glorious records in the history of the American army. Plans by a group of Illinois legislators, including myself, are already under way to bring about the resignation or removal of Gibson as civilian aide to the Secretary of War."

Dr. E. A. Welters, Illinois State Representative from the First District said:

"Anyone who makes such a statement as Mr. Gibson is credited with in regard to the Negro soldier is working toward the detriment of not only the Negro people but the nation as a whole. Liberal whites and Negroes are well aware that the Negro has been as honorable a fighter as any since America was settled. Every Negro member of the Illinois House of Representatives will undoubtedly renounce Gibson."

Hastie Comment

Capitol leaders were incensed over Gibson's statement.

Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard university School of Law and former civilian aide to Secretary of War Stimson, had this to say:

"I don't know what the facts are about the 92nd Division, but I do protest against the disposition shown in the recent 92nd Division stories in New York metropolitan newspapers to generalize about Negro combat troops on the basis of a single unit in a single campaign.

"If this sort of thing is to be done, we can cite the Negro Airbase Security Batallion in the North African campaign which, after the rout of our white frontline troops stopped the German break-through and held tenaciously to its position against vastly superior forces until this lone Negro batallion was relieved, and the sector which it had defended was assigned to an entire division.

"Or, why not cite the 969th Field Artillery Batallion, the only artillery unit at Bastogne which neither gave ground nor slackened fire when the Germans were in machine gun range of its 155 mm. howitzers intended for firing at 10 or 15 mile range were being fired horizontally over open sights at the advancing enemy.

Cites World War I Case

"Or, why not cite 'Taskforce Blackshear' of the Seventh Army as its story is told in 'Yank," the Army newspaper, where Negro tank destroyers, engineers, and whoever else could shoot, and kill, and die, took the town of Climbach by assault when everyone agreed that only a crazy man would try.

"In World War I the failure of one batallion of the 92nd Division in one small operation, probably because of the failure of command—this commander being white—was used as proof of the combat worthlessness of Negro soldiers. The heroic records of the 369th, 372nd, and other Negro infantry regiments were forgotten. They don't even appear in the official War Department records."

Judge Hastie then issued a sober warning when he said, "We must guard against the repetition of this sort of thing with the ignoring of combat successes and the exaggeration of combat failures."

Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinois said, "Soldiers in war fight on their morale—their esprit de corps. The statement attributed to Truman K. Gibson brings out clearly the result of the lack of planning on the part of leaders of the various branches of our national defense.

Gibson and the 92nd

Truman K. Gibson, Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, who has been pilloried by some of our leaders and certain segments of the press for statements concerning the 92nd Division attributed to him in a Rome press conference, has returned to his desk in Washington.

To a reporter on Monday, he said:

"It is hard for me to see how some people can, on the one hand, argue that segregation is wrong, and, on the other hand, blindly defend the product of that segregation."

Mr. Gibson was speaking of those individuals who charge that he slandered the 92nd by admitting that the division had suffered some reverses, at the same time pointing out that the War Department, not the men themselves, is solely responsible for the conditions making such reverses possible.

Afro-American

The Army system of jim crow and discrimination is indefensible and, besides, it is tactically unsound.

What Mr. Gibson said about the 92nd is not new. Those newspapers having correspondents with the division had such reports long before Mr. Gibson went overseas. The men in the line are certainly in a better position to know the facts than are the armchair-warmers back home.

We hold no brief for Mr. Gibson and certainly anyone reading these columns should know our emphatic opposition to the Army's segregated pattern. We believe that Mr. Gibson has made, and is still making, an effort, within the limits of his sphere of authority, to have these conditions remedied.

For this reason we are not willing to agree with any critics who charge that he deliberately slandered the 92nd Division. Reports from the front are sufficient evidence that the 92nd has acquitted itself in such a way as to merit the confidence of General Mark Clark who said that he has no intention of taking it out of the line. 4-14-45

The decision of the Army to integrate colored and white soldiers into elements of the First and Seventh U.S. armies demonstrates that the Army, faced with a problem, recognizes that success is dependent upon making the most effective use of the men and materiel available. This is certainly a step forward and we are optimistic enough to believe that the success of this experiment will ultimately lead to its spread.

Balt. Md

At a time when we are seeking unity at home as well as abroad it is distressing, but not disheartening, to witness the attempts among us to breed disunity and distrust. We can ill afford any such cleavage in times like these.

We like to think of a quotation from The Letters of Junius, which says:

"The injustice to an individual is sometimes of service to the public. Facts are apt to alarm us more than the most dangerous principles."

The Gibson Report

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

When Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, now visiting the Italian front, attemped to explain the fighting record of the 92nd Infantry division during a press conference in Rome last week, he demonstrated that he had as much courage as any man in the Italian theatre of war. 3-24-45

Many reports, official and unofficial, have reached this country impugning the gallantry of the members of this so-called all-Negro division. The official reports sent in last fall were so bad that a decision was reached in the War Department to send Mr. Gibson to Italy so that he might observe, at first hand, the conditions under which the division is fighting. By last week, Mr. Gibson thought he had seen enough to do some talking.

Some of the reports which tend to reflect discredit upon the division are unquestionably true. There have been times when the men of the division have not held the line. The pictorial record of engagements supports such a claim.

Pgh. Pa.

There have been some attempts to explain away this part of the record. It has been said that the division has had to defend a wider expanse of terrain than is ordinarily assigned to a unit of its size and that, therefore, it has been spread out thin. In respect to the Serchio valley and Cinquale canal reverses in February, it is reported that the 92nd division moved ahead to capture its objectives, but supporting white divisions on its flanks failed to move ahead. As a result, the 92nd, according to these reports, was caught by fire from its flanks where it expected its supporting divisions to be, and from the front. Both these explanations may lack merit.

Mr. Gibson in Rome attempted to probe more deeply into the record and the causes. He could not dispute certain bad, isolated facts which, he insisted, were of such a nature that they should not be used for sweeping generalizations concerning the courage of Negro troops. He asserted that there was more in the record to prove the gallantry of these soldiers than there is to support the charge that they are cowardly. 3-24-45

The civilian aide then developed two main theses as causes for the lack of perfection in fighting ability of the 92nd division. The first cause, as he saw it, was the illiteracy of a large percentage of the enlisted men of the division and the lack of Army policy and program in respect to this problem. The second cause was the operation of color prejudice in an army where the practice of segregation prevails.

It is apparent that Mr. Gibson chose the factor of illiteracy and lack of Army policy in respect to it and Negro soldiers because he wished to focus attention on the neglect of the education of Negroes by certain States and the blunders which the Army has made in handling these illiterates, white and black. Mr. Gibson knows the facts. Of nearly a million Negroes drafted, 550,000 came from the rural sections of the South, where their chances for an education were meager to say the least. Their unpreparedness is a serious indictment of the fitness to rule of the so-called superior whites of the South. He is right in asserting that until war came, the Army had no positive policy for the constructive use of Negro soldiers. It had a policy, a negative policy, under which Negroes were to be used largely as laborers. 3-24-45

However, Mr. Gibson errs diplomatically in placing first emphasis upon the Negro's illiteracy. The figures which he uses are absolutely correct, but they lack meaning to the people Mr. Gibson serves. Most Negroes don't know what Classes IV and V are and they have no understanding of what they have to do with fighting ability.

Mr. Gibson is right in holding the Army accountable for the fact that these illiterates were not given specialized and basic training and were rushed to the front unprepared. But such a charge involves factors which will doubtless mean more to War Department policymakers than it will to the lay public, white or black.

Among Negroes there is not the slightest scintilla of doubt that their failure to measure up in any Army situation is due almost solely to color prejudice and discrimination in the Army. When it comes to fighting, Negroes discover no relationship between reading, writing and figuring and the red badge of courage. They feel that they can be brave if they have never seen a book. And they are right. The education of the modern soldier is only a prerequisite to his more efficient use of the modern instruments of war. It does not embolden him.

But no Negroes, educated or illiterate, can stomach the kind of prejudice which haunts and maddens them in the Army, at home and abroad. This is the principal factor so far as they are concerned. They don't want Mr. Gibson telling the world that they are super-sensitive on this point, for sensitivity can be a fault and they know that the fault of prejudice is not theirs. 3-24-45

Each Negro soldier knows, from the day he is inducted into the Army, that he is subject to different, discriminatory treatment, growing out of the Army's policy of segregation. This is the big, loud-speaking fact. He doesn't have an American's chance in this Army. He is given a Negro's chance, a chance of lower, restricted order. By day and by night, this plague of prejudice pursues him. It is like a barking dog that cannot be chased off. The Negro soldier, no matter how well he does his job, no matter what kind of an exterior he may carry, is rankled in his soul by this discrimination.

Mr. Gibson reminds us of the inadequate training of the 92nd division in this country. He ignores the fact, well known to him, that segregation and prejudice tore the division apart before it was sent abroad and, according to dispatches released after his interview, glossed over the outrageous jim-crow practices prevailing in the 92nd division on the battlefront today. Elsewhere in this newspaper, Collins George, Courier correspondent, describes the jim-crow officers' club of the 92nd, from which all Negro officers are barred. Mr. Gibson noted the fact that most of the Negro officers are depressed into and kept in the junior grades where most deaths occur.

The unit is described as an all-Negro division. The description is both inept and untrue. All the top officer personnel of the division is white—and largely Southern white at that. There is no spiritual unity between the black and white components of the division. The whites hold the choice and commanding positions. This creates upper and lower strata based on color. In addition, these whites do everything they can to make the American color pattern stick in the cities and towns of Italy. They instill prejudice and incite distrust of these Negro soldiers among the Italian people.

Small wonder is it, therefore, that the Negro soldier in battle wonders what he has to die for. Small wonder is it that sometimes he may answer the question logically and conclude that the treatment he receives behind the lines is not worth the sacrifice of his blood.

Negro units and Negro soldiers and sailors have distinguished themselves for gallantry all over the world in this war. 3-24-45

But the chances are that, in every case, the individual or the members of a unit have been able to convince themselves that it was worthwhile to do so.

The experience of the 92nd division has been rotten from the beginning.

Part of the blame belongs with the Army's training program for these men, as Mr. Gibson asserts.

But most of the blame resides in the fact that the Army has permitted flagrant race prejudice to exist in Negro units according to the whims of particular commanders.

This is the fact that we wish Mr. Gibson had emphasized to the world. We don't think there is anything super-sensitive about it. 3-24-45

Gibson Won't Quit

People's Voice N.Y.N.Y.

War Civilian Aide, home from Europe, hits back at critics of his report on the 92nd Division; takes position that he criticized Army officials, not Negro troops; defends use of phrase, "melted away." Critics demand his resignation.

4-14-45

In this first press conference since his return from overseas, Truman G. Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, expressed bewilderment at the reception of his report on the 92nd Division, given in Rome last month. He expressed surprise that he had been censured by Negroes for severely criticizing the War Department in its training and handling of Negro troops in an official statement.

Questioned concerning the words "melted away," which he used in connection with some platoons and patrols of the 92nd, Mr. Gibson said that the phrase was a regular War Department term, that it cast no particular reflection on Negro troops, and had also been used in connection with similar action by white units.

4-14-45

Declaring that he could not be responsible for the reports of his interview which appeared in the *New York Times* and the *Herald-Tribune*, the Civilian Aide said that reading his report which appeared in a number of the Negro papers, which had correspondents abroad, would give the complete idea of what he said.

92nd STILL IN LINE

Gibson declared that he had criticized the War Department for improper training of the men of the 92nd, three-fourths of whom had attended Southern schools, where they did not have the same educational opportunities of those in the North, and pointed out that this indictment was of the War Department and the Southern schools, rather than Negro soldiers.

"As a result of my trip," he said, "I am convinced that such differences as exist between soldiers are not due to racial characteristics, but to such factors as training, motivation, and environment."

The 92nd is still in line and fighting, Gibson said, in answer to a question concerning the activities of the division. He also said that after he had pointed out the deficiency in its training, remedial steps had been taken immediately.

In a previous statement to a daily press reporter, Gibson declared that he would not resign, as requested by some elements of the press. "Not on your life!" he said. "It's a little difficult for me to understand all the to-do," he continued. "I said that you can't train a man eight hours a day to be a soldier and treat him like a dog the rest of the day and expect him to be a good soldier. I still say that. . . . When you treat them the same as any other men, they fight as well as any other men. The splendid record of the mixed Negro-white units on the Rhine has shown that."

SOLDIERS 'MAD' 4-14-45

Among the letters received at *PV's* offices concerning the demand that Gibson quit his post was one of an old veteran now at Soldier's Home in Washington,

whose army service dates back 52 years. He declared that from correspondence with Gibson two years ago, he decided that his continuance in office "bodes no good for the Negro." 4-14-45

From Camp Claiborne in Louisiana writes a sergeant, who says that the soldiers at the post are "boiling mad" over statements made by Gibson concerning the 92nd Division. He calls Mr. Gibson a "morale buster not only to the 92nd, but to every Negro soldier in the Army."

The Rev. Henry Deas, now at Harvard Divinity School, who served overseas with the 92nd, also took the positions that Gibson should resign, in a telegram to *PV*.

The Maryland State Conference of Branches of the NAACP, in a letter to President Roosevelt, requested his personal investigation of Gibson's report on the 92nd Division. At the time the 92nd was preparing to go overseas, the letter stated, the Negro press raised a cry about the lack of preparation of the troops for combat duty. At this time, it added, the charges were discredited by the War Department.

4-14-45

Some observers point out that both Gibson and General Benjamin O. Davis inspected the 92nd Division at its training center at Fort Huachuca, before it was sent overseas. The educational level of the men and the lack of training, to which Gibson called attention in his Rome report, should have been reported then, they point out.

TRUMAN K. GIBSON, Jr. AGAIN

IT seems that ever since Judge William Hastie resigned as civilian aide to the Secretary of War in protest against the Army's anti-Negro policies, his one-time assistant and successor, Truman K. Gibson, Jr., has been constantly kept in the middle.

Now for the War Department, Mr. Gibson as civilian aide, serves the same purposes as do any of the other Negro special advisers in the various governmental agencies. They are buffers, between the Negro public and the agency head, and they are the persons to whom the finger of scorn and suspicion and responsibility is pointed when anything goes wrong.

Mr. Gibson is not an unusual gentleman. He holds down a job; he gets a nice salary; he has security. Everyone wants a job, a nice salary, and security. It is just unfortunate, in this instance, that Mr. Gibson has a job with the War Department which has been known for years to be anti-Negro and dominated by Southern whites.

Mr. Gibson is not an unusual gentleman, but he has an unusual job.

Mr. Gibson would be an unusual gentleman, if he followed his predecessor and one-time boss, Judge Hastie, and resigned in protest against what the War Department does with Negro soldiers. Instead, Mr. Gibson, when last heard from, was in Italy because the War Department wanted him to find out why the 92nd Infantry Division and other Negro combat units have made unsatisfactory showings.

It seems as though the 92nd Division received unfavorable publicity in the country's newspapers because it received a setback in one sector of the Italian front. When an all-white division is thrust back, the news of the setback is just accepted as one of those things. After all, all armies cannot always win, as the Germans and the Japanese are now finding out to their sorrow. There are always factors involved in any military victory or defeat.

Way back in the Civil War, a general attributed his victory to the fact that he "got thar firstest with the mostest". He meant that he reached his objective before the enemy, and he had superior numbers and superior supplies. That philosophy has been proven true time and time again in all subsequent wars. The armies that have had the most men and the superior equipment have been the armies that triumphed. It is just elemental. There is no mystery involved.

In the case of the 92nd Division, it ran up against superior forces from the standpoint of men, materials and experience, and naturally had a setback. Moreover, it was not backed up behind the lines. Now Negro soldiers have been known to accomplish miracles in other wars. They have turned in almost unbelievable performances under great handicaps. So much so that more is expected of a division of Negro soldiers than from a division of white soldiers.

Mr. Gibson in a conference with the press in Italy is quoted as having talked very frankly on the 92nd Division's case. He is quoted as having said he had found illiteracy to be the answer to the 92nd Division's problem. It was activated three years ago, before the Army's special training program for illiterates was developed, and many in the division did not benefit by it. He said that 92 per cent of the division were in class 4 or class 5 in Army literacy tests. Class 5 is the worst. 75 per cent of the division were in class 4 — semi-literate.

"You can't apply the same training schedules where that many men are illiterate as where only 3 per cent are," Mr. Gibson told reporters. Normally, he said, all class 5 men would have had a special period of basic education but the men in the 92nd Division were not given this advantage because the division was being activated at the time they were called up and they were sent to it immediately.

If all this was known to Mr. Gibson at the time the 92nd Division was sent overseas to go into active combat as a divison, then he is guilty of a gross disservce to not only the men of the 92nd Division, but also to the War Department and the whole war effort. While it is inconceivable that the 92nd Division's setback cost the United Nations victory at a sooner date, yet the mere fact that it was sent into combat unready and unprepared for it, is not a reflection on the Negro soldiers but on the War Department and those who were not covered himself with glory. As the civilian aide to the Secretary of War, and therefore, as the buffer between the Secretary and the public, Mr. Gibson is in an unenviable position right now. If the wrath of Negroes, Jr., by his "trouble-shooting" in the case of the 92nd Division and those who were not covered himself with glory. As the civilian aide to the Secretary of War, and therefore, as the buffer between the Secretary and the public, Mr. Gibson is in an unenviable position right now. If the wrath of Negroes.

generally, and especially of the families of the men of the 92nd Division who have been killed or wounded, falls on the head of Truman K. Gibson, Jr., he has no one but himself to blame, because he must have been, or should have been aware of what was going on. If he didn't know what was going on, then he is guilty of not thoroughly doing his job; if he did know, and didn't do anything about it, he is guilty of something far worse, and should be not only severely censured but also condemned.

Gibson Returns To Stand Pat On Slander Of Italy Division

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

Civilian Aide Ducks Reporters' Queries At Press Meet

4-14-45

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON— Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, returned from the European front last week to stand pat on his slander of the fighting men in the all-Negro 92nd Division.

Reiterating his belief that Negro units "melted away" in the face of the enemy, Gibson was faced by a barrage of queries at a War Department press conference Monday and spent an uncomfortable morning ducking, dodging and apologizing for army policy.

But he made clear that he was not misquoted at his recent Rome parley with reporters and again emphasized that he believed illiteracy responsible for the "poor showing" of the 92nd. Gibson declared outright that he would not resign, as demanded by Rep. A. Clayton Powell and in hundreds of letters that have flooded the War Department.

'Substantially Correct'

Gibson admitted his statements on the 92nd as reported in the metropolitan press were "substantially correct."

At the end of an hour long press conference he refused to answer a direct question from the Defender as to his position on a segregated army. 4-14-45

To the question by the Defender, "Mr. Gibson, what is your position on the War Department's segregated units and its effect on the performance of Negro troops," Gibson said, "I will not answer."

He said he did not believe he would be quoted correctly. When assured his reply would be carefully written down and he could read it, he said that he had no reply to make.

Gibson said his impressions gathered on the 92nd came as a result of his talk with members of the general staff in the Mediterranean theatre, Negro junior and senior officers, enlisted men, and non-commissioned men. He said these impressions were later confirmed after he had seen the 10th Army front and other terrains. He said he visited every unit in the division except one battalion. The impressions he gathered on the troops and consequent recommendations have been conveyed to General Joseph McNarney, commanding general, Mediterranean Theatre of Operations. 4-14-45

Admits 'Melt Away' Quote

Commenting on the press conference which he held in Rome, Gibson said it was arranged by the army at the request of the correspondents in the theatre.

"I have no personal desire to talk to the press on a matter as controversial as the 92nd," Gibson said, and added, "Facts about the 92nd were well known by all the correspondents in the theatre."

He stated that the Milton Bracker statement appearing in the New York Times was "just about the opinion of all the newspapermen in the theatre, they knew the facts but did not know the reason."

Gibson said his statement to the press "included all the things that had been told the army."

He admitted stating with reference to the 92nd that Negro troops "melt away" in the face of the enemy. He said that this was "not the exclusive property of the Negro soldiers." He said that his statements had referred to patrols, usually about 32 or more, sometimes of company strength.

Men Can Fight

"I was reporting what I saw to men who knew, and it was nothing that would justify any racial generalizatoin. Men have to be properly trained, motivated and led to make good soldiers," Gibson said but refused to state whether he considered members of the 92nd had been properly, trained, motivated and led.

He claimed the only generalization to be made was "The men will fight, can fight, and are fighting." He hedged behind such vague terms as proper training, and proper leadership to explain the War Department's fundamental segregation policy.

When questioned as to whether he had been quoted correctly in the metropolitan press, he said the reporters "were acting in good faith as they were sincerely interested in getting at the basic factors."

Gibson said his scheduled press conference in Paris was called off because of the airborne invasion which took place on that day. He stated emphatically "the 92nd has not failed."

To Make Recommendations

On the question of the morale of the members of the 92nd and whether or not any steps would be taken by the War Department, Gibson declared, "I am fully prepared to make recommendations on the morale of the men," but did not state what recommendations.

When he replied to a question as to whether the War Department has any record of any Negro troops performance in mixed units, Gibson referred to the more than 2,500 Negro troops, formerly service units, now fighting with the First and Seventh armies. He said, "The thing is actually being determined by actual experience in combat." He wound up his conference by issuing a formal statement which continued in his same apologetic vein.

"Generally, on both the continent and in England, it was apparent that the attitude of the Supreme Command that there should be no discrimination against any soldier on account of his race had reached all elements of the command. Discriminatory acts and incidents that have occurred were regarded by the soldiers as being individual in nature.

"As a result of my trip to the Mediterranean and European theatres, I am impressed that such differences as exist between soldiers are not due to race but to such factors as training, and motivation. The fact the command in these theatres believes this is encouraging. Certainly the records being made by Negro soldiers give the lie to any charge that Negroes cannot and will not fight."

Colored Troops Face Heavy Nazi Fire In Offensive

Chicago Ill.
4-14-45
Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—Writing in blood their resounding reply to slanders of their fighting ability, the all-Negro 92nd Division launched a powerful offensive on Italy's west coast this week.

The Negro troops, who have been accused by War Secretary Stimson's civilian aide, Truman K. Gibson Jr., of "melting away" under enemy fire, advanced in the face of heavy Nazi mortar and small arms fire to capture two important towns, Montignoso and Strinato.

Opening its attack on Wednesday, the 92nd pushed off at dawn just below German-held Massa and 20 miles from the former Italian navy base of La Spezia.

The initial 92nd assault gained up to 3,000 yards and outflanked an important height three miles from Massa. By Monday the big push was well on its way and had stabbed its way into the outskirts of the Porta, two miles below Massa. 4-14-45

Stubborn Opposition

For the first three days of the attack, the identity of the 92nd as the unit carrying out the attack was not permitted by army censors.

However, it was announced that the new Italian offensive was sprung from the town of Strettoia, which was the scene of the 92nd's last big attack on the Nazis last February. On Monday it was confirmed by the army that the 92nd was bearing the brunt of the fighting on the Ligurian sea coast while Japanese-American units were battling through the mountains further inland. 4-15-45

The most stubborn opposition was faced by the 92nd trying to punch through on the direct road to Massa while the Nisei were working around the famous Italian marble center from the east.

Big German coastal guns on Ponta Bianca—a promontory jutting into the Ligurian sea eight and a half miles west and slightly north of Massa—opened up against the advancing Negro soldiers. In the early phases of the drive north of Strettoia, the colored doughboys were driven back by counter-attacks in heavy fighting.

The 92nd later rallied, however, and hammered its way onto high ground overlooking the village of Porta. Sharp German resistance both frontally and on the flank was encountered.

Foreign Service- Mixed Units

43 of 100 Whites OK Mixed Armies

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-21-45

CHICAGO (ANP) — The colored soldier's faithfulness and stability have won for him equality with whites in the U.S. Army, say 50 per cent of returned overseas white veterans from the South and 33 per cent of those from the North. 4-21-45

While the consensus of the affirmative was that the only difficulty lies in the fact that neither race has come to know the other well enough, the negative felt that the actions of a few illiterates would make such a move unwise.

These questions were asked by Pvt. Elmer L. Clark, Tulsa, Okla., and Cpl. Norman S. Ellington, Fulton, Mo., both white, in a poll conducted for the ANP among 500 white soldiers returning from foreign service to obtain their views of racial issues.

Other Questions Asked

The replies were given in answer to the question: "Has the stability and faithfulness to the colors warranted the colored soldier a place in a mixed unit? Southerners dividing 50-50 and Northerners, 67 negative and 33 positive replies. 4-21-45

Asked "Do you feel that subscribing to current colored literature (fiction, journals, periodicals) can be constructive," the replies of both groups were 100 per cent in the affirmative, the consensus being that the color of the writer is of no consequence.

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Asked "You have served with the colored soldier; in post-war America will you accept him as a co-worker and union member? To this 100 per cent of the Northerners and 83 per cent of the Southerners answered "Yes."

Urge More Mixed Combat Units

Defender Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK.—Mixed Negro and white combat units in every branch of the armed forces were urged this week by more than 50 civic, government, labor, religious and fraternal leaders.

These colored and white leaders joined with Cong. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglas, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Henrietta Buckmaster in a declaration to President Harry Truman and the Secretary of War praising the Army's organization of mixed combat units on the western front. The extension of this policy was asked. 5-5-45

Among other signers of the declaration, according to the National Negro Congress, were Rev. Stephen H. Fritchman, Lewis Merrill, Max Yergan, Howard Fast and Arthur Huff Fauset.

Negroes and Whites Mixed on Front Line

P.M. N.Y. 4-10-45

Gibson Reports Such Units Spearhead Drive on Berlin

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Apr. 10.—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who can't be bothered with the petty prejudices of desk-driven Washington, has mixed white and Negro troops in front-line units which successfully are spearheading the drive into Germany. 4-10-45

The unorthodox comingling of white and Negro soldiers was disclosed by Truman K. Gibson, civilian aide to the Secretary of War, just returned from a tour of European battlefronts.

Volunteer platoons of Negro soldiers, recruited from service units, are shoulder-to-shoulder with white forces on the road to Berlin, Gibson told a press conference. It is not an experiment, he declared. Eisenhower authorized it with full awareness that the mixed fighting groups "would work." Gibson was not prepared to talk about further expansion of the mixing of white and colored troops.

Win Stripes

The Negro platoons on the European front lines were organized as rifle companies. All non-commissioned officers in the Negro units lose their stripes when they become members of front-line combat troops . . . however, Gibson related, many have won back their stripes in battle.

The reason for stripping insignia from non-coms who have been members of service units is that it is unfair to send a sergeant who may qualify for that rank as a service soldier into battle as a combat man with the same rank—which he might not rate. 4-10-45

That Negro troops "will fight, can fight, and are fighting is evidenced by the return of stripes to many of them," Gibson said.

Gibson made a special trip to Italy to investigate complaints against the 92d Division, all-Negro division in the front line on the Peninsula. In a press conference in Rome, Gibson told war correspondents that it was true many patrols, platoons, and individuals of the 92d have "retired to the rear in a disorganized manner."

He was questioned closely by representatives of the Negro press on the truth of the reports from Italy. The Army, he said, had discarded the "easy reason" of racial fighting ability to explain the poor record of the Negro division. It is a question of "motivation," he explained.

In the first place, the division is made up in great part of almost illiterate soldiers—whose training, although intensive, was not adequate. Second, individual experiences had given them the idea of questioning "what are we fighting for, anyway?" The result was mild chaos.

Now Doing Well

However, discarding the idea that the Negro race can't or won't fight, the Army has adopted "corrective measures," and the 92d still is in the front lines. And doing well, according to War Dept. reports of the large number of decorations passed out to its personnel. Gibson seemed to think that the unfortunate situation with respect to the 92d was licked.

"What I saw and heard (in France) was evidence that the Supreme Command in SHAEF is following in racial matters what must be the basic policy in any Army, in any war, namely, that of utilizing most efficiently all resources of men and materiel to defeat the enemy," Gibson said.

When the first group of Negro volunteers went out to fight, he said, they had only two cases of AWOL. They later found the two men in the front lines, where they had reported "to fight."

An official observer told Gibson that around Remagen, where the first Negro platoons went into action, the Negro soldiers "fought as well as any others, and the mistakes they made were the same as those made by other troops lacking in battle experience." 4-10-45

The service troops in the area, a large percentage of whom are Negroes, regard themselves as soldiers performing vital jobs. They have real identification with the fighting fronts. Negro WACS and nurses in England are described as the equals professionally of any women soldiers, Gibson told newsmen.

"Generally, on both the continent and England, it was apparent that the attitude of the Supreme Command that there should be no discrimination against any soldier on account of his race has reached all elements of the Command," Gibson said positively.

Stars, Stripes Asserts Change Was Necessary

Memphis World 4-6-45

General Lee Responsible For Better Policy

BY RUDOLPH DUNBAR
(Associated Negro Press War Correspondent)

PARIS — (ANP) — Allan Morrison's article entitled "Negroes Fight At Side Of West Front Whites" has been given great prominence on the front page of the "Stars and Stripes," army newspaper. Another sub sitle over a photograph illustrating the commanding officer telling two infantrymen one white and one colored) what to expect in combat action read thus: "Color is No Barrier to Service in the Line." There was a whole page of pictures. Another title read: "Americans All-They're in the War Together." It was the largest feature of Negro activities on the western front that has appeared in Stars and Stripes.

This is particularly gratifying because it is only recently I wrote in defense of this paper due to an unjustified attack by some Negro GIs.

WORK TOGETHER

It is a traversty to say that white and colored cannot work together in harmonious association in the U S. army. I have written repeatedly in these columns about that ridiculous question. There is a change of thought among high ranking officers of whom Gen. John C. Lee is the leader pertaining to equal rights for Negro soldiers in every branch of the army.

The speed or it is put into force would be better for all concerned for color prejudice is becoming an ancient institution; and moreover it is a dangerous doctrine to preach now. 4-6-45

Allan Morrison has written an excellent article which has been the subject of considerable comment among the big time journalists at the Hotel Scribe in Paris. I have a reasonable confidence in the future success of Allan Morrison as a great journalist. He is truthful and sincere and possesses a gift of lucid expression. I reproduce his article published in the "Stars and Stripes."

BREAK WITH TRADITION

"White and Negro infantrymen and fighting shoulder to shoulder in the same units against the Germans. This break with traditional U. S. army policy of separation of units according to race became a reality with the assignment of Negro platoons to rifle companies of infantry divisions of the first and seventh armies.

Long contemplated, the plan of mixing white and colored doughboys in fighting units was launched not as an experiment in race relations, but as an answer both to the needs of the military situation and repeated requests by Negro service troops for an opportunity to get into the war as combat men.

SPECIAL APPEAL MADE

"Negro recruits for infantry training were drawn from thousands of troops who applied in response to a special appeal issued last December 26 by Lt. John C. H. Lee. At that time, Gen. Lee offered Negro troops, who had infantry training, the privilege of joining veteran front-line divisions as reinforcemets. 4-6-45

'It is planned to assign you without regard to color or race to the units where assistance is most needed,' the general told Negro soldiers. 'Your comrades at the front are anxious to share the glory of victory with you. Your relatives and friends everywhere have been urging that you be granted this privilege.'

'The supreme commander, your commanding general, and other veteran officers who have served with you are confident that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity and carry on in keeping with the glorious record of our colored troops in our former wars.'

TROOPS VOLUNTEER

"Thousands of applications were received from men in port battalions who had for many months been unloading material for combat troops and GIs in truck companies who had hauled the stuff up toward the front. In one company of one Negro Engineer GS regiment, 171 men out of 186 volunteered to fight. Four first sergeants in the unit accepted reductions to privates to qualify for the training plan. In another unit, a QM Laundry Company, 100 men out of 260 wanted to fight, but only 38 were allowed to go. The original quota for Negro trainees was quickly exceeded. Hundreds were rejected.

2,500 were accepted and given a refresher infantry court, with emphasis on weapons training. "During the latter half of the six-week course, the men were given group training as platoons under combat-experienced noncoms and platoon officers sent from divisions in the line to which they were to be assigned.

of the record of Negro combat troops in other wars and of the responsibility they would bear as the first troops of their race to fight along-side their fellow white soldiers without differen-

completion of their training, the Negro trainees were received by Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, the army's first Negro officer, who reminded them of their responsibility as the "Shock Troops" of the army's integration.

DAVIS SPEAKS

"At present, Negro reinforcements have joined a number of first army down ranking Negro

infantry divisions, and in many instances are already in action. Two platoons were attached to a company which crossed the Reer river It is commanded by Capt. Seth Worthington of Prospectville, Pa., a C. O. admired and respected by his men, wounded in action and an experienced infantryman.

WANT TO FIGHT

'The company's white doughboys talked readily when asked about the new platoon. 'I don't give a damn what color a man is as long as he's up here helping to win this war,' said Private Harold Cothran, of Greenwood, S. C., an, assistant squad leader. 4-6-45

"The company's Negro doughboys gave different reasons for wanting to get into the infantry. 'I came into the army to fight, not to labor. That's why I volunteered for this,' said Pfc. George Freeman of Dunn, N .C., a bar-man. Pfc. Leroy W. Kemp, of Atlantic City, formerly worked in an ordnance ammunition company Now he's a bar-man and proud of it. 'We're all in this thing together, now, white and Negro Americans in the same companies,' he said. 'And that's how it should be. That's why I volunteered. Most Negro troops are in service outfits. We've been giving a lot of sweat, Now, I think we'll mix some blood with it.'

General Davis Praises GI's in Mixed Combat Unit

Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis (standing) of the Inspector General's Office, ETO, congratulates colored troops of the 104th Timberwolf Division on their fine combat record, at a decoration ceremony in Germany. "You have proved white and colored soldiers can serve—and fight side-by-side," General Davis told them. "You have won the friendship and respect of your comrades." 6-25-45

56n-1945

Negro Infantrymen O.K.

OPINIONS OF WHITE OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN IN COMPANIES WITH NEGRO PLATOONS.

QUESTION: "How did you feel at first about serving in a company that had white platoons and colored platoons?"

	White Officers	White Non-coms
Relatively unfavorable ("Skeptical," "didn't like it," "thought it'd cause trouble," etc.)	64%	64%
Relatively favorable ("Willing to try it," "made no difference," "didn't mind," etc.)	33%	35%
No answer	3%	1%
	100%	100%

The Call

QUESTION: "Has your feeling changed since having served in the same unit with colored soldiers?"

Kansas City, Mo.

	White Officers	White Non-coms
No, my feeling is still the same	16%	21%
Yes, have become more favorable toward them*, ("feel more respect for them," "like them better," etc.)	77%	77%
No answer	7%	2%
	100%	100%

*NOTE: No cases were found in which an individual reported his attitude had become less favorable.

QUESTION: "How well did the colored soldiers in this company perform in combat?"

11-2-45

	White Officers	White Non-coms
Not well at all	0%	0%
Not so well	0%	1%
Fairly well	16%	17%
Very well	84%	81%
Undecided	0%	1%
	100%	100%

NOTE: In commenting on this question, respondents frequently gave detailed accounts of combat performance. Positive qualities stressed were aggressiveness in attack, effective use of fire-power, adeptness at close-in fighting, team-work in battle. Negative qualities reported in a few instances were that at first the men sometimes went forward too rapidly—too far in attack. Some officers stressed the fact that these colored soldiers, being volunteers, may have had exceptional combat qualities. Others mentioned that in their units there had not been an adequate test under the most severe type of fighting, such as sustained attacks under heavy mortar or artillery fire. It should be noted, however, that the performance of the colored troops was rated just as high, if not higher, by the white officers and non-coms in those companies in which the colored platoons have had severe fighting as by respondents from other units.

QUESTION: "With the same Army training and experience, how do you think colored troops compare with white troops as infantry soldiers?"

	White Officers	White Non-coms
Not as good as white troops	5%	4%
Just the same as white troops	69%	83%
Better than white troops	17%	9%
No answer	9%	4%
	100%	100%

QUESTION: "How have the white and colored soldiers gotten along together?"

	White Officers	White Non-coms
Mixed units		
Not well	0%	0%
Not as well in garrison as in combat	14%	4%
Fairly well	7%	36%
Very well	73%	60%
No answer	6%	0%
	100%	100%

After Protest

VOLUNTEERS GET COMBAT UNIT RATING

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
11-24-45

WASHINGTON — Negro volunteers who were pulled out of their respective units and sent to service companies after fighting with mixed combat groups during the final stages of the European campaign finally found themselves reclassified as combat troops after protests had been filed with the War Department, it was learned this week.

Congressman Adam C. Powell Jr. of New York protested to the War Department last September after receiving signed complaints from several of the Negro volunteers who said they had been shifted to service units. A reply to his protest came this week from the War Department, stating that Negro volunteers had been taken out of service units and reassigned to other combat groups.

1,291 VOLUNTEERS

"A total of 1,291 Negro soldiers who volunteered for infantry training and who served with white infantry units were located after a thorough theatre-wide canvass," the reply reads. "High scores (sixty and above) were returned to the Zone of Interior in September and low scores (fifty-one and below) were assigned to the 350th Field Artillery Battalion in order that they would be together in a combat unit and thereby maintain their integrity as combat soldiers." 11-24-45

The volunteers were broken down in this wise:

High score returned with Sixty-ninth Infantry Division	**668**
High score returned under Green Project	**94**
Low score assigned to 350th FA Bn.	**529**
Total	**1291**

"It would appear from this report that steps were taken in the theatre to rectify the situation about which the soldiers complained in their letters to you," the reply to Congressman Powell read.

The report went on to explain that "those with service in infantry units as volunteers are not transferred to service units. High score of this category are shipped to Zone of Interior and low score assigned to a colored combat (other than infantry) unit.

BREAKDOWN EXPLAINED

"Those with service in combat units (other than infantry volunteers) are retained in these units insofar as possible or reassigned to other combat units and in some cases service units to meet the colored ratio required for occupational troop basis."

First news of the reconversion of Negro volunteer combat troops into service troops was made known early in September. Victims of this action sent signed complaints to the States after their executive officer failed to halt the move that sent them to service units and construction battalions.

"At the end of the fighting all of the Negro volunteers were pulled out of their respective units and sent to various replacement depots, where they learned that they were to be used in rear echelon service units," the complaining troops wrote.

ONLY 10 PER CENT USED

Others complained that only 10 per cent of those who volunteered for frontline duty were given a chance to fight with mixed units.

The soldiers contended that they were pushed around at the end of the war because they were no longer needed as combat troops and there was a big howl when members of the 104th Timber Wolf Division (composed of mixed units) sailed for the States and left the colored troops behind.

SOME LEFT BEHIND

They were left behind, they were told, because when a company in a battalion went overseas with four battalions, it could not return with more than four.

Many of these Negro volunteers who saw action were awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Silver Star. One Tan Yank received the Distinguished Service Cross.

Mixed Unit Experiment Was a Success, Say Vets

Afro-American 7-7-45

"We Thought Only of the Common Objective," Heroes Report Proudly

Baltimore, Md.

By SGT. PEYTON GRAY

FRANCE—The War Department's experiment of training and using in combat a mixed Infantry unit proved a huge success.

This was the opinion of two battle-scarred, decorated veterans of the European war whom I met in a Reinforcement Depot here. Along with the rest of us, they were "sweating out" routine processing preparatory to getting a plane for home and civilian life.

The opinion of both was that if they had to return to war, they preferred joining their former buddies in the 121st Infantry Regiment, 8th Division, known as the Grey Bonnets, former Georgia State National Guards.

Race Forgotten

The two recalled that the members of the unit appeared skeptical at first, but after a short while the newness wore off and the newcomers were accepted as regular infantrymen without any apparent thought of race. 7-7-45

"We lived, ate, slept, fought and played together, thinking only of the common objective, winning the war as soon as possible," the two vets stated.

They were Pfc. Emmet Jones Jr., 23, 1738 First St., N.W., Washington, D.C., and Sgt. Lacy Cox, 22, Jamaica, Long Island, N.Y.

Battle Experience

Pfc. Jones's prize experience concerns the time he, along with 13 buddies, captured a town near Dusseldorf, Germany, in the rich Ruhr Valley sector and were awarded Bronze Stars "for gallantry in action."

They had to face hot enemy fire in crossing a stream, open field, and railroad along which route many snipers were hidden.

Pfc. Jones is one of six brothers in the service, who, in turn, are sons of a military father.

A Military Family

The brothers are:

Harry Jones, 29, a first lieutenant in th 25th Infantry in the Southwest Pacific; Charles, 27, a technical sergeant in the 24th Infantry, and three others, John, 25, in a tank unit; William, 30, in a field artillery unit, and Frederick, 21, in the infantry. Three sisters are Federal employees in Washington.

The family trail blazer was their father, Emmitt Jones Sr., whose military career began in 1906. In World War I, he fought in France with the 25th Infantry, and upon discharge obtained employment as an engineer-draftsman in the War Department.

Recalled to the service in 1942, he was given his former rank and assigned to an Infantry Service Unit at Fort Meade, Md., training new troops.

Promoted to Major

Subsequently, he was transferred to Fort Huachuca and elevated to the rank of major which rank he now holds.

Emmet Jones Jr., graduated from Armstrong High School in Washington in 1938, then matriculated at Virginia Union University. Two years later, however, he left school and received employment at the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Washington.

Drafted in February, 1943, he has served with the 366th Infantry, a QM Truck unit, was stationed at the Armored Division Training Center at Fort Knox, Ky., and belonged to the famed 95th Engineers.

Discharge Plans

Pfc. Jones has 105 points and plans to return to his former government job after taking a short vacation with his wife, Mrs. Maude Jones, an English teacher at Washington's Dunbar High School.

The other hero, Sgt. Cox, wears three battle stars, a Purple Heart, Silver Star, and two theater ribbons.

The battle stars for participation in major battles in Europe; the Purple Heart for a hip wound; the Silver Star for gallantry in action, and the ribbons for service in the European and Alaskan theatres.

Alcan Highway Vet

A former electrician, he volunteered in April, 1941, was assigned to the 95th Engineers' Regiment at Fort Belvoir, Va., and one year later left with the unit for Alaska where it built approximately 900 miles of the famous Alcan Highway. 7-7-45

The 95th was returned to the States approximately 14 months later, and was soon on its way to Europe where it built bridges, railroads, hospitals, and did general engineering construction.

While the unit was stationed at Liege, Belgium, in December, 1944, an invitation was extended to rear echelon troops to volunteer for a mixed infantry unit. Cox jumped at the opportunity, along with approximately 3,000 other Tan Yanks.

Join Mixed Unit

Sgt. Cox and Pfc. Jones were put in the Fifth Platoon, Co. F., of the 121st Infantry Regiment, Eighth Division. The platoon leader was T/Sgt. Sydney Hall, New York City; the platoon guide, S/Sgt. Ernest Johnson, Washington, D.C., and the squad leaders were:

S/Sgts. Gilbert Sherman, New York; Samuel Thompson, Bluefield, W.Va., and Rudolph Proffitt, Washington, D.C.

The most thrilling experience of Sgt. Cox's infantry life occurred when he, along with Sgt. Proffitt and Sgt. Ralph Dunlap of Chicago, knocked out a German 78-ton tank that had been harrassing Yank troops for three days in the Ruhr Valley pocket early this spring.

The tank, Germany's latest, carrying an 8-man crew, had unintentionally been maneuvered into position for Cox to send home a lucky shot with his Panzerfaust (German bazooka wapon).

The shot crippled the tank, and later it was learned, had killed four of the Krauts inside. As two of the Jerries climbed out of the turret in an attempt to flee, they were halved by another shot.

The last two managed to get away. This was the incident that brought the Silver Star to Cox and his buddies.

Deisel Mechanic

Cox, trained as a mechanic for Deisel motors, plans to seek additional schooling on this type of motor and to eventually become employed handling them.

He has one brother, Irving, 19, a technical fifth grade in a Quartermaster Unit at Indiantown Gap, Pa.

Their father served in the British Merchant Marines during World War I. He happened to be sailing under a British flag when war was declared and was automatically switched to the British service.

Mixed Units Fraud

It now develops that the report that Negro troops fought in mixed units during the final phases of the conflict on the Western Front in Europe was a fraud and our jubilation over this supposed change in Army policy was ill-timed. Pittsburgh Courier

Actually the colored soldiers from engineer and port units who volunteered to drop their picks and shovels and exchange them for guns and mortars were not assigned to the ranks of white units, but were gathered into separate companies and battalions which could be easily detached when the danger was over.

It appears that the praise given the Army for a forward step was unmerited and a careful reading of the statements of General Eisenhower and other officers of high rank in congratulating these Negro soldiers reveals this fact. Pittsburgh, Pa.

This revelation is most depressing in view of the heroism and sacrifices of these colored soldiers.

They risked their lives and many were wounded and killed, and yet there was no real change in the Army's jim-crow policy.

Even in the heat of battle when Allied victory was in the balance, the Army High Command was unable to arise above the petty jim-crow policy that has been traditional in the Army from the earliest days.

It would have been a wonderful thing if the U. S. Army, pressed hard and threatened with defeat at the hands of Rundstedt's armies, had abandoned this racist policy and thrown Negro soldiers into the breach alongside their white fellow Americans, but this was not to be.

Even with victory almost in the grasp of the Germans, those directing the campaign could not bring themselves to alter the traditional pattern.

Let it be written in history that even in the darkest moment of defeat, America could not rise above Hitlerian racism. 7-28-45

For what can we hope in the years of peace if these generals would not give up their prejudices in time of war?

How So-Called Mixed Units Worked in SHAEF

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Integration a Myth, Colored Became "Provisional" Battalions

7-31-45

By CRISPUS ATTUCKS

Contrary to widespread belief that colored volunteers were integrated into various infantry divisions engaged in the final defeat of Germany, the colored troops were held in separate companies, fighting ahead of or in support of white companies, but never "side by side."

According to official sources in Paris, the original plan was to have had a colored volunteer fill the ranks of any company that needed a replacement. Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, who strongly supported the volunteer program, gave this impression to the first group of service troops to volunteer for combat.

However, many organizations that direly needed replacements after having suffered severe losses in manpower during the hard winter and as a result of heavy casualties during tne Battle of the Bulge, refused to accept the colored soldiers on a flat "mixed" basis.

Separate companies were added to battalions, not as permanent parts of the battalions but as what the Army designates "provisional" battalions.

For instance, the 12th Armored Division absorbed four companies of colored volunteers, these making up a "provisional battalion" which can be detached and deactivated whenever the tactical situation permits.

Practically every infantry division in the 1st, 7th and 9th Armies had a company or platoon of colored infantrymen attached during the last days of the fall of Nazism. Two armored divisions, the 14th and 12th, used colored soldiers in infantry battalions.

Men Highly Commended

The men, volunteers from rear echelon service organizations in what is called the Communications Zone, have been highly commended on their battle conduct.

However, the current curiosity piece is whether or not the "provisional companies" will now be deactivated and the men transferred to other service units or sent back to their old units. In such an event, the colored soldiers would be denied redeployment throughout the United States to the Pacificb as is the procedure with the majority of ETO combat units.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Accordnig to Vincent Tubbs, AFRO war correspondent just home from Germany, this is just what happened.]

Letter From Manila

Dear Editor:

The following is an excerpt from a letter from my husband stationed in Manila: P.M

I wanted to tell you about one of the more important sidelights of life here in Manila. 8-4-45

In this world full of talk about race riots, prejudice and discrimination, I've seen something good develop. Not an abstract, but something real, as real as any hatred.

You can see it any day by looking over our wall here in Rizal Stadium, down onto the athletic field next door. Down there, GI teams are playing ball. White teams are playing colored units, and it doesn't seem to make a lot of difference to the players what race their opponents are. N. Y.

The scene might include any sport—football, boxing, basketball, or ping-pong. And when that lanky black end catches a touchdown pass, it's somehow right that it's his white teammates who are the first to slap him on the back and hug and cheer him. P.M.

Scenes like this, and a realization that the soldiers in the grandstand are for the most part applauding courage, ability and stamina and not the color of a man's skin, are the things that are adding up to good.

I'm not glossing over the fact that racial prejudice and hatred do exist; the Army is corrupt with them. But when you realize that many of these white soldiers have never before spoken to a Negro on equal terms, much less played, laughed and fought side by side with them, then you have a new feeling of hope.

New York MRS. SAUL TUBELL

56n-1945

Mixed Units

Highest Recommendation

Patton Approves Mixed Units; Lauds Negro GI

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

PHOTOS ON PAGE 4

By HERMAN HILL, Pacific Coast Bureau

6-23-45

LOS ANGELES—Unequivocally giving approval to the use o: platoon-sized racially mixed units in the Army, Gen. George S. (Blooc and Guts) Patton Jr., colorful commander of the Third Army, gave The Pittsburgh Courier's current campaign for racially integratec units in the Pacific Theatre of war, added impetus last Tuesday at an exclusive intervew with Courier reporters at his picturesque residence in San Marino. 6-23-45

Unlike the hardboiled and awe-inspiring pictures painted of him by press and radio, General Patton proved to be most gracious, thoughtful and considerate. He spoke freely and to the point . . . giving the impression of talking "to," rather than "down," to his listeners.

PRAISES COURIER

He told us early that he was acquainted with The Courier, held it in high esteem and felt that, along with other papers of its type, it had a tremendous responsibility in the education and the development of the American Negro.

The general exhibited no inhibitions regarding the race question freely discussed the pros and cons of the Negro soldier. He told The Courier flatly that the use of Negro-white infantry units in Germany was occasioned by the lack of replacements, and that colored soldiers had given an excellent account of themselves in earning the respect of their white comrades.

Answering a direct question concerning a hitherto published report, he said that he actually did tell Negro troops he didn't care what color they were as long as they "got in there and killed those d....n krauts." 6-23-45

SUPPORT UNIT INTEGRATION

There had never been any race friction or trouble between Negroes and whites in his command and he even went so far as to say that he was of a mind to recommend the continuation of the racially integrated units idea in Washington when he reported back to general headquarters.

Lauding the ability of a Negro tank battalion attached to his command, General Patton spoke warmly of the individual bravery of the men, and especially of the exploits of a Negro sergeant whose name he could not recall. This particular tankman advanced under fire, hooked his tank chain to a barricade which materially hindered the progress of American units and opened the way for troop advance.

"These men fought bravely in the critical battle of Bastogne," said the General. Negro truck drivers in the Tunisian campaign also came in for the hard hitting commander's unstinting praise.

"We needed ammunition badly up front and they brought it to us in a hurry. They operated under miserable road condition day and night, and were exposed to shell fire and air straffing. They toiled so long and hard that some of them fainted at the wheels of their trucks."

The General said that he felt qualified to speak authoritatively concerning the Negro soldier because he had formerly commanded the Ninth Cavalry and a detachment of the Tenth. During his twenty-minute interview he advanced the following opions formed from his own observations, prefaced with the reminder that the Pacific area might well prove a further experimental ground for integration of units:

That Negro soldiers are harder to discipline than whites, but once this has been done they make just as good Army men as any;

That Negro soldiers showed a tendency not to take commands from officers of their own race;

That Negro units tended to "get lost" in large bodies. This was true in the cases of both tank outfits and foot soldiers, he said. And that Negro soldiers were poor map readers, but ranked among the most efficient radio operators in the service. 6-23-45

He also said that social diseases among colored troops was higher than among whites because of "plain carelessness."

OKAYS DAVISES

General Patton spoke highly of both Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis Sr. and his son, B. O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter Group. He said the 332nd had been well selected and his knowledge was that they had done a first-class job.

Closing his interview, the commander of the Third Army explained that he was leaving for Washington via plane that same afternoon and was returning to his first love—war!

Across The Desk

By LUDLOW W. WERNER

New York Age

FROM OVERSEAS, from a soldier-friend whose identity I shall not reveal for obvious reasons, come an interesting letter from a former newspaper man who turned fighter when his number was called by Uncle Sam. The letter is particularly interesting because the sender was one of those who volunteered to go into a mixed fighting unit when the Army let down its barriers.

New York N.Y.

The letter directly contradicts what some of our contemporary Negro newspapers are editorially saying about mixed units being a gross disception and a fraud perpetrated on Negroes at home. The letter was written by this soldier early in June, so he could not have been aware of what some of our editors would be writing the end of July. 8-4-45

"Just to let you know," the letter opens

"that by being extremely lucky, I'm still alive here in Germany on the border of the Danube River. I'm in the infantry, 9th Div. Go Devils, now a part of Patton's 3rd Army but we did our fighting with the 1st Army. Was at the famous Remagen bridgehead on the Rhine where they threw everything but Berlin at us. Battled in the Ruhr Valley pocket and in the Hartz Mts. Some of the experiences we had are fantastic.

"I know you've heard about these mixed units. They added about one platoon of Negro riflemen to just one company in each regiment. We got a big hand when we came up to our company; the boys gave us all the dope, shared cigarettes, candy and food. We weren't with the company 30 minutes before we were the leading platoon in an attack. Naturally we were great. We had the zip, speed and snap. In no time we became the talk of the division. Our casualties were extremely light, but later on when the going got tough, we fought side by side in the same foxholes, ate and slept together.

"Now that the war is over, we are quartered in the same barracks and there's never been the slightest hitch. We play ball, swim, eat and sing together. The boys from the deep South are even O. K.

"I landed overseas in Glasgow in April, 1944, with a port battalion. Was in camps in Liverpool, Newport, South Wales, and Bristol. We landed at Normandy October, Friday, 13th, in mud and rain and passed through Monteburg, Valognes, St. Loo. Was stationed at Cherburg where we guarded prisoners. Volunteered for infantry with the first call, gave up a sergeant's rating and went into combat training at Noyons, France. We had eight weeks of the coldest, toughest training. I don't know how I made it. Gen. Davis came over to see us a couple of times. Our course finished, they gave us a trip to Paris where we knocked ourselves out. Within a week we were at Viviers, Belgium, a replacement depot from where we jumped across the Siegfried line into Germany.

"I am in the town of Ingolstadt at an airport, 45 miles north of Munich and about 65 miles from the Czech border. We are sweating out whether its Army of Occupation or C. B. I. Meanwhile they are boring us to death with more combat training and G. I. routine."

That is about as much of the letter which is of general interest, because the rest is personal, and therefore of little concern to anyone else. But, the interesting part is that my G. I. friend reveals that he was among those pioneering youths to give up a sergeant's rating in a port battalion to get into the real fighting as a combat soldier, and his enthusiastic report of the success of the integration.

True, as some critics say, the Army has been late in following public demand for mixed units, but the fact remains that Negroes and whites did fight together, eat together, live together, and sleep together and enjoy doing it. All recognized that bullets are no respecter of persons or color, and that an enemy bullet strikes down a man no matter what his color if it finds its mark. 8-4-45

True, the introduction of one Negro platoon in one company in one regiment is but a small beginning. But, the indisputable fact remains that the beginning, no matter how small it was, was made. And that, in itself, is a radical departure from the traditional Army policy of separation of the races.

I'm glad that my G. I. friend wrote me the letter because he was one of the "guinea pigs."

is all the comment and what he said above is a necessary.

Mixed Units Are Favored

Chicago Call

White Soldiers Say Attitudes Changed MADE LAST SPRING

Defender
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Somervell Kept Good Record Suppressed

10-27-45

WASHINGTON

Suppressed by the War Department since last spring, a report showing that colored soldiers in mixed units performed "very well in combat" under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower has just been made public.

Based on official Army interviews with white officers and non-coms in seven infantry divisions that had volunteer colored platoons, the report also showed that the majority of men questioned favored the Eisenhower setup to complete segregation.

This information was contained in a restricted report to Henry L. Stimson, then Secretary of War, by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Chief of the Army Service Forces, who recommended its suppression.

Changed Attitudes Recalled

While most of the white enlisted men said that their initial attitude toward colored soldiers was that of apprehension, reluctance or dislike, three-fourths reported a changed feeling since fighting with them.

The report pointed out that two of the divisions polled were "predominantly Southern in background," and that officers and men from the deep South were among others questioned.

10-27-45

84% Given High Rating

In no instance, according to the interviewers, was the performance of colored troops rated poor. Eighty-four per cent of the officers said the Tan Yanks did "very well," and the remainder said "fairly well."

They also admitted that the effectiveness of the colored platoons was at least equal to that of the white platoons, and that relations between white and colored GI's were better than had been expected.

Both officers and enlisted men endorsed the idea of having colored soldiers as infantry troops and reported that the combat volunteers got along well with the white soldiers.

Survey Made in May

The report noted that white enlisted men who have fought with colored troops are much more likely than other men to favor their use as infantrymen and to favor having a colored platoon in their own company.

10-27-45

The survey was made late last May and early June and results were compiled from 250 interviews in 24 rifle companies and from filled out questionnaires which did not have to be signed from 1700 other soldiers.

White Infantrymen Find Negroes 'Good Fighters

Majority in Favor of Mixed Army Outfits

The Call

WASHINGTON. — A "restricted" government document made public last week gives proof positive that Negro infantrymen who volunteered to serve in mixed infantry outfits in Europe last year gave excellent performance.

The proof is given by white officers and enlisted men who served with the Negro combat infantrymen.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commanding general of the European Theater of Operations, ordered the survey which was made in May and June, 1945, by the Research Branch, Information and Education division, ETO.

The report was made in July, 1945, but the information contained therein was suppressed by the government until last week when it was taken off the "restricted" list.

11-2-45

Asked Eight Questions

Eight questions were put to 250 officers and platoon sergeants in 24 companies containing Negro platoons in several infantry divisions, the 1st, 2nd, 9th, 69th, 78th, 99th and 104th.

In all except one of the companies visited by interviewers, the standard organization of three rifle platoons and one heavy infantry platoon had been augmented by one rifle platoon of colored soldiers.

The Negro troops were men from rear echelon units who volunteered for combat with the infantry and were trained for approximately six weeks in reinforcement depots, usually by a white officer or non-com who later led them into battle.

Kansas City Mo.

Performed 'Very Well'

In answer to the question "How well did the colored soldiers perform in combat," 84 per cent of the white officers answered "Very well" and 81 per cent of the non-coms gave the same answer.

Sixty-nine per cent of the white officers and 83 per cent of the white non-coms said that colored troops with the same training and experience compared "just the same as white troops." Seventeen per cent of the officers and 9 per cent of the non-coms said that the Negro infantry performed "better than white troops." Only 5 per cent of the officers and 4 per cent of the non-coms thought that the performance of Negroes was not as good as white troops.

Most of the officers and the non-coms admitted that they were skeptical when Negro troops joined their outfits. Sixty-four per cent of the officers and 64 per cent of the non-coms didn't like the idea of mixed units and "thought it would cause trouble."

After serving in the same outfit with Negro soldiers, 77 per cent of the officers and 77 per cent of the non-coms admitted that their opinions had been changed and that they "felt more respect for Negroes" and liked them better. It is significant that no cases were found in which an individual reported that his attitude had become less favorable.

This official document offsets the unfavorable comments made last year when the 92nd infantry division failed to hold a position.

Why the results of the survey were held secret until now has not been learned.

56n-1945

NEGRO AND WHITES FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE WITH 1ST, 7TH ARMIES WIN PRAISE OF ARMY

Louisiana Weekly

New Orleans 3-31-45

(By The Associated Negro Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY.—First reports on Negro infantry men placed in white divisions in this sector are favorable.

That statement was issued by Capt. Edward Finnegan, New York City, T/Sgt. Casper F. Koch of Beaver Dam, Wis., however, praised the men for their work. He told of leading a Negro platoon into action several days ago against Borghausen, a small German town. 3-31-45

"We didn't want to give them too tough a job in their first fight," he said, "so our platoon went down a street where there were only about nine houses. We didn't think there would be many Germans in them.

"In the first house", he continued, "the Negro boys captured 11 Jerries and killed two. By the time they'd gotten to the end of the street they had captured 53 prisoners and killed I don't know how many." 3-31-45

Sgt. Koch said they "worked perfectly. They are eager to learn and ask a lot of questions. When you tell 'em to take an objective they want to know what to do after they get there."

These are the men who asked for a chance to fight, some even sacrificed ratings. They have have been formed into platoons and are fighting under white officers who have combat experience. In breaking its long established policy of keeping white and Negro units separated, the army is now feeding the Negro rifle platoons into divisions gradually, with one platoon to each regiment now in action.

They received the same welcome given white re-enforcements when they arrived at one veteran division's location. Each member got a personal letter from the commanding general along with the divisional shoulder patches and were greeted personally by regimental commanders. 3-31-45

No replacement pool has been set up for them but it is understood that when their fighting strength is reduced to such a level that they are unable to function as units remnants of two or more units will be reorganized into a full strength platoon.

They are the first Negro infantry troops to be used on the western front and are engaging in maintaining the army's bridgehead east of the Rhine.

Negro, White Yanks Fight Side By Side

Courier-Journal 3-20-45

Races Mix In Infantry 1st Time In U. S. History

Paris, March 19 (U.P.)—Negro and white troops are fighting side by side—for the first time in American history—in the infantry companies of the U. S. First and Seventh Armies, it was disclosed today in a front-line dispatch by the Army newspaper Stars and Stripes.

The mixture of the races in unified commands was made after repeated requests by the Negroes that they be permitted to enter combat units, the newspaper said in a dispatch from the U. S. First Army. 3-20-45

The Negro infantrymen were picked from the thousands of applicants who had been working as service and supply troops and who volunteered after a special appeal by Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, who told them:

"It is planned to assign you without regard to race or color to units where your assistance is most needed."

Many Volunteers Rejected.

The original quota quickly was exceeded and hundreds of volunteers were rejected, Stars and Stripes said. Some 2,300 were accepted and given a refresher infantry course. 3-20-45

Applications came from port battalions unloading materials as well as the famed Negro truck companies. The newspaper said that 171 men out of the 186 in one Engineer regiment had volunteered and four first sergeants in another unit accepted a lowering in rank to private in order to qualify for training. From one laundry unit, 100 out of 260 men volunteered but only 36 were chosen.

Mixed Units-

Negro, White MP Team Hits Black Market

Atlanta World 2-1-45

Nab Operators In Cherbourg Harbor Area

CHERBOURG, France—(SNS)—Members of a provisional detachment of Negro Military Police, patrolling the huge harbors of Cherbourg along wtih veteran white soldiers of the GI gendarmerie, discovered and later smashed a black market ring here on the first night of operations, it was announced today. 2-1-45

The detachment is formed largely from Negro port battalions, quartermaster and amphibious truck companies.

Pfc. Wilson Forbes, Waco, Texas, and his patrol mate, Pfc. Harry Werner (white), of St. Louis, Mo., detected suspicious activity in a side street here where headquarters of a small-time black market gang were set up. Working closely with French police, the two MPs kept a close vigil of the neighborhood until the time was ripe for a full-scale raid.

Resultant arrests were numerous and a considerable swag of looted American Army supplies was recovered. 2-1-45

The Military Police Commanding Officer here praised both men, stating, "Despite the fact that both Pfc. Werner and Pfc. Forbes were but recently assigned to Military Police duty, they handled the situation in an efficient and thorough manner and are to be highly commended for their alertness and efficiency."

It has been found that patrol is more effective when Negro and white MPs are paired off together. "The whole task of patrolling is aided by this system, which was previously used in England," stated Captain Arnold S. Kemp (white), of New York City. "The men work together easily and their job of enforcement is made a lot simpler."

New Times

Daily Worker

WITH the establishment of mixed—Negro and white—combat units in the U. S. armed forces in the European theater of war, a great and far-reaching victory has been won, the full implications and extension of which are not yet to be seen. It immeasurably enhances the decisive, striking power of the military forces of the United States and of the United Nations. It is a guarantee of the democratic postwar world; for we are determining the postwar world as we fight the war. It raises the whole principle and practice of American democracy to a higher level. It shatters one of the principal irritants to the Negro people in respect to the war, and uplifts the status of Negro Americans as citizens. It confirms the democratic approach of the High Command of the U. S. armed forces, and in the first place of President Roosevelt, our Commander-in-Chief.

3-25-45

There should be the broadest expressions and outpouring of support to the American general staff, under the leadership of Gen. Eisenhower, particularly from the Negro people and all their labor and progressive supporters. The American general staff, with their minds foremost on the speediest victory, has resisted and even overcome the pressure from the civilian white supremacists like Rankin and his ilk who have the same attitude toward Negroes as Hitler, and who oppose all democratization of the armed forces.

by Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

3-25-45

3-25-45

THIS step is a terrific blow to segregation—the last refuge of the Jimcrow system. Many confused, well-meaning people are against discrimination, insofar as it denies equality to Negroes—but have felt that segregation is harmlessly acceptable. The U. S. High Command now confirms the fact that segregation is itself discrimination and a danger to the most efficient fighting force. Segregation must go, all over America. It is going.

The principal complaint of Negro troops is that they're not permitted sufficiently to fight. Mixed units is the first step toward correctly solving that complaint.

This achievement confirms the sound and responsible perspective of Communists, and tears to shreds the isolationist and dangerous policies of those Negro leaders influenced by Dubinsky. It again demonstrates that the argument—disproved so many times—that this is an "imperialist" war, is a criminal stupidity, dangerous and misleading to the whole fight for Negro rights. This victory shows that the way to full citizenship lies in the main current making for the defeat of world fascism and all its works, that the Negro's deep, well-founded aspirations for free and equal citizenship lies in unequivocal support of the policies of President Roosevelt, one of the draftsmen of Crimea. Victory for the Negro lies not in isolating himself from all the national and internationally progressive forces, but in an alliance with those forces of all classes, races and creeds. Isolationism is dead for the Negro, as it is with all humanity. 3-25-45

The Revolution Is Here

* * *

A REVOLUTION is in process with respect to Negro rights, sometimes moving with breath-taking rapidity. Everywhere the forces of national oppression and discrimination are being overthrown, in proportion that we approach the defeat of Hitler and Hirohito. As a part of this revolution, we must apply ever-increasing violence to the military citadels of fascism. On the home front, we must apply ever more pressure of the people to prevent violence, to achieve the fruits of this people's war through the stronger bonds of national unity between all classes and races and creeds, to achieve peacefully at home what our boys are fighting for violently abroad. This process is no less revolutionary.

The establishment of the New York State FEPC is part of this peaceful overthrowing of the white supremacy myth at home. Next on the order of business is the establishment of a permanent national FEPC. It is a big struggle to cleanse our country of Jimcrow but is there any doubt that it can be done?

Is there any doubt that a new and better world is in the making?

Motor Transport Service Completes Work in Iran

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

Tan Yanks Played Major Role in Pushing Through Tons of Supplies to Russia

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
NNPA War Correspondent

TEHERAN, Iran — By Courier, Delayed — I am now leaving the Persian Gulf Command after a 3,000-mile tour of this pulsating supply artery where American and British soldiers have by their combined efforts contributed in no small way to the success of Russian armies.

Also ending its all important mission here is the Motor Transport Service of which the all-colored 114th QM Truck Company (formerly the 26th QM Trucking Company) is a part.

Drove 97 Million Miles

From March 1, 1943, until the order officially ending the tenure of the MTS came out, this service handled a total of 624,342 long tons of freight, of which more than 400,000 tons went to the Red Army.

Added to this is the fact that American truck drivers have reeled off more than 97,000,000 miles of driving through one of the most arid and difficult countries in the world.

White GI's Operate Trains

By rail and truck transport, Russia has received more than 4,380,440 tons of war supplies from American factories since the latter part of 1942.

Included in this tonnage figure were some 143,000 vehicles of all types and some 3,387 planes which were both assembled and tested here in Iran. All the troops working on the railroad are white.

Port Units Speed Work

In January, 1943, when the U.S. Army took over the operation of the gulf-ports of Bandar Shahpur and Khorramshahr, the monthly capacity was only 95,000 tons and it took over fifty days to unload a vessel and turn it around for the voyage home.

With engineers taking over the expansion of the docks and with the help of four port battalions, two of them colored — the 380th and the 482nd — the capacity of the twin ports had by October, 1944, been increased to 265,000 tons, while the turn-around time for vessels in port had been lowered to seven days.

Weather a Handicap

Troops have worked here in a country where the terrain ranges from zero elevation at the gulf ports to 7,250 feet above sea level in the mountains of the Iranian Plateau.

They have fought temperatures ranging from zero in some of the mountain ranges to the 170-degree sun readings of the desert and gulf areas, and weathered the ravages of dysentery, sandfly fever, and malaria.

Engineering outfits constructed, maintained and bettered hundreds of miles of highway. They produced sufficient gravel for these operations, and maintained snow removal teams to keep the roads open during the winter months.

Included in these operations were tan Yanks of the 352nd Engineer Regiment, and the 435th and 436th Engineer Dump Truck Companies.

The 4,000 colored soldiers who have "sweat out" two summers here in Iran have upheld the best traditions of American soldiers and have added to the prestige of our men now serving with the armed forces. They have had a hand in practically every major operation of this supply line.

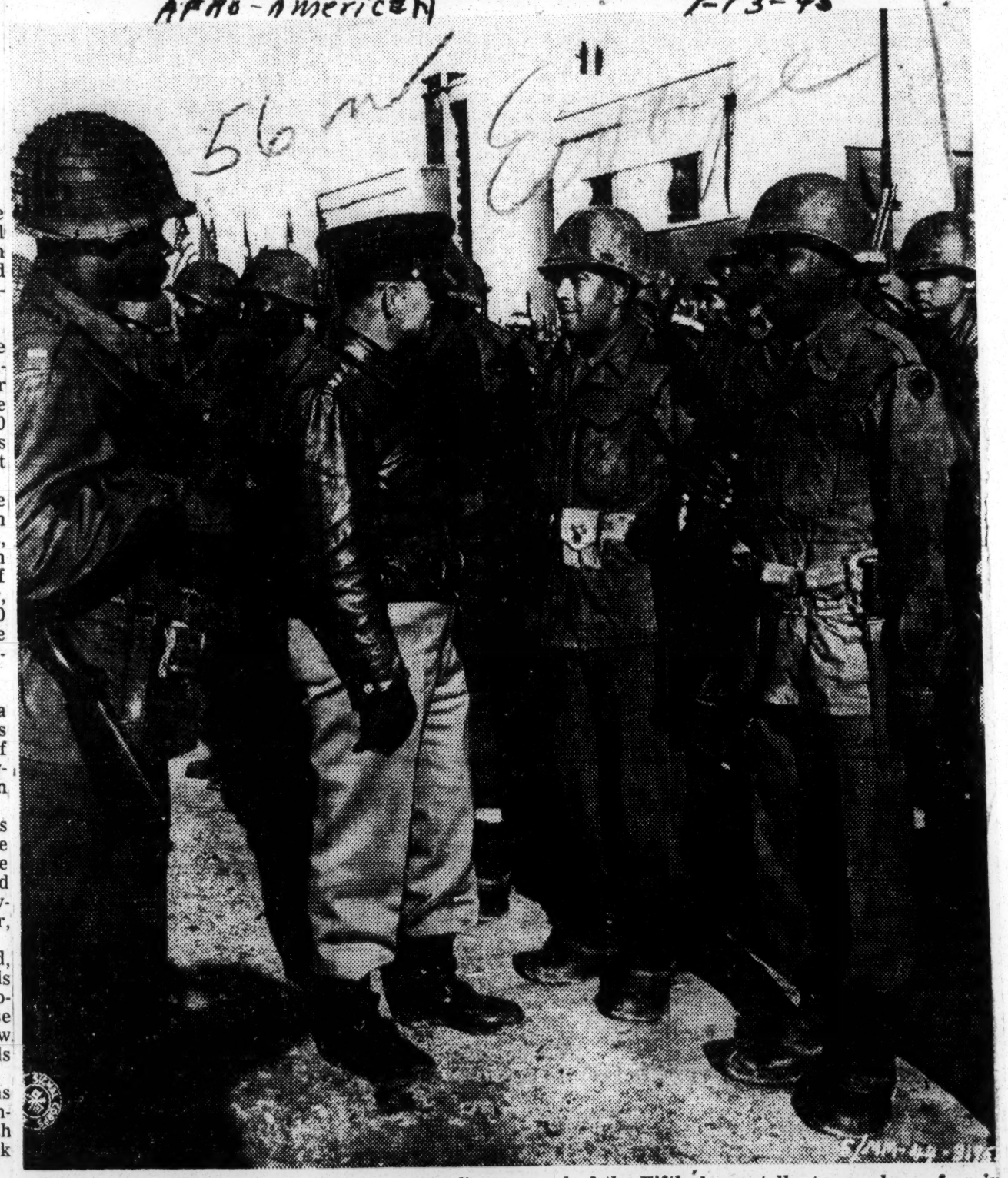
Mercury Hits 179 in Iran During 1943

AHWAZ, Iran—The highest sun temperature recorded at theMasjidi-Sulaiman oilfield in 1942 was 183 degrees Fahrenheit and in 1943-44, 179 degrees on July 31, 1943. The section is 54 miles from here and is 1000 feet above sea level.

In an official communication to Colonel Bates, commander of Quarry Camp in the Gulf district, it was pointed out that these temperatures are about as high as would be obtained anywhere in the country.

New 5th Army Head with 92nd Honor Guard

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-13-45



Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott ,Jr., new commanding general of the Fifth Army, talks to members of an infantry battalion which formed part of the guard of honor during special decoration ceremonies at Viareggio, Italy. The general was making his first tour of the 92nd Infantry Division sector.

Negroes 'Pass Ammunition' in European Theater

Miami Herald

13,118 Ordnancemen In ETO Handled 75 Per Cent Of Ammunition

WITH U. S. ORDNANCE FORCES IN EUROPE—Of the 6,600,000 tons of ammunition handled by Ordnance ammunition companies on the continent between D-Day and VE-Day, more than 4,500,000 tons passed through the hands of Negro Ordnancemen, it was announced today by Maj. Gen. Henry B. Sayler, chief ordnance officer.

In reporting the figures on the amount of ammunition made available for use by our fighting men, Gen. Sayler paid high tribute to the 14,323 Negro enlisted men who made up 11 per cent of the total Ordnance personnel on the Continent. 7-21-45

"Not only did these Negro troops 'pass the ammunition,'" said Gen. Sayler, "but on numerous occasions many of them fought the Germans, participated in patrols, and took prisoners."

The forward ammunition supply points operated by these Negro Ordnancemen were the retail source for all tyes of ammunition, bullets, shells, fuzes, and propelling charges, served directly to infantry, artillery and armored units. As such, these ASPs were directly behind the front lines and on several occasions, in front of them, especially during periods of fluid fronts.

Men of one ammunition company—the 626th — although they had moved into their new location, were unable to operate until the infantry had cleared the enemy artillery from a hill less than two miles away. They stuck to their position, however, and the day the Nazis were cleared out the men received their first trainload of ammunition and issued it directly to the men chasing the Germans.

Of the 14,323 Negro Ordnancemen participating in the ETO campaign, 13,118 were ammunition handlers. They made up 76 out of the 101 Ordnance ammunition companies, about 75 per cent of the total. 7-21-45

They received the peak of ammunition handling shortly after the Germans were repulsed in their Ardennes breakthrough. During the period that followed, the 101 ammunition companies received and issued up to 24,000 tons a day, or seven to eight thousand tons over the average of 15,000 tons a day established in the European campaign. In carrying out their mission of supplying ammunition to the men behind the guns, the Negro Ordnancemen displayed courage time and again, Gen. Sayler declared.

An example cited by Gen. Sayler was the bravery demonstrated by the members of the 655th Ordnance Ammunition Company which unloaded a trainload of white phosphorus mortar shells on December 26, near Soissons, France, while shells were exploding around them. Their acts of heroism saved the French city from complete destruction.

Another non-combat Negro Ordnance ammunition company earned the title of the "Fighting 57th" when its members engaged 51 German SS troops near the Belgian border early in September. When the shooting was over, 36 Nazis were killed, three wounded and the rest taken prisoners.

While handling ammunition was the principal job for these Negro Ordnancemen, 560 of them made up five medium automotive maintenance companies. Of these, one was with the 12th Army Group and four with the Communications Zone, repairing vehicles of all types for the fighting men.

Of the 20 Ordnance motor vehicle distributing companies in the ETO, two of them were manned by 480 Negro Ordnancemen. These distributing companies in the ETO, two of them were manned by 480 Negro Ordnancemen. These distributing companies furnished the combat troops with armored vehicles and service troops with the trucks necessary to keep the frontliners supplied. 7-21-45

The remainder of the Negro personnel, 165 in number, were acti in the administrative divisions of battalion headquarters.

Major General Hails Work Of Ordnance Troops

Atlanta Daily World

More Than 75 Per Cent Handled By Our Fighters

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

ARLES, France—(A N P)—More than 75 percent of all ammunition used in the ETO war against Hitler's Nazi Wehrmacht was handled by tan Yanks. 8-11-45

Major General Henry B. Sayler, chief ordnance officers for the ETO, revealed this information recently in a tribute to Negro ordnance troops.

Of six million tons of ammo transported between D-Day and V-E Day, over 4,500,000 tons were handled by tan enlisted men who comprised 11 percent of ordnance personnel in the theater.

"Not only did these Negro troops 'pass the ammunition' but on numerous occasions many of them fought the Germans, participated in patrols and took prisoners," said General Sayler.

Specific units cited were the 655th Ordnance Ammunition Company, which unloaded a trainload of white phosphorus shells December 26 near Soissons, France, with Germans shells exploding in the area, the 57th Ordnance Ammunition Co., which earned the appelation "Fighting 57th" with part of its members engaged SS units on the Belgium border in September killing 36.

(Strangely missing through an official oversight was mention of the famous 626th Ordnance Ammunition Co., that raced across France with General George S. Pattons' cocky third army frequently operating on an around-the-clock schedule two to five miles behind the lines. M/Sgt. John W. London, of Houston, 626th depot chief, was the first third army master sergeant to win the bronze star medal. He was declared, "the best ammunition master sergeant in the entire third army" by Lt. Col. Walter D. Ferry, Tulsa, 150th Ord. Bn., who made the presentation after 626th had distinguished itself in Luxembourg during the Battle of the Bulge.)

Negro ordnance soldiers operated forward ammunition supply points (ASPs) close to the front lines where all types of ammo, infantry, artillery and armored was issued. They totalled 13,118 of the 14,323 ordnance personnel. Seventy-six of the ordnance ammunition companies or over 75 per cent were Negro units.

Negro ammunition companies from the Ardennes breakthrough in December to V-E Day alone received and issued the astronomical figure of 24,000 tons of explosives daily.

Other Negro ordnance groups consisted of five automotive maintenance companies one working with 12th army and four in Comz (rear echelon), and two motor vehicles distributing (MVDs) companies.

Our Boys Supply Occupation Troops

The Memphis World 9-11-45

Memphis, Tennessee

ANTWERP, Belgium—(SNS) — After nearly two years' service in Europe and the Middle East, Headquarters Company and Medical Detachment, 114th Quartermaster Battalion is set up in this Belgium port city to handle supplies for U. S. Troops remaining in Europe. The organization supervises the work of what is believed to be the only Negro Diesel trucking unit in the U. S. Army.

Before coming to Antwerp the 114th Quartermaster Group operated the Red Ball supply highway in France and participated in the crossing of the Rhine.

In Iran the 114th organized and ran an entire dispatch system for the rapid delivery of Russian lend-lease supplies through the Persian Gulf corridor.

TOUGH ROUTE

This was a route which led for almost 1,000 miles over hot trackless deserts, and through snow-covered mountain passes 10,000 feet high to the borders of the Russian Transcaucasia. Here, at the city of Kazvin, the convoy was met by Red Army units and American supplies were rushed to the Eastern Front. The men of the 114th speak with pride of their contribution to the battle of Stalingrad, which was considered vitally important.

Stationed in mud huts at Andimeshk, one of the hottest cities in the world where the temperature reaches 185 degrees, the men had to combat the additional hazards of malaria, dysentery and fever. Throughout these trying months the physical condition and the morale were kept at such a high level that the unit received numerous oral and written commendations for its work.

DANVILLE, VA.
REGISTER
Circ. D. 14,580 - S. 15,175
AUG 15 1945

THE NEGRO IN ETO

Accounts of the Negro in the European Theatre of Operations brought home too often have dealt with the phenomena of uninhibited racial relations between the American Negro and his British and French Allies and among the people of occupied areas. These have overshadowed the exploits of Negro soldiers in the work which took them to Europe.

A recent attack on the Negro as a fighting man by U. S. Senator EASTLAND provoked quick defenses from a large part of the "white" press as well as from high officials in the War and Navy Departments.

The best refutation of EASTLAND's charge that Negroes failed as soldiers is contained in an editorial in the Baltimore *Sun*. We reprint it today and hope that readers of these columns will take the two or three minutes required to gain the information therein.

This war, better than any other in history, has demonstrated that no race has a monopoly on qualities that make a good soldier. Armies differ in the quality of training, equipment and leadership but the individuals composing armies, whatever their color or race, have about the same characteristics. They all have the courage to fight to the death for causes in which they believe and a skill measuring their training and equipment more than their aptitude.

As for raw courage, our boys in the Pacific tell some phantastic tales of Japanese courage. We do not have to disparage the fighting qualities of even an enemy to underscore the greatness of our own triumph. The converse is true. The better fighting men we beat, the higher is praise for our own fighting qualities.

As for our Negro soldiers, they had a big part in beating the Germans—long recognized as superior soldiers. The Baltimore *Sun* tells a few of the actions contributing to the great part of the American Negro soldier in achievement of victory.

Tan Yanks Totaled 58% of OM Personnel in Europe

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

EUROPEAN THEATRE — The Office of the Chief Quartermaster of the European Theatre of Operations recently reported that total quartermaster personnel in the theatre on March 31, had reached 133,354. and of them 77,348, or 58%, were colored.

The colored QM troops served in nearly all categories of QM units. Large numbers were in mobile and non-mobile QM battalion headquarters units which control, administer, train and supply QM companies or various types.

27 Mobile Bakery Units

Between D-Day and V-E Day there were 27 mobile bakery componies, baking fresh bread under field conditions and also roasting coffee. There were 252 service companies which provided general labor for all arms and services."

Other QM units were:

Three base depot companies one depot supply company, 16 fumigation and bath companies 45 gas supply companies, 22 laundry companies;

Thirteen railhead companies, 11 salvage collecting companies, 10 salvage repair companies, 10 laundry sections and one refrigeration company.

3 Landed on D-Plus

Three colored QM units, the 30th QM Railhead Company, the 3168th and 3279th QM Service Companies landed in Normandy on D-plus-1.

One QM bakery company, the 4351st, which landed in France on Aug. 3, 1944, baked over 4,000,000 pounds of bread, and roasted and ground half a million pounds of coffee for U.S. Troops in France, Belgium and Holland.

RESIGNS NAACP POST

NEW YORK—Miss Consuelo C. Young Aug. 15 resigned as the NAACP's director of publicity and has returned to Chicago.

List 23 Negro Soldiers Killed In Explosion At Viareggio, Italy

The New York Age
New York, New Yorke
8-25-45

U. S. ARMY FORCES, Mediterranean Theater of Operations—

The names, organizations and next-of-kin of the 23 Negro soldiers who were instantly killed as a result of an explosion of mines in a nearby building which partially demolished the Ameri- partially demolished the American gio, on July 18, 1945, follow:

Technician Fifth Grade Rudolph Strickland, 92nd Reconnaissance Troop: mother, Mrs. Lucy Strickland, 573 Macon street, Brooklyn New York.

Private First Class Revis Collins, 92nd Military Police Platoon father, Mr. Wilson O. Collins, Winburn street, Houston, Texas.

Private First Class Robert L. Montgomery, 597th Field Artillery Battalion; mother, Mrs. Annie Montgomery, Route 2, Box 35, Atmare, Alabama.

Private Otis L. Collins, 365th Infantry Regiment; mother, Mrs. Laner Collins, Route 1, Ganner, North Carolina.

Staff Sergeant Maurice O. Burt, 365th Infantry Regiment; mother, Mrs. Maude H. Burt, 11 1-2 Gainsboro street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Private First Class Henry Banks, 365th Infantry Regiment; father, Mr. Samuel Banks, 2611 Locust street, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Etaff Sergeant James E. Knight, 365th Infantry Regiment; wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Knight, 252 Farnsworth, Detroit, Michigan.

Sergeant Willie A. Reed, 365th Infantry Regiment; father, Mr. George Reed, 1047 Overton street, Memphis, Hennessee.

Technician Fifth Grade Jasper Peevy, 365th Infantry Regiment; uncle, Mr. Joe D. Peevy, 609 North 9th street, Munroe, Louisiana.

8-25-45

Private First Class Arria Shaw, 370th Infantry Regiment; mother, Mrs. Annie Shaw, 1321 Potomac street, Bakersfield, California.

Private First Class Lloyd W. Gordon, 370th Infantry Regiment; mother, Mrs. Alverta H. Gordon, 501 West Landvale street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Private First Class Thomas E. Robinson, Jr., 370th Infantry Regiment; mother, Mrs. Jennie C. Robinson, 319 Ashley avenue, Charleston, South Carolina.

Staff Sergeant Milton Smith, 370th Infantry Regiment; mother, Mrs. Pearl Smith, 153 Wayne street, Jersey City, New Jersey.

Private Enoch Hanna, Jr., 371st Infantry Regiment; wife, Mrs. Sara Hanna, Route 2, Box 117, Lake City, South Carolina.

Technician Fifth Grade Leo Whitfield, 371st Infantry Regiment; father, Mr. John Whitfield, 3721 Cook avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

Private First Class Haywood Robertson, 371st Infantry Regiment mother, Mrs. Mary Robertson, Victoria, Virginia.

Staff Sergeant Willie Cooper, 371st Infantry Regiment; wife, Mrs. Ethel E. Cooper, 1022 Odeon street, Route 1, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Private First Class Gus Marshall, 371st Infantry Regiment; wife, Mrs. Mary E. Macshall, 48 Entwist Le avenue, Nutley New Jersey.

Technician Fifth Grade James Alford, 679th Tank Destroyer Battalion; mother, Mrs. Minnie Alford, General Delivery, Calvert, Texas.

Technician Fifth Grade Clarence L. Smith, 679th Tank Destroyer Battalion; mother, Mrs. Mary A. Smith, 110 East Brainard street, Pensacola, Florida.

Sergeant William E. Foster, 679th Tank Destroyer Battalion; mother, Mrs. Geneva Foster, Route 2, Creme, Virginia.

Private William E. Sexton, 758th Tank Battalion; aunt, Mrs. Annie V. Timmons, 205 Jenkins street, Savannah, Georgia.

Private William E. Sexton, 758th Tank Battalion; aunt, Mrs. Annie V. Timmons, 205 Jenkins street, Savannah, Georgia.

Private First Class Sidney Green, 758th Tank Battalion; sister, Mrs. Cara Roundtree Route 2, Box 70, Milan, Georgia

A twenty-fourth casualty of the explosion was Private James Beggs, Sr., white, of 119 Kenilworth road, Marion, Pennsylvania.

Injured Vet Quits Picket

The People's Voice
New York, New York 9-15-45

The disabled veteran, Edward Bykowski, who picketed Sen. Theodore Bilbo's office for two weeks in an effort to gain an interview and in protest against the Mississippian's hate spiels, was forced to give up last week when his injured leg begar bothering him. Bykowski, down but not out, immediately began plans for interesting veterans' organizations in the anti-Bilbo campaign and thinking of a possible vets' trip to Mississippi to carry ont the fight down there.

Before leaving Washington for his home at 38-60 43 av, Woodside, Queens, Bykowski told he press what he would have said to Bilbo, had the interview been granted:

"I remember first aid work on the heavy cruiser *Vincennes*," he said. "We had a colored boy whose arm was blown off at the elbow. There was very little I could do about it except put on a tourniquet, a battle dressing and give him a shot of mrophine. Other casualties were coming in, so I told him to lie down in a corner and take it easy.

"Two minutes or so passed by before I checked up on the colored boy. When I looked around, he wasn't in his corner but was standing helping the boys pass ammunition with his good right arm. Is he one of the boys you want to send back to Africa?"

Bykowski cited the sacrifices made by all Americans. "These boys didn't ask about race or religion. They were together for one thing. All I wonder now is whether you could say the things you do if you had a son who was also a battle casualty. I don't think you could, Senator."

Lone Negro Crew Held 16 Nazi Tanks At Bay

Atlanta Daily World
8-11-45

WITH THE 761st TANK BATTALION IN EUROPE — The war is over now, and slowly the stories of the exploits of the members of the 761st Tank Battalion, pioneering of the act of Staff Sergeant, then Sergeant Henry H. Conway, husband of Mrs. Lucille Conway, 4733 Southmany Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

When the 761st went with other units of General George S. Patton's Third Army to the "Battle of the Bulge" last winter, it had one of its toughest encounters at Tillet, Belgium, above Bastogne.

It was here that Sergeant Conway, with his tank standing alone on a hill, held 16 Germans at bay, while the enemy shelled him from all sides. He held until other tanks of the 761st reached his position.

Even after the rear compartment door grill had been shot off his tank, Sergeant Conway continued to hold on for another hour, firing at the enemy. The Germans did not take that hill.

Sh-11-8

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN-PILOT
Cir. D. 77,505—S. 79,630

JUL 19 1945

Europe Foreign Service

A reader points out the useful and often dangerous nature of the work of Negro service troops in this war.

Editor, Virginian-Pilot:

In your July 14 issue, "Fair Play," writing in your letters to the Editor column, said that according to an Army headquarters report there were no Negro combat troops in the Normandy campaign, and hinted that "the Army may be guilty of violating regulations set forth by the FEPC."

We don't know whether "Fair Play" meant to be serious or sarcastic, but we gather that there is a misunderstanding concerning the role of Negro troops in the Normandy campaign, as well as a lack of understanding of the importance of service troops in any campaign. For that reason I quote below part of a report on the performance of Negro service troops by Private Irwin Ross, (white) published recently in The New Republic:

"Criticism is sometimes heard that the bulk of Negro soldiers have been assigned to service rather than combat forces. This is true, but there is a tendency to underestimate the crucial contribution they have made as service troops. Negro soldiers came ashore with the engineer brigades on D-day; Negro troops in the Transportation Corps, Engineers, Ordnance, Quartermaster played an outstanding role in winning the Normandy supply battle; Negro truck drivers in the crucial weeks after the St. Lo break-through, hauled the bulk of the supplies to the armies sweeping across France.

"In the last war, supply and transportation were a relatively safe rear-echelon activity. In this continental campaign—a hazardous amphibious operation developing into an unprecedented war of movement—the men at the wheels of the amphibious ducks, the stevedores unloading cargo on the beaches, the truck drivers straining to get the last mile out of their 2 1-2-ton GMC's, have frequently found themselves in the front line trading blows with the enemy.

"In the Corps of Engineers, Negroes staff dozens of aviation engineer battalions, which construct airfields, fire-fighting platoons, and general-service regiments. These last build just about everything—roads, bridges, hospitals, air strips, railroads. The chronicle of one regiment since D-day: It set a speed record of clearing a minefield near La Haye du Puits. In 3 weeks, the regiment built the first 1,000-bed hospital in France. The men had to demine the area first, then pour the concrete—all the time keeping patrols out against snipers".

PHILLIP BARKAS.

Norfolk, July 14.

Colored Troops Scattered All Over Occupied Europe

Baltimore, Md.

afro-American

BY OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent in the European Theatre of Operations

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PARIS—With the removal of restrictions on the designation of units that have contributed toward victory in Europe, it would seem simple to draw up a list of outfits and say, "Here they are. These are the units that helped bring victory."

Only it isn't simple at all. In the first place, many units which saw service prior to V-E Day, no longer exist. Some have been deactivated. Some have been swallowed up in larger organizations.

Always Attached

And, in the case of colored units on the Continent, all were small—a regiment here and there, and not too many battalions. The rest were companies, detachments and platoons. Unlike white organizations which have been easy to identify and keep up with, colored troops were usually attached to something—here today and gone tomorrow.

There hasn't been a single colored division in France, and searching for an outfit smaller than a division is, as any correspondent can tell you, a good bit harder than finding a needle in a straw pile. 8-4-45

If this was true during wartime, it is much more difficult now when everybody is on the move—either to the Pacific, to the States, to the army of occupation, or to redeployment centers.

No Color Designations

Furthermore, you can't tell the color of a unit on paper. You have to catch up with it to know, for the Army simply sets down a list of outfits in a certain area, with no marks to designate white, black or blue.

However, with the above as a bit of background, a partial list of colored units that have fought and served in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, is presented. Others will be added as they are found, with the hope that eventually every outfit will be included. Here they are:

The following units are known to be on the Continent at present:

WAC's—6888th Central Postal Directory; Army Postal Unit—122nd; Medical Sanitation—703rd and 723rd; Ordnance—646th, 596th, 600th; Engineers—41st, 829th, 923rd, 377th (regiment), 1698th (combat); Quartermasters—123rd and 532nd (battalions), 3992nd, 3555th, 3216th 3658th.

MANY STILL HERE

The following units have been on the Continent, and the chances are many are still here:

Artillery — 333rd, 969th, 578th, 777th battalions; Tank Battalion—761st; Tank Destroyer—614th; Anti-aircraft—452nd; Barrage Balloon—320th; Chemical Warfare—402nd; 87th, 83rd, 162nd.;

Signal Construction—447th, 448th, 268th, 459th, 269th, 40th, 41st;

Engineers—95th combat, 364th and 365th general service regiments; Ordnance — 84th battalion, 510th depot, 583rd ammo., 3420th medium maintenance;

Quartermasters — 457th laundry, 237th and 238th salvage collection, 3010th bakery, 3185th and 4086th service;

Quartermaster Trucking — 4251st, 4252nd, 4253rd, 4254th, 3864th, 3981st, 469th group, 394th, 4023rd, 91st battalion, 3966th, 446th, 447th, 2016th, 3981st, 1585th, 309th, 260th, 273rd battalion, 3327th, 3326th, 3512th, 4042nd, 3173rd, and 37th S.S. detachment.

Either awaiting redeployment or constituting elements of the armies of occupation, these troops were assigned to posts in France, Italy, England, Wales, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Algeria, Morocco, Liberia, Corsica, Scotland, Holland, Egypt, Belgium and Luxembourg. 8-4-45

Units Widely Distributed

Probably the most remotely stationed colored unit in Europe on July 1 was the 595th Qm. Laundry Company, at historic Pilsen in Czechoslovakia.

The 701st Sanitary Medical Co. was in Newport, Wales; the 4247th QM Service Co. at Heliopolis, Egypt; the 167th Chemical Warfare Co. at Maastricht, Holland, while the 3879th Gasoline Supply Co. was in Furiani, Corsica.

The most distant advance made by colored fighting men came when the 761st Tank Battalion battled its way to the shores of the Enn River at Steyr, Austria, where it linked up with the Soviet Army under Marshal Ivan Konev.

In Italy, Tan Yank units range from southernmost Bari, where the 647th Military Police Co. was maintaining order, in July 1, to Genoa, present headquarters of the 92nd Infantry Division.

The following were among the combat units which saw service in Europe (with stations as of July 1):

FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALIONS: 333rd, Bamberg, Germany; 349th, Le Havre, France; 350th, Yvetot, France; 351st, also at Yvetot; 686th, Keskastel, France; 777th, Maastricht, Holland; 969th, Hardheim, Germany, and the 999th, Berthelming.

TANK BATTALIONS: 761st, Sulzbach, Germany; 784th, Venlo, Holland.

TANK DESTROYER BATTALIONS: 614th, Bouxwiller, France; 643rd, Buttigen, Germany.

Daniel A. Reed (R. 45, Dunkirk).

COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALIONs: 183rd, Eschweiler, Germany; 184th, Hockneukirch, Germany; 1695th, Garat, France; 1697, Darmstadt, Germany; 1698th, Viersen, Germany; 1699th, Arolsen, Germany, and the 1700th Herzogenaurach, Germany.

FIGHTING UNITS IN ITALY

These were among the combat units which saw service in Italy (with stations as of July 1):

365th (San Michele), 370th (Cavi), 371st (Reggio) Infantry Regiments; 758th Tank Battalion (Gassina), 679th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Balzanetto); 99th, 100th and 301st Fighter Squadrons (all at Ramitelli); 92nd Reconnaissance Troop (Acqui); to); 99th, (Acqi); 597th (Isola), 598th (Aranzeno), 599th (Tietrasanta), and 600th (Compomoiare) Field Artillery Battalions.

Negroes Made Up 58 Percent of QM Units in Europe

Des Moines Iowa Bystander

Headquarters, U. S. Forces, European Theater—The Office of the Chief Quartermaster of the European Theater of Operations, this week reported that total quarermaster personnel in the theater on March 31, had reached 133,354, and of this total 77,348 were Negro troops.

These Negro QM troops served in nearly all categories of units in the Quartemaster Corps. Large numbers of the personnel were in mobile and non-mobile QM battalion headquarters units which control, administer, train and supply QM companies of various types. 8-25-45

There were 27 Negro mobile QM bakery companies serving at one time or another in the theater between D-Day and V-E Day. Their function was to bake fresh bread under field conditions, and also to roast coffee.

There were 252 Negro QM servce companies which provided "general labor for all arms and services."

There were also three QM base depot companies, one QM depot supply company, 16 QM gas supply companies, 22 QM laundry companies, 13 QM railhead companies, 11 QM salvage collecting companies, 10 QM salvage repair companies, 10 QM laundry sections, and one QM refrigeration company. 8-23-45

Three Negro QM units, the 309th QM Railhead Company, the 3168th and 3279th QM Service Companies landed in Normandy on D-plus-1.

One QM bakery company, the 4351st, baked over 4,000,000 pounds of bread, and roasted and ground half a million pounds of coffee for consumption by U. S. Troops in France, Belgium and Holland. The unit landed in France on August 3, 1944.

32 Combat Units Among 1240 Tan Yank Outfits That Helped Defeat Germany

afro-American 8-4-45

Baltimore, Md

WASHINGTON

Serving with every arm and service of the Army, colored soldiers assigned to 1,240 organizations contributed immeasurably to the success of Allied arms in the war against the Germans, the War Department reported this week.

These included 32 combat units serving in France, Germany, Holland and Italy.

Colored units landed at Oran in North Africa with the western task force in November 1942, were on hand for subsequent landings in Sicily, Corsica, Salerno and Anzio in the drive into Italy.

They filled even bigger roles in the conquest of Normandy, invasion of Southern France and in the struggle which finally ended in complete capitulation for the Germans.

Over 250,000 in 3 Theaters

On July 1, 1945, over a quarter million colored soldiers were stationed in the European, Mediterranean and African-Middle East Theaters of Operations.

1241 Units Helped Bring Victory In European War

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Serving with every arm and service of the Army, Negro soldiers assigned to 1,241 organizations, varying from highly technical rear echelon units to front-line assault battalions, contributed immeasurably to the success of Allied arms in the war against the Germans, the War Department reported this week.

Negro units landed at Oran in North Africa with the Western Task Force in November, 1942, were on hand for subsequent landings in Sicily, Corsica, Salerno and Anzio in the drive into Italy. They filled even bigger roles n the conquest of Normandy, invasion of Southern France, and in the struggle which finally ended in complete capitulation for the Germans.

ALL OVER EUROPE

On July 1, 1945, over a quarter million Negro soldiers were stationed in the European, Mediterranean and African-Middle East Theatres of Operations. Either awaiting redeployment or constituting elements of the armies of occupation, these troops were assigned to posts in France, Italy, England, Wales, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Algeria, Morocco, Liberia, Corsica, Scotland, Holland, Egypt, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Probably the most remotely stationed Negro unit in Europe on July 1 was the 595th Quartermaster Laundry Company at historic Pilzen, in Czechoslovakia.

As an example of their geographic dispersal, the 701st Sanitary Medical Company was in Newport, Wales; the 4247th QM Service Company was performing duty at Heliopolis, Egypt; the 167th Chemical Warfare Company was at Maastricht, Holland, while the 3789th Gasoline Supply Company was stationed in Furiani, Corsica.

JOIN RUSSIANS

The most distant advance made by Negro fighting men came when the 761st Tank Battalion, first Negro Tank Battalion ever to enter combat with the U. S. Army, battled its way to the shores of the Enn River at Steyr, Austria, where it linked up with the Soviet Army under Marshal Ivan Konev.

In Italy, Negro units range from Bari on the heel of the peninsula, where the 647th Military Police Company was maintaining order, on July 1, to the top of the peninsula at Geneva, present headquarters of the all-Negro Ninety-second Infantry Division.

The following were among the Negro combat units which saw service in Europe (with stations as of July 1):

Field Artillery Battalions: 33rd, Bamberg, Germany; 349th, Le Havre, France; 350th, Yvetet, France; 351st, also at Yvetet; 686th, Keskastel, France; 777th, Maastricht, Holland; 969th, Hardheim, Germany, and the 999th, Berthelming, France.

Tank Battalions: 761st, Sulzbach, Germany; 784th, Venlo, Holland.

Tank Destroyer Battalions: 614th, Bouxwiller, France; 643rd, Buttigen, Germany.

Combat Engineer Battalions: 183rd, Eschweiler, Germany; 184th, Hochneukirch, Germany; 1695th, Garat, France; 1697th, Darmstadt, Germany; 1698th Viersen, Germany; 1699th, Arelsen, Germany, and the 1700th, Herzgonaurach, Germany.

8-4-45

These were among the combat units which saw service in Italy (with statistics as of July 1):

365th (San Michele), 370th (Cavi), 371st (Reggio) Infantry Regiments; 758th Tan Battalion (Gassina-, 679th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Balzanetto); 99th, 100th and 301st Fighter Squadrons (all at Ramitelli); 92nd Reconnaisance Troop (Acqi); 597th (Isola), 598th (Aranzeno), 599th (Tietrasanta), and 600th (Compomoia) Field Artillery Battalions.

Victims of Mine Blast

Afro-American

ROME, Italy—(By Cable)—Listed below are names and next of kin of 23 92nd Division enlisted men and one white soldier killed in Viareggio on July 18, when stored mines exploded in a building adjacent to one housing the division's Red Cross Club:

PFC. LLOYD W. GORDON, mother, Mrs. Alberta G. Gordon, 1501 W. Lanvale St., Baltimore.

S/SGT. MAURICE BURT, mother, Mrs. Maude H. Burt, 363 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.

Baltimore, Md.

S/SGT. MILTON SMITH, mother, Mrs. Pearl Smith, 148½ Union St., Jersey City, N.J.

T/5 RUDOLPH STRICKLAND, mother, Mrs. Lucy Strickland, 573 Macon St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

PFC. GUS MARSHALL, wife, Mrs. Gus Marshall, 48 Entwhistle Ave., Nutley, N.J.

PFC. THOMAS ROBINSON JR., mother, Mrs. Jennie Robinson, 319 Ashley Ave., Charleston, S.C.

8-4-45

PFC. HAYWOOD ROBERTSON, mother, Mrs. Mary Robertson, Victoria, Va.

PVT. ENOCH HANNA, wife, Mrs. Cora Hanna, Box 17, Route 2, Lake City, S.C.

SGT. WILLIAM E. FOSTER, mother, Mrs. Geneva Foster, Route 2, Crewe, Va.

PVT. WILLIAM SEXTON, aunt, Mrs. Anna Timmons, 20 Jenks St., Savannah, Ga.

S/SGT. WILLIE COOPER, wife, Mrs. Ethel F. Cooper, 1022 Odeon St., Box 81, New Orleans, La.

S/SGT. JAMES E. KNIGHT, wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Knight, 252 Efransworth Ave., Detroit.

S/SGT. WILLIE REED, father, George Reed, 1047 Overton St., Memphis, Tenn.

T/5 JAMES ALFORD, mother, Mrs. Minnie Alford, Calvert, Tex.

T/5 JASPER PEEVY, uncle, Joe Peevy, 609 N. 9th St., Monroe, La.

T/5 CLARENCE L. SMITH, mother, Mrs. Mary E. Smith, 110 Edrainerd St., Pensacola, Fla.

T/5 LEON WHITFIELD, father, John Whitfield, 3721 Cook Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

PFC. ARRIA SHAW, mother, Mrs. Annie Shaw, 1321 Potomac St., Bakersfield, Calif.

PFC. HENRY BANKS, father, Samuel Banks, 2611 Locust St., St. Joseph, Miss.

PFC. ROBERT MONTGOMERY, mother, Mrs. Annie Montgomery, Atmore, Ala.

PFC. SIDNEY GREEN, sister, Mrs. Annabelle Patterson, Route 3, Box 75, Louisville, Ga.

PVT. OTIS E. COLLINS, father, Wilson Collins, 3210 Winburn St., Houston, Tex.

JOHN J. BEGGSTARION, white, of Pennsylvania.

Units on Western Front

Afro-American

WASHINGTON

As of July 1, a breakdown of the types and kinds of colored units then in the European (ETO), Mediterranean (MTO), and African-Middle East (AMETO) Theatres of Operations, or en route therefrom, included:

Baltimore, Md.

	ETO	MTO	AMETO	TOTAL
Armored Units				
Tank Battalions	2	1	0	3
Cavalry				
Reconnaissance Troops	0	1	0	1
Chemical Warfare Service				
Decontamination, Smoke Generating and Service Companies	17	3	0	20
Engineers				
General Service, Combat, Dump Truck, Fire Fighting, Maintenance, Water Supply, Heavy and Light Pontoon Companies	83	22	0	105
Field Artillery				
Division and Group Artillery, 105-mm, 155-mm, and 8-inch Howitzer, and 4.5-inch Gun Battalions	12	5	0	17
Infantry				
Division Headquarters and Regiments	0	4	0	4
Medical Department				
Battalions, Companies, Platoons, Station Hosptials, General Hospital Complimentary Units, Detachments	21	3	3	27
Corps of Military Police				
Companies and Detachments	1	9	1	11
Miscellaneous				
Army Bands	12	2	1	15
Special Service Companies	1	1	0	2
WAC Units	1	0	0	1
Ordnance Department				
Ammunition Companies, Vehicle Assembling and Distributing Companies, Battalions, Depots	61	7	0	68
Army Postal Units				
Base Censor Office	7	0	0	7
Quartermaster Corps				
Mobile Battalions, Truck Railhead, Salvage Collecting, Gasoline Supply, Fumigating and Bath, Pack, Laundry, Depot, Service, Bakery, Refrigeration, Sterilization, and Car Companies	610	89	7	706
Signal Corps				
Heavy and Light Construction Battalions	9	1	0	10
Replacement Units	0	3	0	3
Tank Destroyer Units				
Battalions (Towed)	3	1	0	4
Transportation Corps				
Port Battalions	22	2	0	24
Port Companies	104	8	0	112
Army Air Forces				
Air Engineering Squadrons	0	2	0	2
Air Materiel Squadrons	0	2	0	2
Fighter Squadrons	0	3	0	3
Air Base Security Battalions	0	3	0	3
Chemical Warfare Companies	0	1	0	1
Aviation Engineer Regiments, Battalions and Companies	8	2	1	11
Aviation Ammunition Companies	3	7	0	10
Air Corps Quartermaster Battalions and Companies	47	16	0	63
Signal Corps Heavy Construction Battalions	4	0	0	4
Service Companies	1	0	0	1
Totals	1,029	198	13	1,240

8-4-45

56

969th Guards Trial of War Criminals

The Pittsburgh Courier

WEISSENBURG, Germany — (ANP) — The 969th Field Artillery battalion, stationed here, is performing security guard duty at the trial of the German war criminals starting here in Nurenberg, Nov. 20.

The 969th distinguished itself in Italy and at Bastogne.

Tan GI's In Germany Find Little Prejudice Except That of Fellow Americans

Savannah, Ga.

DELEGATION LEAVES MONDAY FOR DETROIT

Savannah, Ga.

Berlin. (ANP)—"Negro' troops are almost unanimous in saying that the dominant fact in the racial picture in Germany today is that Naziscreated anti-Negro feeling is not a deep, living thing, but that the most serious source of racial propaganda against the Negro people originates with certain bigoted members of their own army," says Allen Morrison in a special article titled "The Negro GI in Germany" appearing in the Aug. 12 issue of the Stars and Stripes magazine, official U. S. army publication.

Morrison's complete article follows: 8-30-45

"Germans, who once were exhorted to think themselves as a master race, now gladly wash the clothes of American Negro soldiers, a racial group the Nazis taught them to despise. Children play with Negro soldiers, girls fraternize with them. If the Germans ever wholly believed Nazi racial theories, the war certainly has put still another complexion on social life in Germany.

"From the inception of the Nazi movement color was carefully and cleverly woven into the fabric of fascist race theories which found their definite expression in the notorious Nuremberg laws.

"In 'Mein Kampf,' Hitler described Negroes as 'semi-apes' and derided the democracies for allowing them to have any human rights and opportunities at all. At the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Hitler refused to personally congratulate Jesse Owens—who won four titles—and other individual Negro victors on the U. S. team.

"Long before he came to power, Hitler promised to 'avenge' the national 'insult' given Germany during allied occupation of the Rhineland following Germany's defeat in World War I. At that time France stationed thousands of Senegalese troops in the French zone of occupation. The Nazis never allowed the Germans to forget that the peace of Versailles resulted in African Negroes being billeted in German homes.

"Hitler promised the Germans that one of the first acts of the Nazi government would be the sterilization of hundreds of racially mixed children produced by unions between Senegalese soldiers and German women. He also promised that Negro troops would never again set foot on German soil.

"Concentration camps received their quotas of Negro prisoners. These were Negroes at Buchenwald and Dachu when these camps were overrun by advancing American forces. In the Berlin area, a recent survey showed, most Negroes or near-Negroes living there had been imprisoned by the Nazis, usually for being member of an 'inferior' race. Like the Jews, Germans of color were refused employment. 8-30-45

"Today Germans see thousands of Negro troops in the U. S. zone performing duties ranging from straight occupational tasks to technical engineering operations. How have Germans reacted to these Negro troops in their midst? How have Negro GIs reacted to the German people? In the larger cities of Germany the racial myth seems buried beneath the rubble of the Nazi order. In Nuremberg, the seat of Nazi racism, American troops speak of friendly relations with civilians who are far too busy reconstructing their shattered lives to revive the Hitlerian theories that brought their country to ruin. In Munich, Schweinfurt, Frankfort and Augsburg Negro troops speak of friendly relations with civilians who are far too busy reconstructing their shattered lives to revive the Hitlerian theories that brought their country to ruin. In Munich, Schweinfurt, Frankfort and Augsburg Negro soldiers say that civilians attach more importance to the growing problems of food and shelter than to hating and fearing dark-skin Americans.

"In one town the daughter of a colonel in the Wehrmacht stoutly maintained that her Nazi teachings would not permit her to associate with Negro men. But personality proved stronger than propaganda, and by the time the non-fraternization policy was relaxed, she was holding nightly 'conversations' with a Negro soldier.

"Generally the pattern of new Negro-German relations has been like this: A Negro unit moves into a town. At first, the men encounter coolness, suspicion, even fear from the local inhabitants. Friendly contact starts with the small children. The next day the children start getting bigger. Before a week has passed the adults who feared the worst are talking with the soldiers and before long 'fraternization' is normal.

"'Talking to Germans in public places' is being pretty liberally interpreted by most Americans in Germany and Negro troops are no exception to this. In one Negro QM truck company stationed near Augusburg it was learned that 85 per cent of the men had won 'homes' of their own. That is, they were 'talking' to Germans (usually frauleins) in public places (and private) on a regular and intimate basis. 8-30-45

There is, of course, a practical aspect.

"'The Germans we've met are a hungry people,' explained S-Sgt. George Handy, a Negro from Washington, D. C. 'But they are also very realistic. Their hunger has made them very objective on such matters as racial attitude. It didn't take long for them to see that there is no difference between food, chocolate, cigarets and soap in the hands of white Americans and similar items possessed by Negro Americans.

"'To get these things,' he said, 'they wash our clothes and do other things for us.'

"But Negro soldiers point out that Germans who never saw Negroes before the arrival of the Americans have adjusted themselves to the sensitive feelings of the American Negro toward racial insult and slight. For example, the German word for Negro is 'Neger,' which sounds like the offensive 'nigger,' a word which Negroes strongly recent. Negro GIs report that many Germans in their communities studiously refrain from using this word, replacing it with such expressions as 'brown man.'

"Some Negro members of the American Army of Occupation, however, report having heard Germans mutter 'schwartzer teufel,' which means 'black devil,' another Hitlerian carryover. 8-30-45

"'When we first arrived here seven weeks ago many of the people seemed afraid of us,' said Cpl. Sidney Dickerson, from Beckley, W. Va., a member of a Negro tank battalion stationed at Bissingen. 'But after a week or so the people found us quite different from what the Nazis had evidently told them about us. I think we have shown these people the falseness of Hitler's racial propaganda.'

"Capt. William Bruce, of Winston-Salem, N. C., a Negro army physician, told of his attempts to assist a German woman in the throes of childbirth.

"'She wouldn't let me touch her,' Bruce said. 'But things have changed in this community . . . Now there's a constant stream of Germans coming into my dispensary for medical treatment.

"Negro troops are almost unanimous in saying that the dominant fact in the racial picture in Germany today is that Nazi-created anti-Negro feeling is not a deep, living thing, but that the most serious source of racial propaganda against the Negro people originates with certain bigoted members of their own army.

"They say that certain prejudiced white Americans have carried their ideas into Germany and that Germans notice it. Negroes condemn this as 'fascism in another form.' It is no new experience for them. Similar campaigns were conducted in England, France, Belgium and Italy by the same minority of Americans. 8-30-45

"Remarking on the similarity between Nazi anti-Negro propaganda and anti-Negro stories circulated by American Negro-phobes, one Negro sergeant said bitterly.

"'You ask about relations between American Negroes and German civilians. Well, as far as we can see, they are normally good. But there are a few members of our own army who still are playing the Nazi game of hate-your-fellow-man-because-he's black. Sometimes I wonder if we have really defeated Nazism."

Faculty, Students Mixed

The Pittsburgh Courier

Democratic Spirit Prevails At Army College in Florence

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

10-13-45

UNIVERSITY STUDY CENTER, Florence, Italy—Attending classes at the first full-time Army college to be established overseas are 354 Negro enlisted men and seventeen Negro officers. Forming approximately 13 per cent of the University Study Center's 2,240 students, these men are spending their time in educational pursuits while awaiting redeployment.

In the group registered for the previous term which ended Sept. 8 were men from thirty-one States and the Territory of Hawaii.

One Negro officer and one enlisted man are found among the university's 161 hand-picked instructors. Teaching classes in college algebra, First Lieut. Theodore A. Love, former suprevising principal of Laboratory Schools, Alabama Teachers College, was one of the first instructors to arrive before the University Study Center opened last July 1. T/Sgt. John L. Stewart who teaches biological science, was formerly an instructor in the Alcorn A. and M. College at Alcorn, Miss.

STUDENT SPIRIT HIGH

"The spirit of the student body is good," Stewart said. "Their only complaint is about the tempo of the course."

Terms at USC are one month in length, but a student whose grades are satisfactory may apply for a second term. Certificates are awarded for satisfactory completion of a minimum of twenty hours of work in any subject. While these certificates will be considered for credits by American universities, actual credit allowed rests with the school in which the student desires additional work toward a degree.

Pfc. Benjamin Scrutchions, Chicago, Ill., who is now in his second term at USC, has applied for a third. Scrutchions, planning to continue his education under the GI Bill of Rights after release from the Army, said, "Courses taken over here will not only give me college credit, but they will also eliminate refresher work when I return to the States."

The twenty-five-member Student Council, on which Scrutchions serves, has two other Negroes on its roster for the current term. They are T/Sgt. William H. Fields, Newark, Ohio, and Sgt. Harold Brown Jr., Denver, Colo.

T/4 James L. Lucas of Canton, Ohio, editor of the campus weekly, "U. S. Collegian," describes life on the campus as ideal. "There is no attempt at segregation," he said. Lucas comes from the 600th Field Artillery Battalion of the Ninety-second Infantry Division.

Typical opinions voiced by 100 men picked at random in a survey conducted on the USC campus recently indicated that the Negro GI's were unanimous in their praise of this democratic educational opportunity.

"This institution is one of the most democratic ever set up by our Government—all the principles for which democracy stands are portrayed here in every phase of both the campus life and the classroom," is the way T/5 Flotilla Watkins of Puebla, Colo., expresses it. Watkins is married and has spent fourteen of his thirty-five months in the Army overseas.

LAUDS DEMOCRACY

Corp. Leslie R. Anderson of Pittsburgh, Pa., who saw action with the 599th Field Artillery Battalion of the Ninety-second Division, describes the atmosphere of the University Study Center's campus as "a state of complete assistance and fraternity. It has done much toward racial understanding and the propagation of tolerance," he concluded.

10-13-45

"If all institutions in the United States were like USC—well, it was worth fighting for!" says T/4 Harold L. Carter, holder of a Purple Heart and former cannoneer with the 600th Field Artillery of the Ninety - second Division. Carter, who is married, hails from Springfield, Ohio.

THOUGHT THEY FOUGHT FOR DEMOCRACY.

Birmingham Ala.

Weekly Review

HOBACK, Germany — There we got our first taste of the Sigfried line in Germany. In order for us to put our guns in position it was very necessary to look for mines and open the gate of the Sigfried at that particular place. We were successful in cleaning out Mines and opening that death trap which was put there to destroy man.

10-13-45

Moments later our large guns were in position. While we were getting ready to fire ten Germans were raining shells down on us from their Artillery and Airplanes. We began to fire back. This hell on earth went on for days and nights. Many of our boys were injured and many went crazy from the screaming shells of the German artillery and air force.

Throughout Germany we had to go through the same thing, in many cases worse.

The 777 fought in all the Major Battles of Germany. Our communication section was in a lot of danger. At night in the cold snow and rain, communication had to go on, without it our guns were useless. At all times those lines were repaired under gun fire from the Germans Can you visualize that picture? Men crawling in the cold at night too dark to see, too cold for a dog, too dangerous for a light. The only light we had was from a German's shell that landed near by, but WE THOUGHT and hoped we were fighting for democracy. SO WE FOUGHT UNTIL WE WON.

Racial Clashes

Between White And Negro GIs In Italy Unconfirmed

Informer Houston Texas

10-20-45

MARIANA di PISA, Italy — (ANP)— No evidence has been uncovered to verify recent newspaper reports about racial clashes between white and Negro troops in Italy.

Major Walter H. Dabney, of the 226th Engineers regiment, identified the 92nd division as the Negro unit closest to white troops. They are at Pisa and white troops are about 20 miles away, he said.

"We are three miles from Pisa and see white and colored troops going about their business in an orderly and friendly manner," he explained. "It is conceivable that there might have been a drunken brawl between a couple of soldiers, white or colored, or a couple of civilians. But a riot—nuts!"

The major, who is scheduled to return to the states soon with his outfit, reported that the 92nd has one of "the best beaches in all of Italy and it is possible that an Italian did openly resent his women going with soldiers, not Negro soldiers, but soldiers of any foreign nation."

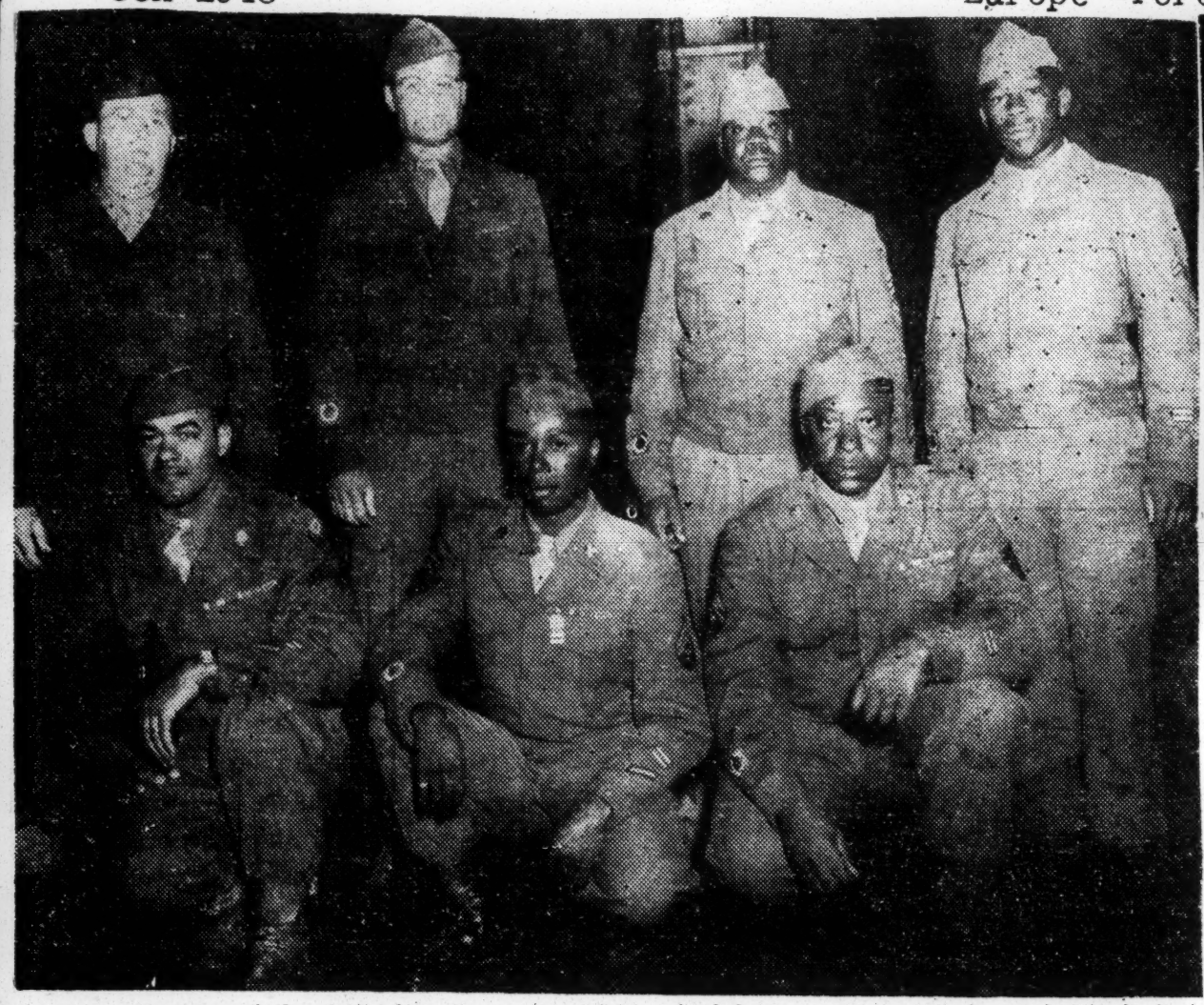
10-20-45

He said it is rare to see an Italian woman talking to a soldier on the streets for over two seconds, regardless of whether the soldier is "white, black, green or pink." Italian women will invite you to their homes and treat "you royally or they will come to your parties or dances or clubs, but they know that if they persist in talking to soldiers on the street the local police will grab them and stamp their identification card 'prostituta' (prostitute) or they will be molested by some local band of hoodlums.

Major Dabney denied that racial clashes between white and Negro troops, similar to the recent outbreaks in England, have occurred in Italy.

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va. 10-27-45

THE FIRST NEGRO soldier to be assigned to the Armed Forces Network overseas, Pvt. Adolph Baxter Jr., 199 Lake street, Pontiac, Mich., twirls a dial on a transmitter in Paris, France.



Three members of the 666th Qm. Co. (top) which arrived from overseas yesterday enjoy their first sip of coffee after landing. The occasion calls for a little music. Below, Bronze Star winners pose with their commanding officer. From left to right (squatting) Cpl. Junius W. Spencer, Cpl. Warren G. Stocker, T/5 Eugene Poindexter; back row (standing) Capt. William P. Crawley (C.O.); Lt. Rollo M. Nesseth, M/Sgt. Adonis B. Bess and Cpl. Kenneth C. Kennedy. The decoration on the lower right arm is Me rious Service Plaque worn by entire unit. Decorations were won while the unit served with American and British forces north of Aachen and within Germany.

—Daily Worker Photos

Negro Heroes of 4 Campaigns Arrive Living Answers to Racist Slanders

By ABNER BERRY

One hundred and thirty-seven Negro veterans of four campaigns in Europe stepped down the gangplank of the SS Abraham Clark yesterday morning—living answers to racist slanders of Sens. Bilbo and Eastland.

The soldiers, members of the 666th Quartermaster Trucking Company, won for their unit the Meritorious Service Plaque by their examplary conduct and bravery under fire.

After one year of combat duty during which they served in the Ardennes, Northern France, Rhine and Central Europe campaigns they were back for rest and deployment, proudly wearing their star-studded campaign ribbons.

Master Sgt. Adonis B. Bess, the acting first sergeant, steered us around the ship finding the men who had won the Bronze Star in addition to the unit citation. In the mist on deck he wore his raincoat. But a white lieutenant unbuttoned it while we were talking, helped him off with it, and pointed proudly to his decorations which included the Bronze star.

WON BRONZE STAR

Other men who had won the Bronze Star were: Cpl. Kenneth C. Kennedy of Birmingham, Ala., who, though wounded when a convoy of eight trucks was set afire by enemy bombs in Holland, drove two blazing trucks to safety; T/5 Eugene Poindexter of Washington, Arkansas, who was severely burned when enemy bombs hit three trucks and killed two of his fellow-drivers but made his way through the enemy lines to an American hospital; Cpl. Junius Spencer, Washington, D. C., for taking members of the 82nd Airborne Division to the front lines under fire, sustaining wounds; T/5 Warren G. Stocker, Arkansas, for outstanding performance last winter maintaining vehicle tires while under fire and many times within sight of the enemy.

Sgt. Bess wouldn't talk much about his own decorations and acts but the men who crowded around said that he had earned them through his general attention to duty and his services in keeping the convoys moving under all conditions.

COMPANY OUTSTANDING

Captain William P. Crawley, white, of Littleton, North Carolina, was in command of the company. The captain joined with his motor officer, Lieutenant Rollo M. Nesseth, a South Dakotan in declaring "hats off" to these men. When asked at first if there were any outstanding soldiers in the outfit the Lieutenant said, "Why, hell, this whole outfit is outstanding and it always was." Lt. Nesseth also won the Bronze Star Award.

As the 137 men lined up on the dock before boarding busses for Camp Kilmer they drank coffee and chatted of their war experiences and their expectations of the future. Yes, they had heard some of the gripes from colored soldiers over being transferred from combat units. How did they look at the future in America? "Wel, there's one certainty," one man answered, "we sure don't expect it to be the same as it was when we left. It's got to be a damn sight better."

In hauling men, food and ammunition to the front under fire they had seen the face of the enemy and felt his sting. They had helped to bring the promise of democracy to Europe. And they wanted it to be more than a promise at home.

They had no answer in words for Bilbo. ("We've heard about him and you know how we feel.") But they had 137 answers in their personal and unit records. They were not boastful, not overly gay. Their tone was prideful, hopeful, modest and determined.

Few Fighters Left in Europe

Afro-American Baltimore Md.

Tan Yanks Assigned Menial Occupations

LIVE IN TENTS

761st Tankers One of Few Combat Units

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent in the European Theatre of Operations

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MANNHEIM, Germany—After almost two weeks visiting occupation troops in Germany, I am now only able to give a fairly accurate picture of the situation, and on the basis of information and indications, it seems certain that the Tan Yanks to be retained with the Army of occupation will be those in service units.

Passing through southern Germany en route north I visited Munich, Darmstadt, Frankfurt and neighboring cities. Everywhere units were being resuffled and regrouped, but out of the welter of confusion, only general service outfits and quartermasters were really working and seem destined to stay. 9-16-45

Prepare to Go Home

Others are being rapidly alerted for shipment home. To the best of my knowledge, the only combat units remaining now are the 761st Tank Battalion, the 452nd Anti-aircraft Battalion and scattered combat engineer outfits.

On the other hand, hundreds of trucking companies, many signal construction outfits, numerous ordnance units and a hundred or more service companies are still here and the best indication that they will remain is the fact that they are being filled with low point men.

Perhaps those who have sons or husbands here in Germany are wondering what occupation duty that no American will stay buried on German soil.

"Really a Bad Job"

"The bodies buried in boxes are not difficult to handle, but those in mattress covers are beginning to disintegrate and it is really a bad job," said Lt. James Stamps of Chicago.

Second Lts. Frank Bradley, Chicago, and Edward Jones of Denver complete the staff.

S/Sgt. Robert Carter, brother of the AFRO's Art Carter, is trying to decide on accepting a direct commission and remaining another year in Germany, or to come home in the near future.

The medical detachment of the 46th QM group in Mannheim has three colored captains: Capts. W. H. Pitts, New Haven, Conn.; and Thomas Edwards, Jersey City, both dentists; while Capt. C. L. McGee of 1807 W. Berks St. Philadelphia, is the chaplain.

Capt. McGee formerly pastored the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bloomfield, N.J., and received the Bronze Star in Mannheim in May.

Summary of Negro GI's part in Europe war issued by war dept.

Los Angeles Tribune Los Angeles, California

9-10-45

WITH U. S. FORCES, Europe—If anybody needs further proof that the Negro soldier was actually sweating and spilling blood, fighting and dying in the war against Germany, the summary of activities of the Negro soldier in the European theater of operations since D-Day, just issued by the War dept., is it—16 closely typed pages of overwhelming proof.

The summary includes reports on the Negro soldier in combat troops, the infantry, chemical warfare units, and the signal, ordnance, medical, engineer, and transportation corps, many of which made military history.

One of the units outstanding in the beginning of the invasion was the 320th barrage balloon batt., the only American unit of its type used in Europe, and the only Negro combat unit to be in on the Normandy landing. Several casualties were suffered by it, and the 33rd and 96th field artillery battalions, the latter the only Negro artillery in Europe to receive a Presidential Distinguished Unit citation; also the 777th, 999th, and 578th field artilleries, who took part in bloody battles all the way from Normandy beachheads to the final conquest of the Rhineland. The 777th distinguished itself by firing the first American artillery round across the Rhine, near Munchen-Gladbach.

Considered the most brilliantly performing Negro unit in Europe was the 761st tank batt., the first colored tank unit to go into action, which the War dept. reports as being "consistently outstanding" in battle and excellence of morale. Another unit, the Third Platoon of Co. "C" of the 615th TD batt. received the Distinguished Unit citation for its capture of the town of Climbach, France, near the Siegfried Line, where it suffered over 50% casualties.

Twenty-two combat units, comprising under 9% of the 259,173 Negro troops who reported in Europe just after V-E Day, were used against the Wehrmacht.

INFANTRY

Nearly 3,000 Negro soldiers had but those who remained to provide screening for bridge-building operations across the Moselle, Roer, Saar, Neckar, and Rhine rivers won praise for work often done under heavy enemy fire that inflicted many casualties.

One of the greatest artificial fogs in military history was created last December by the all-Negro 161st chemical smoke co., when it shrouded the upper Saar river valley with a dense cloud of fog for two weeks, completely obscuring the movements of the entire 90th infantry.

ORDNANCE

Negro ordnancemen handled more than 4,500,000 of the 6,000,000 tons of ammunition on the continent between invasion and victory, and their 14,323 members made up 11% of the total ordnance personnel in Europe. They also participated in combat and in patrols. One non-combat ordnance co. earned the title the "fighting 56th," when its members engaged 51 German SS troops near the Belgian border early last September and killed 36 and wounded three Germans, and took the rest prisoner.

MEDICAL CORPS

Negro medical corpsmen at the front were "particularly outstanding" in their performance, the War department reports. Their 5,482 members formed 2.2% of the total ETO medical service strength.

Exemplifying their efficiency are the 428th medical battalion which evacuated over a million patients to rear lines, and the 592nd ambulance co. which hauled 230,000 patients and lost only two.

ENGINEER CORPS

Over one in every five of the 259,173 Negro troops in ETO was an engineer, making for 54,500 enlisted men, 320 officers, and 54 officers in a total of 337,000 in the theatre's engineer command. There were 165 engineer units, including general service regiments, engineer dump trucks cos., engineer fire-fighting units, aviation engineer battalions, and separate battalions, who participated in all of the main operations requiring engineering, from D-Day to the German surrender,

Impressive also was the contribution by Negro transportation corps units which listed a total of 69,916 troops, or 44% of the total 157,327 transportation troops. Thirty-two of the 41 port battalions were Negro, while 38 out of 50 port companies in the theater were Negro, making a personnel total of 31,763 in all-Negro port units. Negro companies also comprised 316 of the 453 quartermaster truck companies.

What eventually became the greatest supply operation in military history was helped to its start by Negro troops of the transportation corps who came ashore with engineers brigades on D-Day. Units arriving early in the beachhead fighting were the 490th, 494th, and 502nd port battalions, who worked incessantly under direct artillery fire and strafing to unload cargo. "The job of unloading cargo at the beaches and the ports never stopped," the War department summary states. "Tonnage schedules were reached and exceeded. Unloading records were broken week after week."

By V-E Day, total U.S. Army cargo discharged by port units amountd to 20,432.368, and it is estimated that 77% of all port units operating at this time were Negro. 9-10-45

Negro port units also helped to develop Cherbourg and minor ports north of the Normandy peninsula. On Aug. 15, 10,000 long tons were discharged at Cherbourg in a single day by an unloading force that was "overwhelmingly Negro."

Sixty-nine percent of all truck drivers in the transportation corps' motor transport branch in ETO were Negro, a survey last May showed. This average remained much the same since the invasion, and some units have operated continuously since then.

The first motor express — the famous Red Ball Express — began in August, and drivers worked an average of 36 hours without sleep. At its peak Red Ball contained 67% Negro personnel, and carried 6,000 tons daily. Later established were the White Ball, ABC, XYZ, Yellow Ball, Green Diamond, Red Lion, B-B (Bayeux to Brussels), and Yellow Diamond lines, all important truck routes which combined to form the world's greatest

to be rejected last December, because the response to a general appeal for volunteers to train as infantry riflemen exceeded the quota set for Negroes. Some 2,500 volunteers from Negro units were trained near Noyons, France, and went into action with the First and 7th armies.

Fighting alongside white troops, these men gave "an extraordinarily fine account of themselves in combat," earning many decorations for frontline heroism and winning respect from their white fellow-infantrymen, the War dept. summary states.

Lt. C. Hind of Los Angeles led a Negro platoon from the 273rd infantry regiment across the Elbe on V-E Day, as part of the first American unit to make contact with Russian forces. At least two members of this platoon received the Silver Star for gallantry in action. 9-10-45

Brigadier Gen. Charles T. Lanham, assistant commander of the 104th infantry division, paid tribute to these men after presenting combat decorations to 11 of them. "I have never seen any soldiers who have performed in combat than you," he said.

SIGNAL CORPS

Negro signal corps outfits, laying wire from Normandy, across France, Luxembourg, and Belgium. and deep into Germany, "made communications history." The 5,500 signal outfits comprised 7½% of the total corps personnel in Europe, and set up over 10,000 miles of open wire, over 500 miles of field wire, and over 500 miles of rubber and lead cable.

CHEMICAL WARFARE

Excellent performance is also recorded for the 2,422 Negro men and officers in the chemical warfare service troops stationed in Europe as of V-E Day, as well as for the 24th, 32nd, and 34th chemical decontamination units. Several of the smoke generator units were strafing were routine dangers for supply operation.

The Fighting 969th

Nashville Globe and Independent Nashville, Tennessee 9-7-45

"Among the heroes of the Bastogne fighting of last December were the members of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, then attached to the 101st Airborne Division. It was this division which held the surrounded road junction for nine days during the 'Battle of the Bulge,' until General Patton's armor could open up a corridor for their relief. Their spirit was expressed in the famous reply of Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe to the German demand for surrender—the one word, 'Nuts.' For nine days these gunners, fighting as infantry, short of food and finally almost out of ammunition, helped stand off three German divisions. Yesterday the 969th received a Presidential citation. Soon, no doubt, they will be returning to this country, where, one hopes, their valor will be recognized as generally it was abroad. The 969th, though commanded by white officers, is a Negro outfit. If prejudiced persons continue to say that the Negro does not make a good and brave soldier the rank and file of the 969th will now have a ready answer. Officers and men, they all did honor to the land of their birth." (*New York Times*, August 3. 1945.)

969th Helped Make Bastogne History

Artillerymen Stuck To Guns; Made Jerry Keep Distance

Pittsburgh Courier - Pa.
2-3-45

WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE—So close to German infantry that mortar bombs fell on them "like rain," men of the 969th Field Artillery Battallion, a Negro 155-mm. howitzer outfit, stuck to their guns and fired all around the compass during the defense of encircled Bastogne. The battalion, which landed in France last July, was attached to the 28th Infantry Division at the time of the German attack.

On the morning of Dec. 17, the battalion was informed by its forward observer that the Germans were moving in to attack. There was heavy artillery fire. "Then," said Capt. William J. Wood, communications officer, of Wichita Falls, Texas, "our communications went out. Jerry artillery knocked out damn near all communications in the whole sector. He seemed to know the location of every switchboard."

2-3-45

Unaware of the situation, the battalion moved back toward La Roche, where it was attached to an infantry group and ordered toward Neufchateau. Enemy tanks and infantry attacked from the east and south. Twice the battalion went into firing position to repel threats to the column.

MADE JERRY KEEP DISTANCE

Mortar fire and enemy artillery grew heavy. Other battalions in the artillery were knocked out. Under direction of the 101st Airborne Division, the 969th moved to Villeroux, where it set up its guns. Enemy tanks and infantry approached. With the help of a few scattered tanks and a handful of infantry, the 969th made Jerry keep his distance.

At one time the enemy was so close that the battalion commander ordered all classified material destroyed.

2-3-45

Enemy mortar fire grew even more intense. Small arms fire rained on the gun positions. Individual exploits were many. The battalion medics evacuated both German and American wounded under Jerry rifle fire. When the battalion aid station was destroyed by mortar fire, the aid men succeeded in rescuing all except the hopelessly wounded.

Corp. Mitchell Miles of Chielton Street, Montgomery, Ala., will never forget Villeroux. Standing beside his loaded gun, he narrowly escaped being killed by three mortar shells which exploded on the truck and set it on fire. Miles ran to a weapons carrier some distance away, brought it back, and while under heavy small arms fire, disengaged a loaded trailer from the burning kitchen truck and drove away.

It was well that he did. The contents of the trailer were badly needed by the artillerymen, who lived for several days afterwards on one-third of a K-ration per man per day.

The list of individual exploits is a long one. First Sgt. Mayo Crook, Hammond, La., did the work of ten men, his officers reported. He helped evacuate the wounded, destroyed classified material, rescued vehicles, and finally was cut off from his outfit by enemy fire, having to find his way out of town himself. He rejoined the battalion hours later.

Enemy pressure increased and casualties became heavier.

All except the actual cannoneers fought infantry fashion, and even succeeded in taking thirty or forty prisoners.

At last the battalion commander decided that the position at Villeroux was untenable. The batteries displaced to near Senonchamps. As the outfit began to pull out, one of the radio trucks was disabled by mortar fire. Through a hail of small arms fire, Sgt. Donald Corzo, Hodeenfield, N. J., went to the truck and destroyed all the signal equipment to prevent its falling into Jerry hands.

At Senonchamps the battalion prepared for a last stand. Because of casualties, all gun crews were reduced to the minimum. By this time it was obvious that the enemy was on all sides.

FIRED IN ALL DIRECTIONS

The battalion guns were set up to fire all around the circle. "We made two-gun platoons," explained Maj. James W. Melville, operations officer of Broken Bow, Neb, "and fired in all directions. We had targets everywhere—would have fired more ammunition than we'd used at Brest—if we'd had the stuff."

The guns were firing at ranges 1200 to 1500 yards—guns which normally have a gun range of 12,000 to 15,000 yards. The enemy was that close. "We took everything the Germans had to throw," said S/Sgt. Lloyd Wilkinson of Brooklyn, N. Y., "tanks, mortars, small arms fire. That mortar fire was like hail. I never thought that a 155 howitzer outfit would get that close to mortar fire. I don't know what we'd have done if it hadn't been for the help we got from that airborne infantry outfit. They're hot stuff; best outfit I know." A nondescript dog found shivering near the battalion CP was one factor which helped keen the men's spirits up. "Kaput," as he was christened, adopted the battalion at first sight. He is now the official mascot.

But while "Kaput" did his level best to keep morale up, constant Jerry pressure, combined with three terrific air bombardments—one on Christmas Eve—put the mettle of the battery to a severe test. It was hazardous to survey in the gun positions. On one occasion when Jerry machine-gun fire penned down the survey section, S/Sgt. Harry Quintyne, 295 W. 150th Street, New York City, crawled back, got a machine gun, destroyed one Kraut machine gun, and effectively pinned down the other until the survey was completed.

DESTROYS GUNS, TAKES PRISONERS

On another occasion, Sgt. Fred Colman, Messina, Ga., out of patience with an irritating Jerry machine gun, crawled out with one infantryman, destroyed the gun, and brought back five prisoners.

"The German fire was constant," said Capt. R. C. Coddington, S-2, of Sparta, Wis. "There was even a sniper whose special job seemed to be to try to pot one of us when we went to the latrine."

Amunition was a serious problem. Finally only clearly observed targets were fired upon, and one gun was used in place of a battery. And still Geran pressure increased. The trapped soldiers, infantry and artillery, fought on stubbornly.

Then the tide turned. C-47s appeared, dropping supplies of food and ammunition. The battalion displaced again, this time to the outskirts of Bastogne, to be in a position closer to the infantry. And then one morning, several days after Christmas, the battalion commander went to the 101st Airborne Division CP and found several of the Fourth Armored Division tanks there. The German ring had been broken, and broken by an outfit with whom the 969th had fought in the breakthrough across France.

The battalion, with its complement of white officers and Negro enlisted men, hit the Normandy beach on July 9 at part of VIII Corps artillery. Commanded by Lieut. Col. Herbert D. Barnes of Milwaukee, it supported the Eighth Infantry Division around La Haye du Puits, helped the Fourth Armored Division in the breakthrough near Rennes, then fired in support of the Eighth Division on the Brest Peninsula.

F. MUTE KILLED BY COPS IN LOUISVILLE

Afro-American

LOUISVILLE—(ANP) — Wil H. Johnson, 36, a deaf-mute, fatally shot while fleeing two policemen last week.

GI's Don't Understand Why They Can't Kiss Gretchen

Balt, Md.
Afro-American

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Germany

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WEIMAR, Germany—The subject of fraternization is red-hot right now. Wherever soldiers—officers or enlisted men—gather for any length of time, somebody gets around to this delicate topic before long.

The sight of an attractive girl passing by may start the ball rolling. It may be the sight of a woman on the roadside, loaded down with all her worldly possessions, who begs for a ride.

Then again, it may be an invitation given a home-sick soldier by a German to eat a meal or have a drink.

Unfair Rule

But whatever the immediate cause of the discussion, the resulting conclusion is always the same—if the men I've listened to are to believed.

Every soldier who expressed an opinion to me said the non-fraternization rule should be rescinded! They say it is unfair. They say it is illogical because it cannot be enforced—like prohibition.

Perhaps by the time this reaches print, the soldiers may be allowed to fraternize to their heart's content. Perhaps, if the ruling is not lifted, the whole thing may in time work itself out satisfactorily.

But at the moment, here are the basic reasons for its unpopularity:

Penalizes Obedient

1. It penalizes the obedient soldier. In other words, a majority of GI's in the occupied zones will fraternize. Everybody knows it because everybody does it except a few conscientious men with amazing self-control.

The guys who don't care make the good soldiers look silly. They find girl friends; visit them every night; get smiles, cookies, wine and attention. The good guy gets laughed at.

2. The non-fraternization rule is said to have a direct bearing on the rise in VD cases. What happens is that a man who slips out for an evening of fun will not report to the prophylaxtic station when he slips back in.

German Opinion

Naturally not, because he would be offering himself for a court-martial. So he keeps whatever disease he has picked up, well hidden until he can hide it no longer and his health suffers.

Under ordinary circumstances, he would have gone to the PRO station and taken necessary precautions.

3. The fact that there is a rule and that the Germans see soldiers breaking it, lowers the civilian opinion of the whole allied army.

Since fraternization is going to take place, the sneaky way in which it is done certainly doesn't speak well for the ability of occupation authorities to maintain discipline.

7-21-45

"Why not let us take a walk with a girl, openly, instead of clandestinely?" the soldiers argue.

Morale Lowered

4. Morale is lowered by the non-fraternization rule, the officers say. The men are a long way from home, they are experiencing an emotional reaction after the strain of battle.

They feel that somebody high up has a conspiracy against them by forbidding them to speak to and mingle with civilians.

What it all amounts to, in my opinion, is that the men need to blow off steam. They want to celebrate. They want attention. They want to show off. They want a change, now that the war is over.

And they will tell you straight away that you can't celebrate, show off or feel you're getting attention unless you have women mixed up in the deal somewhere.

GI's Dissatisfied

So, it's the women—or the lack of women—that you can blame for the wholesale dissatisfaction.

In passing judgment on them, it should be remembered that many American GI's here now would be in high school or college at home if they were not in the Army.

They are young. They are so young they do not yet know how much peril lurks beneath the sweetness of the female of the species. In time they will know as we old-timers know.

But what good has it done us? A poll would reveal that the old-timers want a little fraternizing too.

7-29-45

Point System Means Little to Tan Yanks in Italy

Afro-American

By FRANCIS YANCEY
AFRO War Correspondent with 332nd Fighter Group in Italy
[Copyright. Reproduction in whole or in part expressly forbidden.]

ITALY—To most tan yanks that I have talked with in and around this area, redeployment, the point system and discharge from the Army are just so many words they heard or read in service newspapers. 7-21-45

At the present time not more than 10 per cent of American troops leaving this sector are colored.

Most of the colored outfits here are general service units or engineering or quartermaster trucking companies, all with more than 20 months overseas service, but on a whole lacking enough battle participation stars points to hit the 85-point discharge mark.

Some to Return

This is particularly true of attached units servicing the 332nd Fighter Group. A few men from these units with over 85 points are being attached to a fighter group returning to the United States. 7-21-45

When the group returns this fall their original units will probably go direct to the Pacific.

The 332nd Fighter Group is now in a very slow process of being returned to the States. The 99th Fighter Squadron is still overloaded with enlisted men who have 110 points or over and have not as yet been alerted to go back to the rear redeployment staging areas for shipment home.

Kept Overseas

Although more than 100 enlisted men from the group have been returned to the States, latest reports show that over 90 per cent of the men in the squadron have enough points to go home yet instead of being detached and shipped home, these men are still being held along with the rest of the men in the 332nd, who, due to the relative short period of time overseas, lack the needed number of points for return to the States unattached and will be returned when the entire group is sent.

Deals Low Blow

Such a move will be a low blow to the 99th Squadron men, who deserve to be returned first for they have been through the African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns, whereas the 332nd Group men came into Italy from the length of overseas service as the States and do not have the same 99th. 7-21-45

The 332nd Fighter Group will soon move to a new field near Lucera in the Foggia area of Southern Italy. While in this staging area enlisted men with over 85 points from 910th Airbase Security Battalion, 1901 Quartermaster Trucking Company, and the 523rd Air Service Group will be attached to the 332nd for shipment to the States.

The following men from this area have left for the staging area, prior to their shipment home:

Sgts. Muron Blake, 4408 South St., Philadelphia; Herman Sharp, 1966 125th St., New York; William Roberts, 307 Grady St., New Haven, Conn; Ira Bryant, Portland, Maine; Jose Ireland, 428 108th St., New York; Milton James, Richmond, Va.; Herman Sutton, Dover, Del.; Roberts Whitman, St. Louis, Mo.; Oliver Cleveland, Chicago; Norman Johnston, Detroit, and Robert Littley, Newark, N.J.; Rise Williams, Bowling Green, Ky.; Howard Tucker.

Patton Refutes Eastland Slur

Atlanta Daily World

Officer Says Nothing Wrong With Our Boys

Georgia

7-19-45

MUNICH, Germany — (ANP) — Negro soldiers converted the two and one-half ton trucks into one of the army's best weapons during the struggle against Germany.

That praise was included in a letter written on May 10, by Gen. George S. Patton, 3rd army commander, to Col. Theodore J. Krokus of New York and men of the 514th QM group, of whom 80 percent are Negro soldiers.

FOLLOWS ATTACK

The letter was revealed by a white southerner officer following Sen. James O. Eastland's attack against Negro soldiers in the U. S. senate. He exhibited the letter because he wants "the folks back home" never to forget that it was the "colored boys like mine who drove that truck."

Gen. Patton's letter read:

"The tasks which have been placed upon your shoulders during this history-making campaign have been almost superhuman. You have rolled your trucks through mud and snow and sleet and rain.... You have fought side by side with the armor. You never failed me.

"Only by your most steadfast devotion to duty and your untiring effort was it possible for our long supply to keep pace with the units at the front. Your valiant efforts during the closing six months of this conflict have fully confirmed my statement t you of last October—the two and one-ralf ton truck is our most valuable weapon."

Most of the 9,000 men of the 514th Quartermaster group drive trucks, the officer said. Of that number, 80 per cent or over 7,000, are Negroes. He estimated that at least five of the trucking companies in this group are composed entirely of Negroes, including officers up to the rank of company commander. There are other all-Negro companies with white officers. 7-19-45

VOICES AGREEMENT

"There is nothing wrong with the colored soldier that decent education and decent education and decent treatment couldn't fix," he said in voicing his disagreement with Sen. Eastland's stand.

The Mississippi senator also charged that Senegalese troops raped 5,000 German women in a subway but an intensive probe has proved that no official record exits of such a mass rape.

Army officials have disclosed that stern methods were used to discourage rape after the American break-through into Germany. At Frankfurt, 1,2000 men were imprisoned at a stockade there on rape charges but only 20 were Negroes. Most of these charges were dismissed for lack of evidence.

French Officers Debunk Eastland's Attack Story

Balt., Md.

Afro-American

STUTTGART, Germany (ANP) —French Army officials here have completely debunked Sen. James O. Eastland's charges that Senegalese troops criminally assaulted German women in a local subway.

First of all, there is no subway here and no report has been made of a mass attack in the huge unfinished tunnel that is capable of holding 12,000 to 15,000 people.

Charges Fantastic

Lt. Gen. Augustin Lion Guillaumo, the French officer in command here, termed Senator Eastland's charges against the Senegalese troops "irresponsible and fantastic."

Stating that this place was the capital of the Nazis' Association of Germans Abroad, an organization devoted to spreading discord among the Allies and peoples of Allied nations, the general said he wondered whether Senator Eastland had been "a belated victim of this association's propaganda."

Only 1500 Cases on Record

Investigation revealed that this city was captured by a large body of Tunisians and Moroccans, and that there were only a few Senegalese among them. 7-20-45

Max Weber, local German police chief, said that only 1500 attack cases were on record and these involved white French troops as well as colored. He also said that the people of Stuttgart have no resentment against colored American soldiers.

British Girls 'Hysterical' As Negro Troops Depart

London, Aug. 26 (AP)—The Sunday Pictorial in a front-page story today reported a "hysterical" demonstration by British girls over the departure of American Negro soldiers from Bristol.

A Bristol police information official said "an incident occurred" when "a number of young women crowded the railroad station to say good-by to their friends." Army public relations in London said the "matter was purely social and was not reported to us."

The Pictorial story said:

"The scene was Bristol, most English of all English cities. The time was 2 a.m., yesterday. The actors were a mob of screaming girls aged between 17 and 25.

4 Companies Leave.

"Their hysteria was caused by the news that four companies of American Negro soldiers in the city were leaving for home.

"The girls besieged the barracks where the soldiers were and began singing 'Don't Fence Me In.'

"This was too much for the colored men, who began to break down the barbed wire surrounding their quarters. In a few minutes hundreds of girls and U. S. soldiers were kissing and embracing."

Girls Sob In Rain.

The story related that the girls sobbed as trucks took the soldiers to the station, and police attempted to persuade the girls to go home.

"Most of them had been waiting since 7 p.m., the night before, and although it was pouring rain they decided to wait," the story said.

"'I don't mind getting wet,' said one 18-year-old girl. 'I intend to give my sweetie a good send-off.'"

56n-1945 European Foreign Service

'OUR BOYS' FOUGHT IN ALL MAJOR BATTLES

Pittsburgh Courier Feb. 27.

5-12-45

NEGRO AMERICA . . . 15,000,000 strong . . . played an important role in the "unconditional surrender" of Germany, officially announced Tuesday morning of this week by President Truman in Washington, D.C., Marshal Stalin in Moscow and Prime Minister Churchill in London. On the home front they have worked in the mills, in the factories and on the farms. They purchased War Bonds and proudly sent their sons and sweethearts abroad to fight for a "living democracy." And these lads acquitted themselves nobly.

From North Africa through Sicily and into Italy . . . from the Normandy Beachhead to the historic Elbe River . . . Negro troops have fought and toiled, bled and died, to wipe out the insult of Adolf Hitler and to purge the world of the Nazi philosophy of a "superior race."

(Playing a major part in the final capitulation of Germany were Felix Eboue's "Black Devils," who stormed through the snowcapped Alpine crags to be the first troops of the Allied Nations to reach Hitler's 'eagle's nest' at Berchtesgaden . . . poetic retribution!)

5-12-45

On land, on sea, and in the air, Negro troops joined in the all-out war . . . a war which saw Benito Mussolini, the "Sawdust Caesar," return to the gutter, in ignoble death, from which he had risen. Negro troops wrote glorious chapters in the names which are now legion for World War II.

OUR BOYS WERE WHEREVER THE FIGHTING WAS TOUGH 5-12-45

Remember Bastogne, the Ardennes, St. Malo, St. Laurient, Metz, Tunis, Salerno?

Remember Naples, the Roer, Rhine and Mosselle river offensive, Brest, the Elbe?

Wherever the fighting was heaviest, wherever the sacrifices were greatest, there you would find our boys!

Of the officially announced Negro strength of 690,282 in the Armed Services, the War Department stated 497,566 are overseas. It is believed that a major portion of these men are on European soil.

And of those fighting on European soil, The Courier files reveal the following pertinent information:

578TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION:

Participated in the battle of the Ardennes.

969TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION:

Played a major role in the fall of St. Malo and the Bastogne breakthrough. One gun in Baker Battery knocked out an entire town, shot by shot, house by house.

333RD FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION:

Suffered heavy casualties in the battle of the Ardennes, as they helped stop General Rundstedt's offensive last December. This was the first FA unit to land in France on June 29, participating in the Normandy campaign, La Haye de Puits, citadel of St. Malo and St. Laurient and the siege of Brest.

758TH LIGHT TANK BATTALION:

This was the first such group activated in the USA and they saw plenty of action in the European Theatre.

761ST TANK BATTALION:

First to be committed in the war on the Western Front. On Oct. 21, 1944, they were attached to General Patton's Third Army. They helped to relieve the pressure on beleagured Bastogne.

614TH TANK DESTROYER BATTALION:

They saw action from France to the Rhine. They fought with General Patton's Third Army and General Patch's Seventh Army.

320TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT BARRAGE BALLOON BATTALION:

First Negro offensive unit to be decorated as a unit by General Eisenhower. They provided protective cover in initial D-Day invasion. Also aided General Hodges' First Army in Hurtgen Forest and Roer river offensives, which broke through Siegfried line.

452ND ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY:

Attached to the Third Army under General Patton, they put up a terrific flat trajectory fire to pulverize pill boxes on the Siegfried line.

514TH QUARTERMASTER GROUP:

Composed of thirty-five Negro companies, they supplied General Patton's fast-moving Third Army and did a magnificent job in keeping supplies rolling. They won battle praise and made transportation history.

999TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

They fired the huge "Long Toms" with the Fifteenth Corps of the Seventh U. S. Army.

777TH FIELD ARTILLERY:

They played an heroic role in the crossing of the muddy Roer river. 5-12-45

Also commanding special attention was the work of the chemical smoke generator units which laid down blanket-like man-made fog to protect Allied forces during the fighting around Metz, during the crossing of the Moselle, the Roer and the Rhine rivers. These units, always under intensive German shelling, suffered heavy casualties.

FAMOUS 92ND DIVISION

Then there is the famous 92nd Infantry Division under Gen. Mark Clark. Fighting on talian soil under severe handicaps, both as to terrain and as regards morale, this division (second all-Negro combat division of World War II), they collected seven awards of the Legion of Merit, sixty-five Silver Stars, 162 Bronze Stars, four Air Medals, 5,991 Combat Infantrymen Badges and 1,377 Purple Hearts. They have been in continuous combat since October, 1944.

Standing as a monument of progress and achievement is the 99th Pirsuit Squadron, first all-Negro air unit sent overseas. Under the command of Colonel B. O. Davis Jr., with the eyes of the entire world world upon them, left the States April 2, 1943, flying its first combat mission two months later.

BAG 12 PLANES IN TWO DAYS 5-12-45

Their biggest day came early last year in action over the Anzio-Nettuna beachhead, when they bagged a total of 12 planes in two days of flying.

Shortly after this, they were absorbed by the 332nd Fighter Group, the first All-Negro fighter group, still under the command of Colonel Davis. This group flew its 300th mission just a few days before hostilities ended. They have destroyed more than 100 planes in aerial battles, wiped out twice that number in strafing sorties. Their biggest day was 17 enemy planes shot down during the invasion of Southern France. Sixty-five of the men wear DFCs, one member wears the Legion of Merit Award and 300 others wear the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Clusters.

When they heard that the war in Europe was over, one of the members asked:

"How soon do we go to China!"

SERVICE UNITS DESERVE CREDIT

Also coming in for well-deserved recognition are the great number of service units, including the soldiers who manned the amphibious trucks that brought supplies ashore on D-Day; those who unloaded ships, the truckers who hauled ammunition, the engineers who built the bridges and the roads over which the combat troops passed.

Notable among these quartermaster units was the illustrious "Red Ball" truck convoy group, cited by General Eisenhower. 5-12-45

FOR COURAGE AND VALOR

These men and many others were among those who heard these words: "For courage and valor in action, above and beyond the call of duty" . . . "Distinguished devotion to duty" . . . "Disregard of personal safety" . . . "Conspicuous gallantry" . . . "Meritorious conduct."

And these citations proved only too clearly how our fighting men conducted themselves during the war in Europe.

It gives added proof to the justice of the fight which Negro newspapers carried on for full integration of the Negro soldier into every branch of the armed services.

The Pittsburgh Courier takes pardonable pride in the part this newspaper played in that epochal fight. 5-12-45

Well do we remember the morning in April, 1938, when the late Robert L. Vann, then editor-publisher of this newspaper, visited the White House and sought the aid of the late President Roosevelt in abolishing jim crow in the ranks of the Army.

As long ago as that . . . more than seven years now . . . The Pittsburgh Courier sensed that there would be another World War.

And we were determined that Negro boys must not be subjected to the treatment they had received in the other world war. Then, with the exception of three artillery regiments (the 349th, 350th, 351st), all other Negro troops were relegated to infantry outfits.

Those who remember World War I will remember that the Ninety-second Division was composed of the 365th, 366th, 267th and 268th Regiments. The division was under the command of Maj. Gen. C. C. Ballou. They were activated at Des Moines, Iowa, and went overseas for further training.

Of the other famous Negro outfits, the 369th (Fifteenth of New York) were brigaded with the French, carried their own colors into battle, saw the longest service and suffered sixty per cent casualties. The 370th was brigaded with the Belgians. This was the old Eighth Illinois. The 371st and the 372nd were also brigaded with the French.

What happened?

We fought for a Negro division. (President Roosevelt gave us two . . . the Ninety-third, now in the South Pacific, and the Ninety-second.) 5-12-45

We fought for the advance of Negroes above the role of messmen in the U.S. Navy. Result? Today we have Negro naval officers and Negroes serving in all branches of the Navy, including the Coast Guard and the Marines.

We fought for Negroes in all branches of the Army. As the war in Europe ended, a glance at the units listed above will show how complete our victory was.

And so . . . with V-E Day come and gone, we celebrate with the rest of these United States, firm in the belief that "our boys" have proved that courage knows no color and that valor is without prejudice.

Negro GIs Bask in Riviera Sun

Detroit Free Press

ON THE RIVIERA—Each week more than 1,500 Negro troops arrive at Nice, capital of the Riviera, for a seven-day vacation as guests of the United States Army.

Coming straight from bomb-shattered buildings and scenes of reconstruction in Berlin's suburbs, Belgium, Holland and France, these soldiers find themselves living in dazzling white palace hotels, visiting the gay spots and going on interesting sight-seeing tours of historical interest. 7-29-45

A city most GIs have seen on tour is Grasse, a sweet-scented town known for its perfume industry, where over 62,000 acres of the countryside are devoted to the cultivation of violets, tuberoses, mignonettes, jonquils and carnations.

Detroit, Mich.

AFTER TYPICALLY French meals, soldiers perch themselves under beach umbrellas and watch the crashing waves of the Mediterranean, take evening rides through the city's boulevards in horse-drawn taxi-carriages, or paddle down the avenues on French bicycles.

Tank Unit, 24th Win High Praise

Pittsburgh Courier 6-2-45

WASHINGTON — Two Negro units were cited by Undersecretary of War Patterson in his press conference last Thursday for their success in combat.

As an example of the success of Negro troops Undersecretary Patterson read an excerpt from a report of Corps Commander Maj. Gen. M. S. Eddy, on the activity of the 761st Tank Battalion in Europe, which stated:

"The speed with which they adapted themselves to the front line under most adverse weather conditions, the gallantry with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops, and the confidant spirit with which they emerged from their recent engagements in the vicinity of Dieuze, Morville Les Vic and Guebling entitle them surely to consider themselves the 'veteran 761st'." 6-2-45

TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY OUTSTANDING

Explaining that it was unusual to single out any one outfit, the inspector general's report, as read in part by Undersecretary Patterson, declared that "the conduct of the Twenty-fourth Infantry Regiment as observed on Saipan was so meritorious as to be deemed worthy of special mention."

The report said that the Twenty-fourth Infantry is undertaking the task of clearing Saipan in a mopping up procedure during which it has "killed or captured an impressive number of the enemy, and even today is engaged in continuous patrolling and jungle fighting.

"The morale of this regiment is high, its discipline is excellent, and it has definitely demonstrated what can be accomplished with Negro soldiers," according to the report as read by Undersecretary Patterson.

An interesting sidelight on the Twenty-fourth Infantry Regiment is the course of its movement in this war. Chronological history of this movement is as follows:

TROOP CHRONOLOGY

Dec. 2, 1941—Departed from maneuvers, Carolina area, arriving next day at Fort Benning.

May 4, 1942—Arrived at New Hebrides, South Pacific.

July 17, 1943—(Less First and Second Battalions). Transferred to Guadalcanal, and assigned to Fourteen Corps, Third Battalion, embarked at Havannah Harbor; remainder at Vila.

July 21, 1943—Eleven officers and 182 enlisted men as cadre, returned to Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

October 18, 1943—Reorganized (less Cannon Company).

May 1, 1944—Third Battalion reorganized at New Georgia.

May 15, 1944—Second Battalion reorganized at Guadalcanal; First Battalion reorganized at Bouganville.

June 27, 1944—Arrived Russell Island.

Dec. 19, 1944—Regiment (less First Battalion) arrived Saipan.

Dec. 20, 1944—First Battalion arrived Tinian.

March 15, 1945—Assigned Pacific Ocean Area.

Negroes fight with 78th East of the Rhine river

Los Angeles Tribune Calif. 4-30-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The volunteer Negro Infantrymen who joined the 78th "Lightning" division, crossed the Rhine and entered the hot battle then in progress, have established themselves as fighting men no less courageous or aggressive than their white comrades, according to a War Department release today. 4-30-45

The "Tan" doughs welcomed the opportunity to fight alongside their white buddies of the 78th, the War Department said. The 78th is the outfit that gained no small share of fame by smashing all the way through the Siegfried Line to capture Schmidt and the Schwammenauel Dam. It was the 78th which leaped from the Roer to the Rhine where the First battalion of the 310th regiment crossed the Ludendorf bridge to secure and enlarge the trans-Rhine bridgehead.

The 78th, as did several other infantry divisions on the Western Front, recently received three platoons of Negro doughboys. One platoon was assigned to each of the 78th's infantry regiments, the 309th, 310th and 311th.

Among the first Negro troops to engage in combat east of the Rhine, men of these platoons came from quartermaster, engineer, and transportation corps units. Most of them took reductions in grade to become fighting privates in foxholes. 4-30-45

Following is the War Department Public Relations bureau's own account by regiments of the activities of these platoons:

"The platoon assigned to F Company of the 309th regiment did a swell job in the capture of Honnef, on the west and south banks of the Sieg River, deep in the Remagen bridgehead.

"They followed tanks into the city and wasted no time in cleaning up their assigned objectives.

"Lt. John M. Green, platoon leader from Nashville, asserted, 'They are aggressive and eager, and when they see a Jerry they want to go after him. I'm well pleased with their performance under fire.'

"Pvt. William Blackwell, platoon runner from White Plains, N. Y., shot a running German with his M-1 from a distance of 500 yards.

"Lt. Green, who helped with the training of the platoon, said he had difficulty in confining his men to their objectives. Seeing there were Germans still in front of them they wanted to go ahead even after they had captured and cleaned out all sections of the town that they had been assigned.

"Pfc. Harold Chandler, of New York City, who took a break to private from staff sergeant, volunteered to go and get an unknown number of Germans spotted in dug-in positions near a house.

"Armed with grenades and his M-1, Chandler advanced alone while his men covered him. Six Jerries, armed with Burke guns, gave up and came back with Chandler.

"Pfc. Vincent R. Malveaux, who took a reduction from first sergeant to private, drew praise from his platoon leader for cool-headed work in helping to get the men out from under a mortar barrage. Malveaux was an attorney in Washington before entering the service.

"Negro troops assigned to A Company of the 310th Regiment won the praise and respect of officers and enlisted men fighting with them in the Remagen bridgehead, the War Department release said. 4-30-45

They are referred to as 'the fightingest sons-a-guns you ever saw.'

"Lt. Millard G. Durham, company commander from Steger, Ill., says, 'The colored troops, in all engagements, proved to be as courageous and aggressive as the veterans of any other company.

"Their first engagement was a terrific small arms battle. They never faltered. On the contrary, they were hard to control. Their sole desire seemed to be to close with the enemy, regardless of the scheme of maneuver. It was difficult to hold them on the company objective when there was an enemy in front of them.

"After fighting for two days the platoon suffered its first serious casualty when one member was killed in a fire fight.

"The platoon assigned to G Company of the 311th Regiment also has done well.

"At the end of a week's fighting one had been killed and nine wounded out of the original platoon strength of 43.

"Pvt. George Hutchinson, of Brenham, Tex., who had been overseas for 18 months, said, 'The infantry is a heck of a lot better than some of the service outfits we have been in. Here a man's a man.'

"Most of the men of G Company, fifth platoon, have had from 14 to 24 months' service overseas. All have received the combat infantryman badge.

"Capt. George Foelsch, company commander from Astoria, L. I., said, 'They're making out all right. I told the colonel if he had any more I'll surely take them'."

Germans Urge Men To Desert

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 3-10-45

Not A Single Man Leaves Battle Post; Home Front Blamed

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—The Nazis continue to shower frontline American Negro troops with propaganda leaflets playing on America's touchy race question, but still as far as our troops are concerned the leaflets are merely more amusing souvenirs.

JORDAN

For about six months the Germans used its cleverest propaganda on Negro infantrymen, but there's no record of an American Negro soldier ever deserting to the enemy.

'JERRY" PROMISES

Twice last week the Germans dropped leaflets deploring the treatment of Negroes in America and pointing to the wisdom of the Negro soldier coming over to the German side for peace and happiness and claiming, 'Jerry gives all colored men a break and treats them square." 3-10-45

The resistance of the Negro soldier to Hitler's propaganda is another proof of the Negro's faith in American principles and reflects his hope for a future share in true democracy.

SOLDIERS BITTER

Soldiers denounce the War Department's policy of segregating units from the same country. In the infantry discrimination complaints are more prevalent among Negro officers who insist they are promoted too slowly and that they are transferred on account of policy to positions where advancement is most difficult.

Officers also gripe about the disadvantage of the old policy of not having a Negro officer outrank white officers serving in the same units.

BIAS CHIEF GRIPE

To say there is no race sensitiveness among Negro troops in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations would be inaccurate. The fact remains that the chief gripe among Negro troops is alleged racial discriminations. This holds true for all the many Negro units this correspondent visited in the past nine months.

Infantry officers point to many court martial cases against Negro officers. Complaints are not confined to a disgruntled few but are voiced by a majority.

No definite assertion can be made that racial friction has impaired fighting efficiency in battle, but there is no telling when it might, especially if it continues to grow.

Meanwhile Negro troops continue fighting—handicapped by Germans in front and race trouble in the rear.

BLAME HOME FRONT

The soldiers largely blame the home front, realizing "you can't turn old racial customs off and on like a light bulb."

Despite the racial situation, German propaganda continues and will continue to fall on deaf ears for Negro troops know too well Hitler's race policy.

Joe Louis once neatly summed up the situation: "There is nothing wrong with America that Hitler can fix."

Negro Soldiers, British Officials Honor Lincoln

2-24-45 Daily Worker N.Y.

American Negro soldiers of the Air Service Command's Combat Wing joined with ojcials of the city of Manchester, England, on Feb. 12 to commemorate the birth of the "great emancipator," President Abraham Lincoln, 136 years ago.

Laying a wreath before the Lincoln statue in Platt Fields Park, the soldiers recalled a demonstration by Lancashire citizens which Lincoln called "an instance of sublime Christian heroism which has not been surpassed in any age or in any country." 2-24-45

That was when thousands of Manchester cotton workers on New Year's Eve, 1862, although unemployed because of the union blockade of the Slave South during the Civil War, drafted a letter to Lincoln affirming "the secred and inalienable right of every human being to personal freedom."

The wreath the Americans placed on Lincoln's statue bore the inscription, "Inspired by your zeal and leadership in the cause of freedom, we shall maintain the fight to liberate the world from tyranny."

Pictured above, left to right, are the Mayor's messenger; Pvt. Hurdie A. McPherson of Atlanta, Ga.; George Armstrong, American Consul in Manchester; Cpl. George L. Jackson, Martins Ferry, O.; the Lord Mayor, Councilor W. P. Jackson; Sgt. Powell Woodson, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Pvt. First Class John N. Johnson, Pittsburgh.

Commenting on the action of the Manchester workers in support of the North in the Civil War, Karl Marx wrote: "This is a new, brilliant prof of the indestructible excellence of the English popular masses, of that excellence which is the secret of England's greatness. . . ." (The Civil War in the United States—page 141.)

Daily Worker New York 2-24-45 p. 4

SHELL FLEEING NAZIS IN SMALL RHINE POCKET

Chicago Defender 2-10-45

Defender Scribe Sees Crack Gunners Blast Foe In Alsace

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THE FIRST FRENCH ARMY NEAR COLMAR—The Negro heroes of Bastogne have done it again!

Here in the bitter cold and deep snows just above the Swiss frontier I have watched the 969th field artillery battalion, fresh from the courageous defense of Bastogne in mid-December, closing in on the city of Colmar which is now in Allied hands.

They were one of the two Negro artillery outfits that aided in the final freeing of the big Alsatian city and the cleaning out of the last large pocket west of the Rhine held by the Germans.

The units were part of an American artillery group supporting the 3rd and 28th Infantry Divisions operating with the French army.

Cut Off Germans

Out on the open plain of Alsace, the 969th has its 155 mm. howitzers trained on bridges and escape routes eastward across the Rhine, cutting off completely Germans fleeing the pocket.

I watched the defenders of Bastogne, who turned their guns in all directions when they were besieged in the Belgian city, as they shelled the outskirts of Colmar while infantry approached the city. It wasn't long before the city was ours.

The other artillery outfit here is the 999th battalion, whose effective firing aided in the lightning drive at Mantes and Gassicourt, establishing and holding a bridgehead at the Seine River in late August while three other Negro artillery battalions were blasting Brest.

Little Sleep

From vantage points in the Vosges Mountains and foothills, I watched our shells cascading down into the tableflat snow-covered Rhine plain. That's just how close we were.

The night before we moved up, Pvt. Russes Nesbitt of Kansas City, Mo., a graduate pharmacist from Kansas university and I shared a loft in an Alsatian farmhouse which was blasted windowless, five hundred yards in front of the battery.

Between the battery shaking the loft and the blasting of enemy shells dropping around, there was no sleep.

The "Triple 9" battalion landed in France last July and has seen continuous action since.

Accompanies Patton

Its first conflict with the enemy occurred south of St. Lo in the Normandy hedgerow land in late July. Subsequently it pursued the Germans across France, being the only Negro artillery outfit making the galloping trek with General George Patton's Third Army.

The sole officers are Capt. Harmon Perry, medical officer, of Port Chester, N. Y., and two warrant officers, William P. Smith of East Orange, N. J., and Herschel A. Davis of New Orleans, La.

Chicagoans seen were Sgt. Roy Woods, William Sledge, 223 E. Fifty-third street; Philip M. Gant, 6400 Indiana avenue; David M. Collier, 5300 Michigan avenue; Lorenzo Smith, 5243 South Parkway.

How effective the unit has been is expressed in the words of Cpl. Joseph Taylor of 700 Oakwood boulevard, Chicago, former Florida A. and M. college instructor, who said: "Our service have been requested from every unit and shortly after we arrive, it's not long before we have finished the job."

Bearing out this statement, a French courier came into the command post with greetings from Colonel Gerolamic, commanding the second corps of the First French Army.

"When the 999th leaves, I must tell you all the satisfaction I have had to have you as the most effective firing eye I have had under my command," said the message.

Truck Route Gained Fame Through Feat of Tan GI's

AFRO-American Balt., Md. 2-10-45

Unsung Heroes Literally Lived in Jeeps, Braved Enemy Fire to Keep Army Supplied

By SGT. PEYTON GRAY

FRANCE—Finis to the colorful career of one of the most important units featured in World War II was written recently when an official Army edict ordered the disbanding of the famed Red Ball Express trucking route in France.

At all hours of the day and night, through rain, dust clouds, heavy, fog and more recently, thousands of GIs "pushed" their 6 x 6s over the 700 mile priorty road network rushing food, gas and ammunition from the French coast to the Eastern Front.

Driving was not all these men had to do with trucks. These heavy rumbling vehicles meant just about everything to their masters who actually lived in them.

Many a cat nap was caught in the cab of a 6 x 6 parked under a tree for protection from strafing enemy planes. Many an hour's sleep was obtained in the cold steel trailers behind. The men carried their duffle bags, crammel to the top "with all I own" fastened on a front fender.

Literally Lived In Trucks

These trucks were also the kitchenette. Ofttimes a driver heated his can of c rations under the closed hood over the motor. At other times they munched K rations while perched on the running board or tail gate as their vehicles were being loaded, unloaded or primed for another run.

In addition to checking his gas, oil and tires before starting on a trip, the average driver also tightened the ropes on his duffle bags and saw to it that a can of water and a box of either C, K or 10-in-1 rations were on the truck.

True, driving is not as hard as performing some of the other Army duties. But's it's tiring. The oil and gas fumes, the constant bumping along French second-grade roads does not at all give one the feeling of riding in a luxury car back home.

Open to Enemy Attack

Added to these discomforts are the personal dangers attached to trucking in a war-swept country. Many a convoy has been strafed by Jerries darting out of the skies in an effort to sever the supply lines of the fast advancing Allied forces.

Innumerable times German artillery shells and boms fell a few yards behind or in front of a line of trucks loaded with vital necessities.

But few have been the awards or letters of commendations given these unsung heroes who in their own way were giving as much to win the war, their all, as the infantryman, armored tankman or dive bomber pilot.

Many Narrow Escapes

For narrow escapes, take the story of Cpl. Sam Penn, 25, of Mobile, Ala., who while operating a rolling ammunition supply stock between a tank unit and infantrymen thought his time was up. Cpl. Penn said he had just crossed a bridge in the Aranches area when a Nazi shell dropped about fifty yards away in a field.

Penn is married, childless, has been in the Army 21 months, a year of which was spent in the States. He had driven over 8,000 miles of French roads hauling Nazi prisoners, ammo and rations.

Pvt. Charles Anthony, Syracuse, N.Y., also had a narrow escape during the same Allied drive in the Normandy campaign. His convoy, strafed one night, Anthony seized his rifle leaped from the truck and headed for the cover of a nearby tree. En route, a bit of bursting shrapnel cut the leather rifle strap. Anthony, however, was not touched.

Some Colored Officers

Some of the Red Ball Express have colored officers, and one, I learned, has a complete staff of colored officers from the commanding officer, Capt. Henry T. Twigg, Tennessee, on down. His staff includes First Lts. Reed S. Banks, Miss., and David Howard, Brooklyn, N.Y., and Second Lts. Bertram C. Bland, Newark, N.J., and Richard Boyd, Indianapolis, Ind.

The outfit I visited turned out to be one of the first Army units I wrote up back at Camp Holabird, in Baltimore, three years ago. Since then they've been stationed in Long Island, Fort Meade and then were shipped to England in the spring of 1944 where they hauled troops and supplies up to the D-Day invasion.

The C. O., Capt. C. M. Morris, 29, white, is a former Brooklyn, N.Y., insurance man. His four colored officers and the enlisted men have the greatest respect for him and he for them.

his crackerjack New Jersey baseball team. 2-10-45

The other officers are First Lts. Fred J. Dorsey, 23, Pittsburgh, and Harold N. Arnold, 29, Atlanta; Second Lts. Bedford T. Bentley, 27, Chicago, and Wiley T. Brown, 24, Bridgewood, N. J.

Willing to furnish info about Captain Morris boasts of having "made" the AFRO several years ago when as adjutant of a quartermaster battalion, he posed with Function-

Other Officers in Unit

n a job to do. o-operation and has resulted in t martials? and morale.

s in Unit

the unit, but reluctant to talk about himself, Lt. Arnold, I learned, graduated from Morehouse College in 1937 with Vincent Tubbs, AFRO war correspondent. He belongs to the Omega Psi Phi fraternity and was an outstanding tennis player.

Brother, Sister in States

His brother, Marshall, is a present physical director at Morehouse, while a sister, Miss Edith Arnold, is Girl Reserve secretary at the Wilmington, Del., YW. She was at one time the girls' interscholastic tennis champion.

The unit's topkick is 1st Sgt. William H. Brooks of Bronx, N.Y., a veteran of eighteen years' service, having soldiered with the 25th Infantry in Texas, served in Arizona and also put in two years in the Philippines. He expects to retire on a pension in a few years.

Sgt. Brooks' closest shave of World War II came when a Jerry sentry halted him late one night while jeeping along a wrong road. Recognizing the German accent, cut loose with a few rounds from his .45, ducked low and mashed the accelerator to the floor with Nazi bullets whizzing over his head. 2-10-45

Capture Nine Germans

On another occasion he aided in the capture of nine Germans surrounded in a patch of woods. More than 50 per cent of the original men are still in the unit. I learned that the company has sent three men to OCS.

Two of the non-coms, S/Sgt. William H. McMorris, 25, Glen Cove, L.I., a platoon sergeant, and Cpl. James M. Suddeth, Akron, O., have been recommended for the Bronze Star Award. Final action is pending. 2-10-45

The unit has five "old soldiers" with a total of 80 years' service. In addition to Sgt. Brooks, they are Sgt. Peter Thomas, 38, Washington, D.C., 20 years' service, 10 as chauffeur for the chief of engineers in Washington; T/4 Kelly V. Daniels, 34, Coffield, N.C., 15 years; T/5 D. H. Forbes, 37, Kansas City, Kansas, 15 years, and Pvt. Leonard B. Johnson, Boston, Mass., 12 years.

Brother-team honors are held by T/4 Kelly Daniels and T/5 Albert Daniels, 29, both of whom served in a Fort Belvoir engineer unit. Albert has six years of service in his record.

Includes Many Easterners:

An outstanding musician is T/5 Harry R. Bond of Philadelphia, who as a guitarist had a 5-piece band in the city.

I found 51 volunteers and regular Army men from 23 States and the District. 2-10-45

The easterners:

DELAWARE

Pfc. Frank Williams, Seaford; Sgt. Wilburn L. Hawkins, Wilmington.

LONG ISLAND

Pvt. John R. Stancil, Glen Cove, Pvt. P J. Armstrong, Ranville; S/Sgt. William H. McMorris, Glen Cove.

MASSACHUSETTS

Pvt. Leonard B. Johnson, Boston

MARYLAND

T/Sgt. Richard C. Harris, 1314 Mc. Culloh Street., Baltimore; Cpl. Ralph M. Gibson, Annapolis; Cpl. William S Taylor, Salisbury; Cpl. John E. Teagle, Baltimore; T/5 Charels H. Ambush, Frederick; T/5 Henry J. Brown, Baltimore; T/5 Walter E. Jones, Baltimore; Pfc. Althomas McDowell, Baltimore; Pvt. Warren Dailey, Frederick; Earl W. Simms, Cumberland; T/5 Charles E. Hurd, Frederick.

NORTH CAROLINA

T/4 Kelly V. Daniel, T/5 Albert D. Daniel, Coffield; T/5 Oscar Lee, Littleton; T/5 Ithel Sharpe, Ranlo; Pvt. Jethro King, Warrenton; Pvt. Hugh E. Cassady, Southern Pines; Pvt. James P. Shipman, Clarkton; Cpl. Julian B. Foster, Greensboro.

NEW JERSEY

Pvt. Gary Grant, Jr., Plainfield

NEW YORK

T/5 Edward Williams, NYC; First Sgt. William H. Brooks, Bronx; Cpl. John E Hurt, Cpl. Lewis H. Stafford, and T/5 Robert E. Holland, all of NYC.

PENNSYLVANIA

T/5 Wilson E. Pearle, Washington; T/5 Preston L. Pope, Phila.; T/5 Ralph Stroud, Pittsburgh; T/4 Madison Williams, Philadelphia; Pfc. Edward Acrie, Pittsburgh; Pfc. John D. Davis, Harrisburg; Pfc. Ben R. Williams, Philadelphia; Pvt. Cromwell Alston, Pittsburgh; Pvt. Leroy Bingham; Pvt. Lou Garrison, both, Philadelphia; Pvt. Eugene Grooms, Pittsburgh; Pvt. Lester Kennedy, Philadelphia;

/Sgt. Edward Drudup, Jr., Philadelphia; Sgt. Henry W. Hayes, Sgt. Charles E. Lewis, T/4 Charles T. Dennis, T/4 Enos S. Hill, Jr., Cpl. Arthur Bagley, Cpl. William T. Davis, Cpl. Arthur V. Hughes, T/5 Harry R. Bond, T/4 Joseph T. Carvolko, T/5 Theodore O Harris, all Philadelphia; T/5 Abraham Irvin, Pittsburgh; Cpl. Robert S. Leftwich, Cpl. Ralph Rob, T/5 Moses R. Dixon, all Washington; Newton E. Stoner, Sr., Makersburg.

SOUTH CAROLINA

T/5 Charlie Sims, Union; T/5 James Walker, Fountain Inn; T/5 Samuel D. Watson, Greensboro; Pvt. Eugene S. Walker, Greensboro; Pvt. Leff Welchell, T/5 George Gorce, Newbury.

VIRGINIA

S/Sgt. Gilbert Mays, Lawrenceville; T/4 Alfred W. Slaughter, Draper; T/5 Adolphus L. Williams, Richmond; Pfc. Raymond Harris, Pfc Albert T. Hockaday.

T/5 Albert Barnes, Bluefield; T/5 Earl M. Hoover, Glen White; Pvt. Paige M. Beckwith, Franklin.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

S/Sgt. Lewis A. Stevenson, Sgt. James E. Cook, Sgt. Peter Tymas, T/4 Henry Martin, Cpl. Eugene M. Scott, T/5 Delton Boyd, Jr., T/5 John H. Medlock, Pfc. Horace Baanette, John W. Belk.

Belgium—Comfort in Color

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-13-45

Ollie Stewart's cables from the Belgian front last week told of the confusion occasioned by Von Runstedt's advance through the American lines.

When Nazis captured American GI's, robbed them of uniform and dog tags, and sent German soldiers in U. S. clothing against our troops, we were at great disadvantage.

Germans in U.S. tanks and jeeps, in U.S. uniforms were riding up to our sentries and into our lines before we knew whether to shoot them or hail them.

Every single soldier who passed a given point had to stop and pass an examination before proceeding.

It is not every day a colored person can feel comfortable in his coolr. But in Belgium last week he was somebody. He was the safest GI in the United States Army—one soldier whose appearance was welcome anywhere.

It was only necessary for a sentry or a jittery trooper to look at him. Then he could be certain here was one real American doughboy rather than a Nazi spy in an American uniform.

Engineers Move Airfield from England to Continent

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

Balt, Md.

ENGLAND — Helping to build communications for the German onslaught, engineers of Company A, 1349th Engineer Regiment, in four days saved 3,000 of an estimated 26,000 manhours in dismantling a fighter airfield here and shipping the equipment to the continent.

Several crews began the job by pulling steel clips from thousands of landing mats with pointed hooks, others removed the mats from the ground and stacked them in bundles of thirty, while another group bound them together.

Sets Swift Record

The bundles, each weighing a ton, were loaded on trucks by crane and conveyed to a depot, then transported closer to the front lines.

The project was supervised by First Lts. Robert W. Patterson of Denver, Colo.; Bernard Levere, Jersey City, N.J.; Charles D. Parker, Hampton, Va.; Second Lts. Wlliam W. Funk, Polk, Neb.; and Philip R. Wells, McCombs, Neb.

Among the men who helped to dismantle the airfield were:

DELAWARE

Cpl. Walter L. Comer, Lewes.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Pfc. Randolph Robinson, Washington. 1-6-45

MARYAND

Cpl. Richard B. Hall, Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS

Pfc. Eddie Ash, Port Gibson.

NEW JERSEY

Pfc. Levy M. Farmer, Atlantic City; Cpl. Otha Dowdell, Newark; and Pfc. Lee E. Toney, Orange.

NEW YORK

Pvt. Lawrence Breland, Brooklyn; Pvt. Robert T. Schumpert and Pvt. Eddie Barnett, Jamaica, L.I.; Sgt. Fred A. Crawford, Sgt. Durley Brown, Sgt. A. Anderson, Pfc. Waverly V. Askew, Pfc. James Moss and Pvt. Lester Baker, New York City; Pvt. Nelson F. Thomason, Waterlist; and Pvt. Will L. Webb, Yonkers.

NORTH CAROLINA

Pfc. Horace Brown, Ahoskie; Rossie Williams, Four Oaks; Pvt. Eddie Ricks, Jackson; Pfc. Minor Jordon, Monroe; Pvt. Vance Jones, Raleigh; Pvt. Thomas Robinson, Jr., Reidsville; Pvt. Isaac Chestnut, Rocky Mount; Pvt. Joseph C. McClure, Tayon; Cpl. Milton Credle, Washington; and Pvt. Raleigh Freeman, Woodard.

PENNSYLVANIA

Cpl. William A. Peterson, Jr., Ardmore; Sgt. Wilbert Massey and Pvt. Hugh Cooper, Philadelphia; Pvt. Charles E. Frost, Pittsburgh; Pfc. Howard M. Harmon, Westchester; Pfc. Robert E. Durnell, Media.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Pvt. Donie E. Harkness, Anderson; Pvt. Christopher Williams, Jr., Cathwood; Pfc. Robert Brown, Charleston; and Pvt. Samuel Lee, Jackson.

VIRGINIA

Pfc. Emmett M. Harris, Blackstone; Pvt. Chester W. Nottingham, Cape Charles; Pfc. Thomas L. Coleman, Richmond; and Pfc. Erskine Fox Subletts.

Engineers Clear Highways in Iran

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-13-45

Balt. Md.

Iran — (By Courier, Delayed)—A part of the force charged with maintaining highways on the Russia supply route. The 352nd General Service Engineer Regiment has served well in the most rugged areas of the Persian Gulf Command for almost two years.

Aided by the heat which often registered 170 degrees, dysentery malaria and sandfly fever, have crushed and hauled gravel, black-topped road, handled road equipment, driven trucks and pulled guard duty.

Major annozanies during the summer months, were the sand which gets into everything and sinks deep into the pores, and which infested the cots and bedrolls which the soldiers drench with water at bedtime.

Although at first, they worked in two ten-hour shifts, with the development of the highways, many are able and have more time for the limited recreation.

Although mobile movies and post exchanges are brought to the GIs as often as possible, mail is the greatest morale builder. Their main concern is employment in the post-war era.

Although General Units do not as a rule handle specialized equipment, members of the Northwest Shovel, the Hydraulic and Northwest Drags, the 2D-8 caterpillar tractor, the clam shovel, and the rock crusher.

Members of the regiment include: Sgts. Harold Beard of Philadelphia, and Ollie Christian of Columbia, Mo., who are quite adept at the mechanics of maintaining roads under such severe climatic conditions; Cpl. Robert Rivers of Los Angeles, one of the best operators of special equipment;

First Sgts. Robert L. Griffin, of Augusta, Ga., Marvin C. Bridgeforth, Chicago; David R. Hilton, Winston-Grange, Ga.;

From All Sections

S/Sgts. William Peace, of Pittsburgh, Owen White, Richmond, Ky., and Robert Pearley, of Liberty, Mo.; Cpls. Robert Ratliff, Mesa, Ariz.; Marvin Heard, Pittsburgh, and James L. Hooper, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; T/5 Gr. Reuben Vaughn, Detroit; George P. Nelson, Philadelphia; Forrest Jones, Clarkesville, Tex., Henry Allen, Oakdale, La., and Curtis Jackson, of Okmulgee, Okla.;

Pfcs. Joe Mitchell, Pittsburgh, Samuel Mathes, Colbert, Okla., Nathaniel Austin, Palatka, Fla., Joseph Holmes, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Billy Myers, of St. Louis, and Pvts. Jacob Thompson, Chicago, Harold Augusta, St. Louis, and Thomatra N. Scott of

Walter White in MacArthur's Area

Kansas City Call 1-5-45 Mo.

NEW YORK.—The probability is that Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary and war correspondent, spent Christmas in the Pacific theatre of war under command of General Douglas MacArthur. In a letter received from Mr. White in the New York office of the N. A.A.C.P. written from Honolulu on Dec. 20, he stated that General MacArthur had just approved his accreditation to that theatre of activity. 1-5-45

While in Hawaii, Mr. White conferred with Admiral Chester W. Nimitz on two occasions, with Lt. Gen. Blount and others, as well as with many enlisted men.

According to a clipping from the Honolulu Advertiser, more than 200 colored servicemen attended a public forum meeting Dec. 18 where White was the principal speaker. A lively question period followed in which the soldiers asked about FEPC and post-war employment, the Port Chicago explosion and "mutiny" trial, the courts martial of Negro soldiers at Fort Lawton, Wash. and racial tensions in the United States. 1-5-45

In the letter to his office Mr. White stated that from first observation, there have not been as many incidents of friction in the Pacific "as there have been in other theatres I have visited." He also stated that some of the 200,000 military and civilian whites from the mainland have "created problems" in a land which had very little, if any, race prejudice before their arrival, but that officials were working earnestly on the situation, assisted by many whites, including southerners.

56n-1945

Jordan Tells How Snowstorm Made Nazi Attack Possible, Almost Pained 92nd Division

Norfolk Va. Journal - Guide

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide Staff Writer

NORFOLK—Now it can be told. This is the story of an American attack that didn't jump; a German attack that did; and how a snow storm gave the 92nd Infantry Division a black eye. . . . The Fifth Army in Italy had been alerted to jump off at dawn on Christmas morning on an attack. Each unit of Major Lucian K. Truscott's army had assigned roles in this operation, with the main effort to be centered in the sector around Highway 65, north of Florence.

The role of the 92nd Division was to hit the Germans in limited-objective attacks in the west coastal sector of the Fifth Army line. Theirs was to be a very noisy attack that was scheduled to go no place in particular; just a feint to help cover the major effort around Highway 65. 12-8-45

Pre-campaign work was just about completed and Fifth Army men were ready to jump. Then the weather, long a plague to the Allied Armies in the mud and mountains of Italy, stepped in to wreck the carefully planned operation.

DID NOT JUMP

One of the worst snow storms in history choked up traffic around Highway 65. Tanks and heavy equipment couldn't be moved up in time.

The Fifth Army had to put off its surprise attack!

Soldiers, all geared up for a hell-bent attack, suddenly found themselves observing a comparatively quiet Christmas Day in their foxholes.

Then it happened! The Germans sprang a surprise attack in the Serchio River Valley sector, near the west coast, where soldiers of the 92nd Division task force had set up a thin line. The Nazis, using at least two battalions, struck suddenly in force, over-running our forward positions. 12-8-45

UNIT HARD HIT

Company G, commanded by Captain Roger Kyles, of Portsmouth, Va., and Washington, D. C., bore the brunt of the German attack. Captain Kyles was wounded and his unit suffered many casualties.

There was plenty of reasons to suspect that the Germans had sensed that we had planned to attack them, and they had decided to hit our thin lines in the Serchio sector in an effort to throw the poised Fifth Army off balance. If that was their strategy, it worked like a charm!

CRITICAL LINE

The Serchio attack by the Germans at dawn, Dec. 26, scared the daylights out of the Allied command, for if the Krauts had succeeded in advancing down the Serchio Valley—well, the great Allied supply port of Leghorn might have been endangered.

For the next immediate weeks, ther ewasn't any more talk of an American offensive in the coastal sector. Reinforcements were shifted over to the 92nd sector. Men hurriedly constructed defensive positions extending back miles behind our forward positions.

The German attack turned out to be nothing more than a quick jab. They ran rough-shod over our front lines in an advance of not more than a couple of miles. Then they went back where they came from.

92ND WATCHED 12-8-45

Through no fault of their own, the German thrust served to give the colored soldiers of the 92nd a sort of doubtful reputation as combat men. Unfortunately, the Negro infantry troops went into the battle line with the eyes of the world upon them.

Knowing the racial sensitiveness that thrived in America, it was openly wondered if the colored men would be in a mood to give their all for a country which gave them a second-rate existence.

Some observers, who had never been sympathetic toward colored troops, used the German Serchio attack as an example of what to expect of colored soldiers. They began to whisper around that the colored soldiers would "melt away" in face of opposition.

After that, the 92nd Division received some unfavorable publicity as a combat outfit. It was unfair publicity, inspired by prejudiced minds. Those of us at the front knew that what happened to the colored soldiers in the Serchio Valley could have happened to any other group.

The plain and simple truth of the matter was: Our line in that area was too thin to stop two battalions of attacking Germans. The Germans, being very smart strategists, knew this. That's why they struck there!

And so, if it wasn't for a Christmas Eve snow storm, which stalled a planned attack by the Fifth Army, the Germans in all probability would not have had time to attack in the Serchio Valley, or anywhere else. That would have saved men of the 92nd task force a lot of casualties, and a lot of embarrassment.

Jack Ettinger, ski instructor at the Davos, Switzerland, ski school, with two GI pupils from New York. P.M. N.Y. N.Y. 12-3-45

Tan Yanks Refuse to Let Filipino Girls Bring 'Guard'

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

KAWASAKI, Japan (Via Air Mail)—"They said they couldn't come to our dance unless there was a white man along, a pfc. or a captain, but just some kind of white man; so they didn't come. We wouldn't have them," declared a 18th Signal Battalion soldier discussing the refusal of some Filipino girls to accept an invitation.

The incident occurred in San Fernando, stated the soldier, who said that the girls confided to him they had heard so many stories about the behavior of colored soldiers that they were just a little reluctant to risk attending the outing. 12-8-45

Furthermore, he continued, the girls said that a soldier of Gen. Walter Kreguer's Sixth Army told theim "the bad things about colored GI's. 12-8-45

Ask Negro GIs Marriage Rights

Daily Worker N.Y. N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—A request that the War and Navy departments lift the ban on marriages between colored men in the armed services and women of the countries where they have served overseas has been made of Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson and Secretary of Navy James V. Forrestal by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The letter read: 12-26-45

"This association has recently received several communications from American Negro servicemen and several from fiancees of Negro servicemen in France, Italy, England and other places reporting that American Army and Navy officers have refused permission to these individuals to marry. In some instances these servicemen are the fathers or prospective fathers of children. These men have sought to legitimatize these children by honorable marriage but have been prevented from doing so.

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People hereby requests that the War and Navy departments issue orders and take steps to see that such orders are enforced

Now the Young Ladies Are Fat and Happy

Tan Yanks Shared Their Food And Won Hearts of German Girls

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
12-8-45

By RIO OTTLEY, Special Correspondent

PARIS—The unblushing association of the blond German and Austrian girls with the American Negro troops has caused a mild scandal in white American military circles in Europe. The German reaction, according to all surface manifestations, is one of indifference—though German girls who associate with white American GI's have been the victims of reprisals from the German youths. Perhaps the reason that the issue has become one for discussion among white Americans is because the behavior of the German and Austrian women has been so open and contrary to the tenets of the Nazi teachings. Naturally white Americans expected that some of the overtones of Nazi thunder about race would be heard during the occupation in the form of prejudice to blacks. It has failed to materialize, much to everyone's surprise.

FEARFUL AT FIRST

The associations between Negro soldiers and German girls began when the American forces swept into Germany in the great offensive of last winter. The Negro GI's admit that in many towns they entered the inhabitants refused to emerge from their homes for days, fearful that the black troops would assault them. For the Nazi leaders had told them of dire things that would happen if Negro troops once broke through.

But within a week of the occupation of a town, the Negro troops had broken the ice and developed binding relationships which persist to this day. This was accomplished not according to plan. The Negro troops simply were coldly cordial but very friendly with children, sharing their chocolate and candy rations with them. This quickly won the hearts of their mothers and sisters. Eventually, as the American forces pushed deeper into Germany, hundreds of girls were trailing behind the Negro troops. Those girls unable to follow weeped and wailed as the troops left the area. 12-8-45

EVEN SURPRISED FRIENDS

The reasons for the attachment are normal and natural. Negro troops have behaved in a manner that would surprise even their friends at home. They have been kind, considerate, and friendly. Negro troops have never acted the roles of conquerors, running roughshod over these people as so many of the white troops have done.

In social relationships they do not approach women with the "Will you, or won't you?" attitude. Rather they have moved easily and with patience, allowing a relationship to develop naturally. Moreover, they have been generous to these girls, even to a fault. They have demonstrated much interest in children and old folk, which the bulk of white troops ignore.

EXPECTED RAPE, PLUNDER

These qualities have won the hearts of the German girls. For, being a conquered people, the Germans expected roughhouse tactics from the Americans, particularly in affairs of sex. Rape, plunder, and brutality have historically been the actions of the victor. But quite the contrary has been the role of the American Army, and obviously the Negro troops included.

But the most profound reason for the affection of the German girls for the Negro troops is that the bulk of the German people are without food and the Negro soldier shares his rations with them. Thus, to the German girl, winning a Negro soldier means eating regularly.

From what I could see, when visiting Negro units in Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia, the bulk of the girls moving across Europe with the Negro troops are getting mighty fat on the diet the boys are giving them. Moreover, they seem emotionally balanced, content, and happy.

Negro Soldiers Have Done Good Job In Spreading International Goodwill

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JESSE O. THOMAS

PARIS—(ANP)—There is no question but that the Negro soldier has made himself felt from a social standpoint here in Europe. In every place I visited the Negro soldier had a better rating with the civilian population than his white comrade. This condition represents a rather peculiar twist of fate. In the first place, the average white American soldier is pretty conscious of his status. In towns of per capita wealth, the American white man is about the top man in the world you know. Added to that fact, the prestige of his army which has not lost a war in 300 years, plus his knowledge of America's part in the liberation of the countries on the European continent, he feels that whatever he wants the Europeans ought to be glad to give to him or make available without reservation. 12-22-45

NEGROES SPEAK LANGUAGE FLUENTLY

Take the question of native languages for example. While there are a good many American white soldiers who are studying French and Italian at Red Cross installations, the majority of them seem to feel it would be admitting a certain kind of inferiority if they submitted to French or Italian people teaching them anything. They are Americans; therefore whatever they want they should have. This explains why the average Negro soldier has developed a much larger vocabulary in foreign languages and speaks more fluently the language of the natives than is correspondingly true of the average white soldier.

Another reason is that the Negro soldier was denied the opportunity of participating in the combat aspect of the war on many fronts and was limited to convoying materials and handling supplies.

Germany had taken most of the food away and the primary need was for something to eat. The Negro mess sergeant therefore automatically became the commissioner of supply. Through this medium the Negro soldiers ingratiated themselves among the natives. They think of the white man as their conqueror, as the man who is the overlord, but they think of the Negro as the humanitarian and friend.

SEEK TO PREVENT MARRIAGES

This fact has stimulated an aggressive anti-social attitude among some white soldiers who cannot understand why in many instances a Negro private is preferred over a white major or some other brass hat.

There are a number of women, British, French, Italian, and German, who have been and will be the mothers of children whose fathers are Negro and white American soldiers. Some of them are permitted to marry these women, more whites than Negroes. Some commanding officers have taken the position where a Negro comes from a State in the Union whose laws operate against intermarrying on the part of whites and Negroes, of refusing to approve an application from the Negro soldier to marry a white girl with whom he has fallen in love and who apparently has fallen in love with him. 12-22-45

This is a matter which should be brought to the attention of the military authorities because it should not be in the province of any C. O. to determine who shall marry whom and no one is able to determine at this point where this soldier will live when he returns to the United States.

SOLDIERS HAVE SPREAD GOODWILL ABROAD

There are instances where the welfare societies have differentials in the type of relief given these mothers or expectant mothers when the fathers are Negroes as against that given those whose fathers are white.

It is little less than pathetic and would be difficult for any person to believe who has not actually seen what happens when Negro soldiers are moved from a town. I have seen native women of good background who had fallen in love with a Negro soldier, hitch-hiking from one town to another because of the difficulty in obtaining transportation. I have talked with dozens and dozens of women who are trying to discover the new location of soldiers who have left their cities.

The average Negro has done a job of public relations on an international level from which the Negro people will benefit for years to come. It will not be possible for anybody to convince these people in the future that the Negro is barbaric or socially awkward, criminally inclined, dumb or mentally inferior. 12-22-45

Of course there are a great many social hazards. Children have been born and will be born to women who had hoped and planned to marry these soldiers. Overnight these men have been uprooted or replanted in some foreign area or put on the boat to return to America. It is pathetic to see these women, victims of economic insecurity because of the hazards of war. At least they were able to get something to eat through these soldier contacts. Now they find themselves totally dependent upon charity or sympathetic consideration of a few soldiers left behind.

Lesson for U.S.

Congressman Lauds GIs In Mixed Battle Units

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.
12-15-45

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Colored and white soldiers who fought shoulder to shoulder in mixed units in the European Theatre of Operations "point a great lesson for America," Representative Hugh De Lacy, Democrat, of Seattle, told the House last Tuesday.

Mr. De Lacy was commenting on a survey made during May and June in the European Theatre of Operations by white soldiers in the armed services into the opinions of white infantry platoons separate companies — been following about colored infantry platoons which served with white company-ed," he said, "this experience would les in seven Army Divisions. never have been given these soldiers." The survey, he said, was deeply revealing not only of the courage of the colored soldiers but worked in the Army in the European and ability of colored soldiers but worked in the Army in the European of the fact that when white soldiers were given an opportunity to Theatre, Mr. DeLacy said: "Not all the prejudices which witness the performance and share block-by-block true acceptance of the practices were overcome in the same company tice of democracy in America were experiences in the same company tice of democracy in America were with colored troops, their preju-dissipated by the experience of dices melted away. these soldiers in the European Theatre. They had not time, nor was the situation ideal for the complete disintegration of all prejudices. But it does point a great lesson for America."

56n-1945 Foreign Service Europe

One Half Wear Purple Hearts

First Combat Volunteers Return; Resent Treatment

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 9-29-45

Returning to the United States after covering themselves with glory, 143 of the more than 5,000 Negro service troops who volunteered for infantry combat service with white divisions in the ETO arrived in New York Sunday morning with more than 45 per cent wearing Purple Heart medals, a score or more wearing the Bronze Star, five wearing the Silver Star, one wearing the Distinguished Service Cross and two others awaiting decorations of medals similar to the latter.

These men, who have an average of two years and eighty-four points toward discharge, had only one question to ask:

"How did our people feel when they heard that we had volunteered for combat duty with white organizations?"

DEPRESSED AT "PUSHING AROUND"

All were depressed because of the way they had been pushed around after the war in Europe had been won and they were no longer needed in combat units. At one point while overseas, three non-commissioned officers called on General Eisenhower without permission to ask him what could be done about that situation.

The story of how many Negroes volunteered and how many were accepted for combat duty was told. According to the men who arrived here Sunday, of all the Negroes in the ETO, 90 per cent asked for combat duty, but only 10 per cent were accepted.

TIMBER WOLVES

Some of the men who had served with the 104th Timber Wolf Division were among the returnees. They declared that they had been told the reason for their being left behind when that outfit sailed for home was due to the T. O. (Table of Organization); that if a company in a battalion went overseas with four platoons, it could not return with more than four.

Staff Sgt. Edgar Zeno, 462 Madison Avenue, Brooklyn, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action when, last April 4, he knocked out two machine-gun nests and captured sixty-five prisoners and in turn, was wounded.

TOOK 70 PRISONERS

Staff Sgt. T. C. Williams of Seattle, Wash., was awarded the Silver Star when he and one other man in his platoon knocked out a machine-gun nest and took seventy prisoners who had been holding up the advance of his company for hours.

Pfc. Henry Settle of Reidsville, N. C., was awarded the Silver Star when he and Pfc. Julius Lawrence of Chicago (killed in the same action) knocked out two enemy half tracks with small arms. Lawrence has been recommended for the Distinguished Service Cross, which will be awarded posthumously.

Also awarded the Silver Star were T/Sgt. Elmanus Stark of Washington, D. C., and S/Sgt. Emanuel Henderson of Thomasville, Ga. Henderson, with some thirty-odd men, captured more than 100 prisoners in March of this year and saved his company from complete annihilation.

STORM TROOPERS

The returning troops also told of the German SS forces not wishing to face them in battle and referring to them as Roosevelt's SS. They told of the cowardice of white infantrymen and how they would not advance on a strong point unless Negro tank crews were in support. This, they said, was because at the first signs of pressure the white tankmen would "turn tail" and run, while Negro tank crews would bore forever forward.

White GIs Protest Racism To Soldiers

Atlanta Daily News
Atlanta, Georgia 9-18-45

BERLIN, Germany—(ANP)— Two white GIs, members of America's occupation force here, lodged a complaint against color barriers affecting Negro soldiers in a recent issue of Yank magazine.

T/Sgt. Willie Jones, a Mississippian, backed the right of Negroes to have the democracy they fought for. His letter to Yank, a service magazine, read:

"I received a copy of your magazine and read that the AMG (Allied Military government) is letting the Germans go back to school. After that I read in Mail Call about the jim crow treatment of colored American soldiers.

FROM MISSISSIPPI

"Now I am from Mississippi. Until I came into the army I hated Negroes. It wasn't anything they did to me, I just didn't like them. Since I have been in the ETO I have fought from D-day to VE-day with Negro soldiers. I was wounded twice in one foxhole and a Negro saved my life by using his first-aid kit on me. Then he carried me to where a doctor could work on me. This was under heavy fire. Later he died. He was from New York and he knew I was from the south where he had no freedom.

"Many Negro soldiers have died on the front for American soldiers who thought jim crow was right. So if Germans can have freedom after they have caused so much suffering and destructions, why not let the Negro race have what they fought for? I feel that they should and a lot of southern GIs feel the same way." 9-18-45

PROTESTS ORDER

Pvt. David Icheson, whose background was not revealed, loudly protested a military order that forbade white troops from associating with Negro soldiers.

"The other night we had a jam session with some colored boys from a quartermaster trucking outfit quartered near us," he wrote. "This morning we were read an order which prohibits us to associate with the colored troops except on business.

"'A colored tank outfit fought side by side with this regiment clear to Steyr, Austria, and we were never ordered not to fight alongside of American troops of the colored race, so why should we be for American soldiers because of color?

Few Fighters Left in Europe

Afro-American
9-15-45

Tan Yanks Assigned Menial Occupations

LIVE IN TENTS

Baltimore, Md.

761st Tankers One of Few Combat Units

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent in the European Theatre of Operations

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MANNHEIM, Germany—After almost two weeks visiting occupation troops in Germany, I am now able to give a fairly accurate picture of the situation, and on the basis of information and indications, it seems certain that the only Tan Yanks to be retained with the Army of occupation will be those in service units.

Passing through southern Germany en route north I visited Munich, Darmstadt, Frankfurt and neighboring cities. Everywhere units were being reshuffled and regrouped, but out of the welter of confusion, only general service outfits and quartermasters were really working and seem destined to stay.

Prepare to Go Home

Others are being rapidly alerted for shipment home. To the best of my knowledge, the only combat units remaining now are the 761st Tank Battalion, the 452nd Anti-aircraft Battalion and scattered combat engineer outfits.

On the other hand, hundreds of trucking companies, many signal construction outfits, numerous ordnance units and a hundred or more service companies are still here and the best indication that they will remain is the fact that they are being filled with low point men.

Perhaps those who have sons or husbands here in Germany are wondering what occupation duty really means. Well, for white infantry and armored units, it means guarding American installations and enforcing restrictions imposed on civilians by the Allies.

Do Guard Duty

It means military police duty at Seventh and Third Army headquarters. It means clerking and typing in offices and running hotels and furnishing transportation for Allied officers on trains and buses. 9-15-45

After work hours it means strolling with German frauleins, drinking coke and coffee and doughnuts at Red Cross clubs, while dreaming of the day when you have enough points to go home.

For colored troops it means something else. Wherever possible, Tan Yanks are put in tents along the highway and in the woods, even though the war is over.

Propaganda Spread

For colored troops occupation means also the guarding of ration dumps, hauling construction material for roads and bridges. If they get to town, American propaganda which has been spread all over Germany, keeps most girls from speaking to them.

At General Eisenhower's headquarters in Frankfurt, not a single colored soldier has been given a job in any installation. All offices are completely lily-white.

Since I was the first colored person they had seen in the officer's mess, the German waitress audibly voiced objections to waiting on me.

Officers Spread Poison

So you find Tan Yanks near small towns where their officers go from door to door telling Germans to shun them at all times, but as always, German girls tell the soldiers what their own officers have said about them.

One thing certain is that all soldiers want to get home as soon as possible. Few have sufficient work to occupy their time even with the education program in full swing. The men will accept a trip to Paris or the Riviera or to England, but now with the chance to go home, few are enrolling in the various courses. Mainly they sit around reading, gambling or making plans for the post-war world in the States.

Technically, the fraternization ban still exists, but practically every soldier I talked with had at least one girl he could visit when off duty.

Kept Out of Easy Jobs

The occupation is still in the trial and error stage. But it is safe to say no more colored troops than is absolutely necessary will stay in Germany. Certain jobs have been designated for them and certain jobs in the administration of military government have been completely denied them.

The military government has power over the civilians for granting passes, taking over houses, automobiles and doing extensive counter espionage, but not once have I seen a colored man with such power in Germany.

The Quartermaster Unit with the most interesting job was found in Mannheim. It has colored officers, with Lt. Clyde McDaniel of Richmond, Va., as company commander. This outfit digs up and hauls across the German border bodies of Americans killed during the war, since the Army has a policy

all over the area and is aggravated where club workers are from the South.

J.C. Swimming Pool

Despite orders from home, he added, there is an Army jim-crow swimming pool in Calcutta across the street from a British swimming pool, where all races and both sexes, including high caste Indians, bathe without a color line.

Colored soldiers barred from the U.S. pool on certain days go across the street to swim with British Tommies and Waves. Responsible for this jim crow is Col. Boy Neyland, former football coach at the University of Tennessee.

The returned correspondent pointed out that colored troops constituted 65% of the U.S. force which built the Stillwell Road from India through Burma to China after the British said it couldn't be done.

They laid the 6-inch pipe line (censored up to now) to carry oil and gas to the Chinese. Everybody out that way, Bolden says, expects the British Shell Oil Company to get the pipe line which Americans laid and for which they provided the pipes. 9-15-45

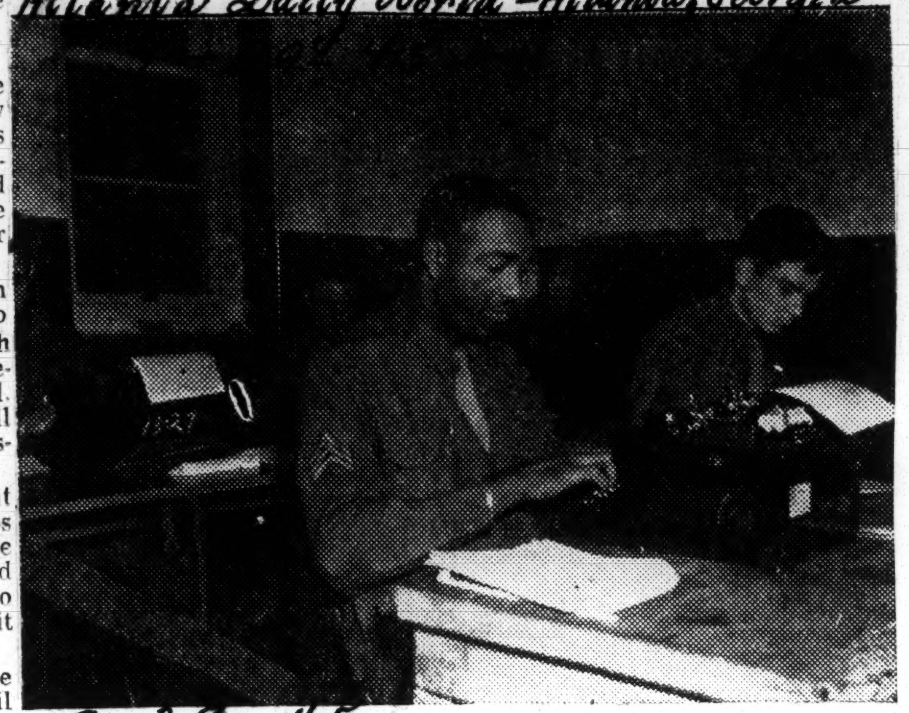
Took a Beating

Colored troops, he said, took a beating from the white Southern officers who were in the majority.

The average colored soldier has been in the area 28 months and all he wants now is to get out.

Bolden, whose wife met him in New York, says that he is going to rewrite all the dispatches the censors held up and refused to transmit when he was overseas, and then get a little rest.

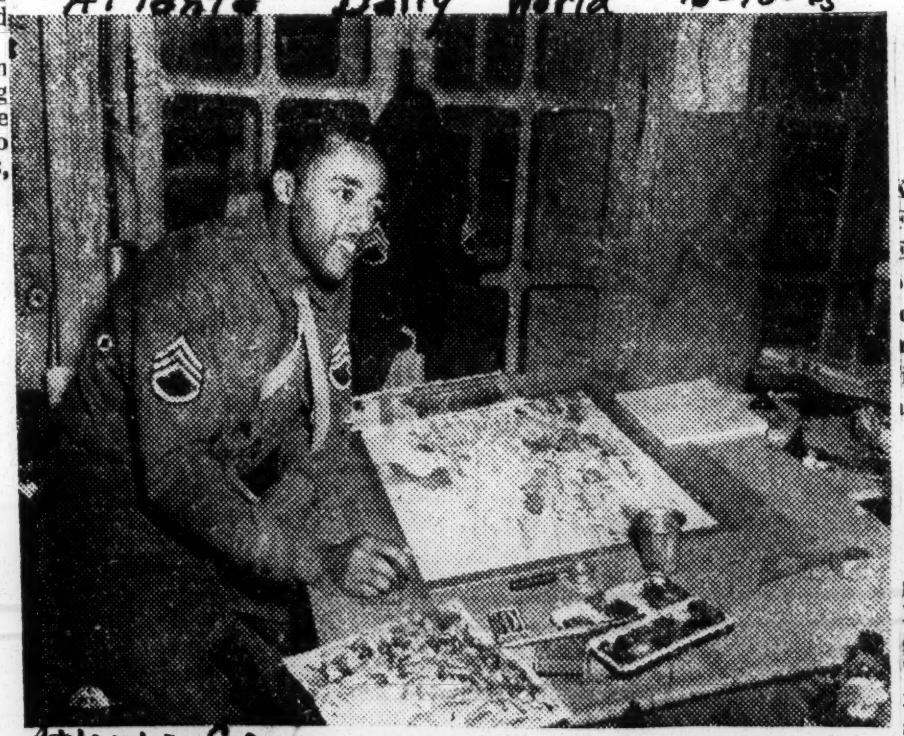
Atlanta Daily World - Atlanta, Georgia



9-29-45

AT SHRIVINGHAM AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND — Sgt. John A. Moss of 266 Fort St., NE, Atlanta, Ga., a member of the 573rd Port Company is one of the many students enrolled at SAU. Sgt. Moss is taking courses in insurance, typing and small business at the American University here.

Atlanta Daily World 10-10-45



Atlanta, Ga.

CARTOGRAPHER — The only Negro soldier in the Historical Section of the Theater Service Forces, European Theater Headquarters, is cartographer S/Sgt. Charles W. Young 2634 Macomb street, Detroit Mich. He is pictured here at his drawing board in St. Germain, France. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

HIS ARMY DAYS ARE AT A CLOSE

New York Times N.Y., N.Y.

10-7-45

10-7-45

Sgt. Nathaniel Pruitt, who is on his way home to Junction City, Kan., after having been in action in World War I and World War II. From top to bottom his patch and stripes read: Communications Zone, ETOUSA; sergeant, 30 months' service in World War II, two years overseas service in World War I, service stripes for twenty years' service. He wears medals and ribbons for the Bronze Star, expert marksman, American Defense Ribbon, Victory Ribbon of World War I and five battle-participation stars on ETO ribbon. His last assignment was at Marseille, France, with the 447th Ordnance Ammunition Company.

Negro GIs Resent Demobilization Mess

The Worker

Belgium.

Editor, The Worker:

We are three of the many Negro soldiers in the ETO who would like to know why the process of demobilization is so inaccurate. There are several GIs with 70 or more points over here when they should be home with their families.

N.Y., N.Y.

Upon leaving our regular outfit we were told we were going to outfits to be placed in different categories in which high pointers would be separated from low pointers in order to return to the States. However, this plan has not been carried out as far as the Negro troops are concerned. We are being transferred from outfit to outfit and country to country. Above all we are outnumbered at least 50 to 1 by white troops returning to the U.S.A. 12-16-45

The government, in our opinion, is enticing troops to sign up for another three years. Many troops have already signed up but not for the love of the Army. It is more or less a speedier return home as far as the individual GI is concerned. Why are we being delayed? Is this part of the Army policy delaying the enlisted men to secure reenlistments in the regular Army? 12-16-45

There are men in our midst who have from three to five battle stars and points ranging from 60 to 79. These men have distinguished themselves in battle. If these men continue to be delayed by false excuses they will be of little (if any) benefit to themselves or their families.

We beg of you, dear Editor, to look into this matter before it is too late. Up to now we have been trying to conceal our emotions towards the government but this is one time that our emotions have completely overflowed.

THREE OF MANY.

56n-1945

Foreign Service Europe

To Study in London and at the Sorbonne

Left to right, Cpl. Roderick E. Warren, Detroit; T/Sgt. Harold K. Logan, Tuskegee Institute, and W/O James E. Gavis, Englewood, N.J., shown receiving travel orders for university attendance from Maj. William H. Haight, Oise section information and education officer. Corporal Warren will study architecture and civil engineering in London, while Sergeant Logan and Warrant Officer Gavis will enter the Sorbonne.

THE ROAD TO ROUEN

White Skin No 'Must' In France

ROUEN, France—The U.S. was never like this.

This is the general feeling of Negro GI's stationed in and around this bomb-shattered French city, who have learned that the petite mademoiselles and the men of Rouen have no racial prejudices.

Chicago Tribune correspondent Hal Foust in a story from Rouen this week tells how Tan Yanks from the south as well as the north are treated by the French people, young and old, with a tolerance and friendliness seldom accorded them in the United States.

"One sees Negro soldiers and French girls walking with their arms around each other in the city's streets," wrote Foust.

To witness a colored soldier playing with tots on the streets of Rouen or chatting with a young lady's parents at the threshold of her home is a common sight, according to Foust.

Naturally, Dixie-disciplined white American GIs comment on such scenes but their comments are seldom made public because it is considered a "delicate" subject. The French do not share the American view on what is delicate and what is not and therefore, people are people, just as science has proven. Personalities are determining factors in Rouen, color or not.

In a statement to Foust, 26-year-old Lt. George Woody of Danville, Va., said:

"I know from personal experience as well as from observation that the French family makes no distinction between colors in inviting United States soldiers into their homes. It is a contrast to the general custom in America which has a different cultural background.

"Unless conditions are changed in the United States, we have lost the war for world-wide freedom."

Woody has a master's degree from Fisk university and is an officer of the 490th port battalion, a thousand Negro stevedores who landed at Utah beach on D-day and were awarded the croix de guerre and the bronze arrowhead for their service to assault troops. The outfit remained on the beach until last November when it moved to its present assignment of loading and unloading canal barges and Liberty ships here.

WAC Major Comments

Maj. Charity E. Adams, Columbia, S. C., colored commander of 855 Negro WACs at the central postal directory here, also was solicited for counsel in telling America of interracial relations here.

"It is regrettable," she said, "that Americans are so race prejudiced that anything you write will offend many, each in the light of his own prejudices. Yet the story should be written, as part of the history of the European war, as part of the current news of America's army still in Europe.

"It is regrettable that Americans socially accept foreign Negroes but not American Negroes.

"In the army postoffice my WACs work with German prisoners of war, men of the people whose nazi leaders preached their racial excellence. The office relationship is without racial consciousness."

No Resentment Shown

"Do Negro WACs resent Negro soldiers going with French girls?" the major was asked.

"I have not observed any resentment and have had no occasion to inquire," she replied, "but I believe the WACs grant that the Negro soldiers have the privilege of doing as they please."

Maj. Adams was doing post-graduate work at Ohio State university when she enlisted three years ago. She spent three months in England with her organization before she came here with it in May.

Capt. Victor S. Kendall, white commander of a port company which includes 27 white officers and two Negro warrant officers, states that relations between the Negro and white officers and enlisted men were good. Kendall is a native of Louisville, Ky.

Being Transferred To Labor Outfits

614th Tank Destroyers Moved Despite Feats

MEN BITTER

Artillerymen, 2nd TD Unit Also Broken Up

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent in the European Theatre of Operations

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MARSEILLE—The breaking up of combat units over here is like death in the family.

The breaking up of the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion with an excellent record of action from Metz to the Brenner Pass, not only has most of its personnel sitting around cursing the terrific heat, and wondering what is next, but has cast a gloomy pall over other troops in this staging area.

Here's the record of the tank destroyers. Capt. Charles Thomas of Detroit holds the Distinguished Service Cross. His unit, "Company C," received the Presidential citation for capturing Climbach, France, on Dec. 14, in which action Lt. George Mitchell received the silver star; Lt. Floyd Stallings, San Francisco, received the bronze star and seven enlisted men got bronze stars.

Won Many Awards

A total of nine silver stars, 28 bronze stars and 79 Purple Heart Awards have been given men in the unit. Posthumous silver stars have gone to Lt. Joseph Keeby, Chicago; Pfc. Lucius Riley, Capt. Peter Simmons, and Pfc. William Phipps, all of North Carolina.

Others went to Capt. Walter Smith, Kansas City, Kans.; Lt. Christopher Sturkey, Detroit; Lt. George Mitchell, Gary, Ind.; Lt. Serreo Nelson, Omaha, Neb., and Pfc. Leon Tobin, Caster, La.

Only 21 Captured

Only one officer and 20 enlisted men were captured by the Germans, but are now released and sent home. One officer and 16 enlisted men were killed in action and 5 officers and 57 enlisted men were wounded.

The unit fought with the Ninth, Third and Seventh Armies in Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe, giving personnel three campaign stars.

When I found the outfit at this staging area, Capt. James Carf of Washington and Lt. Floyd Stallings were playing dominoes. They were so unhappy about the unit's breaking up they would not discuss it, but Lt. Edward Carey of Kansas City, Kans., kept repeating "very bad for morale of enlisted men."

Bad for Officers

Lt. Jesse Hickman, Riverhead, N.Y., said the situation was also bad for the morale of the officers. Lt. Robert Brooks, Albemarle, N.C., expressed it this way:

"We learned many tricks against the Germans which would be very valuable against the Japs and we don't mind facing the Japs as tank destroyers because we know our job. In another branch of service we would have to waste time learning all over again. That's waste that could be avoided."

Cpl. Avery Blackley, 1723 Madison Ave., Baltimore, just wants to get back home as do First Sgt. Warren Glapion of New Orleans and S/Sgt. Lazarus Gerrett of Fort Worth, Tex., but all are in need of more points.

Men Go to Pacific

In the same area, the 777th Field Artillery Battalion is already sending men to the Pacific in service units. They had only one colored officer.

Another tank destroyer outfit, the 827th, only fought a few weeks, and then was used to guard pipelines and ammunition dumps near Strasbourg. This unit had two colored officers, Capt. A. C. Leamus and Lt. Aubrey Aspey, Bronx, N.Y. It is also being broken up.

The over all picture at this port shows staging facilities for 200,000 men at one time. French have 200,000 here for shipment back to Africa. All of these plus heavy civilian population means a jammed city with Americans, British, Senegalese, Russians, Moroccans, Navy men and Merchant Marines thronging the streets, making a colorful sight nad a babel of many languages.

Capt. James Robinson of the 777th Field Artillery, whom I saw with very bitter about the prospect of going to the Pacific in labor outfits.

The former combat men are bitter about the prospect of going to the Pacific in labor outfits.

Pfc. Aubry Rollins, Ironton, Ohio, driver for the medics, agreed with him and the same sentiment was expressed by men in the other tank destroyer outfits.

Cpl. Joseph Wynn, Roper, first aid man with the tank destroyers, "I don't mind going to China with the old unit, but it is a dirty shame to send us to the Pacific after we fought all over Europe."

Men Embittered

It seems as if these battalions are being broken up and the colored officers either sent home or kept in France with new outfits.

Without this added worry over being broken up, the men have a normal dislike of going to the Pacific when certain other troops are going home.

Then, too, the weather is very hot here, and staging areas not

ideal places anyway. Add it all up, and the result is thoroughly unpleasant.

Under the circumstances, the staging areas are doing a good job. When the troops arrive, each man has his health, teeth, clothing and equipment checked and whatever needed supplied.

While in the area, the men are well fed, entertained and given talks on future operations and tactics in the Pacific.

There are, in addition, two Red Cross clubs operating in Marseille plus movies and canteens with American beer. The most popular club is that directed by Mrs. Henrine W. Banks of Chicago, now in her third year overseas.

Sees Lt. Koger

Almost the first officer I saw in Marseille was Lt. Linwood Koger, 1619 Division St., Baltimore, looking jaunty and unworried about his early departure for the Pacific.

With him were Lts. Carl Hill, Chicago; Melvin Goolsby, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Douglas Starks, Alliance, Ohio, and Ralph Frazier, New York.

Baltimoreans I encountered included:

First Sgt. Wilbert Armstead, 337 Calhoun St.; Sgt. David Poole, 123 N. Aisquith St.; Pvt. Clarence Christian, 541 Wilson St.; Cpl. William Jones, 886 Booth St.; Cpl. Julius Holmes, and Pfc. Fred McClain, 227 N. Schroeder St.

Washingtonians seen were Cpl. Ernest Waddy, 5237 Ames St. N.E., and Sgt. Christopher Ford, 730 Lamont St., N.W., whose art work adorns Red Cross club walls.

Others seen were T/Sgt. Walter Hunt, Cpl. Hesse Sailes, Los Angeles; First Sgt. George McCormick, Schenectady, N.Y., and Pfc. Ralph Dentler, New York City.

Texas, Louisiana

The Informer

Yanks Promenade Riviera

Huston, Texas 9-22-45

ON THE RIVIERA IN SOUTHERN FRANCE —Many troops which include Texas, La., and Mississippi boys are on rest leaves and are now promenading along the famous palm-covered boulevards of Nice, France— the picturesque Riviera capital and the GI Paradise— which spread along the beaches of the Mediterranean.

Entertained

Here, Negro troops are entertained in sidewalk cafes, elegant hotels, amid sunshine and gardens where the world's multi-millionaires used to spend their summer vacations. Available also are bathing in the sea, bicycling along the walks, basking in the warm sunrays and enjoying the balmy ocean breeze.

The United States Army Recreational Area has been organized to afford troops luxuries, comforts and pleasures of the pre-war top-hat visitor. Restees are relaxing in some of the world's most lavish hotels.

They dine and dance in such world-renowned places as the Hotel Negresco, the La Plaza and the Ruhl— whose Dome, Crown and Copacabana Rooms feature the best in French and American entertainment. They are night-lifing in clubs where dazzling chorus girls and French "Sinatras" do their stuff with the American slant.

Share Alike

War-worn and work-weary soldiers of all races are seen sharing the same tables in hotels, the same suites, the same seats in theatres and opera houses.

Those on recent furlough were:

Louisiana: Shreveport — S. Sgt. Elmo D. Jones, 1064 St. John St.

Mississippi: Louisville — Pfc. Melvin Hinton; McComb — S. Sgt. Levi Hill, St. Augustine St.; Pass Christian — Sgt. Godfrey Benoit, 235 Seals street.

Texas: Gonzalus — Sgt. Charles T. J. Smith; Dallas — Pfc. Woodie Wade; Beaumont — Sgt. Lester Charles.

Converted to Laborers

Pittsburg Courier, Pa.

Famed Combat Unit Disbanded Overseas

9-8-45

MARSEILLE, France—Elements of the first Negro combat outfit to reach Germany, the 777th Field Artillery Battalion, recently rolled into a redeployment camp on the outskirts of Marseille where it was disbanded. The 777th Field Artillery Battalion, whose former members are now being redeployed to the United States was the only unit of its kind to participate in one of the largest mass field artillery barrages in the history of warfare.

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The vicious pattern of reducing heroic Negro combat soldiers to status of service troops before they are returned to the United States is continuing. Latest victims are the members of the 777th Field Artillery Battalion in France. The battalion has been disbanded. Some of the members, with high point scores, are now being redeployed to the United States, and an outfit of 400 men who spent 7 months on the firing line have been assigned to waiting Pacific-bound convoys of Signal, heavy construction, Quartermaster, Engineer, Ordnance and Transportation Corps battalions. 9-8-45

An outfit of 400 men who spent seven months on the line were assigned to waiting Pacific-bound convoys of Signal, heavy construction, Quartermaster, Engineer, Ordnance and Transportation Corps battalions, which were ready for immediate shipment to the Pacific Operations Area. 9-8-45

IN FIRST RHINE ASSAULT

In proportion to the time that the 777th was in action, it fired more rounds than any other battalion in the XVI Corps.

They were commanded by Brigadier General C. C. Brown, who pulled the lanyard when the first shot was fired across the Rhine River last March 25. The unit was one of the 104 Field Artillery battalions of 1,248 guns which fired 200,000 rounds in the first assault on the Rhine.

The 777th's gun crews fired seven rounds in 36 seconds. These men fired so fast and their pieces became so hot that guns fired automatically. The guns had to be pulled back as a precautionary measure.

WITH 9TH ARMY 9-8-45

During the battalion's participation in the Rhineland and Central European campaigns, two officers and no men were killed. Eight Bronze Stars, twenty-four Air Medals, twenty-three Certificates of Merit and eight Purple Heart Medals were awarded to the individual members of the unit. The unit's heaviest battle was during the crossing of the Rhine River with the 9th Army.

The 777th was formerly commanded by Lt. Col. Russell Harris, Atlanta, Ga., with the following Negro officer personnel: Captain James H. Robinson Jr., 2021 Melrose Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio; Chief Warrant Officer James D. Walters, 323 Braddock Avenue, Bradock, Pa.; and Warrant Officer (Junior Grade) Royal T. Elliott, 6221 Frankstown Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Negro Runs German Town

Pittsburg Courier

9-8-45

WITH U. S. FORCES IN GERMANY—First Lieut. Theodore R. Barnes, Detroit, Mich., Commanding Officer of the 136th Army Postal Unit which has followed the combat troops from shortly after D-Day to the middle of Germany, not only directs the delivery of mail to some 30,000 troops, but commands the small city of Beuern, Germany. Pittsburgh Pa.

The postal unit of eleven men now handles three times the normal volume of mail required for such a unit and, in addition, it has to solve civilian problems of food and lodging for the inhabitants of Beuern.

Two men, S/Sgt. Otis Preston of Vicksburg, Miss., and Sgt. Virgil J. Dansby of Santa Monica, Calif., were presented with the Certificate of Merit by Brig. Gen. Ewart G. Plank for devotion to duty during operations in Trier, Germany. They also have earned five battle stars.

Negro Gunners On Okinawa Shot Down Last Nip Planes Of War

New York Age 12-8-45

OKINAWA — Confirmation of the claim of the 503rd Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion gives this Negro organization the distinction of having shot down the last two Japanese planes destroyed by land-based antiaircraft artillery in World War II, the War Department reported Monday. N.Y., N.Y.

This claim was based upon the two kills made by Batteries C and D of the 503rd, on the morning of August 6, 1945. Records from higher headquarters established that no other Japanese planes were shot down by land-based antiaircraft after that date.

At about 2 a. m. on August 6, the antiaircraft on Okinawa was alerted to the approach of enemy aircraft. At 2:32 a. m., Battery D, commanded by Captain William R. Bulloch of Lakewood, Ohio, picked up on its Radar an enemy flight previously unreported. The four 90-mm guns of the battery opened up at extreme range and the Jap plane went out of control immediately and crahed into the sea in flames about 9,000 yards off-shore.

One minute later, Battery C, commanded by Captain Charles K. Wolz, of Salem, Virginia, picked up another flight headed in from the opposite direction and immediately opened fire. Five rounds burst around the target and the last Japanese plane destroyed by antiaircraft in the Pacific disappeared into the East China Sea, off Okinawa.

The 503rd Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion was activated in Camp Stewart, Georgia in February, 1943, and trained there and at Richmond, Virginia and Fort Bliss Texas. The nucleus of this battalion was the cadre from 'Harlem's Own"—the 369th Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment, formerly commanded by Colonel Chauncy M. Hooper who now is serving in Washington, D. C. 12-8-45

Shipped overseas in January, 1944, the battalion was assigned to the anti-aircraft defenses of the Naval Air Station on Maui in the Hawaiian Islands and later in the defense of Pearl Harbor on the Island of Oahu. The organization later moved to Okinawa and took part in the antiaircraft defenses of the Ryukus, where it was stationed at the end of the war.

Enlisted personnel of the 503rd are from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Florida, and New York. 12-8-45

The battalion is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence H. Calloway, of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Negro Soldiers Praised and Called America's Best Goodwill Ambassadors

Call - Kansas City, Mo.
1-5-45

By FRANK D. GODIEN

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN ITALY.—(ANP)—In the "Stars and Stripes," the armed forces' daily papers, Lt. William H. Venn, a member of the army air force, praised the American Negro soldier.

"Deportment of American colored soldiers in public as well as on duty is quite worthy of emulation and warm commendation," he wrote. "These men are a decided credit to their race and a profound asset to their country or any country and their integral importance should be more openly recognized and accredited."

While in Africa, I was told by a British soldier that American Negro soldiers are America's best goodwill ambassadors. They are kind, sympathetic and generous. The Italian people have discovered that Negro soldiers are sympathetic and of course, they play upon that good nature.

However, I do believe that the world's future peace will be based upon small deeds done by soldiers in these conquered countries.

TAN GI'S JOIN WHITE UNITS IN RHINE CROSSING

Chi. Ill.
Chicago Defender

Colored Infantrymen Win Praise For Bravery In First Test

3-31-45

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — The Rhine river, Germany's life-line, was stormed this week by an American army that perhaps for the first time in World War II practiced as well as preached democracy.

Cracking into the vaunted fortress of "Ayran supremacy," in the greatest military operation since D-Day, Negro troops fighting alongside white soldiers charged through German towns in their first test, killing and capturing hundreds of Nazis.

Writing history at Remagen, Mainz and Worms, Negro infantrymen who but several weeks back were shovel brigades, truck drivers and cooks showed their mettle with rifles and grenades in combat against Hitlerites making their last stand.

Win High Tribute

Everywhere they went into action, they won high tributes from white commanding officers who were observing how the new integration policy of the army was working.

Reports ranging from "magnificent" to "perfect" on the Negro soldiers in action refuted widely circulated claims that Negroes "melt away" in face of enemy fire.

Negro soldiers were assigned to white units in both the 1st and 7th armies.

3-31-45

Typical of the reports coming in was that from Tech. Sgt. Casper F. Koch of Beaver Dam, Wis., who helped lead a Negro platoon into action against the town of Berghausen.

Take 53 Jerries

"We didn't want to give them too tough a job in their first fight," Koch said, "so our platoon went down a street where there were only about nine houses. We didn't think there would be many Germans in them.

"In the first house the Negro boys captured 11 Jerries and killed two. By the time they'd gotten to the end of the street they had captured 53 prisoners and killed I don't know how many.

"They worked perfectly. They are eager to learn and ask a lot of questions. When you tell 'em to take an objective they want to know what to do after they get there."

Asked Chance To Fight

The Negro doughboys asked for the chance to fight, many of them voluntarily gave up their stripes as staff sergeants and technical sergeants to get into the fighting. They are fighting as platoons under white officers who have had combat experience.

The army has moved cautiously in breaking its long established tradition of keeping white and Negro units separated, and the Negro rifle platoons are being fed into divisions gradually, with one platoon to each regiment now in action.

When the Negro platoons arrived recently at one veteran division's location, each member got a personal letter from the commanding general along with the divisional shoulder patches. They then were greeted personally by regimental commanders. This is the identical welcome given to all white reenforcements.

As yet the army has set up no replacement pool for the Negro platoons. When their fighting strength is reduced to such a level that they are unable to function as units, then remnants of two or more units will be reorganized into a full strength platoon.

The army is keeping close check on the Negro platoons, since this is the first time they have been placed in the same divisions with white soldiers on the fighting front. Weekly reports are to be made on their morale, fighting ability, casualties, and the number of Germans they capture.

"All our reports so far have been good," said Capt. Edward Finnegan of New York City.

Save Company

Negro infantrymen did a "magnificent job" on their very first day in the line, according to battalion commander, Lt. Col. Norman Moore. Moore credited them with saving a company in a tight spot.

Thomas R. Henry, war correspondent of the Washington Evening Star, reporting the praiseworthy performance of the Negroes, said:

"I checked the situation in two divisions today. The best story is that of an infantry company getting a platoon of colored men, mostly Sicily and Africa veterans in behind-the-lines jobs, eager to prove their worth as fighting soldiers. The colored platoon trained hard for months for the new roles.

"The white regiment was stalled before high ground commanding approaches to Honnigen, Germany. Its advances in the previous 24 hours had cost a high price and the remaining men were exhausted. The colored troops were sent in with no idea of the job ahead. They took off through the woods, their objective a Jerry machine-gun nest which had pinned the company flat.

Take Ack-Ack Post

"Sparked by Pvt. James Oliver of Nyack, N. Y., the new men slivered up in back of the enemy guns and captured them with their crews intact. The platoon then was fired on by a 20-millimeter flak gun. The men QUIETLY deployed and concentrated their rifle fire o nthe Jerries. They threw grenades and sprayed machine-gun fire from every position They captured the ack-ack position with four prisoners.

"These men deserve mention as colored heroes of war: Willie Pace of Columbus, Ga.; Preston Williams of Mobile, Ala.; Ellis Butts, Smithfield, Va.; Robert Decasseres, New York City; Harold Robinson, Buffalo; Harold Shaw, Canton, Texas; Raymond Randsom, Detroit, and Donald Skeeters, Baltimore.

"That night, two had more important business—Arthur Holmes, former night-club entertainer, and Tom Williams, both of Los Angeles. They led a squad THROUGH INKY DARKNESS and disposed of three Germans with knives before the rest fled.

"The next day the colored men were given the job of flushing out two houses suspected of harboring German artillery observation posts, this under murderous artillery fire. They advanced up the hill to their objectives, peppering the target with their rifles. They took 26 prisoners and a signalling set."

Jarboro Sings For Soldiers

The Call

Entertains GI's On New Year's

Kansas City, Mo.

By MAX JOHNSON
(War Correspondent in Italy)

ALLIED FORCES HEAI QUARTERS IN ITALY. — A ne USO unit, headed by Caterin Jarboro, concert singer of radi fame, is provided a specail New Year's treat tor troops in the vici ity of Naples. Rome, ith the first overseas presentation in this the ater of an all colored show of this type.

1-5-45

Advertised extensively as a musical treat "concert time," Miss Jarboro's show is USO unit No. 384 and her supporting cast includes Sylvia Medford violinist; George Dosher, basso; Maurice Graham, pianist; Bruce Howard, soprano and Marshall Haley, tenor.

This musical, according to Don Byrnes, USO field director in this area, will tour the entire front, touching the fighter pilot group and the 92nd division as well as rear echelons.

Byrnes, highly enthusiastic, expects outstanding receptions to the unit's offerings.

Byrnes said that more colored USO units are needed in this theater. He stated that one built around Willie Bryant's breezy type of showmanship would be ideal. The first all-colored USO unit headed by Doc Wheeler, now returned to the States, made a creditable showing, he said.

Christmas activities were wide and varied for the troops in this theater. All had turkey dinners except those in the extreme front line positions where it was impracticable to reach. These men will get turkey later.

The only evidence of snow came in the Midsector of the 5th Army front where some elements of the 92nd were holding. The weather elsewhere was similar to a brisk, sunny fall day.

The 92nd front line activities remained quiet with limited reconnaisance patrols. We spent Christmas Eve and the following day covering 425 miles to Italy by plane and trucks, checking the activities.

1-5-45

In Rome, religious services, conducted by Pope Pius, furnished the most attractive Christmas observation. I met Captain Raymond Montgomery Jr., of Washington, a 92nd division officer, enjoying his first leave after four months on the front lines.

With him was Lieut. Marion H. Thatcher of Kansas City, Kas., supply officer with the the 92nd division, also on his first leave.

In Naples, Sgt. Robert Witter of Anawalt, W. Va., told me that this was his third Christmas overseas. Witter, a chauffeur from the 12th Air Force Chief of Staff, volunteered to drive me about Naples to check the activities of our troops.

The only semblance of Christmas I found was at a Fighter Group rest camp where Lieut. William B. Womack, officer in charge, gave a party for 150 neighborhood children and at a Red Cross club where Clifford E. Minton, former Little Rock Urban League secretary, and his staff had a similar affair for orphan children and GI's.

1st Lieut. Hugh S. Warner of New York received the most envied Christmas present among those I met. He received orders to return home. A pilot with the Fighter Group, Warner completed 41 missions, scoring one victory, one probable and six on the ground since his arrival overseas last March.

1-5-45

Lieut. Warner holds the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

GI's, experiencing their first leaves in Rome and Naples, were still buying Christmas cards and presents for home folks on Christmas Eve. I observed countless such purchases and made one myself.

'Fightingest Tank Outfit In ETO'

Pittsburgh Courier Phila. Pa.

784th Wins Battle Honors In Capturing German Towns

3-31-45

By THEODORE STANFORD, Courier War Correspondent

IN THE FIELD WITH THE U. S. NINTH ARMY—(By Cable)—The 784th Tank Battalion, crack Negro unit, which recently received its first real baptism of fire during savage offensive action against Nazi bastions in Holland and Germany, has won for itself the general reputation of being "the fightingest tank outfit in the European Theatre of Operations."

Accounts of the kind of fight these men put up at such bitterly contested towns as Sevelen, Straeelin, Kamperbruck and Rheinburg have become favorite topics of conversation among hard-bitten soldiers whose day-to-day lives are filled with the whiplash of snipers' bullets and the sudden terror of artillery fire and the strangely sickening odor of newly spilled blood. 3-31-45

MOST MEN FROM DIXIE

Most of these tankmen are of very ordinary education, coming chiefly from towns deep in Mississippi, Alabama, the Carolinas and Texas. They handle their cumbersome and complicated vehicles with the ease and sureness of a middle-aged matron trundling a baby carriage. Intensely conscious of the special role which the Negro soldier must play in this war, they have left a trail of goodwill behind them on their passage through five countries.

I have seen sober-faced Europeans of all ranks and ages remove their hats and stand respectfully at attention as the armored battlewagons manned by these tankmen thundered by.

I was the first Negro war correspondent to drop in and eat chow with the tankmen of the 784th, and to most of them, I was the first war reporter of their race they had seen. They received me with the calm reserve of men who have seen their best friends killed at their sides amid all the din and horror of modern military combat.

OFFERED GIFTS 3-31-45

When I left them a few days later they tried to force on me gifts of chocolate, cigarettes and souvenirs hoarded from their wanderings and battles. Most of these gifts I refused with a friendly handclasp. I was profoundly impressed because I knew that the actual cost of those gifts could be estimated only in the coin of agony and blood.

The story of the hotly fought battle for Sevelen already had been reported in the American newspapers. It was a good story although war reporters realize how limited words can be when they are used in an attempt to describe such scenes. Sevelen, however, was not an isolated encounter. It was merely typical of the brutal opposition which these Negro tankmen have faced with gallantry and honor. The shell fire of other conquered towns still haunts their thoughts. 3-31-45

ATLANTAN IS HERO

Corp. James Rice of Atlanta, Ga. told me of his experience during the battle for Rheinburg, Germany. Said he: "We were moving up into the town when something suddenly hit our tank and our tank commander fell down, striking me in my back. I looked around and saw that he had been shot. I tried to keep him from falling down into the edge of the turret and held his head in my arms.

"Since we were under terrific small and heavy arms fire at the time, I rested the commander against my leg as carefully as I could. This allowed me to look through the turret so that I could tell the cannoneer what kind of ammunition to use. Continuing to fire, we backed our tank up to the edge of the woods. We had no sooner reached there when our gun jammed and we were forced to stop firing. We pulled back into cover of the woods and I think that is the only thing that saved us.

"The medics came and removed our tank commander who died shortly afterwards.

"He had been shot in the head and his brains and blood had splashed on my back when he fell."

CORPORAL TAKES COMMAND

The shot which hit the tank commander had immediately rendered him speechless and Corporal Rice, the tank gunner, took command of the vehicle throughout the rest of the action.

Sgt. Barney Ross of Dunbar, S. C., one of the battalion tank commanders, also participated in the conquest of Rheinburg. "We were the second tank in the leading column," he said, "and when we were about 500 yards from the town we drew fire from eighty-eights, mortars and small arms. For about twenty minutes we were pinned down behind a couple of small buildings. Then we pulled out, advanced about 250 yards and opened up with all we had. Bazooka shooters and automatic riflemen among the Germans continued to make it pretty hot for us, but we were able to advance about seventy-five yards under fire before we were pinned down again. It was about this time that one of our light tanks was knocked out by an eighty-eight shell.

PINNED DOWN NINE HOURS 3-31-45

"The Nazis kept us pinned down in that spot from ten o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock that night. However, during that time we killed quite a few of the enemy with our 37-mm. and small calibre guns. The Germans came out by the hundreds and surrendered to us. We waved them back to our infantrymen in our rear.

"We had entered the town with infantrymen on our tanks but the heavy fire had forced the doughboys to take cover in cellars of houses along the way. Finally the artillery fire got so hot that we were forced to withdraw. After we withdrew I set up a radio control station and called for more support. When I failed to get support I called back for further orders and was told to use my best judgment.

"I withdrew to the rear and that ended the part which my tank played in the action."

CHICAGOAN PRAISED

Sgt. James Mines of Chicago was one of the several men whom the commanding officers of the battalion pointed to with particular pride. In the assault of a small German town, Sergeant Mines led the attack column in the first tank. As his tank entered the town it was knocked out by the first round of fire from a concealed enemy anti-tank gun. Sergeant Mines remained in the turret of his tank and continued to fire on the anti-tank gun until his platoon leader ordered him to dismount and to set up a machine-gun outpost.

DIRECTED FIRE 3-31-45

After dismounting and consulting with his platoon leader, Sergeant Mines went to his platoon's leader's tank and directed fire on the enemy anti-tank gun until it was silenced. This accomplished, he accompanied his platoon leader on a foot reconnaissance of the town. They were under constant sniper fire. Returning from the reconnaissance, they boarded the platoon leader's tank and moved into the town. The tank they were in was knocked out by another anti-tank gun. The platoon leader ordered the crew to dismount, covered them with machinegun fire and instructed them to seek shelter inside a building while he returned to the rest of his tanks for help. Disregarding his own safety, Sergeant Mines again set out with his platoon leader until ordered to take rest and cover.

OUTSTANDING COURAGE 3-31-45

His courage, alertness and attention to his mission greatly contributed to the ultimately successful effort of the task force.

T./4 Robert Smith of Detroit is another tankman of whom the battalion is especially proud. During the action in Straelen, Germany, a tank in his company was set on fire by enemy mortar shells. Sergeant Smith, who was riding with the maintenance crew of his company, was ordered to set up a defense. This having been accomplished, he assisted his maintenance sergeant in fighting the fire and in evacuating a wounded tankman who had been left behind for dead by the tank crew.

FIRES FROM HIP

While assisting in aiding the wounded crew member, Sergeant Smith was fired on by an enemy sniper from a nearby house. Grasping a 30-calibre machinegun, he fired it from his hip, spraying the house with bullets and killing one sniper. Directing the removal of the wounded man to a safer place, Sergeant Smith covered the movement of the rescue crew with continuous machinegun fire until the snipers were silenced. His hand was severely burned from holding the barrel of the overheated gun.

During an hour of holding the crossroads, Sergeant Smith alternately helped by firing various small arms and by assisting in the direction of 37-mm. fire against approaching enemy bazooka teams. His tank was withdrawn to a roadblock outside of Straelen where the rest of the task force was pinned down. There he helped to cover the repair of the roadblock by alternately firing and directing the 37-mm. machinegun fire from his tank.

PATTON'S BODY CARRIED TO CHURCH—Pallbearers carry the casket containing the body of the late General George S. Patton, Jr., from Villa Renier to Christ Church in Heidelberg. The pallbearer at the left foreground is Master Sergeant William G. Meeks, Patton's orderly for eight years.

Russians Laud Tan Yanks For Aid In Pushing Supplies On Iran Road

Chicago Defender — Ill.

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
(NNPA War Correspondent)

TEHERAN, Iran. (By Courier—Delayed)—What are the Russians like? This had been the sixty-four dollar question which had pricked my curiosity for quite a number of years. 1-13-45

During the course of my stay here in the Middle East I have had the opportunity of satisfying some of that curiosity. I have met some of the sons and daughters of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and I have found them to be a people that you can immediately feel at home with upon initial introduction.

I have seen the men and women of Soviet Russia working with deadly earnestness and skill. I have eaten sturgeon, herring, and caviar from the Caspian with them, as well as salami and hard bread. I have enjoyed a cup of tea, and quaffed toasts of vodka, that favorite Russian drink which has all of the subtlety and charm of a block-buster, with them.

I have seen and heard tow-headed men of the Red Army sing American and Russian songs without colored GIs. I have seen friendly, blonde Moscow maidens dance with our tan Yanks. And we have exchanged mutual praises for each other's country's contributions in this war against aggression. 1-13-45

This young stripling nation of twenty-six years, which has rejected the poison of racial discrimination and whose ideological hope is to reach that stage in economic development where at the minimum everyone will get something, has replaced Germany as the greatest power on the continent of Europe, and has emerged as tomorrow's strongest military and industrial force in Asia. It is the new colossus of the twentieth century. 1-13-45

You cannot help but be impressed by the well-disciplined, big, healthy-looking, almost perpetually-smiling troops in gray-green, smock-bloused uniforms and red tabs of the Red Army.

You get the full meaning of total mobilization when you see the Russian women looking neat and amazingly fresh in their plain uniforms or simple dresses, which have been designed more for utilitarian value than for style, working at such tasks as railroad engineers and oilers—jobs which we back home generally reserve for the manual skill of men. Almost all of those whom I saw had well-developed figures. They carried themselves straight and walked extremely well.

No Mistakes

Observing these men and women at work here on the supply line, you get a feeling of organization, purpose, and efficiency. They are painstakingly thorough. Every carload of supplies is carefully checked and weighed by their own checkers before Russian authorities will accept it. There must be no mistakes. The Russians do not tolerate such. They are exacting in their prosecution of this war and mistakes are considered as crimes against the State. 1-13-45

Husky men of the Red Army load and unload supplies, drive trucks and trains, fly planes, and in general keep an over-all eye on their throbbing lifeline. Healthy, determined-looking women from the shores of the Caspian, who are quite adept at the use of firearms, serve as road guards; and others perform such duties as checkers at supply dumps, interpreters, stenographers, and chauffeurs; while still others work on the railroad.

I had interviews with Lt. Cols. Vladimir Sokolov and Victor Semenchenko, of Moscow, both of whom have seen colored troops in action here on the supply line. Through their respective interpreters, Miss Nila Nordstein and Lt. Vladimir Glouskine, we were able to exchange conversation with consummate ease.

Laud Tan Yanks

Said Lt. Col. Sokolov, "Negro troops here on the docks, who have been unloading supplies, are very good workers, and soldiers. They are some of the best I have seen. They are deserving of much praise. We judge men by their ability to produce and not on the superficial basis of color and the like. Yes, they do well."

Lt. Col. Semenchenko, who has observed the work going on at another gulf port here in the Command, remarked to this correspondent that, "Your Negro troops are very hard-working men. They know what to do and like to do it." 1-13-45

"You know," he continued, "In Russia that is how we judge a man, by his productivity—his ability to do work. He deserves an opportunity to prove himself. This is a constitutional right and privilege in the Soviet State."

He concluded with the remark that, "We, who have observed your men at work here on the supply line, think that they have done a good job."

66th Armoured Has Reasons to Boast

AFRO-American 5-26-45

Took First Bridge Across Danube; 4 Wounded, Va. G.I. Killed in Action

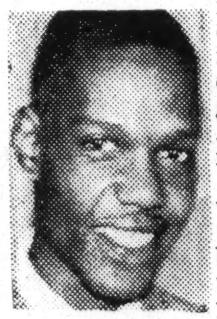
Balt., Md. 5-26-45

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent

(GI's from Va., N.Y., and Pa., are mentioned in this story, which also tells how Pvt. Thomas Riddick of Portsmouth died.)

IN GERMANY—(Via Air Mail—Delayed)—When the boys come home and are talking about the rivers they crossed as Fortress Germany crumbled, the gang in the 66th Armoured Infantry will be among those who can boast of taking the first bridge across the Danube—if you can pull it out of them.



Vincent Tubbs

The bridge is at Dillingen, a little town on the banks of the Danube some 70-odd miles northeast of Munich, the big objective that made the bridge important.

The 66th, which works as a part of CCA (Combat Command A) of he 12th Armored, pulled up to the bridge at such a rapid pace that German troops in the town were caught in chow lines and lolling along the streets.

Dog Company was one of the first infantry units across—even before the tanks that traditionally spearhead every move of an armored column. 5-26-45

Four Are Casualties

Their job was to get across and make it safe for others to cross. They did, but a price had to be paid. Four men became candidates for the Purple Heart in the action in Fritsingen and the wooded areas surrounding it.

S/Sgt. William G. Whitehead, 353 N. 60th St., Philly, was shot as he led his squad forward. Sgt. George Hooker of the Bronx was also hit by enemy gun fire and his assistant squad leader, Sgt. Phineas Clemons of Pittsburgh, was wounded by an exploding mine. Pvt. Willie Hairston, Draper, N.C., was stopped by an enemy bullet as the unit advanced toward the hills.

Pvt. Riddick Killed

He was a short, slight-built youth with a kind face and easy voice. The day before I had talked with him and asked if he was related to a Norfolk undertaker. He said no with a faint show of embarrassment, as if he was ashamed not to be. 5-26-45

When the mine exploded in the smooth green grass of the plain, just short of the hills, this little guy just doubled up and died without uttering a cry or saying a word. He was Pvt. Thomas Riddick of Portsmouth, Va.

A few steps to the left and in front of him was Pfc. Wesley Potier of St. Martinsville, La. Fragments from the mine that killed Riddick hit Potier, but he was from under the doctor's care before we missed him. He told me now quickly and quietly Riddick had died.

"He was a nice little guy too," Potier said. "And he went out the best possible way—quick and without suffering."

In the assembly area after Fritsingen was cleared, something in the air tugged at your insides. The men moved with slow, sluggish steps as if they were philosophers instead of just "doughfoots"; you'd have said their faces showed a deep sense of the tragedy of humany destiny. 5-26-45

Pa., N.Y. Men Seen

Some of the men talked glibly about how they had cleaned out a Kraut machine gun nest. S/Sgt. Winifred King of Burgettstown, Pa., was one of these. Some men were almost hysterical in their description of blasting Germans who fired bazookas at them. Pfc. Danny Fisher, NYC, was one of these. Others lay down and slept as if all the world was at peace.

Pfc. Potier talked to me about Pvt. Riddick and I began to feel more sorry for him than the soldier dead out in the field, for it must be very fortunate to be killed suddenly in the flush and pride of life . . . killed by a blow that brings an instant ending.

But the slow rot of continuing . . . when the blood flows thin in the veins and the fibers of the brain open like a leaky bucket and hold nothing, the bad or the good, the true or the dream. Only a few instincts remain—the purest and the most simple, and I guess that's why Potier kept saying: "He sure was a nice little guy."

Negro GIs Respond To Friendly Russians

Daily Worker New York

Negro troops with the American occupation forces in Vienna are enjoying the warmest fraternal relations with Red Army troops, says Roi Ottley, Negro author and correspondent, in a dispatch to the Negro press in this country. 11-29-45

The author of New World Coming describes the "considerable affection displayed between Negro GIs and Soviet soldiers as stemming from the Negro understanding of the Russian attitude toward minority problems. The Soviet soldier's eager display of fraternalism toward the Negro soldier, writes Ottley, "springs from their knowledge of the Negro's position in the United States. Ottley's conclusions are that Soviet troops "never discuss Communism" with the Negro Americans, "so it cannot be concretely said that the Russians are attempting to propagandize the Negro troops. Rather," he observes, "Their attitude seems only to show in every way that they are allies. Moreover, the anti-Russian attitude so prevalent among American troops does not seem to have trickled down to the Negro troops. So, in their day-to-day contacts with the Russians, they are relaxed and friendly and thus bring out the best in the Russians."

CONTRASTS IN VIENNA

In contrast, Ottley tells how American white soldiers reflect the prejudices and misconceptions about the Soviet Union in their attitude toward Russian troops.

"Relations between Russians and the white Americans are very bad," he declares, "completely the reverse" of relations between Russians and Negro GIs." 11-29-45

Whereas instances of clashes between the two zones are "daily and frequent," Ottley reports, "Negro troops go about Vienna with the complete assurance that they will not have to come to grips with the Russians."

"Americans even talk of war against Russia," he writes. "When I first arrived in Vienna I was shocked by the armed-camp atmosphere between these allies. Everywhere the opinion seemed to prevail that the Russian was dangerous and thus was to be watched." 11-29-45

He tells of the day when his white GI jeep-driver "surprised" me by strapping his revolver to his side" as they started on a trip. The GI explained that he might have

German Paper Creates Terror, Fright Of Group

Atlanta World

5-31-45

Resent Insulting Reference To Negro Fighters

Atlanta Ga.

WITH THE U. S. 7TH ARMY IN GERMANY — A N P) — Negro troops are facing some of the Nazi's poisonous race propaganda here.

Recently, several members of the 7th army were called together and had an article read to them about Negro troops. The article, apeparing in the Nazi Eight O'clock News, a party organ formerly published in Nuremberg, was headed "Americans bring black insult to German territory."

"TERROR AND FRIGHT"

Negro troops have reported encountering anti-Negro propaganda before in Germany but this time the newspaper story described the capture by the 12th Armored division of the town of Eupoven. The arrival of the Negro armored infantrymen, the Nazi said, had filled the inhabitants with "terror and fright." Other Nazi anti-Negro propaganda stories tell German civilians that Negro troops come to attack, rob and murder them. Some terrified Germans refuse to come out of their homes when colored GIs arrive in a town.

"I killed two of the supermen this morning while we were combing out some woods," said Pvt. Bennie Player, Washington, D. C. "Frghtenng civilians isn't our line. nocking out those Wehrmacht guys it."

Pfc. Otis Brown, also of Washington, openly resented the German reference to Negro soldiers.

PROUD OF WORK

5-31-45

"We don't like being called names by anybody anywhere," he commented, "but if killing and capturing Krauts is insulting to Nazis then we're proud of it and are going to keep on doing that kind of insulting."

But Pfc. Will Lindsay made a contribution toward counteracting some Nazi propaganda against Negro GIs when he sat down to a grand piano in a luxurious German home. Lindsay, who hails from Hattiesburg, Miss., had German necks craning by the mellow notes of "Pine Top's Boogie Woogie."

Separate Recreation Centers For Troops In Belgium

Pittsburgh Courier — Pa. 5-26-45

5-26-45

TAN YANKS PROTEST 'WHITE ONLY' ORDER

5-26-45

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY—The sting of prejudice has been felt again by our boys in this theatre of operations. Old Man Jim Crow reared his ugly head shortly after the total surrender of the Germans to Allied Forces. Members of the 183rd Engineer Combat Battalion . . . Tan Yanks who played an important part in forcing the Nazis to their knees . . . are on the outside—and not even looking in.

The Tan Engineers felt the sting of prejudice early this month when a recreation center was set up for white troops in Eupen, Belgium, and headquarters of the 1133rd Engineer Combat Group announced that a "recreation center for colored personnel is to be opened in the very near future."

TAN YANKS PROTEST

A petition proesting the action was signed by each man in the 183rd Engineer Combat Battalion and addressed to the commanding general of the European Theatre of Operations. It reads in this wise:

The following memorandum from Headquarters 1133rd Eng. Combat Group . . . U. S. Army is quoted for your information:

11. Recreation: 5-26-45

1. Tricolor Recreation Center will be opened in Eupen, Belgium 10 May, 1945. Attendance at the recreation center is for three (3) days. When allotments are received from the Corps Commander they will be sub-alloted to units by this headquarters.

2. A Tricolor Recreation Center for colored personnel is to be opened in the very near future.

3. It is anticipated that sometime this month there will be allocated to this unit a quota of three (3) day passes to Paris and Brussels.

By Order of
Lieutenant Colonel Broad:
/s/t/ Thomas V. Denney
1st Lt., 1133rd Engrs.
Adjutant.

CALL ACTION UNFAIR

Protesting the action, the Tan Yanks declared:

"It is our opinion that you directed no segregation or discrimination in the European Theatre of Operations. Is it not unfair that those of us who worked and fought consistently during the long months of inclement weather without even a three-day rest should be barred from the doors of the rest centers simply because our faces are black?

5-26-45

"Is this one of the causes for which we fight? Is this democracy? . . . No! It is impossible for American leaders to preach a gospel which rationalizes a legend of 'equal opportunity for all,' while at the same time there is a demonstrated incapacity on the part of democracy to do with race prejudice. 'Blood and Guts' treated us like men . . . He sent us all to the same recreation centers . . . Why should we be separated . . . We were men as long as the fight lasted . . . Are we still men?

"IS ANOTHER BATTLE NECESSARY?" 5-26-45

"We are soldiers! Soldiers in the Army of the United States! Now that the war here is finished, will we be continuously confronted with this problem? Will we have to take part in another battle here in Europe and back home? A battle against our own people?

92nd Troops Disgusted

Humiliated By Story In Newsweek Magazine

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

5-24-45

By COLLINS GEORGE, Courier War Correspondent

WITH FIFTH ARMY, Italy—Intense fury has swept through enlisted men and officers of the Ninety-second Infantry (Buffalo) Division because of the Newsweek article of Feb. 26 entitled, "Luckless Ninety-second." The article reached the Division last Thursday and was circulated among the men both in the overseas edition of the magazine and in mimeographed copies. 3-24-45

Their immediate reaction was: "What Is the Negro Press Going to Do About It?"

The troops appeared very bitter after discussing the magazine article point by point. They say the contents of the article "equals any of Jerry's propaganda crap that has been shot at us."

HAPPENED BEFORE, THEY SAY

They declare that "trigger happy" and "shooting of our own men on patrol" charges are applicable to any organization newly in combat and of every other division in line when new.

Chief anger was aroused by the magazine statement that said "the Ninety-second crumbled under Nazi assault in the Serchio."

Members of the Division said Newsweek referred to the four-day battle as a two-day affair. The Newsweek article, picked up from an earlier story by Milton Bracker in the New York Times, contradicted an earlier story carried by The Pittsburgh Courier.

CHECKED BY CORRESPONDENT

5-24-45

That report was personally checked by me from Naples to the front and the main thesis of the story says that racial difficulties of the Division began when the general staff arrived in Italy following their exploits of combat teams. This was unanimously confirmed by every Negro officer and enlisted man I have talked with.

In regards to the Newsweek article, enlisted men of the Divi-

56n-1945

Foreign Service- Europe

Face Stiffened Nazi Resistance As Battle For La Spezia Rages

Journal & Guide

4-14-45

Norfolk, Va.

Advances Costly As Japanese-Americans Team Up With 92nd Troops To Oust Germans From Key Positions

By LEM GRAVES JR.

Journal and Guide War Correspondent

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Fight Rages On Outskirts Of Massa

ROME—The regular Fifth Army communique on Monday said the Germans on the left flank of American troops had showed signs of weakening as our troops drove within two miles of Massa, on the road to La Spezia.

However, later Allied radio reported that the Germans had stiffened as our troops fought in the outskirts of Massa, where a major battle was shaping up. La Spezia is the Italian naval base town on the West Coast with a fine harbor and dock facilities.

4-14-45

Meanwhile the Eighth Army opened up on the East following a terrific bombardment by 12th and 15th Air Forces in what appeared to be a major effort aimed in the direction of Ferrara. The two drives have taken on the appearance of a major effort to break the Nazi lines.

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—The 92nd Division is on the move again—this time elements of the colorful Negro outfit joined with the 442nd Japanese-American regiment to capture stubborn mountain heights and sections of Italy's vital Route One in a spectacular but costly operation which began last Thursday morning.

GRAVES

The "Buffaloes" and the Japanese-Americans jumped off in simultaneous attacks in the region along the coast of the Ligurian Sea, and by Sunday the 92nd elements, moving along Route One, captured Montignoso, about two miles southeast of the long-sought objective of Massa.

The 92nd fighters also chased the Krauts out of the small town of Strinato, just below Massa.

Meanwhile, the Japanese-Americans, widely recognized as an able outfit as a result of their achievements when attached to the Fifth Army last year, pushed ahead from Belvedere, which had been captured in an earlier action, and continued to clear the Germans from Mt. Folgorito East of Route One.

4-14-45

A small enemy counter-attack was repulsed northeast of Mt. Belvedere.

92ND TROOPS HELD UP TWO DAYS

92nd Division troops, advancing to Porta along Route One with tank support and behind brilliantly-laid artillery barrages, stormed Montignoso, north of Mt. Strettoia, which proved to be a stumbling block in the early phases of the operation.

Strettoia held up the 92nd troops for two days, but units pressed on to smash through to Montignoso. 4-14-45

With the 92nd holding positions two miles to the south and the Japanese-Americans pressing forward two miles to the east, the important objective of Massa seems to be well bracketed and facing immiment capture.

Enemy coastal guns located at Punta Bianca shelled our positions steadily throughout the attack as the slow costly advance was carried out. Artillery fire slackened on Sunday as the enemy was pressed closer and closer to Massa, and as our units and Japanese-American troops seized control of heights from which Jerry had looked down on our troops and mercilessly shelled them.

WATCHED SHOW FROM OBSERVATION POINT

Watching phases of this spectacular military show from an advanced observation post. I saw all branches of the service cooperating magnificently to achieve victory. While the Krauts tried vainly to locate our observation post with 88 shells, we watched artillery, ground troops, naval guns from destroyers off shore and close-supporting airplanes all coordinated toward victory in this engagement.

Using field glasses when the naked eye proved inadequate, I sat for hours atop the highest point in the advanced area, watching action enchanted by the accuracy of our artillery pieces. These big guns were firing from behind us and from all around us, dropping their shells along the rugged mountain sides directly in front of us.

It was a magnificent pattern of fire, beginning at the top of the mountain and working methodically downward, leaving not an inch of uncovered space in an effort to blast the enemy from his prepared fortifications, which our troops advanced in behind the mountain to cut off the retreat route.

The nightmarish noise of our own guns drowned out the noise of enemy guns for me, but not for other observers here who always seemed to hear enemy guns go off with shells aimed in our direction. Jerry's aim was bad, as only one shell hit in the immediate vicinity, crashing into the heart of the small town where our observation post is set up.

This blast was uncomfortably close for me, but men accustomed to being under artillery fire thought that one was a long way off. Other shells hit in a field three to four hundred yards away, near a road which I had to pass on the way back to the rear.

"ROVER JOE" COMES INTO BATTLE PICTURE

While I was watching the drama unfold, "Rover Joe" came in on the wings of P-47 Thunderbolts, laid his eggs on the target, returned to fire rocket projectiles into target area, then dove down to strafe enemy positions time and again.

After blasting the enemy with every weapon possible, the plane formations would move out to make room for other "Rover Joes" as the dauntless flyers continued to provide an impressive air umbrella throughout the day.

And then, to make the attack completely coordinated, two British destroyers pulled up just off shore and laid anchor. I saw them steam in with four escorts and I wondered what warships could add to the magnificent battle drama being unfolded before my eyes. But I didn't have to wonder long.

The guns on the destroyers dropped shells on enemy troops concentrations, gun positions and communication's centers. It was no "one-service" show as everybody pitched in to help our team win.

One of the most effective players on our team was our artillery which kept up constant thunder and made the hills in front of us untenable for Krauts.

INITIAL PHASES OF THE BATTLE

During the initial phases of the battle, when the enemy held dominating heights looking down our throats, it was extremely tough for our infantry. However, conditions are now considered greatly improved.

Already men of the division, who have thought longingly of the important naval base of La Spezia, barely 15 miles to the north, are beginning to look forward to entering this city and other key points along the Ligurian coast.

The famed hill called "Georgia," near the coast, which has been taken and lost by our troops several times previously, was taken by the Japanese-Americans during this operation.

"GEORGIA" JINX RUNS TRUE TO FORM

But the old "Georgia" jinx ran true to form and the Japanese-Americans were forced to retire from the hill. They tried again and finally retook the cruel peak. As this goes to press they are still holding it.

Lightning advances threatened to expose the flanks of our troops at Strettoia but later advances in the sector brought our forces into position.

Our troops were threatening Massa by late Sunday.

Hope U. S. Will Lower Barriers

Pgh., Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

5-19-45

By COLLINS GEORGE

(Courier War Correspondent)

ROME, Italy—In a letter to Stars and Stripes, published Saturday, James Lucas, field artillery sergeant, expressed the fears and hopes of every Negro GI and officer who has seen overseas service.

It is not an optimistic letter, as it warns that returning colored soldiers who hope "America will welcome us back by lowering some of the barriers raised against us" will be disappointed sadly.

SEES HOPES FUTILE

Lucas points out that "There are few people indeed who fight for a cause as unrealized, or, with such dismal prospect of realization as does the American Negro." Full text of the letter follows:

"Many colored soldiers who are fighting Jerries as hard as other Americans are voicing hopeful opinions that when the war is over we will return to an America which will welcome us back and show appreciation for our efforts toward winning the war by lowering some of the barriers raised against us and giving us a better deal. Those of us who so hope will be sadly disappointed. 5-19-45

"The practice of segregation and discrimination in all phases of American life is fundamentally based on fear of the self-raised bogey of Negro competition in all those phases. It does not stand to reason that a Nation which has built itself into the greatest world power of our time; which has intelligence to lead the world in scientific and industrial enterprise, could actually believe the absurdities of racial inferiorities.

COMPLEX DEEP-SEATED

5-19-45

"Fear of Negro competition, intelluctually, economically, politically and socially, puts American treatment of colored people beyond a superficial dislike of them as such. It becomes a deep-seated psychological complex burying itself within subconscious motivations from American whites.

"By his achievements the Negro arouses fear of his potential in whites who dread 'Negrozation' of their society. Few will admit it but it is there.

"There is no hope of democracy for Negroes in America as long as this fear of us resides in the American mind. It is a problem for psychiatrists to solve. Democracy for us will not come, cannot come, until we are seen not as competitors but as ordinary citizens.

CITES FLAT FUTILITY

5-19-45

"The Negro fighting man who hopes for a turnover in American traditions in dealing with him indulges in wishful thinking. There are such few people indeed who fight for a cause as unrealized, or, with such dismal prospects of its realization as does the American Negro."

TAN YANKS RETAKE TOWN IN ITALY TO ROUT 'MASTER RACE'

Pittsburgh Courier

1-6-45 Pgh., Pa.

By HASKELL COHEN

Courier War Correspondent with the 92nd Division in Italy

[Reproduction In Whole or In Part Expressly Forbidden]

ROME ITALY—(Via Cable)—In a surprise attack last Thursday the Germans launched a full-scale offensive against the Italian line sector held by the 92nd Division and rolled three and one-half miles before being checked. The "Master race" strategists had apparently assumed the Negro troops holding the Ligurian costal sector, which has been relatively quiet for the past two months, were no match for Hitler's Herronwolk and that Field Marshal Von Kesselring could score a break-through.

Mr. Cohen

The colored troops of the Fifth Army were not found wanting. And, although the speed and power of the Nazi drive bent the 92nd line . . . it did not break. The Negro troops gave up the villages of Barga and Gallicano before stopping the German "super-men."

Then, sucessfully beating off the enemy armored division and knocking out scores of tanks, the Nazi drive collapsed before the withering fire of the Tan Yanks. The Germans hastily withdrew their armored divisions and the 92nd immediately went on the offensive and retook the town of Barga and drove to the commanding hills overlooking Gallicano. The Negro division is now poised to retake this village and push the Germans out of the Serchio river valley. 1-6-45

(Fifth Army high ranking officers and War Department officials in Washington are loud in their praise of the 92nd Division which, when tested in battle, was not found wanting.)

The colored troops conducted themselves like seasoned veterans under the heavy German pressure, and stopping the Nazi attack before it could get rolling is termed one of the brave feats of this war.

(The German radio proudly boasted that all the American prisoners taken in the attack were Negroes and asserted Fascist forces had inflicted heavy "losses of men and material on the Fifth Army" and advanced to Fornaci, south of Barga.)

The heroic 92nd was aided in stopping the Wehrmacht by the 22nd Tactical Air Command which flew well over 4,000 sorties.

MASSED FORCES FOR BREAK-THROUGH

Allied headquarters has released a few details of the fighting and has not indicated in what strength the Germans started their drive. There were indications that Nazi Marshal Kesselring has massed a large force behind his attacking army for the purpose of exploiting any break-through achieved by the surprise onslaught.

The Germans attacked along a six-mile front on both sides of the Serchio valley and the adjoining mountain terrain on Thursday last. The suddenness of their attack enabled them to push the American line back some three and a half miles. The Tan Yanks fought fiercely and bitterly contested every inch of ground. It was this bold and courageous defense which prevented the Nazis from exploiting their surprise.

HEROIC TALES TO BE TOLD LATER

By the third day the 92nd had recaptured most of the ground lost. 1-6-45

Barga is a town of less than 2,000 inhabitants and lies two and a half miles east of Gallicano and was about two miles behind American advanced positions.

The Nazi opened their attack with concentrated artillery barrages and the drive southward reached a greater intensity than had been seen in this theatre since the assault on the Gothic lines.

The men of the 92nd added many pages to the various annals of fighting men, but these stories of herioc deeds cannot be told at this time for security reasons.

Roi Ottley Says:—

Combat Troops Win Respect For Race

Pittsburgh Courier

Pgh., Pa.

NEW YORK—The soundness of the position of the Negro press in fighting for more combat troops is being forcefully brought to the fore, is the opinion of PM War Correspondent Roi Ottley, just recently returned from two war theatres. "Negro troops in actual combat," Ottley told The Pittsburgh Courier last week, "have gained a respect and dignity in the eyes of white soldiers that they haven't gotten elsewhere. Unhappily, however, the labor troops in many quarters are still regarded as porters in civilian activities."

Seven months in Ireland, Scotland, Wales, England, North Africa and Italy as a roving reporter for both PM newspaper and Liberty magazine, has been a "dream assignment," Ottley said. He has not had to confine his work to the reporting of Negro activities. For example, he reported on the Italian cabinet crisis. More significantly, however, there has been no differential of his evaluation of the foreign picture. 1-13-45

KEEN INSIGHT

Among other things, Ottley found that his experiences abroad broadened his vision of the political and racial picture and gave him a keen insight into racial questions there as contrasted with racial questions in the United States. In England, he observed, Negroes are free and are recognized for their worth. There are, however, the same strict lines drawn between varying social strata—as it is practiced among the white peoples there. The 10,000 Negroes in France, Ottley said, are totally free from social prejudice, but the French in North Africa, he said, are as anti-Negro as most Southern Americans.

Ottley will soon return to the fighting areas for PM. Before he leaves he will do two stories for Liberty. PM, incidentally, is particularly proud of the fact that their correspondent is the only one overseas to have interviewed distinguished leaders of all the Allied Nations. 1-13-45

The future will bring another book from Ottley, who wrote "New World A-Coming." This one will present the Negro problem against an international background and will dwell on the roles of all colored peoples in the war.

COLORED TANKERS WERE IN ON CAPTURE OF GEORING'S CASTLE; GERMANS PUT UP STIFF BATTLE

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Black Dispatch 2-7-45

When Attack Order Was Given Negro Division to Flank Town, Nazis Gave Up

FABULOUS LOOT FOUND

By TREZZVANT W. ANDERSON

WITH THE 761ST TANK BATTALION IN EUROPE.—(ANP)—It has now been officially revealed that Negro tankmen of the 761st Tank battalion were in the thick of the fighting which ended in the capture of Reich-Marshal Herman Georing's castle, high atop a bluff overlooking the German town of Neuhaus, in April.

Two platoons of Capt. Charles A. Gates' Company C were the firing units which operated with the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 66th Infantry regiment of the 71st division in taking the town and bringing into American custody the fabulous loot of the former luftwaffe chief.

The platoons were commanded by 2nd Lts. Frank C. Cochrane, Beacon, N. Y., and Moses E. Dade, of Washington.

When the attacking elements approached the town, they met stiff resistance from Nazi troopers who seemed determined to hold on to the redoubt of the Nazi chieftain. Heavy concentrations of 155 mm howitzer and chemical motar fire softened up the resistance, and the platoons were ordered to take the high ground beyond the town. 2-7-45

Lt. Dade's platoon hit the town from one side and Lt. Cochrane's platoon hit it from the other. They were slightly defying the usual principles of attack warfare because it was late in the evening, but the town had to be taken and so the order was to attack.

The attack took place at half past eight that evening, and the suddenness and viciousness of the attack dazed the German defenders, and the tankers shelled the town, and the infantry elements moved up the bluff towards the residence of the fat man.

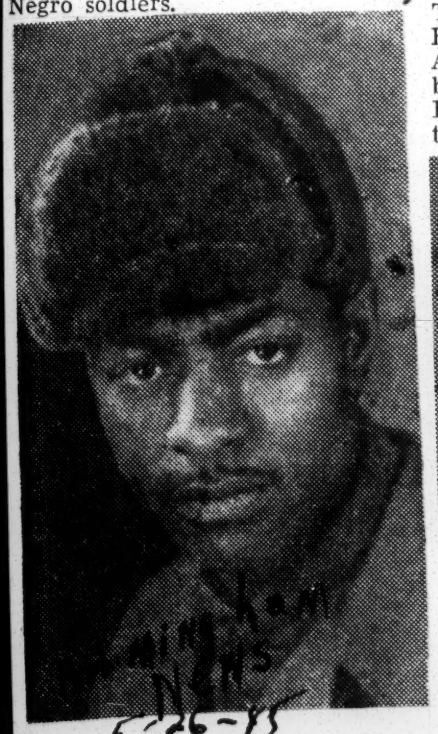
Messerschmidt Captured By Negro Soldiers

Chicago Defender 5-26-45

PARIS — A Chicago Negro soldier, Sgt. James A. Faust, 6627 South Rhodes avenue, was revealed this week as the soldier who captured the famed German plane expert, Baron Willie Messerschmidt, now being held in England.

Accompanied by three other Negro soldiers, Sgt. Faust was sent to rescue several French fliers in the vicinity of Staffel See, near Murnau. When the Negro infantrymen reached the rambling estate, they were met by the son of the Nazi plane engineer who designed the fastest German fighters. He requested that his father be taken in custody for protection from roving SS men.

A 7th Army statement said that Messerschmidt was with a blonde who also requested to be "liberated" but she was left behind by the Negro soldiers.

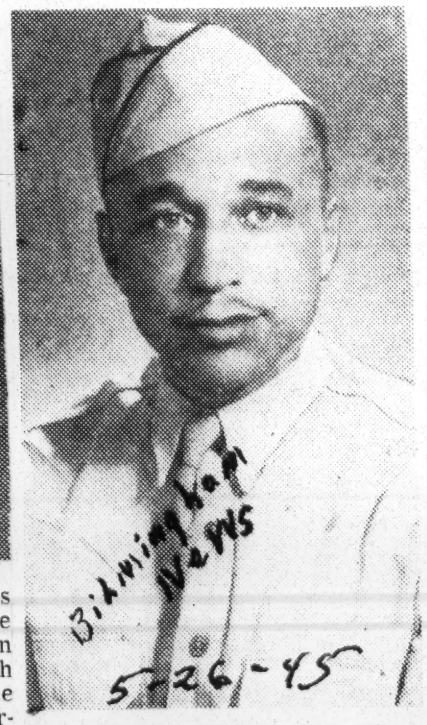


KILLED IN ITALY—T-5 James I. White (above), 24, of Florence was killed in action April 6 in Italy where he was on duty with the infantry. In service since 1942, Corp. White had been overseas since June, 1944, and had been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. A native of Tuscaloosa County, he is survived by his mother, who lives in Florence, two brothers and six sisters.

5-26-45

Birmingham News

MISSING IN ACTION—David T. Albet (above), has been reported missing in action while on overseas duty with the Navy. He is the fourth son of the Will Albets, Trafford, to enter the service. His brothers are Sgt. Robert L. Albet and Pfc. Willie James Albet, both serving overseas, and Edward Albet, who has just entered the Army.



Birmingham News 5-26-45

KILLED IN ITALY—T-5 Thaddeus L. Sharpe, 34 (above), was killed in action April 6 in Italy after serving overseas 18 months. He was on duty in Trinidad for 10 months with an Army band, and had been in combat eight months at the time of his death. Surviving him are his mother, who resides in Montgomery; three sisters, and eight brothers, two of whom are overseas, Sgt. Nathan Sharpe, France, and Pvt. Burnice Sharpe, Aleutians.

BLAZE BLOODY PATH FOR WHITE INFANTRYMEN

Chicago Defender 4-7-45 Ill.

Big 7th Army Attack Spearheaded By 614th And 761st

By EDWARD TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH U.S. FORCES IN GERMANY—Breaking loose last week like unleashed tigers, the U. S. Seventh Army's 614th Tank Destroyer Hellcats, famed for that "Climb to Climbach" into Germany last December, continued to break up Nazi "supermen" dreams.

But this time, they had company! It was the 761st Tank Battalion and together the two Negro units blasted their way through German towns as a spearhead for a white infantry division.

It was a quiet night in the vicinity of Bobenthal, Germany, when Task Force Bates (named for Lt. Col. Paul Bates commanding the tank battalion) set out on its mission to take and hold forward territory 30 miles distant. The force, consisting of a 614th TD platoon commanded by Lt. Forrest Walker of Kansas City, Kans., a tank company headed by Capt. John Long and a reconnaissance platoon led by Lt. Serrec Nelson of Omaha, got under way with Lt. Nelson's platoon of scouts preceding the rest. White infantrymen atop tanks and trucks brought up the rear. 4-7-45

First obstacle was an anti-tank ditch, 12 feet wide and six feet deep which white combat engineers spanned in three hours. Hardly an hour after the trek had started heavy resistance was encountered in the form of enemy small arms, 88 millimeter pieces and anti-tank guns but the force's units made short work of it and tore on towards the destination.

All night long, the force was fighting a savage battle with tanks and three-inch guns covering infantrymen so that the advance could be made. Although the white infantry division suffered heavy casualties, Task Force Bates achieved its objective.

For meritorious service in the bitter battle, Lt. Serrec Nelson of Omaha was awarded the Bronze Star near Waldsee, Germany last week.

Negro Gunners Set Record In 3rd Army Drive

Atlanta World 3-21-45

Deadly Fire Gets Nazis In The Air And On Ground

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

SOMEWHERE IN LUXEMBOURG — (ANP) In a one-month period the crack 452nd AAA Battalion has been officially credited with the highest "batting average," of all non-self-propelled units in the 3rd Army. The figures are based upon percentage of planes knocked down of total aircraft engaged.

This all-Negro gunnery units assigned to protecting artillery areas of the 4th Armored division has operated closer to the front than is the normal expectation of AA men according to a Stars and Stripes dispatch appearing under Alla Morrison's signature.

30 NAZIS KILLED

3-21-45

Besides playing havoc with the Luftwaffe in the air the 352nd has demonstrated its devastation on the ground. During the push across the Moselle river into Arracourt one battery aided the Nazis rout by depressing its guns and resorting to small arms. A total of 30 Germans were killed and captured.

Heroes of this incident were 1st Sgt. William Harris, Chicago; Staff Sgt. M. M. Malone, Rochdale, Tex.; T/5 Isaac Gabriel, Miami; and T/5 Shirley Reed, St. Louis. They were led by Lt. Angelo Brigge of Sommerville, N. J.

When another gun crew was attacked by a Nazi patrol in the Moselle valley its members took 42 Germans and brought down three ME 109's. Starring in this engagement were Pvt. Benjamin Harrison, New Orleans; Cpl. John Smith, Richmond, Sgt. Verge Riley, Malden, Me.; Pvt. Calvin Jamison, of Houston and Cpl. Huston Hill of Kansas City, Mo.

CAPTURE COLONEL

3-21-45

Cpl. George Gray of Houston and Pvt. Arthur Newsome highlighted an all-night fight outside Arracourt by capturing a Wehrmacht colonel. Still another set of gunners led by Cpl. Warren Barker Mermentau, La., shot down a ME 109 with only four rounds.

With machine gun fire the 352nd AA is also credited with bringing down a JU 52 transport, surrounding the damaged plane and leading 17 "master racists" and nine women nurses to POW cages.

Racial Friction Is Forgotten Around Foxholes

Richmond Times 3-1-45

WITH THE THIRD ARMY—Mutual diving from foxholes when bullets and shrapnel fly may not be a practical antidote for any racial friction on a nationwide scale, but it worked wonders for the 452nd Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion, one of the best Negro combat units. 3-1-45

"We had our share of differences with white soldiers when we were sitting around England," said Sergeant Leo G. Edwards, of Battery A, "but since we have all been over here getting shot at together, we have gotten along fine."

The battalion, which has four firing batteries and one service battery, was activated in August, 1942, and now has seven and one-half confirmed plane kills to its credit plus three probables and several other pending claims. It has had several men killed and has earned more than a dozen Purple Hearts.

It was sent to Britain in November, 1943, after training at Camp Stewart, Ga., and Fort Sheridan, Ill., and came to France 18 days after D-Day. It was set to work protecting the beach where the landings had been the toughest. It later moved into the Cherbourg peninsula.

When the Third Army went into action August 1, the 452nd was attached as a part of the Twelfth Corps Artillery and participated in Lieutenant-General George S. Patton's drive across France.

The standard army formula of hard work and strict discipline used by Lieutenant-Colonel Lamar Ratcliffe, a firm-jawed professional soldier, is shaping his battalion into one which frequently has won the praise of white units it has been assigned to protect from air attacks. All battalion commissioned officers are white and the remainder of the personnel is Negro. 3-1-45

Summing up battle front racial relations as they have found them since they have been a fighting unit, Sergeant Edwards said: "We get along very well, particularly with the field artillerymen, whose batteries we now are assigned to. Now that nights are getting cold, we sit around campfires with them and talk about home and getting on with the war so we can get back there.

"When we start diving for cover, no one ever looks to see what color the other fellow's skin is when two of us pile in at once as the shells come over."

GIs Push Through Liberia Jungles To Build First Road Across Republic

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

By SGT. OSSIE DAVIS

MONROVIA, Liberia—The men of the 899th Engineers are building a road in Liberia. They are sweating, digging, blasting, clawing, and scratching their way along 86 miles of the God-awfullest country that ever improved a GI's cuss vocabulary.

4-7-45

The road is being developed over a stretch of several miles simultaneously. Thus, on a stretch at a time you hear the bark of the caterpillars and the groan of the tournapulls, huge, awkward metal beasts of burden. They echo back from hills only little less steep than sheer walls.

4-7-45

Here and there like a tangle of frightened ants, the graders and scrapers, bulldozers and big trucks, jeeps and scoops, are busy digging, slicing, hauling, loading, dumping, grinding and chopping, filling in and smoothing out, coaxing this long red scar into a passable road.

Road to Sea

Liberia is bound on the north-west by French Guinea, the two countries being separated by the St. John River. When this road is finished, a bridge will be thrown across the river linking the new road with one that runs through French Guinea. Thus a continuous trade route will be laid from the northern country through the southern one to the sea.

The terrain is by no means uniform. It ranges from one real mountain to numerous hills and stony knobs, and to lowlands, marshes and swamps. But every foot of the way is covered with high bush and jungle undergrowth; stuff so dense that a crew of 20 native laborers, working all day blazing a footwide trail, may walk back in 30 minutes over the trail it took them a whole day to blaze.

In addition, 32 bridges, ranging from 20 feet to 150 feet in length, will be built. There will be concrete abutments and piers for each bridge. And steel beams will be laid with floors of thick wooden planks lashed to them. Gaps and draws will be spanned by logs carried into place on the heads of natives united into gangs 50 or 60 strong.

4-7-45

TNT Blasts Trees

A number of the heavier timbers used on the bridges are cut from the tall tropical trees studding the jungle through which the road is passing. These trees, some of which stand 100 to 120 feet high, are sometimes so large at their base that TNT must be used to blast them out of the way.

There are no accurate maps of the Liberian interior because it has not been fully surveyed. All the mapping and planning that preceded the actual trail-blazing for the road from Salala had to be done from scratch.

Every care and precaution is used to protect the engineers from the dreaded tropical diseases which are ripe among the native populations.

Seasons in Liberia come in extremes. Extremely dry, or extremely wet. In the dry season the heat is almost unbearable. Dust hangs over the road like a thick cloud of smoke, and all the drivers and catskinners are forced to wear goggles and oftimes a dust filter to keep the fine red particles from their eyes and lungs.

During the seasons of torrential rains, the average rainfall on the coast is 180 inches a year, and last year, July alone brought a 56-inch rainfall—a record said to surpass the record for Burma or Alaska. Streams swell into floods, threatening incompleted bridges. Often when culverts are too small, roads are swamped with water. The highway becomes a mass of slimy mud, and heavy equipment must operate in conjunction with tractors or not at all.

4-7-45

Link Hinterlands, Coast

The Salala-Baila road will average about 25 feet in width when it is finished. It will link the Liberian hinterlands with the coastal areas, thus facilitating trade, communication, and travel. For centuries all trade goods brought to the coast from the interior, or vice-versa, had to be head-loaded in.

Rice, the country's most important staple food product, ivory, gold, skins, cloths, basketry, mahogany, and other stuffs were brought in by porters carrying prodigious loads on their heads. Visitors were carried into the interior in hammocks. Due to these conditions, development and trade have been retarded. The new road will change all that by opening a trade route clear across Liberia, from French Guinea to the coast.

No one can safely predict when the important task of building this road will be finished. So many imponderables are to be considered, weather conditions, lack of replacements and supplies, etc., that even a good guess is hazardous. But soon—a year, or more, or less—tired and grimy-faced engineering GIs, who have sweated out nearly three years in Liberia, will throw a one hundred and fifty foot truss span across the St. John River. The first load of trade goods, this time by truck, will start its journey across Liberia—the first such trip in the history of the republic.

Men Ignore Exploding Shells To Save Loaded Freight Cars

Atlanta World Ga. 3-1-45

WITH U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE Members of the 655th Ordnance Company, and the 784th Tank Destroyer Battalion, operating in the Oise Section, Communications Zone, France, recently distinguished themselves during an attack by a German bomber upon a large railway ammunition supply depot by braving exploding shells to move scores of loaded freight cars out of the danger area.

Hundreds of railroad cars loaded with shells and gasoline were standing on the sidings when the air raid alert sounded. Suddenly the German plane appeared, circled overhead twice and dropped a cluster of delayed-action incendiary bombs. The plane next strafed a few cars and departed. The bombs exploded shortly afterwards starting huge fires, and large shells and powder charges began bursting in the railway cars.

3-1-45

Private Alvin Pierson of 2340 7th Avenue, New York City, and Bordentown, New Jersey, got a steam engine operating and helped pull several cars away from the fire. During the holocaust, the French trainmen departed hastily, leaving the engines without operators.

Members of the tank batttalion, on its way to the front lines, led by Captain Marcus B. Whitt of Colgate, Oklahoma, and First Lieutenant John T. McNutt of Pudacah, Ky., were called upon to help save the flaming cars. Hitching their tanks to the box cars, the battalion towed 160 cars to a place of safety and continued on to the front.

3-1-45

Sergeant William Fulp of 1224 North Jackson Avenue, Winston Salem, North Carolina, recaptured a German prisoner of war who had armed himself with a rifle during the disturbance and attempted to escape.

Negro, White Vets Touring War Plants

The Pittsburgh Courier

Texas Hobson

3-10-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—The inclusion of six Negroes in a group of 56 front-line veterans of the epic battle for Bastogne during the German counter-offensive last December is admittedly the resut of criticism in the Negro press of the exclusion of Negroes from a similar group a few months ago.

The men were returned to represent General Dwight Eisenhower in a speaking program for factory workers on the urgency of speeding up the output of badly needed military supplies.

One Texan

All six of the Negroes included have performed heroicaly in the war, and four of them are wearers of the Bronze Star Medal for valor. The six are: First Lt. Walter J. McDowell, of Charlotte, N. C.; Sgt. Samuel B. Hendrix of Claxton, Ga.; Sgt. Frederick Wheeler, of Charleston, S. C.; Sgt. Franklin D. Hendricks, of South Boston, Va.; Sgt. Sandy Wyatt, of New York City; and **Sgt. Hugh D. Thompson, of Lufkin, Texas.**

As was the case when the going was tough at the front, no racial lines will be drawn during the tour of factories in this country.

Nazis Lose 'Complex' In Prison Camp

Prisoners Drop Their Arrogance, Learn To Admire Negro Nurses

CHICAGO, (ANP)—Nazi war prisoners show no arrogance of supermen and are very much impressed by Negro Army nurses.

According to Lt. Ora D. Pierce, one of the 30 Negro Army nurses stationed at the German Prisoner of War Camp at Florence, Ariz., they display none of the anti-Negro attitude that Herr Hitler instilled into them. Lt. Pierce made her revelation here last week, where she is spending her 21-day furlough with a sister, Mrs. Harriet Rogers, and twin brother, Otis Pierce.

"They show no resentment toward Negroe nurses," she said. "In fact, they seem to be very much impressed."

"Cherished Memories"

Frequently one of them will give details about his experiences with Negroes in a letter to Germany. Some of them have very cherished memories of the kind treatment they received from Negro troops she remarked. She believes the contact Negro nurses and the kindness of Negro soldiers to them will serve to give Germans a true understanding of Negroes.

Lt. Pierce, a graduate of General Hospital No. 2 at Kansas City, Mo., has four years of service to her credit. She was one of the first nurses at Ft. Huachuca, where she was stationed for more than two years. She served also at Camp Livingston, La., for a year before being assigned to her present post at the German Prisoner of War camp in Arizona

56n-1945

Foreign Service Europe

AUGUSTA, GA.
HERALD
Circ. D. 20,458 - S. 19,616
JUN 9 - 1945

A PERSONAL NOTE

SECRETARY OF WAR IN SPECIAL REPORT ON NEGRO TROOPS

With the war in Europe at an end, a war that brought finis to the greatest military machine in all history, it seems in order now to give praise and credit to those whose contributions counted for something in bringing about the enemy's crushing defeat. And, in reading these fine citations and encomiums heaped upon our soldiers white and colored, many of whom made the supreme sacrifice for the cause, one can but help feel proud of the men who entered the service of their country.

At his press conference a few days ago, the Acting Secretary of War, in reviewing the war situation, took time out to give a special report on Negro troops. "I have a special report," he said, "here on Negro troops of our 24th Infantry Regiment in the Pacific. This report of the Inspector General gives to these soldiers the credit they have fully earned. It reads as follows:

"'Occasions seldom arise where it is appropriate for Inspector Generals to single out and comment upon any one unit during an overall inspection. However, the conduct of the 24th Infantry Regiment as observed on Saipan was so meritorious as to be deemed worthy of special mention.

"'Upon arrival at Saipan, the 24th Infantry was given the task of clearing the island of all Japanese not previously subjugated. Since then this Regiment is credited with having killed or captured an impressive number of the enemy, and even today is engaged in continuous patrolling and jungle fighting. The morale of this Regiment is high, its discipline is excellent and it has definitely demonstrated what can be accomplished with Negro soldiers'."

Including some of the historic background of the Regiment, the report said: "The 24th Regiment was established as one of four Negro regiments in the Regular Army i 1869, its original organization dating back to 1866. As early as 1889, two enlisted men of the 24th had been awarded the Medal of Honor. The 24th participated in the Indian, Spanish-American, and World Wars.

"Another example of the success of Negro troops is contained in the 76th Tank Battalion in Europe. The gallantry with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops, and the confident spirit with which they emerged from their recent engagements in the vicinity of Dieuze, Morville Les Vic and Guebling entitle them surely consider themselves the veteran 761st'.'

"This Battalion is officered by seven white and 32 Negro officers," the report said.

It might also be interesting to point out that there were many Negroes in the First Army, now on the move from Europe to the Pacific by way of the United States. Of course, the Divisions and Army Corps that will fight with the First Army against Japan will not necessarily be the same as those that fought in Germany. But there is the assurance that enough veteran Negro units and veteran personnel will take the field under General Courtney H. Hodges to insure the same rigorous assault against the Japanese as was made by the First Army against the Germans.

In Europe, Negro doughboys fought side by side with whites of the First, Second, Ninth, 78th, 99th and 104th Infantry Divisions of the First Army. Assigned to white platoons several months ago, after the War Department approved the integration, Negro doughboys distinguished themselves in action alongside their white comrades.

One Negro platoon, fighting with Company K of the 394th Infantry Regiment of the 99th Infantry Division, led the company assault on the town of Honnigen on the Rhine and captured 250 German prisoners while clearing about one-fourth of the area. Another platoon of the 393rd Infantry, in its first action near Jahrfeld on March 25, advanced in marching fire order and routed the Germans, knocking out a Mark IV tank and a flak wagon, killing 48 of the enemy, capturing 60 and gained their objective on Hill 373, after being cut off by 150 Germans.

Speaking of integration, and what do Negro GIs think of it, according to Pvt. Robert McCullum, of Franklin, Tenn., a veteran of 25 months in Africa, Italy, France and Germany, who was wounded fighting with the 78th "Lightning" Division on March 22, now at Stark General Hospital, Charleston, S. C.:

"At the front a man lived or died on his own merits."

CLEVELAND, O.
NEWS
Cir. D. 122,094
JUN 20 1945

Eisenhower on Negro Troops

No student of the history of this greatest war should fail to absorb the hour-long interview General Dwight Eisenhower, our returning hero of today, gave to the war correspondents last week-end in Europe. He talked more freely than ever before about his opinions of the fighting of the European war, both in terms of the Allied and the enemy efforts.

One of the most colorful assertions by the general was in answer to a query about the American Negro troops sent to Europe, a large part of them as service of supply troops, a smaller number to be combat troops. This, too, is something that historians should not miss.

"I would like to say this at the start, that I do not differentiate between soldiers," General Eisenhower declared. "I do not say 'white soldiers' or 'Negro soldiers,' and I do not say 'American soldiers' or 'British soldiers.' To my mind, I have had a task in this war that makes me look upon soldiers as soldiers.

"Now, I have seen Negro soldiers in this war and I have many reports on their work where they have rendered very valuable contributions and some of them with the greatest enthusiasm.

"In late November, when we were getting short of reinforcements, replacements, some 2,600 Negro soldiers volunteered for front-line service. And they did good work. All my commanders reported that those volunteers did excellent work.

"But their major job has been in services of supply, engineer units, quartermaster units, ordnance units. There, so far as I know and certainly as far as any official reports, they have performed equally with every kind of ordnance battalion, quartermaster battalion and engineer battalion. They have done their job. They have done the job given them."

There is not much finer thing to say of any man's service than that he has done the job given him.

SHEAF Denies Eastland's Indictment

Norfolk, Va. Journal and Guide

PARIS, France — Supreme Headquarters said Saturday it had "no knowledge" of the alleged incident at Stuttgart to which Sen. Eastland (D-Miss) referred last Friday in a Senate debate, when he said that French Senegalese troops had locked 5,000 German girls in a subway for five days and criminally assaulted them. 7-7-45

SHAEF also had no comment on Eastland's statement that it was necessary to disarm "a good many Negro soldiers in Normandy" because they broke into French farmhouses and attacked French women.

It was pointed out, however, that there were no Negro combat troops in the Normandy campaign.

The only Negroes used there were service troops.

SHAEF Exposes Slur On Negroes

N.Y. Daily Worker

PARIS, July 6 (UP).—Allied Supreme Headquarters, after a weeklong investigation, today denied a charge by Sen. James O. Eastland, (D-Miss) that French Senegalese troops herded 5000 German women into a Stuttgart subway and attacked them. 7-7-45

The Senator's allegation was not founded in fact, SHAEF said.

"All American liaison officers with the French Army Corps and lower units which have been in or near Stuttgart at any time have submitted written reports to this headquarters that to their knowledge and belief incidents such as allaged did not take place," the announcement said. 7-7-45

13,118 Negro Ordinancemen In ETO Handled 75 Per Cent Of Ammunition

High Tribute Is Paid Enlisted Men

Atlanta Daily World Ga.

WITH U. S. ORDNANCE FORCES IN EUROPE—Of the six million tons of ammunition handled by Ordnance ammunition companies on the Continent D-Day and VE Day, more than 4,500,000 tons passed through the hands of Negro Ordnance men, it was announced this week by Major General Henry B. Sayler, Chief Ordnance Officer.

In reporting the figures on the amount of ammunition made available for use by our fighting men, Gen. Sayler paid tribute to the 14,323 Negro enlisted men, who made up 11 percent of the total Ordnance personnel on the Continent. 7-14-45

DOUBLE JOBS

"Not only did these Negro troops 'pass the ammunition," said Gen. Sayler, "but on numerous occasions many of them fought the Germans, participated in patrols, and took prisoners."

The forward ammunition supply points operated by these Negro Ordnancemen were the retail source of all types of ammunition, bullets, shells, fuzes, and propelling charges, served directly to infantry, artillery and armored units. As such, these ASPs were directly behind the front lines and on several occasions, in front of them esppecially during periods of fluid fronts.

Men of one ammunition company—the 626th—although they had moved into their new location, were unable to operate until the infantry had cleared the enemy artillery from a hill less than two miles away. They stuck to their positions, however, and the day the Nazis were cleared out the men received their first trainload of ammunition and issued it directly to the men chasing the Germans.

75 PER CENT OF TOTAL

Of the 14,323 Negro Ordnancemen participating in the ETO campaign, 13,118 were ammunition handlers. They made up 76 out of the 101 Ordnance ammunition companies, about 75 percent of the total.

They reached the peak of ammunition handling shortly after the Germans were repulsed in their Ardennes break-thru. During the period that followed, the 101 ammunition companies received and issued up to 24,000 tons a day, or seven to eight thousand tons over the average of 15,000 tons a day established in the European campaign. In carrying out their mission of supplying ammunition to the men behind the guns, the Negro Ordance men displayed courage time and again, General Sayler declared. 7-10-45

An example cited by General Sayler was the bravery demonstrated by the members of the 655th Ordnance Ammunition Company which unloaded a trainload of white phosphorus mortar shells on December 26, near Soissons, France, while shells were exploding around them. Their acts of heroism saved the French city from complete destruction.

Negroes are 10 percent of occupation troops

Los Angeles Tribune Calif.

7-2-45

Negro troops to include 10.4% of occupation and discharges

PARIS—The Army plans to carry through with the congressional apportionment of 10.4% for Negro troops in all U. S. War Department activity, Stars and Stripes, the daily newspaper of the U.S. armed forces in the European theatre said this week. 7-2-45

This percentage will apply to the U.S. Army of Occupation in Germany and to the demobilization of Negro troops, as well, the Army paper said. Negro troops, primarily service units "performing their primary mission," will remain in Germany as occupation forces; and under redeployment plans, the Army intends that 10.4 percent of all U.S. personnel returned to the United States for demobilization shall be Negro.

Although the 10.4 percentage is standard, set by Congress and used by the War Dept. in computing the proportions of Negroes in the Army, the proportion is not standard for all theatres, Stars and Stripes pointed out.

The proportion in the European Theatre has averaged 8.4 and remains that at present, the paper said.

As of May 15, there were 259,173 Negro troops in Europe, of a grand total of 3,082,142. This figure does not include the Mediterranean theatre where there was a higher percentage of Negro combat troops, including one infantry division, the 92nd.

Church Bells, Once Tip-Off to Nazis, Ring Again in Italy

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

By CAPT. DOUGLASS HALL

ITALY—The church bells here are ringing again after they were silenced during the war by Capt. Harold (Monty) Montgomery of Washington, because the bells seemed to be a signal for the Germans to shell Yank lines.

Capt. Montgomery noticed that when the bell rang, the shelling began. He talked with the priest and had the bells silenced. The shelling stopped.

I saw my first mule butchered today. He was killed as he fell down a hill. Several Italians butchered him for future meals. Later I passed their homes and smelled the mule already cooking in the pot.

Sees 4 Baltimoreans

Four Baltimoreans are among the men I've seen over here. They are: 7-14-45

Pfc. S. J. Tinsley, Pvt. Robert Lofton, T/4 Charles Trayhan and Fielder C. Moreland of Lothian, Md., was also in this area. New Yorkers include Pfc. Paul Humphrey and Pvt. Robert J. Evans of Brooklyn; Sgt. George L. Jefferson and Sgt. Eyen Davison of NYC, and Pvt. Horace Perryman Sr., of Schenectady.

Two Pennsylvanians are Lt. Charles E. Greenlee of Pittsburgh, and T/4 Rufus Roberts of New Castle. Others include Warrant Officer Robert R. Wilson of East Orange, N.J.; Pfc. John Goodman of Columbia, S.C.; Pfc. Clyde Bates of Penhook, Va.; Pvt. Charles E. Stokes, Hilltop, W. Va.

BERLIN FRIENDS COST PLENTY

Chicago Defender Chi, Ill

Negro GIs Fraternize—But Wisely!

Chicago Defender

By EDWARD B. TOLES

BERLIN.—What price fraternization? It's a $65 question to GIs here in Germany and an extremely heavy fine and possible reclassification for an officer.

But the problem of "Boy meets girl" here in Berlin takes on a different status with Russians, British and Americans in Europe's largest and most devastated capitol.

Each army of the Big Three occupying their respective zones here in Berlin has a non-fraternization policy which is substantially similar in meaning and in intent, [illegible] the Co[illegible] can policy is plain but has been altered recently to exclude children.

But GIs in Germany have their own views all the way from total abstention to constant promiscuity. Negro GIs are no different in their views than other GIs but they complain that when caught "fraternizing" the application of the law takes a different turn with their being charged with rape.

7-21-45

Now that there is to be occupation for a long period in Germany, GIs and others are wondering what's going to happen to the "non-sex law" as they have dubbed it. Actually, here's how it reads: "Fraternization is the avoidance of mingling with Germans upon terms of friendliness, familiarity, or intimacy, whether individually or in groups, in official or unofficial dealings. However, non-fraternization does not call for undignified or aggressive conduct, nor insolent overbearance which has characterized Nazi leadership.

All over Germany Yanks, white and black, utterly disregard strictly this mandate but when they are caught they get the limit and GIs as well as officers have been punished. The best example of what not to do I heard from a white officer lecturing to Negro troops recently in Germany.

He said: "You WILL NOT visit German homes; shake hands with them; play games with them; give or accept gifts; attend German dances or other social events; accompany Germans on the street, in theaters, taverns, hotels, or elsewhere except on official business!" And after hastily scanning his prepared manuscript, he hastily blurted out, "Oh, yes, absolutely no kissing or sexual intercourse; diseases are prevalent in Germany!"

And in Berlin, Yanks saw their Russian Allies practicing to the utmost the un[illegible] principle exhibited on the thousands of posters in bright red letters all over Berlin that all Germans are not guilty but only the Hitlers. Obviously, in deference to the American and British policy they have unofficially announced that Russian soldiers guilty of fraternizing shall be confined to the guardhouse for five days and in case of officers, confinement to barracks with loss of pay.

But any evening at "Femina," the biggest and most pretentious night club in Berlin, Russian officers may be seen waddling around in their heavy boots with comely German frauleins to "tea for two" just as casually as if they were in Downtown Cafe Society and they were standing in line Saturday night with no more aplomb than if they were in a queue in front of the Moscow Art theater.

"Femina," das ballhaus berlins," is located on Nuremburgstrasse and resembles any first-class New York or Chicago night club. By some miracle it escaped partially the terrific bombing in this vicinity; across the street there are nothing but shells of buildings but all this dance club got was a blast from the rear which wrecked the 1,500 capacity dance floor.

Its two night clubs were uninjured; upstairs there is a 10-piece orchestra with a five-act floor show; a huge half moon bar serving a sickly red wine at about two bucks a glass; meals may be had for about $3. 7-21-45

A huge picture of Stalin was hanging above the orchestra until a newspaper correspondent decided that he would snap a photo of the orchestra while the acrobatic dancer was doing the split standing upon her head with limbs swinging wildly akimbo. They took the picture down after that.

At "Rio Rita" a huge colored doorman lets many Russians in with or without dates but they all come out dated, he said. There are only one or two other clubs in Berlin and at all of them the Russians swing and sway nightly and Yanks and British are taking up the cue too. However, rumor has it that none of these clubs will remain in operation long and will be closed by the respective armies in the particular zones. The clubs are in British and American zones. 7-21-45

But speculation is that the non-fraternization ban will not be repealed for too many are now either confined or are presently paying the penalty but it may be winked at like speakeasies back home, but however it is done, Yanks say, do something quick!

British Open Homes to GI's With No Thought of Race

Baltimore, Md.

Afro-American

BARNSTAPLE, England—With the mayor taking the lead, this community, designated as one of four recreational areas, is extending a hearty welcome to all the American forces.

Boys, regardless of race, have had invitations into the homes of local citizens for tea. Others have been entertained with walks, at the churches and theatres.

Given Auto Rides

Many have been extended auto rides with members of a large number of families, in this, the oldest borough in England.

Hub of the entertainment is Barnstaple Red Cross Club of which Jesse M. Chiles of Cincinnati is director. The club accommodates 200 men, has showers, and is equipped to furnish them with hot meals.

Dance with Britishers

A series of dances with English girls serving as hostesses is given each week. Horseback riding, sporting events, motion pictures, tennis and golf all serve to provide Yanks of all color—badly needed rest. 7-21-45

Among those enjoying Barnstaple's hospitality were:

Pvt. Edward Dawson, Birmingham Ala.; Cpl. Zollie Gray, Pvt. E. Dawson, Waco, Texas; Cpl. James Martin, Camphill, Ala.; Sgt. Harold Lambert, Sheridan, Ark.; and Cpl. Johr Davis, Eagles Mills, Ark.

SOMERVILLE, N. J.
MESSENGER-GAZETTE
Cir. W. 4,830

JUL 12 1945

NEGRO FIGHTING MEN

To the Messenger-Gazette:

I recently read in the New York Daily News an article written by one of our country's lawmakers which was very uncomplimentary to the Negro soldiers of this war. The following is from a letter I just received from my brother, Sergeant Walter B. Clark:

"We were plenty of hell for the Germans. They called us the 'Black Russians.' There were three Field Artillery battalions that played quite a role and I am proud to say the 777th was included. The 283rd, with whom I took my basic, fought with Patton in France in such places as Cherbourg, St. Lo and Metz. Then the 969th, another Field Artillery battalion from Oklahoma, Camp Gruber, fought in the Battle of the Bulge. I know you heard of them. They had very high casualties, as did the 333rd. Last but not least, the 777th. I am sure you must have seen the story War Correspondent Ollie Johnston wrote of us. On the second day of November we fired our first shell in combat. We were the first Negro battalion to fire on German soil. Also the first troops, including white, to fire across the Ruhr River, and the first negroes to fire across the Rhine. We participated in the Battle of the Bulge, and we fought in two major battles which allows us two battle stars. Without rest, we stayed in combat unti they said it was all over. And that is the story of us."

Would you print this, please, so that others may learn of the good part the negro soldier is playing in this war?

MRS. E. CLARKE, R. N.
Hamilton street.

French Women Fired for Befriending Colored GI's

Baltimore, Md.

Afro-American

French women working at a rest camp at Nancy, France are "reported and immediately fired" for befriending colored soldiers, according to a report received by the AFRO this week from a corporal stationed there.

He is Theodore E. Carter who has been stationed seven months with the 865th Quartermaster Fumigation and Bath Company attached to the all-white center. His unit services men returning from the front by bathing and sterilizing men and clothing.

No-Talking Order

Cpl. Carter said that an order had been issued by the commanding officer "not to talk to colored boys; to talk only to the boys of the rest center.

"Some of the women took heed, while others still continued to talk and go out with boys in my outfit. If they were seen in the streets with us after working hours they were reported and immediately fired." 7-21-45

Race Myths

The rest camp recently has been designated all-white, the corporal revealed. Colored soldiers are now sent to Strasbourg, and if they are sent to Nancy by mistake they are told there is no room.

Several soldiers had to spend their rest period with the fumigation and bath company,

Cpl. Carter said that racial myths of colored soldiers with tails, uncivilized actions and murder complexes which the white soldiers had spread are being rejected by some of the French civilians. 7-21-45

Army's 'Bungling' Hurts Morale of Volunteer

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By OLLIE STEWART, AFRO War Correspondent

PARIS (By Cable)—On the basis of information from several sources, together with contraditions and evasions, I am forced to the conclusion that the story of what is happening to some 2,000 colored soldiers formerly in white divisions is one of the most significant developments of the entire war.

The men themselves, wearing Purple Hearts, Good Conduct Medals and Infantry Badges, are the coolest of all concerned in this controversial postwar episode.

The outstanding exception is a GI in the reinforcement pool, who after fighting with the Eighth Division, was left behind when the division went home, wrote in the Stars and Stripes that he preferred going back to truck driving if that was all the gratitude he could expect.

Situation Involved

The entire situation is so involved, it is unwise to generalize, but some facts protrude so prominently it is easy to fill in the gaps for a fairly complete picture.

Without a doubt no one situation during the war has offered an opportunity to do more real good or more real harm than this one.

7-28-45

Nothing touches more colored soldiers, nothing is watched with more interest by both white and colored soldiers than the way the Army is handling these men who volunteered for combat last winter and made good.

Bungling Can Hurt Morale

Just as the acceptance of these men and their integration into white units was the biggest morale booster for colored soldiers during the entire war, so will the bungling of their future service prove to be the biggest repressive agent for the rest of the war among all colored soldiers.

Even civilians in France and Germany know what is happening and they, too, are watching. Several have spoken to me about the outcome.

Just 2,000 men, yet they are a barometer. The Army has a complete report on their conduct, courage, fighting ability and capacity for getting along with white troops.

Were in High Gear

It would not be pleading their case one way or another for me to state that from some of these vets and their officers I hear a unanimous story, "Seems that we got in high gear when we stopped fighting each other and ganged up on Hitler."

What the Army does on the basis of its findings cannot be predicted, but unofficially I can truthfully state that some division commanders let it be known that they want to keep their colored complements.

7-28-45

Briefly here is what has happened so far. During the war the Seventh Army had two provisional colored battalions.

Detached From Division

One, the 66th colored armored infantry battalion, which served with the 14th Armored Division has been reported already detached from the division. Several of these men are going home for discharge.

I talked with four of these high point men, Pfc. Charles Carson, 2712 W. Oxford St., Philadelphia, 105 points, who has plans and money for a cleaning and pressing shop; Pfc. Clarence Johnson, Chicago, 96 points, who is going back to school; Pfc. Leon Browdee, Dallas, Texas, 90 points, and Pfc. H. H. Knowles, Fort Worth, Tex., 103 points.

Was With Quartermasters

Knowles volunteered from a quartermaster unit and fought with the Armored from March 7 until July 12, leaving the division at Ellwangen, Germany. There were 207 colored men with the division, but 16 are now en route home for discharge.

7-28-45

Knowles has five battle stars and was formerly with the 366th Infantry. He studied two years at Coney and wants to be a mortician.

Colored Men Left

The First Army had colored platoons assigned to the 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 69th, 78th, 99th and 104th divisions. When these divisions returned to the States, the colored soldiers were left behind.

When you asked what happened to them, the routine answer "They are being treated like all other soldiers," has truth up to a certain point.

It is true that attention is being paid to four categories after men are detached.

Eliminating category 4 which is for high point men, you have colored soldiers detached or slated for separation from units doing occupation duty which covers category one.

Most for Redeployment

Categories two and three for redeployment and supply pools seem to be getting the bulk of colored combat veterans.

In these pools or depots the colored soldier is treated no worse than white ordinarily, but in case of combat veterans their mental state is very jittery.

One vet told me "White boys look at us like we are part of an experiment that failed. They think we couldn't make the grade."

Colored boys ask questions about "why didn't we stay with our divisions?" We can't answer that because we don't know.

(Continued on

Marked Contrast

This contrasts with a statement from Knowles who goes home straight from the 12th Armored Division to be discharged.

Said he:

7-28-45

"I just feel good when guys look at my infantry badge. We had white officers, but they were satisfied with what we did. I would hate like hell to be sent back to the Quartermasters."

That is the biggest worry among these combat boys now in reinforcement pools. Will the Army send them back to driving trucks or handling rations or gas cans?

The Deciding Issue

Somehow they realize that the whole case of colored men in the war depends on recognition given the colored combat soldier who fought in Germany. If what he did is repudiated and he himself converted back to service units, it will never be lived down here. That's why veterans are worried and why all other colored officers here are watching intently what happens to the combat veteran.

NEGRO SOLDIERS IN FRANCE FIND NO RACE BARRIER

Chicago Daily Tribune

BY HAL FOUST

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

ROUEN, France, July 29—America's Negro soldier is teaching mademoiselle to jitterbug. You see it at street dances in this bomb shattered city on the lower Seine, and you see it at dances in village squares wherever there are United States Negro troops. Rouged little girls with short skirts try to follow the swinging feet of lanky, grinning army men from Harlem or Georgia.

It is part of the scene of the American army lingering in Europe. One sees Negro soldiers and French girls walking with their arms around each other in the city's streets. One sees khaki clad colored men playing with white children or chinning with the old folks at the threshold of a French girl's home.

7-30-45

Such scenes receive much comment from United States white soldiers, especially those from the south, but it seldom gets into print because it is considered a "delicate" subject. The French do not consider it such.

Make No Distinction

"I know from personal experience as well as from observation," said Lt. George W. Woody, Danville, Va., "that the French family makes no distinction between colors in inviting United States soldiers into their homes. It is a contrast to the general custom in America which has a different cultural background.

"Unless conditions are changed in the United States, we have lost the war for worldwide freedom."

Woody, a Negro, has a master's degree from Fisk university, Nashville, Tenn. At 26 he is an officer of the 490th port battalion, a thousand Negro sevedores who landed at Utah beach on D-day and were awarded the croix de guerre and the bronze arrowhead for their service to assault troops. The outfit remained on the beach until last November when it moved to its present assignment of loading and unloading canal barges and Liberty ships here.

WAC Major Comments

Maj. Charity E. Adams, Columbia, S. C., colored commander of 855 Negro KACs at the central postal directory here, also was solicited for counsel in telling America of inter-racial relations here.

"It is regrettable," she said, "that Americans are so race prejudiced that anything you write will offend many, each in the light of his own prejudices. Yet the story should be written, as part of the history of the European war, as part of the current news of America's army still in Europe.

"It is regrettable that Americans socially accept foreign Negroes but not American Negroes.

"In the army post office my WACs work with German prisoners of war, men of the people whose nazi leaders preached their racial excellence. The office relationship is without racial consciousness."

No Resentment Shown

"Do Negro WACs resent Negro soldiers going with French girls?" the major was asked.

"I have not observed any resentment and have had no occasion to inquire," she replied, "but I believe the WACs grant that the Negro soldiers have the privilege of doing as they please."

Maj. Adams was doing post-graduate work at Ohio State university when she enlisted three years ago. She spent three months in England with her organization before she came here with it in May.

Capt. Victor S. Kendall, white, Louisville, Ky., commands a port battalion which has 27 white officers and two Negro warrant officers. He said that relations between the Negro and white officers and enlisted men were good.

Captures Nazis, Thwarts Damage To Powder Train

Atlanta World

1-14-45

Florida Youth Commended For Resourcefulness

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEARTRE OF OPERATIONS — (SNS) — Thwarting of possible sabotage of an ammunition-laden train speeding toward the front and capture of two Germans were recently chalked up to the credit of Sergeant Ernest D. Jackson, 1734 Emerson Courts, Jacksonville, Florida here. He is a member of the 1210th Engineer (General Service) Regiment.

The incident which earned for the stocky sergeant the commendation of his superiors and of his entire outfit occurred recently when he was in charge of a guard detail on an ammunition train.

SEES SABOTEURS

With three men under him, Jackson, sergeant-of-the-guard, had detailed himself to walk a post in order to have a two-man shift and relief. At about eleven o'clock one night the train stopped two miles outside of a large French town.

1-14-45

Sergeant Jackson and his fellow guard, Private Eddie Scott, left the train to patrol outside. Walking near the engine, Sergeant Jackson heard a faint rustling in the hedgerow. Noiselessly he halted, melt in the shadow of a large box car and listened intently. Five minutes passed, then ten, then twenty.

The brakeman's "all aboard" signal call rang out. Jackson hesitated momentarily and caught his breath as two shadows-obscured figures came to life from the hedegrows rushing toward the train.

LEVELS CARBINE

"Halt!" the Sergeant cried, springing up, his carbine levelled. The pair halted, about-faced and stood motionless a few feet from him. To his challenge in English they gave no reply. The sergeant asked in French: 'Who goes there?' "No compris, Meester," came reply.

The "Meester" did it. Sergeant Jackson knew he had a couple of Germans on his hands. He ordered his captives to advance. He summoned the guard and placed his prisoners under arrest. They were later turned over to authorities at the Nomandy Base Section in Section in Cherbourg.

Negro Unit Mauls Nazis In Germany

Atlanta Constitution

3-5-45 Ga.

By WES GALLAGHER

SEVELEN, Germany, March 4. (AP)—With a bridge blown behind them, a negro tank battalion task force staged a miniature "Bastogne" in Sevelen today, mauling Nazi parachute units in savage street fighting while cut off for 18 hours.

3-5-45

The 784th Tank Battalion was fighting its first offensive action beside the 35th Infantry Division. The battalion won a place in the hearts of the men of the battle-hardened 37th Division, who had fought from St. Lo to Venlo and beyond, by the battle it put up here and the spearhead fighting it did to get here.

Sgt. Walter "Pop" Half, a 47-year-old veteran of the last war from Little York, Ill., who came back to this war as the commander of a tank bulldozer, was called out under fire to fill craters in a road. He went on to knock out a German 88-millimeter antitank gun.

3-5-45

Sgt. Ambrose Hicks, of Mount Vernon, N. Y., an artillery mechanic, was sent back to help bring a supply convoy through. He saved three trucks parked near a burning ammunition truck loaded with 2,300 pounds of TNT.

There were negro tank men who climbed out of the shelter of their tanks under mortar and shellfire to refuel.

Yanks Advance Along Rhine In Berlin Drive

Atlanta World

3-6-45 Ga.

Iwo Jima Fight Furious As Japs Battle To Death

BY THE S. N. S.

American First Army troops were battling inside Cologne Monday night, while fleeing Germans blew up bridges across the river from Neuss to Homberg and left their one railroad crossing at Wesel in operation. The whole First Army front moved forward from one to four miles. Ninth Army tanks fought into Orsoy, 10 miles south of Wesel and shelled Germans trying to ferry the river. Along the whole Rhine front the Yanks were on the move toward Berlin.

3-6-45

Meanwhile, to Germany's East Marshal Gregory Zhukov's forces threw the Nazis back upon the gates of Stettin Monday, capturing Stargard, fortress junction 19 miles east, and began shelling the suburbs of Berlin's chief Baltic port.

STARGARD FALL TOLD

The fall of Stargard was announced by Russian Premier- Marshal Stalin and the Germans. Advanced units already were in sight of Stettin Bay. Russian penetrations to the Baltics had snapped a triple lock of an estimated 200,000 Germans caught in three coastal pockets extending 150 miles from Kolberg and Danzig. Powerful new drives threatened to sweep the Germans out of Pomerania in short order.

West of Danzig, the Germans said the Russians opened a fresh drive on Danzig.

NEW JAP DEAD 3-6-45

Washington reported that hopeless counterattacks and Filipino guerrillas added new thousands to Japanese dead on Iwo Island and the Philippines as the increasing tempo of the American air onslaught forced Japan to close primary schools in Formosa and organize Tokyo students into full-time fire brigades.

3-6-45

Tokyo announced the school closures shortly after waves of Superfortresses struck the capital through snow clouds Sunday morning and all types of bombers rakes airdromes the length of Formosa. The Japanese said ten more B-29's raided Tokyo again Monday.

The Americans seized two more islands, Ticao and Burias, off the southern tip of Luzon.

Brazil in the Fighting

Richmond Times

WE READ with a great deal of satisfaction that Brazilian troops participated, with United States mountain troops, in the blows in Northern Italy which knocked the Germans off of the last heights from which they had dominated a long stretch of highway from Pistoia to the battle fronts southwest of Bologna. This is described as the first major victory of the war for the Brazilian Expeditionary Force. Our South American allies captured 3,000-foot Monte Castello on Wednesday, after which United States troops took the summit of 3,500-foot Monte Della Toraccia near by. From these two heights, the Germans had harassed our troop and supply movements along the highway for months.

Most of us, probably, have been prone to think of Brazil and our other Latin-American allies as furnishing help in the war chiefly in the form of materials. We have not visualized them as fighting allies on the battle fronts.

2-26-45

Of course, Brazil is not a strong military power, although she is a vast country and has a large population. None of our other Latin-American allies can put much military strength in the field. But it is good to have this reminder in the war news that Brazilian troops are in the thick of the fighting and are giving a good account of themselves, even though their numbers are limited.

This Brazilian victory in Italy comes at a propitious time, too, in view of the Inter-American Conference now in session in Mexico City. It helps us to appreciate the value of our Southern neighbors as allies not only in terms of economic and political warfare, but also in the actual fighting. It heightens the significance of the discussions in Mexico City, where plans are under way to strengthen the ties making for solidarity and security in the Western Hemisphere. Comrades in battle should make stronger comrades in peace.

Behind The Headlines

Norfolk, Va.

By P. B. YOUNG, SR.

Norfolk-Journal & Guide

AN EXCELLENT example of the goodwill being spread by our troops among the people of Italy came recently with an official commendation lauding the "exemplary conduct" of a veteran overseas infantry regiment from the mayor of a great Italian port city.

1-6-45

The Italian people have found our soldiers tolerant and sympathetic in this critical period in Italy's history, when its women and children are in want. The same sentiments expressed in the letter of commendation from the mayor, are those of thousands of Italians who have come to know and love the boys.

The letter of commendation has received endorsements of several commanding generals, including Lt. Gen. McNarney, deputy commander of Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, and Lt. Gen. Mark Clark, commander of 15th Army Group.

Translation of the commendation, addressed to the Commanding General, U. S. Army, is as follows:

1-6-45

"In my position as mayor of this town, I feel I should call the attention of your command to the exemplary conduct exercised by the Negro troops of the U. S. Army.

"Under wise guidance of the colonel commanding, all the components of the unit—officers and soldiers—have demonstrated the finest expressions of human solidarity by giving aid and assistance, particularly of a sanitary nature, to the whole civilian population. These attentions and the medical care granted have left in the hearts of all my citizens the most profound feeling of gratified thoughtfulness — especially among the poor people who need the most attention.

1-6-45

"Therefore, I desire, General, to make known to you these expressions from our hearts for such extreme solidarity and also to express best wishes for the victory of the Allied Armies. (Signed) the mayor."

FIFTH ARMY COMMANDER CHATTING WITH MEN IN ITALY

Foreign Service New York Times 1-9-45

N.Y., N.Y.

56

Lieut. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott talking with soldiers of the Ninety-second Infantry Division after their heroic stand in the hills above Viareggio.

The New York Times (U. S. Signal Corps)

Negro Combat Engineers Make Enviable Record

People's Voice N.Y.

1-13-45

With the recent War Department announcement that one-seventh of the Negro troops in the Army are in the Corps of Engineers much interest has been aroused as to the types of services which they perform. Aside from the back breaking jobs of construction, demolition, bridge and road building, many are assigned to technical jobs which require training and skill in the operation of machinery. Bulldozers, pneumatic drills, paving breakers, graders, compressors, cranes and power shovels are a few of those types of machines which Negro Combat Engineers are operating efficiently in every theatre of war. They are also manning mobile machine shops for vehicle maintenance.

1-13-45

During the past year, Negro Engineers have been an integral part in every task of major engineering importance. In January they constructed a vital "springboard" from England to Nazi Germany, working in three 8 hour and two 10 hour shifts and completing the job in record time, according to a War Department announcement.

LEARN FRENCH

In March without the use of bulldozers or other heavy, high speed equipment, a unit in Great Britain completed the construction of a huge Army camp in two weeks. In April a full squad of an Engineer battalion in England were taught French, anticipating its use when the Allies stormed the beaches of Hitler's fortress Europe.

1-13-45

In India, a Negro battalion taken from their work on the Ledo Road built a large parking apron for B-29 Superfortresses in one month, an engineering feat because of the intense heat preceding the monsoon season and the shortage of materials and water.

In September, the 1316th Engineer Regiment, then stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, was selected by the Engineer Board at Fort Belvoir, Va. as the most proficient Bailey Bridge building crew in the Army and a training film, widely used for Army teaching purposes, was made of this unit during construction.

In November mine detector squads of a general service regiment operating on the Normandy beachheads removed the amazing total of 2,742 mines and booby-traps in eight days, the War Department announced.

1-13-45

In December, although hazards were great, Negro Engineers in the 1349th Regiment in England, without a single casualty, inspected and removed live mines, booby-traps, hand grenades and Bazooka, howitzer and rifle shells from 10,000 acres in six weeks.

New Yorkers in this unit include: Brooklyn—Sgt. June McNair, Pfc. Danny Ekins, Pvt. Lawrence Breland; Jamaica, L. I.—Pvt. Robert Schumpert, Pvt. Eddie Barnett; New York City—Sgt. Fred A. Crawford, Sgt. Durley Brown, Sgt. James A. Anderson, Pfc. John Akridge, Pfc. Waverly V. Askew, Pfc. Roy L. Waters, Pfc. James Moss, Pvt. James Edward Bell, Pvt. Lester Baker; Waterlist—Pvt. Nelson F. Thomason; Yonkers—Pvt. Will L. Webb.

Recently 188 Purple Heart Awards were made to members of the 855th Aviation Engineers in the South Pacific, the New Yorkers among them being: New York—T/4 Marshall James, Sgt. Sidney A. Johnson; Auburn—Pvt. Robert S. Copes; Jersey City—Cpl. Earl L. Daniel; Jamaica—T/4 Reuben R. Carter, T/5 Iverson Carter; Geneseo—Staff Sgt. Francis J. Simms; Ossining—T/3 Alfred I. Jordan; Brooklyn — Pfc. James Farrow and Pfc. Joseph Holland.

BLACK ARTILLERYMEN PROVE HEROES AGAINST GERMANS AT CLIMBACH; DEFY NAZI BIG GUNS

Black Dispatch Oklahoma City

Six Receive Medals While Many Others Are Still Fighting or Will Never Fight Again

3-3-45 OKLA.

BREAK SIEGFRIED LINE STRONG POINT

By SGT. RALPH MARTIN

(Released Through Associated Negro Press Through Courtesy of Yank Magazine

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY, WESTERN FRONT.—(ANP)—The generals had some medals to hand out, but not all of the guys could come. Some of them were still up in front digging in their three-inch guns, some of them were in the hospital, some of them were dead.

The six who were there stood stiffly at attention in their war-dirtied combat suits, their tired faces drained of feeling, their eyes staring straight ahead. The general was telling them why they were getting the medals.

3-3-45

They knew why. You don't forget things like Climbach.

Because you had to be crazy to move in on Climbach—everybody said so. You just don't try to position your guns in a flat valley when you've got big Kraut guns sitting smuggly on two rugged ridges flanking the town 300 yards away, and when you've got Nazi 88-gunners parked on the town's high ground right next to some Mark IV tanks, and when you've got the nearby woods lousy with mortars and machine-gun nests—and all of it, the whole German artillery book, zeroed in on a single road, waiting for you to come out so the Germans can start pulling lanyards.

But somebody had to do it. In this 103rd Division sector, Climbach was the last Nazi strongpoint before the Siegfried Line. And the Nazis told everybody they liked Climbach; they planned to stay there for the winter.

So the 103rd Division created Tack Force Blackshear, consisting of a platoon of Engineers, a company of Infantry from the 411th Regiment, seven medium tanks and a platoon of towed three-inch TDs from the 614th. The tactic for for the TD platoon of four guns to keep all the German batteries occupied while the Infantry infiltrated into the town around the flanks.

Leading the task-force column through the woods was the CO of C Company of the TDs. He wasn't supposed to be there; he just wanted to be. Somebody said it was because he was self-conscious about being a Negro. But somebody else said it was just because he was that kind of a guy; because he had lots of guts.

It wasn't long before some of his guts were spilling into the sticky mud near the thin road. Not only did his vehicle run over a mine but it also got smacked square by an 88. Then a machine gun opened up on him. When his executive officer raced through this shellfire to evacuate him minutes later, he was still alive, somehow.

Down in the valley, the medics were soon just as busy as the gun crews.

Ten-man crews can't last long when they're sitting in an open field getting so much fire that nobody knows what's coming from where.

They didn't last.

Less than an hour later, single soldiers were doing full crews' work—loading, aiming, firing and then racing back to a half-track to hop behind a .50 caliber to cut down Krauts trying to sneak thru the woods. One of these single soldiers was Platoon Sgt. William Tabron. (He got the Bronze Star.) Tabron kept going until a tank shell knocked out his gun. It wasn't until the next morning that he noticed his foot had been bloodied by shrapnel.

But Tabron was lucky; he's still alive.

Maybe 30 minutes later (nobody looks at his watch during a battle), there was only one gun still shooting. It was 75 yards from three other knock-out guns, and the Krauts couldn't seem to get at it because it was in a slight draw. Shells kept plopping all around it, just missing. One near-miss blew up a half-track 25 yards away.

It was hot and close, and everybody kept wondering how much longer—who would be next? Still sweating it out was the gun commander, Sgt. Dillard Booker from the Bronx, N. Y. So was his CO, 1st Lt. Thomas Mitchell, and so were a couple of other boys. (Booker got the Bronze Star and Mitchell the Silver Star.) Mitchell was racing around as fast as he did when he broke the Alabama track record for the quarter-mile dash back in his days as a college athlete. He was helping shoot guns, evacuating wounded, pointing out enemy gun positions.

Somehow (call it a mild miracle if you wish), this three-inch gun crew kept shooting. They silenced two loud-barking tanks at the town's outskirts. Then they picked up a muzzle blast from a camouflaged house and threy in three rounds of HE until the gun stopped firing. Before the three other guns were knocked out, they had accounted for some 88s and had swept the woods fairly clean of German MG and motar positions. But there was still plenty of small-arms fire, coming much too close.

Then the TD boys ran out of ammo.

"We felt stark, stripped naked," said Booker. "We figured this was it."

But it wasn't. The tanks were still hopelessly mired in the mud, too far in the rear to do any good, but three BAR boys from the infantry company volunteered to come up and act as flank security for the gun. (Two were soon casualties.) The crew flattened out and popped away with their MIs and carbines into the sniper-filled woods. They killed lots of Krauts in this interval.

Meanwhile T-5 Robert Harris of Kansas City, was getting ready to move out his ammo truck and head toward the front in a hurry. He was waved down by the task-force commander.

"You can't go up there right now," said the colonel. "The artillery fire is too heavy."

When a colonel talks like that to a corporal there usually is no room for argument. But T-5 Harris didn't argue; he didn't have time. He just yelled: "Get the hell out of my way. I'm taking this up to my buddies." The colonel laughs when he tells the story now.)

Driving straight through shellfire, Harris got his truck within 25 yards of Booker's gun before it bogged down in gooey mud. Then Harris, soon joined by others, made trip after trip lugging 54-pound ammo boxes to the gun position.

By dusk, all anyone could hear was the splattering of small-arms fire within the town itself. The stiffest fighting the doughfeet had was in the graveyard where the Germans had dug themselves in. When the short pitched battle was over the Germans were still in the graveyard, now waiting to be covered up.

If you asked the doughfeet about it, they'd tell you the TDs deserve credit for taking the town.

If you asked the TD's 3rd Platoon CO, Lt. Col. Frank Pritchard of Lansing, Mich., he'd tell you, "If you only knew how goddam proud I am of my boys." He was one of the six white officers—all the rest were Negroes. In the last war, Pitchard was a buck sergeant.

They're all proud of the 614th, from the division CG down. The division CG is supposed to have said he'd fight like hell if anyone tried to take the 614th TD away from him.

This isn't just words. And it isn't just top brass. Hitler would have a hemorrhage if he could see the white boys of the 411th Infantry bull-sessioning, going out on mixed patrols, sleeping in the same bombed buildings, sweating out the same chow line with Negro GIs.

And the white boys of the 411th are mostly Southern boys.

The Negroes come from the South, too. Not only that, but the C Company CO, 1st Lt. Walter Smith, will be the first to tell you that his boys aren't specially picked as in some outfits, that most of them are uneducated farmhands from North Carolina.

He'll tell you, too, that a few of his boys are trouble-making screw-ups who drink too much, that lots of his boys were almost scared into constipation during their first baptism of shellfire when they fought in Germany alongside the 3rd Cavalry Group. In other words, he'll tell you that his outfit is just like any other outfit. He's got a small percentage who were never meant to be soldiers, but most of the boys are good boys—and good soldiers, with plenty of guts.

"You get used to war," he said slowly. "You get used to everything."

He was no longer talking about Climbach and Germany; he was talking about back in Cherbourg. He was remembering all those Negro port battalion boys who came to him and begged to be transferred into a fighting outfit. They were willing to take busts—anything. They didn't want to hear any more white soldiers ask why there weren't more Negro soldiers in the front lines.

"I thought every soldier knew that it's up to the Army to decide who goes where," said Smith.

"Maybe if people just didn't worry about us being something special." He was groping for words. "Maybe if somebody could come up here and see how we've been fighting and killing and dying, how it doesn't seem to matter a damn what your color is--"

Smith broke off quickly. There was a short, strained silence, and then he laughed. It was a warm, rich laugh. He remembered that had happened only last week when the outfit was moving toward the front. He had noticed quite a liberal sprinkling of white soldiers in several of the trucks and asked the first sergeant if they were hitchhikers.

"No, sir," said the sergeant. "They're part of our gun crews."

After he finished the story the lieutenant sat there quietly for a minute, with a wonderful smile on his face.

"You know," he said, "maybe we're just a bunch of battle virgins compared with some outfits, but we've been sure been learning a hell of a lot of things about people."

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
3-3-45

Aids Smashing Of Rundstedt's Armor In 11-Day Slugging Match

Pittsburgh Courier Feb. 10 2-3-45

2-3-45

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY, France—Swapping punch for punch with Nazi Tiger tanks, Tan Yanks of the 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion shared in a great victory for the Allies during a hectic eleven-day battle in the two small Maginot Line villages of Hatten and Rittershoffen. High praise was heaped upon Second Lieut. Robert F. Jones, Caspar, Wyo., a platoon leader. The young officer was supposed to trip the machine gun trigger with a string, but when the first Nazi Tiger poked his nose around a bend during one of the night attacks, he couldn't resist the temptation of getting in the open and letting Hitler's boys have it . . . full force. He got right out on the steps and held the trigger down, spraying the Tiger with hot steel. The enemy tank opened fire and blew the steps right out from under Lieutenant Jones, but he wasn't hurt. 2-3-45

HELD FULL WEIGHT

Small units of the 827th Tank Destroyer Battalian and tankmen were giving support to the Thirty-first Infantry of the Seventy-ninth Diviison and armored infantry of the Fourteenth Armored Division. During the eleven days, these warriors parried and held the full weight of Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive against the two small towns. 2-3-45

The men fought like wildcats, although the entire group of Americans was barely equivalent to the full strength of a regiment. Nearly half the men in this regiment are casualties, but they battled the crack German Twenty-first Panzer Division, the Twenty-fifth Panzer Grenadier Division and an entire regiment of the Seventh Parachute Division. For every American casualty there were five to ten dead or wounded Germans.

The two German divisions attacked Jan. 8 and overran one American regiment in Hatten. The 315th rushed up to restore the situation the next day.

The colored tank units moved in Jan. 10 and they "were wonderful," declared commanding officers. One even went so far as to recommend the Silver Star for the heroic Lieutenant Jones. 2-3-45

KNOCKS OUT THREE TANKS

With the Germans gaining ground and pressing our men at dusk of Jan. 10, remnants of the Americans were ordered to withdraw from Hatten. But many refused to leave and another score stayed at Rittershoffen. That night at least half of one German division pinned down a second battalion at Hatten in the biggest attack against Rittershoffen. Another Tan Yank climbed to the heroic rank at this point. Sgt. Spencer Irving, Yanceyville, N. C., jockeyed his tank around and with three shots knocked out three German tanks.

For the next 48 hours the Nazis attacked three isolated American companies with tanks, flamethrowers and bazookas.

The Americans held out and continued to match the German fire. Help arrived Jan. 16, 17, 18, when tanks and armored infantry poured into the two towns. In two hours, the Americans stopped the attack, and on Jan. 20, the beate Germans had fled.

Campaign in Italy Picks Up Speed

AFRO-AMERICAN

4-28-45

Pilots Share Honor of Bologna's Capture

MINES BIG DANGER

Balt., Md.

Castelnuovo Taken by 92nd Unit Without Fight

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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4-28-45

WITH THE 5TH ARMY IN ITALY—(By Cable)—Our troops on Sunday continued forcing enemy withdrawals along this Fifth Army front, pressing forward in the Po Valley over 20 miles northwest of the city of Bologna in the Eastern sector.

Advances were also made in other areas westward, including the capture of the town of Castelnuovo in Serchio and probing nearly six miles northwest of Carrara on the Ligurian seacoast.

Elements of one 92nd Division infantry regiment, now in the Serchio Valley sector, jumped off Wednesday and by late Saturday had advanced four miles and taken without opposition Castelnuovo, an important road center in that sector. 4-28-45

Enemy Leaves in Haste

Fascist Italians previously holding forth in Serchio were still withdrawing hastily in the face of each new onslaught Sunday, destroying their artillery installations which were too heavy for quick movement.

Some idea of the extent of this withdrawal can be gathered from the fact that the only casualty by late Saturday when I left thsi unit was one lieutenant who stepped on a mine and had his foot blown off .

Many Deserters Taken

These troops had taken over 250 deserters and there was serious expectation that an unusually large number of Italians would desert en masse within the next few days. 4-28-45

A small uhit of this regiment is fighting with altillery units attached to the 92nd Division in the extreme western coastal sector in the vicinity of San Zana, northwest of Carrara, where enemy resistance is still extremely heavy, with evidences that Germans are using sailors and former airforce personnel to bolster their ground forces.

With teh exception of colored combat engineers, artillery, light tankers and tank destroyer units, most of the fighting in this coastal sector in this vicinity of route 1 has in reality been done by white American infantry troops now operating with the 92nd.

Advance 10 Miles

East of Serchio, other colored troops, fighting in the difficult terrain of the Apennine Mountains, pushed forward over ten miles after fleeing enemy troops to enter the town of Pieve Pelago.

These troops are also facing Fascist Italian divisions, one of which is Monte Rosa and the other Italia. The latter was once Mussolini's crack troops.

I have just left this unit of our troops and they had made no contact with fleeing Italians or been able to catch up with them early Saturday.

The only form of resistance encountered were a few mines and blown roads at intermittent spots.

Moving Toward Modena

Another regiment of colored troops in this area is also pushing forward through the Apennines in the general chase of the enemy that has developed on this front in the past three days. I hae not visited this unit since its recent attack, but will leave immediately to enter the field with it. 4-28-45

Our troops are among those moving forward in general direction of the Modena in the Po Valley which is also an important road center connecting Bologna with points in northwestern Italy.

It is not quite clear whether our troops pushing up through Serchio will link up with the 92nd moving up Ligurian seacoast to La Spezia and Genoa.

Sharing honors in the fall of Bologna is the Fighter Group commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, whose pilots escorted the 15th Army Air Force heavy bombers over German installations in that vicinity and have strafed moving stock and strong points since the launching of the new Italian offensive.

Field Marshal Sir Harold R. W. Alexander, supreme Allied commander in the Mediterranean, said in part concerning the fall of Bologna:

"The capture of Bologna is a ictory that belongs to every Allied fighting man—soldier, sailor and airman—in the Italian theatre."

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. REPUBLICAN

Circ. D. 12,360

JUL 23 1945

Valor of Negro Troops

This is a condensation of an article printed in the Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, written by the editor of another southern newspaper, the Norfolk (Va.) Journal and Guide.

By P. BERNARD YOUNG, JR.

Generals supposedly furnished Senator Eastland of Mississippi with the purported facts upon which he based his amazing charge that Negro troops in this war have been an utter and abysmal failure. This is an accusation that is difficult to imagine, in view of the high praise which our top generals, in all major theaters of operations, have publicly accorded those same fighters.

Senator Eastland's charge not only is refuted by famous American generals, but is rebutted by three war correspondents of the Journal and Guide, who, among them, have spent 28 months in active war zones.

The Journal and Guide's war correspondents, Thomas W. Young, Lem Graves, Jr., and John Jordan, on the basis of their first-hand experience with our troops in combat, took sharp issue with Eastland's unqualified indictment. Each cited favorable appraisals of colored servicemen by famous combat generals.

In regard to the senator's direct reference to the 92d division, Correspondent Graves said: "Maj-Gen E. M. Almond, who commanded it, declared on the day after V-E day that his artillery, tank and engineer units had maintained throughout the final phases of the Italian campaign the same magnificent performance for which they were previously cited."

"The colored soldiers are doing a good job," Gen Clark told Jordan in September, 1944. He was referring to the Negro enlisted men of the 370th regiment of the 92d division, who were fighting Germans in the mud and mountains along Italy's west coast.

"In my 10 months of roving around the European theater," the correspondent continued, "I have never come upon an American outfit, white or colored, that could be described as an utter failure, either in service or in actual combat.

"Has the Mississippi senator ever glanced at the casualty figures of the 92d infantry division? Has he ever bothered to note how many enemy prisoners these colored troops were able to take while in their socalled unimportant position in the 5th army line?"

Correspondent Young called attention to the record of the 761st tank battalion which fought with the 3d, 7th and 9th armies through France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He pointed out that several officers and men have had two and three tanks shot or blown from under them.

Maj-Gen Eddy, commanding one of the army corps with which it fought, told Young: "I consider the 761st tank battalion to have entered combat with such conscious courage and success as to warrant commendation. The speed with which they adapted themselves to the front line under most adverse weather conditions, the gallantry with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops, and the confident spirit with which they emerged from their recent engagements entitle them surely to consider themselves the veteran 761st."

Maj-Gen Raymond G. Lehman, commander of the 93d infantry division fighting on Bougainville island, said of his men:—

"They have the same courage, the same fear and fighting spunk as any other soldier. They are quick to learn and eager to perform. They can give and take, and they are about the best disciplined in the army."

Young recalled Lieut James B. McCullin and Sherman White, who took off on July 2, 1943, at the controls of P-40 Warhawks protecting American bombers with white crews in the assault on Sicily—and Lieut Paul G. Mitchell, who flew from a field in Sicily, after the island was invaded in August of the same year, to dive-bomb enemy troops and instalations—and Lieut Sam Bruce, who fought so spectacularly in the air defense of the beachhead at Anzio in January, 1944—and Capt Erwin B. Lawrence, who flew his fighter plane over Yugoslavia to strafe the Nazis.

"These men would be surprised and a little bitter if they ever heard about the senator's statement, but fortunately they will be spared that suffering, because none of them returned from their missions," he said.

Correspondent Graves related that Lieut-Gen Truscott, commanding the 5th army in Italy, told him that Negro artillery, tank, reconnaissance, tank destroyer, combat engineer, ordnance and the quartermaster troops "who have served in this theater under my command have done an exceptionally good job." On another occasion Gen Truscott told correspondents that the best general-service engineer regiment in this command had been the 92d engineer regiment.

Graves also quoted a revealing statement of Lieut-Gen Ira C. Eaker, acting commanding general of the army air forces, concerning the contributions of Negro airmen to the victories of this war. Speaking to the officers of two Negro fighter groups in Naples in the late spring of 1944, the general said he had followed their exploits since they were first committed to combat, and that he was convinced that they were qualified, capable and courageous.

of Brattleboro, Vt., a former resident of this town, will be held Monday afternoon at the Bartlett funeral home. Rev Harold T. Sharpe of the Methodist church will conduct the service. Burial will be in the family plot in the Main Street cemetery.

56n- 1945

Foreign Service Europe

332nd Pilots, 92nd Doughboys Tell Of Indignities As Nazi Prisoners

Chicago, Ill.

Chicago DEFENDER

NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION, Camp Shanks, N. Y.—Four Negro Mustang fighter pilots of 332nd Fighter Graup and two hardened Doughboys of the 92nd Infantry Division, who had distinguished themselves in combat against the Nazis until they were captured in spirited engagements, arrived here May 29, the War Department announced today. They were included in a shipment of 2,675 American soldiers liberated from German prison camps by the surging Allied armies.

6-9-45

These veterans of the Italian campaign, whose numerous decorations were indicative of their war-winning endeavors, had suffered indignities and deprivations while in the hands of the Germans. But their hardships of the past were only unpleasant memories today as they cheered enthusiastically the announcement that they would receive 60-day furloughs.

Interesting stories were related by the repatriated Americans. First Lieut. Roger B. Gaiter of 136 Sheridan avenue, Seaside Heights, N. J., a graduate of New Jersey State Teachers' college at Glassboro, took the lead in the recitation of experiences. He enlisted in the Army in October 1942, and subsequently joined Col. Benjamin O. Davis' 332nd Fighter Group.

6-9-45

Went Over in 1944

Shipped overseas in July, 1944, the handsome 23-year-old lieutenant went to Italy by way of Oran. He flew 37 missions over France, Germany and the Balkans, destroying five Nazi planes on the ground. But misfortune overtook him late in November on his 38th mission while he was engaged in low level bombing and strafing of Wehrmacht installations in the Lake Balaton area of Hungary. Flak riddled his plane, forcing him to parachute out of his burning craft with an injured knee.

After eluding his pursuers for four days by keeping under cover during the day and crawling toward Allied lines at night, Lieut. Gaiter finally was captured. He recounted what followed:

"I was taken to Gyor in Hungary along with six other captured airmen, all of whom were white. As we were being marched to the Gyor railroad station for shipment into Germany, a mob of civilians gathered in the streets and began to assault us. The guards did little to stave them off, and we were beaten up pretty badly. A captain from St. Louis was clubbed on the head with a brick and knocked unconscious.

6-9-45

Abused by Germans

"Cut and bleeding, we arrived at the Gyor station and took the train to Vienna. People spat at us and cursed us there, and when we got to the prison camp in Germany, the living conditions were extremely bad. We got practically nothing to eat, and were fortunate in being rescued by Allied armies in time."

Lieutenant Gaiter wears the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart and the European Theater of Operations ribbon with three battle stars.

A typical example of the treachery and deceit employed by the Germans in Italy for propaganda purposes was described by Pvt. Rothacker C. Smith of 10226 Delmar street, Detroit, Mich.

A former student at Emmanuel Missionary college in Michigan, Private Smith battled with the 366th Infantry Regiment of the 92nd Division until the outfit reached a position near Pisa. A tremendous enemy artillery and mortar barrage shattered a building in which Private Smith and his squad had taken positions, leaving him unconscious with a fractured arm, smashed shoulder and deep lacerations of the face.

March 35 Miles

But despite his weakened condition and multiple injuries, the Nazis forced him and his buddies to march 35 miles in the freezing weather of late December. Then, after receiving treatment at a hospital, he was interned in a prison camp.

"Shortly after I arrived at the POW camp," Smith recalled, "the Germans handed me a form similar to a radiogram and told me I could send a message home to my parents saying that I was treated well, healthy and not lacking in comforts. I was happy as a lark to let my father and mother know of my safety, so I filled it out.

"About three months later, when some captured Doughfeet of my old outfit were brought to the camp where I was kept, I got the surprise of my life. One of the boys came over to me and pulled a four-page newspaper from his pocket. Right on the front page was the radiogram I thought I had sent to my parents.

"The Germans had never sent the message but had used it for propaganda purposes. They took my message and others like it and printed them in a newspaper. They then shot these papers into the American lines to tell the boys how well they treat men who surrender to them. But the trick didn't work because not a single GI surrendered without a fight."

Flew 90 Missions

First Lieutenant Walter L. McCreary of 509 South Pine street, San Antonio, Texas, went overseas in January, 1944, and was attached to the 100th Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group. He flew 90 patrol and strafing missions over Italy, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Rumania, Germany, Hungary and France.

6-9-45

On McCreary's 90th mission on October 12, 1944, flak disabled his plane over Hungary and he bailed out at 7,000 feet west of Lake Balaton. He landed uninjured, but the mob of civilians which gathered about struck and reviled him.

As the Germans retreated before the indomitable Soviet Armies, he was forced to march through the bitterest weather of the winter. He recalls one particular 90-mile forced march which many prisoners did not survive. His last POW camp was located near Nuremberg, the shrine city of Nazism.

Second Lieut. Richard D. Macon of the 332nd Fighter Group's 99th Fighter Squadron, took his Air Corps training with Lieutenant Gaiter at Tuskegee, Ala., and went overseas with him. He was strafing German radar equipment in France in his fifth mission when his plane was shot down. Suffering from a fractured neck, he was taken prisoner by the Nazis and hospitalized for three months.

Red Cross a Saviour

The food served him was as vile, he asserted, as the prison accommodations and survival was possible only with the aid of the Red Cross parcels he received weekly. He was marched long distances from one camp to another, and was finally freed from Moosburg on April 29 by units of General Patton's Third Army. Lieutenant Macon's home is at 524 South 63rd street, Birmingham, Ala.

First Lieut. Charles T. Williams of 1669 East 113th street, Los Angeles, Calif., was assigned to the 301st Fighter Squadron of the 332nd. Arriving overseas last July 27, he flew nine missions before engine trouble forced him down in central Yugoslavia. He eluded enemy searching parties for four days but was seized at Sarajevo.

Subjected to several forced marches, he finally wound up in Moosburg. Said Lieutenant Williams: "On April 29, General Patton's troops freed us. Fighting for the town began at 0915 and the Krauts quit at 1145. The best sight I've yet seen was Old Glory flying over Moosburg. It's a feeling you can't describe."

Pvt. James V. Gray of Dixie, Ga. also was a member of the Buffalo division. A veteran of 10 months overseas and 120 days of combat fighting in Italy, Private Gray was taken prisoner after he had been knocked unconscious by a shell concussion and pinned to the groun by a fallen tree. He was placed in a box-car jammed with 50 other prisoners and taken to Moosburg.

6-9-45

The journey lasted 17 days, the Georgian declared, during which time the prisoners were locked in cars for as long as seven days at a stretch. The food rations consisted of one loaf of bread a day for 12 men and a thin, watery bowl of soup.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUN
Circ. D. 277,172

JUN 14 1945

Negro Troops to Help Occupy Germany

Paris, June 14 (A. P.).—The United States Army will try to have 10.4 per cent Negro troops in the total American occupation force in Germany and apply the same ratio of troops sent home for eventual discharge, it has been disclosed at ETO headquarters. That is the standard percentage used by the War Department wherever possible in fixing the proportion of Negro troops.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
JOURNAL-AMERICAN
Cir. D. 641,194—S. 1,067,857

JUN 14 1945

Keep Negroes in Reich

PARIS, June 14 (AP).—The U. S. Army will try to have 10.4 per cent Negro troops in the total American occupation force in Germany and apply the same ratio to troops sent home for eventual discharge, it was disclosed today.

Negro GIs Humiliated In Germany

People's Voice

N.Y.

In a letter to PV this week, five sergeants revealed the humiliation they suffered in Germany recently, when white officers attempted to pin a case of rape on members of their unit, the 660th Quartermaster Truck Co., stationed in Munich. The men were saved from the charge by the action of their white commanding officer.

Excerpts from their letter follow:

6-23-45

"Now that the war against Germany is ended, it appears that elements of our Army are turning their efforts to making the lives of Negro troops as miserable as possible . . . Hardly more than a month ago, we were awakened in the middle of the night by an American major (white) accompanied by a number of armed enlisted men.

"He informed one of our men that a German woman had been raped, and said that if he couldn't find the 'nigger' who did it that he was going to kill all the 'niggers.' . . . The following day the supposed victim was brought to our company by the major to identify the attacker. Fortunately no one was selected by the woman. . . .

"Today we were called to a company formation to be inspected by another supposed rape victim and two other German witnesses. This time one of our boys was selected as the attacker. Our commanding officer saved him from a possible tragedy by digging up company records to prove that we were not operating in the place where the incident occurred.

Fighting Together

Negro Platoon Aided 69th Division In Wiping Out Last German Pocket

Pittsburgh Courier 6-9-45

Pgh., Pa.

WITH THE 69th INFANTRY DIVISION IN GERMANY—Spearheading the crossing of the Mulde River, north of Leipzig, the Negro platoon of K Company, 272nd Infantry Regiment, helped the 69th Division wipe out the Eilenberg pocket of resistance.

It was Hitler's birthday when T/Sgt. William Peklinsky, 3560 West Street, Holiday Cove, W. Va., a white veteran, who gave up a cracker-jack platoon to lead the crack Negro soldiers, assembled his men for the patrol just behind a hill crest.

The mission of the patrol was to cross the river and find out the strength and the location of the fortifications of the pocket.

HELL BROKE LOOSE

The only bridge standing over the Mulde in the area was controlled by two German guards armed with machine guns, rifles and hand grenades. Two Negro doughboys, Pfc. Albert Barthell of Cordele, Ga., and Pfc. Amos Grice of Selma, Ala., scouts, worked their way up to the bridge, wounded the two Nazi guards with rifle fire and then finished them off with bayonets. The patrol followed across and then all hell broke loose.

6-9-45

Immediately, the Nazis opened up on the patrol, still on the banks of the river, with all they had. The Negro doughboys, who by this time had over a month of combat, hit the ground. Five of the patrol were wounded, but they accounted for twenty Germans and took thirty-four wounded prisoners.

Returning by way of the bridge was impossible as mortar shells had demolished it, so Pvt. Edward H. Rhynes of Chicago, Ill., ducked and dodged down the river bank until he found a fording spot and crossed the river to get Pvt. Bill Bayless, the white medic of San Francisco, Calif., to take care of the wounded. Private Rhynes then led the patrol and the wounded back across the ford to safety behind the Sixty-Ninth's lines.

After the declaration of VE-Day, they helped guard a portion of the Reich Autobahn that the Generals of the Allied armies used to meet the Russians.

PLATOON MEMBERS

Among members of the platoon are:

6-9-45

First Lieut. James P. Van Schaeck, Manasquan, N. J. (white).
T/Sgt. William Peklinsky, Holiday Cove, W. Va. (white).
S/Sgt. James C. Foster, Jacksonville, Fla.
Pfc. Melvin Floyd, Chicago, Ill.
Pfc. B. H. Bayless, San Francisco, Calif. (white).
Pvt. Rudolph Mays, Coatesville, Pa.
S/Sgt. Lorenza Davis, Milwaukee, Wis.
Sgt. Charles L. Simms, Los Angeles, Cal.
Pfc. Alumnus N. Stewart, Chicago, Ill.
Pfc. Vernon Hopkins, Chicago, Ill.
Pfc. Albert Barthell, Cordele, Ga.
Pfc. Amos Grice, Selma, Ala.
Pvt. Moses C. Jackson, Chicago, Ill.
Pvt. Edward Rhynes, Chicago, Ill.
Pvt. Johnnie B. Nunn, Chicago, Ill.
Pvt. William Aldrich, Pocatello, Ind.
Pvt. Wilbert Jackson, Los Angeles, Calif.
Pvt. Booker T. Miles, East St. Louis, Ill.
Sgt. Henry G. Bergagne Jr., New Orleans.
Sgt. Clarence L. Richardson, Bownemont, W. Va.
Pfc. David C. Jackson, Houston, Tex.
Pfc. Richard C. Tucker, Detroit, Mich.
Pfc. Alphonza Windley, Philadelphia, Pa.
Pvt. Thomas Swain, Mound City, Ill.
Pvt. General S. Easlly, Nashville, Tenn.
Pvt. Ozie Dubose, Senica, S. C.
Pvt. Robert R. Sampson, Clinton, N. C.
Pvt. John H. Brown, Greensboro, N. C.
Pvt. Crisp Cooper, Philadelphia, Pa.
Pvt. Norman King, Coconut Grove, Fla.
Sgt. Eric F. Jones, Philadelphia, Pa.
Corp. S. C. Kirkland, New York, N. Y.

GI Combat Volunteers Take Nazi Town By Storm

Chicago Defender Ill.

4-28-45

WITH THE U. S. 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, EAST OF THE RHINE.—These Negro GIs said they could fight. They volunteered for a chance to prove it. They took a German town in the space of a few minutes, and now no one doubts their word.

That's what the men of Company B of the 16th Infantry Regiment claim, and from the story they tell it seems reasonable to believe that the Jerries would echo a fervent "Amen."

On March 20, with Company B poised to jump off in the attack against Oberpleis on the east banks of the Rhine, the Fifth Platoon, composed entirely of Negro personnel, was about to get its battle initiation.

Lieutenant Vincent J. Kachnik of 4715 South Loomis street, Chicago, the platoon leader, oriented his men carefully and explained in detail what was expected of them after zero hour. He emphasized that speed and aggressiveness were essential—and apparently his audience took the words to heart.

Came zero hour and the fifth platoon took off, but fast. Throwing care and caution to the winds and quickly out-distancing their lieutenant, the Negro GIs headed for the objective. Ignoring the first burst of fire from the amazed German, they completely overwhelmed the opposition and in the space of a few minutes were astride the objective and looking for new towns to conquer. 4-28-45

When Lieutenant Kachnik finally caught up with his fighters, the first sight that greeted him was that of a Negro soldier emerging from a house leading a most willing German whom he had by the arm. Spying his platoon leader, the soldier shouted, "Look, Sir, I've got another Heinie."

First Negro Tanker Class Graduate From The Armored School

New York Age 6-30-45 N.Y.

THE REPLACEMENT AND TRAINING COMMAND, Italy — The increasingly important role of the Negro soldier on the fighting front was highlighted recently when the first class of Negro tankers was graduated from the Armored School, an installation of The Replacement and Training Command of the Mediterranean Theater of Operations.

Forty-nine Negro enlisted men, selected for their ability and leadership, completed the rigorous course in Armored tactics.

Chosen from branches of the service such as Coast Artillery, Quartermaster Corps, Field Artillery, Engineers, Transportation Corps and Air Force, the men were given basic training in tank operations, gunnery and tactics while attending the Armored School.

Praise was given the group of Negro graduates by Brigadier General L. C. Jaynes, Commanding General of The Replacement and Training Command and himself a former tanker. 6-30-45

"These men demonstrated unusual interest during their training", General Jaynes said. "They are to be commended for their proficiency."

The graduates from the New York area are Cpl. Owen M. Beckles, 65 Wickham avenue, Middletown; Cpl. Norman Hoyte, 161-07 72nd avenue, Flushing; and Pvt. Elmer H. Bigham, 125 North Sea road, Southampton.

SO WHAT? — — — — By Jay Jackson

"Nein, Fraulein, their country has trained them for non-fraternization since birth!"

56n-1945

Foreign Service Europe

800,000 Tan Yanks Cited in Britannica's '45 Annual

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

More than 800,000 colored Americans were serving in the armed forces by the end of 1944, according to an article in the Encyclopedia Britannica's 1945 Book of the Year to be published early May 1. 4-21-45

Of these, the article states, 701,678 were in the army and of them more than 425,000 were overseas; 148,769 were in the navy; 5,702 in the marines, and 3,556 in the coast guard.

"In addition to numerous individual citations, a notable general record in both the combat and service branches was recognized in an official army release," the article says.

Special Citations Made

The release, the article adds, made special mention of the combat records of the following:

Ninety-third Division in the Pacific, the 761st Tank Battalion in France, the 92nd Division in Italy;

Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron and 332nd Fighter Group, commanded by Maj. George Roberts and Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who, with many members of these units, received the Distinguished Flying Cross and other decorations." 4-21-45

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Progress in Navy Branches

The navy commissioned twenty-eight colored ensigns and lieutenants during 1944; and, on Presidential order, opened the ranks and commissioned ranks of the WAVES to colored women, according to the Book of the Year.

The book also says that on the industrial front nearly 2,000,000 colored persons were reported in war jobs, with considerable increase in skilled and semi-skilled employment and also in union, particularly CIO, membership.

Presidential Citation Is Awarded Unit

Atlanta World
4-22-45
Atlanta, Ga.

French Recognize Distinction In Battle Of Colmar

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

WITH U. S. SEVENTH ARMY IN GERMANY—(ANP)— In Germany where I am now installed, I have been given a special assignment with the 7th army to cover a Negro tank outfit that had distinguished itself in the battle of the Ardennes. When I arrived to find this outfit, I was informed that it had been shifted, to another Army sector. Instead, I found that the famous 969th Negro artillery of Bastogne fame was fighting with the 7th army. I immediately attached myself to this unit and was happy to be with it again, more so to learn about the true story of Bastogne which brought the outfit so much recognition. 4-22-45

The first thing the commander told me was that the battalion had been awarded the Presidential citation for the heroic defence in the "Battle of Bastogne. This citation was included in the same order as the 101st Airborne Division. Thus far there has been no official ceremony because the battalion was in continuous action since the Bastogne triumph. In actual fact, the 969th has been in action continuously since its appearance on the western front last July.

ALWAYS CALLED TO DESTROY ENEMY POCKETS

This battalion is always called upon to destroy surviving traces of enemy pockets after a big battle. This is the first time a Negro combat unit has received such distinguished recognition. 4-22-45

The 969th has received double honors. In the "Battle of Colmar" the battalion distinguished itself again supporting the 1st French infantry, and the 2nd and 5th French divisions that were fighting in the city of Colmar in the Alsace pocket. In recognition of the battalion's brilliant exploits, the mayor has conferred the honor upon the battalion to use the coat of arms of the City of Colmar. The commanding officer, Lt. Col. Hubert D. Barnes, told me that the battalion would incorporate the arms in the insignia.

TWENTY EIGHT BRONZE STARS RECOMMENDED

The total amount of decorations the battalion has received amounts to 14 Bronze stars, one Silver star and one Croix de Guerre. These decorations cover the Normandy, Brest and Bastogne campaigns. In addition 28 Bronze stars have been recommended.

The record of the 969th has been so outstanding that it is safe to say the battalion will at the close of the war emerge as one of the most formidable combat units to have appeared on the western front. 4-22-45

The Battalion commander, Lt. Col. Hubert D. Barnes from Wisconsin, Mass., is a proud man—and justly so-at the inextinguishable glory of his unit. It is due to his skill and coolness in the sombre and terrible moments that the battalion has achieved such a distinguished record. In the outfit, it is the concensus of opinion that during the exciting days of the Bastogne battle, Col. Barnes was cool calm and collected. He is remarkable for his friendliness of manner and the absence of those petty jealousies which are apt to irritate Negro soldiers. 4-22-45

UNDERSTANDS NEGRO PSYCHOLOGY

In actual fact, Col. Barnes understands Negro psychology. If there is any undercurrent of discontent among [illegible] due to race, he would [illegible] to arbitrate. His method in dealing with such an affair is simple and effective. Col. Barnes would prevail upon the most enlightened member of the battalion to talk to the men who are dissatisfied, and to present a true picture of the situation. He would purposely select a full-blooded Negro in order that the men would not think that they are being deceived or "sold out."

NEGROES' COURAGE UPHELD IN INQUIRY

New York Times
N.Y.

Gibson Lays Difficulties of 92d Division in Italy to Its High Illiteracy

3-15-45

By MILTON BRACKER

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ROME, March 14—The circumstances surrounding the American Ninety-second Division and its combat record present "a rather dismal picture," but one that may contribute greatly to working out the difficult Army race problem in the future, it was asserted here today by Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

All the enlisted men in the Ninety-second Division are Negroes. The Division's accomplishments so far in the Tyrrhenian sector of the Italian front have been limited in terms of the map and highly controversian in terms of general discussion throughout the Mediterranean theatre. 3-15-45

Largely because of this controversy, spread to the general and Negro press at home, Mr. Gibson came here at the end of February. He has visited most Negro units, as well as high Army officers. His appraisal must be taken most seriously because he is the official representative of the War Department and is a Negro. He also is the first Government official to make a candid publishable appraisal of the situation.

To understand the situation it must be realized that the generalization that "Negro troops can't fight" has been depressingly prevalent on and behind the Italian front virtually since the Ninety-second Division arrived. As usual it has been picked up by the worst elements in the Army, but too often it has been repeated by high officers of unquestioned integrity, although often they are men whose knowledge of the Ninety-second Division is not first hand.

Defends Negroes' Courage

Mr. Gibson denied this generalization on the basis of his inspection. 3-15-45

"If the division proves anything," he said, "it does not prove that Negroes can't fight. There is no question in my mind about the courage of Negro officers or soldiers and any generalization on the basis of race is entirely unfounded."

Mr. Gibson then frankly went into the touchiest aspect of all. He conceded that certain units of the Ninety-second Division had engaged in "more or less panicky retreats, particularly at night when the attitude of some individual soldiers seemed to be "I'm up here all alone; why in hell should I stay up here?'"

But, he added, "not all the straggling and running has happened in the Ninety-second Division."

In other divisions, he said, it seemed to be that it was more often the case of some individuals falling back in every unit while with the Ninety-second "the disintegration was likely to be the behavior pattern of some patrols or platoons as units."

High Illiteracy Is Blamed

In the relatively high percentage of illiteracy of the division Mr. Gibson felt lay the key to the trouble and certainly a reason for making unfair any comparison of it with veteran whitie outfits like the Thirty-fourth Division. Ninety-two per cent of the Negro Division were in Class 4 or Class 5 in Army literacy tests.

Class 5 is the worst. Seventy-five per cent of the Ninety-second's men were in Class 4, semi-literacy.

"You can't apply the same training schedules where that many men are illiterate as where only 3 per cent are," Mr. Gibson commented. 3-15-45

He said that normally all Class 5 men would have had a special period of "basic education" but that the men in the Ninety-second were not because the division was being activated at the time they were called up and they were sent to it immediately.

General Army figures show 46.4 per cent of Negroes are in Class 5 and 35 per cent are in Class 4, against 4 per cent of whites in Class 5 and 16 per cent in Class 4.

Mr. Gibson said that when the usual type of racial incidents occurred around the division many Negroes were likely to resent "fighting two wars" and fall back on the familiar, "what the hell have we got to fight for here anyway?"

But he declared he was encouraged because he felt the War Department has "a flexible attitude in trying to find its future policy." He will report to the advisory committee on special troop problems.

Col. Benjamin Davis Jr., commanding the Negro 332d Fighter Group, who was a roommate of Mr. Gibson at the University of Chicago, attended the press conference.

News-Dispatch
Ala.

KILLED IN BELGIUM — Sgt. James Keith, 25 (above) whose wife and 3-year-old son reside at 417 12th Street, Ensley, was killed in action Jan. 14 while fighting in the Army in Belgium. In service two years, he had been overseas one year. His widow has received the Purle Heart award posthumously to Sgt. Keith. In addition to his wife and son, he is survived by his parents, who reside in Helena. 3-17-45

White GI Tells Of Courage Of Negro Soldier

Negro News
2-17-45

WARREN, Ohio—The kind of unselfish devotion and courage being experienced between Negro and white GIs in this war is revealed in a letter from a Pfc. (now recovering from an attack of sciatic rheumatism in a hospital in England) who tells the story of James Alvin Wilson, who weigh about 176, at the time I was, as they say, under its column ABOUT PEO-PLE. This time it is William Gil-soaking wet. But it evidently camarad-lespie, white private formerly "in spite of the rain and snow, didn't make much difference to me. I was a white soldier, who had volunteered to take me back to the foxhole and gently lift me to station 3-10-45 aid the pain in my hips was at the edge.

that time quite acute, and Jim was always asking if he was hurting me. As I laid my head upon his chest, I could hear his deep breathing and the laboring of his heart. He carried me a little over a mile to the aid station, and it was then that I learned Jim had 'trench feet,' and had carried me all that distance through snow. Every step must have been torture. 3-10-45

"We were together from then on, sleeping in cots close together, because Jim told them that he would take care of me.

"The care he gave me became a legend with the other patients. At night when I awoke from the pain, Jim was there with water, talking to me telling me to 'take it easy', bringing me a cool towel and wiping my face. He would bring cigarets every day, and I had the best of everything.

"And then came our parting. Jim back to his outfit and myself to a general hospital. He carried one end of my litter to the ambulance and when they drove away his parting words were, 'I'll see you in the States kid,' and we pulled away. As I looked back the sun was shining, and Jim stood there waving his big powerful hand, and as the sun hit his combat helmet, it seemed to glow into a halo, and I could see he was crying as I was. 3-10-45

"Thus was my friendship with a fellow named Jim. I wondered as the days passed why he didn't write as he promised. Then one day I had my answer as I was reading the 'Stars and Stripes.' I came across an article something like this:

"'James Alvin Wilson, colored, 24 Lenox Avenue, New York, N. Y. Killed in action November 23, 1944.'."

Negro Infantrymen Save Whites in Tight Spot

The Kansas City Call

Combat Troops Do 'Magnificent Job' On Rhine, Side by Side With Whites

Kansas City Mo.

By HARRY McALPIN

3-30-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — Negro infantrymen who volunteered for transfer from service troops to combat infantry and are serving side by side with white troops on the Rhine did a "magnificent job" on their very first day in the line, according to reports reaching here from their battalion commander, Lt. Col. Norman Moore. Moore credited them with saving a company in a tight spot. 3-30-45

This heroic performance occured about the same time the jim-crowed, segregated 92nd Division —all-Negro except its top command of white officers and staff —was being maligned in the white press as result of a press conference in Rome with Truman K. Gibson, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War. Gibson was quoted as saying the Negroes of the 92nd "melted away" in the face of combat fire. 3-30-45

Thomas R Henry, war correspondent with United States Troops on the Rhine for the Washington Evening Star, reporting the praise-worthy performance of the Negroes, said:

"I checked the situation in two divisions today. The best story is that of an infantry company getting a platoon of colored men, mostly Sicily and Africa veterans in behind-the-lines jobs, eager to prove their worth as fighting soldiers. The colored platoon trained hard for months for the new roles. 3-30-45

"The white regiment was stalled before a high ground commanding approaches to Hennigen, Germany. Its advances in the previous 24 hours had cost a high price and the remaining men were exhausted. The colored troops were sent in with no idea of the job ahead. They took off through the woods, their objective a Jerry machine-gun nest which had pinned the company flat.

"Sparked by Pvt James Oliver of Nyack, N. Y., the new men slivered up in back of the enemy guns and captured them with their crews intact. The platoon then was fired on by a 20-millimeter flak gun. The men quietly deployed and concentrated their rifle fire on the Jerries. (They did not break or run.) They threw grenades and sprayed machine-gun fire from every position. They captured the ack-ack position with four prisoners.

"These men deserve mention as colored heroes of war: Willie Pace of Columbus, Ga.; Preston Williams of Mobile, Ala.; Ellis Butts, Smithfield, Va.; Robert Decasseres, New York City; Harold Robinson, Buffalo; Harold Shaw, Canton, Tex.; Raymond Randsom, Detroit; and Donald Skeeters, Baltimore. 3-30-45

"That night, two had more important business—Arthur Holmes, Holmes, former night-club entertainer, and Tom Williams, both of Los Angeles. They led a squad through Inky Darkness and disposed of three Germans with knives before the rest fled. (They did not break "especially in the darkness of night".)

"The next day the colored men were given the job of flushing out two houses suspected of harboring German artillery observation posts, this under murderous artillery fire. They advanced up the hill to their objectives, peppering the target with their rifles. They took 26 prisoners and a signalling set."

WOUNDED IN FRANCE—Sgt. Nathaniel J. Todd (above), who was wounded in France Sept. 22 after serving 17 months overseas has recently returned to the States. He is now stationed at Bushnell General Hospital after spending a month's furlough with his parents, the Joseph Todds, who reside at 1613 First Street, South. 3-17-45

Negro GIs in First Action Wipe Out SS

Daily Worker

By ANN STRINGER

WITH THE 104TH (TIMBERWOLF) DIVISION, South of Paderborn, Germany, April 5 (delayed) (UP).—Moseley's "Dusky Devastaters"—an all-Negro platoon — saw action for the first time today and their record would make any veteran battle group sit up and take notice. 4-6-45

Within a few hours, these eager infantrymen from the north, south and midwest, armed only with Sten guns and rifles, captured or killed 40 crack Nazi SS troopers.

The green platoon, led by S/Sgt. Harvey Moseley, of Mansfield, O. was ordered to clear the Germans from two hills inside the Hardahausen forest. They did the job quickly and competently and came back tired, hungry, muddy

"We'd heard there were SS men in these woods, we'd been told that many times," said Pfc Bent T. Brown, Charlestown, W. Va., known to his comrades as "Big Slim."

"We didn't know exactly what they were, but we found out mighty quick." 4-6-45

Big Slim was the hero of the day, but it was his buddy, Pfc James Ira Hayes, 592 Quincy St., Brooklyn, N. Y., who revealed the details of his heroism.

"We were just making the attack across the hill," Hayes said. "Slim and another guy took the right flank. Big Slim did about one of the bravest things I ever saw —so did the other guy."

"Yes, that guy was a pretty brave man all right," Big Slim agreed. "I was walking along beside him when he suddenly shouted at me to drop. The Germans had opened up on us. Then I saw he was wounded. I started firing faster than ever then." 4-6-45

"The wounded man started crying out for someone to put a tourniquet on his left arm," said Hayes, taking up the story. "Then we saw Big Slim start toward him. The wounded guy stood up — how I'll never know—but he stood up and with his good arm sprayed the Nazis with lead, covering Big Slim.

"It was a good thing he did, too, for just about then a German shell hit Slim's rifle and knocked the shell clip completely off his bar. But that didn't stop Slim. He kept right on going."

KILLED IN ACTION—Corp. Marvin W. Miller (above), whose parents reside in Woodstock, was killed in action Jan. 27 while laying a land mine in Italy, according to word received by his family from the War Department. In addition to his parents, he is survived by three sisters and five brothers, two of whom are in service, Hosie Miller, stationed in France, and Earsey Miller, Camp Wallace, Tex.

Negro Troops, Britons Clash

Detroit Free Press

HULL, England—(AP)—Hull police reported American Negro soldiers and British civilians clashed Friday night in a saloon and the efforts of 50 policemen were required to end the fight.

Police reported one civilian was seriously hurt, but said they had made no arrests, leaving the investigation to American military authorities. 6-24-45

The trouble stemmed from an incident Thursday night, an Army spokesman said, when a Negro soldier was struck on the head with a beer bottle. 6-24-45

Reveal Heroic Epic Of Negro Gunners In Defense Of Beseiged Bastogne

Chicago Defender Ill. 2-3-45

WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY IN FRANCE—So close to German infantry that mortar bombs fell on them "like rain," men of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, a Negro 155-mm. howitzer outfit, stuck to their guns and fired all around the compass during the defense of encircled Bastogne, it was revealed this week.

The battalion, which landed in France last July, was attached to the 28th Infantry Division at the time of the German attack.

On the morning of December 17, the battalion was informed by its forward observer that the Germans were moving in to attack. There was heavy artillery fire. "Then,' said Captain William J. Wood, communications officer, of Wichita Falls, Texas, "our communications went out. Jerry artillery knocked out damn near all communications in the whole sector. He seemed to know the location of every switchboard."

Unaware of the situation, the battalion moved back toward La Roche where it was attached to an artillery group and ordered toward Neufchateau. Enemy tanks and infantry attacked from the east and south. Twice the battalion went into firing position to repel threats to the column. 2-3-45

Made Jerry Keep Distance

Mortar fire and enemy artillery grew heavy. Other battalions in the artillery were knocked out. Under direction of the 101st Airborne Division, the 969th moved to Villeroux, where it set up its guns. Enemy tanks and infantry approached. With the help of a few scattered tanks and a handful of infantry, the 969th made Jerry keep his distance.

At one time the enemy was so close that the battalion commander ordered all classified material destroyed.

Enemy mortar fire grew even more intense. Small arms fire rained on the gun positions. Individual exploits were many. The battalion medics evacuated both German and American wounded under Jerry rifle fire. When the battalion aid station was destroyed by mortar fire, the aid men succeeded in rescuing all except the hopelessly wounded.

Narrow Escape

Cpl. Mitchell Miles of Chielton street, Montgomery, Ala., will never forget Villeroux. Standing beside his loaded truck, he narrowly escaped being killed by three mortar shells which exploded on the truck and set it on fire. Miles ran to a weapons carrier some distance away, brought it back, and while under heavy small arms fire, disengaged a loaded trailer from the burning kitchen truck and drove away.

It was well that he did. The contents of the trailer were badly needed by the artillerymen, who lived for several days, afterwards on one-third of a K-ration per man per day.

All except the actual cannoneers fought infantry fashion, and even succeeded in taking 30 to 40 prisoners. 2-3-45

At last the battalion commander decided that the position at Villeroux was untenable. The batteries displaced to near Senonchamps. As the outfit began to pull out, one of the radio trucks was disabled by mortar fire. Through a hail of small arms fire, Sergeant Donald Corzo, Hodeenfield, New Jersey, went to the truck and destroyed all the signal equipment to prevent its falling into Jerry hands.

At Senonchamps the battalion prepared for a last stand. Because of casualties, all gun crews were reduced to the minimum. By this time it was obvious that the enemy was on all sides.

Fired in All Directions

The battalion guns were set up to fire all around the circle. "We made two-gun platoons," explained Major James W. Melville, operations officer, of Broken Bow, Nebraska, "and fired in all directions. We had targets everywhere—would have fired more ammunition than we'd used at Brest—if we'd had the stuff."

The guns were firing at ranges of 1200 to 1500 yards—guns which normally have a range of 12,000 to 15,000 yards. The enemy was that close.

"We took everything the Germans had to throw," said Staff Sgt. Lloyd Wilkinson of Brooklyn, New York, "tanks, mortars, small arms fire. That mortar fire was like hail. I never thought that a 155 howitzer outfit would get that close to mortar fire. I don't know what we'd have done if it hadn't been for the help we got from that airborne infantry outfit. They're hot stuff; best outfit I know."

A nondescript dog found shivering near the battalion CP was one factor which helped keep the men's spirits up. "Kaput," as he was christened, adopted the battalion at first sight. He is now the official battalion mascot. 2-3-45

Destroy Guns

But while "Kaput" did his level best to keep morale up, constant Jerry pressure, combined with three terrific air bombardments—one on Christmas Eve — put the mettle of the battery to a severe test. It was hazardous to survey in the gun positions.

On one occasion when Jerry machine-gun fire pinned down the survey section, Staff Sergeant Harry Quintyne of New York City, crawled back, got a machine gun, destroyed one Kraut machine gun, and effectively pinned down the other until survey was completed.

On another occasion, Sgt. Fred Colman, Messina, Georgia, out of patience with an irritating Jerry machine gun, crawled out with one infantryman, destroyed the gun and brought back five prisoners.

"The German fire was constant," said Captain R. C. Coddington, of Sparta, Wisconsin. "There was even a sniper whose special job seemed to be to try to pot one of us when we went to the latrine."

Ammunition was a serious problem. Finally only clearly observed targets were fired upon, and one gun was used in place of a battery. And still German pressure increased. The trapped soldiers, infantry and artillery, fought on stubbornly. 2-3-45

Then the tide turned. C-47s appeared, dropping supplies of food and ammunition. The battalion displaced again, this time to the outskirts of Bastogne, to be in a position closer to the infantry.

And then one morning several days after Christmas, the battalion commander went to the 101st Airborne Division CP and found several of the Fourth Armored Division tanks there. The German ring had been broken, and broken by an outfit with whom the 969th had fought in the breakthrough across France. 2-3-45

The battalion, with its complement of white officers and Negro enlisted men, hit the Normandy beach on July 9 as part of VIII Corps artillery. Commanded by Lieut. Colonel Herbert D. Barnes of Milwaukee, Wis., it supported the Eighth Infantry Division around La Haye du Puits, helped the Fourth Armored Division in the breakthrough near Rennes, then fired in support of the Eighth Division on the Brest Peninsula.

10 Volunteer Infantrymen Take Town, Liberate 200

AFRO-American 4-28-45

Balt. Md.

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Germany

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4-28-45

SEVENTH ARMY FRONT, Germany. — Ten colored volunteer infantrymen, led by Sgt. Clyde Howard of Savannah, Ga., took a whole town and liberated 200 prisoners of war near Schweinfurt, last week.

When Colonel Wells's Twelfth Armored Division called to see whether they had reached the outskirts of their objective town, he was startled to learn that the 66th Battalion had taken that town and were fighting on the far side of the next. 4-28-45

I joined them, hot on heels of the rabid Jew and race-baiter, Julius Streicher, former publisher of der Stuermer, as they cleared Cadolzburg, where Streicher was last reported hiding, and moved onto the outskirts of Nuernberg. 4-28-45

Reports of Nuernburg's fall were premature. We've entered and freed 13,000 DP's and PW's, but street fighting continues. However, Streicher had been the nicest possible plum for these volunteer infantrymen, since he supposedly was more Nazi than Hitler and edited der Stuermer, which published the world's most revoltingly obscene race-baiting cartoons. 4-28-45

"We'll Catch Him Yet"

He wasn't around Cadolzburg because Sgt. William Dillard of Bordentown, and I made a personal search. It is assumed he had fled to Munich because SS Man Neumeister had taken his job as head of Nuernburg, but he's going to run out of places to hide soon and if he doesn't jump off the Berchtesgaden Mountains, we'll catch him yet.

There infantrymen are about the meanest, roughest, hardest hitting and most effective in the Twelfth Armored. They work in spearheads alongside 43rd Battalion tanks and when they hit a town, it's really hit.

Sergeant Howard and his unit took a town near Schweinfurt last week, but the prettiest sight I have seen was their work a Cadolzburg, April 17.

Stalk Nazis Likes Rabbits

They moved along in squads, hugging the sides of buildings, peering around corners, scooting across streets and brazenly entering any house from which they drew fire.

After the squads were in the houses, we waited interminable seconds until there were either sharp rifle reports or two supermen came stumbling out with their hands up.

Down at the far edge of the town, the Germans had a squad pinned down by machine-gun fire for two hours. We were worried about them, but when they came back fingering souvenired German sidearms, S/Sgt. Wilbur Gex, Chicago, said they hadn't been worried at all. 4-28-45

"They couldn't hit us and we know they'd run short of ammo, so we just played it cool until we thought it time to stop that foolishness, then let them have it," the sergeant said.

Two white platoon sergeants, T/Sgts. Harl Cummings, Winfield, Kans., and E. Arthur Reilly, NYC, say: "They're the fightingest crowd we ever saw and the sooner more of them are set up, the sooner the war will be over." They indicated that reinforcements are needed. Cummings was with the 70th Division, and Reilly, the 100th, before joining the Dog Company, 66th.

12th Hit and Run Outfit

Behind them these men have victories as part of the conquering hordes that overran Kaiserslautern, Ludwigshafen, Worms, Wurzburg, Schweinfurt, and the Ustadt. Innumerable smaller towns are among their personal booty, but they don't remember names. The 12th moves too fast. Hit it this morning, clear it this afternoon, move out tonight.

They're swinging now to join the 45th Infantry Division clearing Nuernberg and its Grosser Dutzendteich where Hitler ranted and strutted. He won't' like it but Tan Yanks have plans for a little strutting of their own in the birthplace of Nazism.

Easterners in Outfit

Personnel I am with includes: Sgt. George Hooker, Bronx; Preston Hopewell, Cleveland; Eddie Sim

Negro-White Heroes Maul Nazi Tiger Tanks

Daily Worker

By CLINTON B. CONGER

WITH SEVENTH ARMY, Jan. 22 (Delayed) (UP).—For 11 days a magnificent American infantry regiment parried and held the full weight of Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive against the Little Maginot line villages of Hatten and Rittershoffen, sending 2½ Elite German divisions reeling back broken and mauled.

The regiment was the 315th infantry of the 79th Division, supported by units of the Negro 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion and tankmen and armored infantry of the 14th Armored Division. 1-27-45

Nearly half the men in this regiment are casualties, but they battled the crack German 21st Panzer Division, the 25th Panzer Grenadier Division and an entire regiment of the Seventh Parachute Division, and for every American casualty there were five to 10 dead or wounded Germans.

The two German divisions attacked on Jan. 8 and overran one American regiment in Hatten. The next day the 315th, commanded by Col. Andrew J. Schriver, Jr., Mount Holly Springs, Pa., rushed up to restore the situation.

LOG OF THE BATTLE

Here is the log of the 315th's achievements:

Jan. 9—The Second Battalion sent F and G companies into Hatten. Lt. Morris W. Goodwin, Jacksonville, Fla., of F company, said:

"We got a foothold on the town and sent out patrols where friendly troops were supposed to be, and found Germans everywhere. But we found scattered and disorganized groups from that original battalion, and put them in our own platoons and managed to get a patrol to the center of town.

Jan. 10—"Next morning, when we started to try to clean up the town, E company and four tank destroyers came in. 1-27-45

"Several of those colored boys really were wonderful, standing right there swapping punch for punch with Tiger tanks. Their platoon leader, 2d Lt. Robert F. Jones, Casper, Wyo., deserves the Silver Star. They found an abandoned M-10 tank destroyer there in good condition and decided to use it instead of their own. At our forward positions, the main street bent so that they could not see German tanks coming—particularly at night. Jones took a machinegun for signalling, and laid it on the steps of the forward house, with a tank destroyer further back, and zeroed on the bend.

"Jones was supposed to trip the machinegun trigger with a string, but when the first Tiger poked its snout around the bend at night he just didn't have any sense. He got right out on the steps and held the trigger down, spraying the Tiger. The tank opened fire and blew the steps right out from under Jones, but he wasn't hurt. His gunner, Staff Sgt. Harry Johnson, opened fire and drove the Tiger back."

At dusk on the 10th, remnants of the battalion originally overrun at Hatten were ordered to withdraw, but, according to Goodwin, about 20 refused to leave and another score stayed at Rittershoffen, where they fought with a third battalion of the 315h. 1-27-45

That night at least half of one German division pinned down a second battalion at Hatten in the biggest attack against Rittershoffen. Sgt. Spencer Irving, Yanceville, N. C., Negro, jockeyed his tank destroyer around, and with three shots knocked out three German tanks circling to the southwest of Hatten.

Jan. 13-14-15—For three days of incessant attack the two battalions in Hatten and Rittershoffen clung to the slim wedges in each town, neither larger than a baseball park. They fired mortars at "impossible" ranges of 75 to 150 yards. They fired bazookas over housetops, lobbing them like mortars.

Jan. 19—The Germans made a final try the morning of the 19th, preceding a full regimental assault with a half-hour barrage of 3,000 shells into the tiny holdings of the 315th in Hatten. Then the Americans rose from their burrows, and when the Germans came in too close for mortars and machineguns and bazookas the Yanks used pistols, carbines, grenades and bayonets. In two hours they stopped the attack.

The enemy finally gave up the two towns.

Jan. 20—The Americans, who had been ordered to withdraw the next night, marched out victors.

77 Units Aided In European Victory

Pittsburgh Courier 5-19-45

By JOHN H. YOUNG III
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — On the ground and in the air — the outstanding contribution made by Negro troops in the winning of the war in Europe is revealed in a study of official statistics and records of the War Department. These documents reveal in detail, the deployment of Negro troops in both the European and Pacific theatres and give some indication of the part that they will play in the ever-increasing tempo of the war in the Pacific.

According to the official listing of Negro troops overseas, there were 110 units in both theatres at the close of the war in Europe (since there is a lag between the time of arrival of overseas troops and the War Department announcement of that arrival, it is correct to assume that there are actually more units than those already listed by the War Department). 5-19-45

ELEVEN IN COMBAT

Of these 110 units, seventy-seven were in the European theatre and thirty-three in the Pacific. In Europe, Negro troops constituted nine per cent of all American troops on the continent during the invasion.

A breakdown shows that of the seventy-seven units in Europe, eleven were deployed in combat. These were 332nd Fighter Group, 969th, 333rd and 777th Field Artillery Battalions; 452nd Anti-aircraft Battalion, Ninety-second Infantry, 761st Tank Battalion, 82t7h, 614th and 784th Tank Destroyer Battalions and the 366th Infantry Regiment (broken up and made Engineer units prior to the end of the war in Europe). 5-19-45

Of the remaining sixty-five units of Negro troops in the European theatre, forty-five were used as Engineer and Quartermaster units, nine as Specialized units, seven as Ordnance units and four as Port units.

Detailed breakdown of these sixty-five non-combat units is as follows:

ENGINEER—1221st Fire Fighting Platoon, 1232nd, 1229th, 1233rd, 1235th and 1234th Fire Fighting Detachments; 375th General Service Regiment; 134th, 1313th, 360th, 389th and Ninety-fifth Regiments; 390th General Service Regiment; 823rd Aviation Battalion; 392nd and 354th General Service Regiments; 791st Dump Truck Company; 812th, 822nd, 827th, 856th, 859th, 837th, 838th, 823rd, 829th, 847th, 848th, 858th and 949th Battalions.

QUARTERMASTER — 3264th, 3170th and 3229th General Service Companies; 4089th, 3241st and 4198th Service Companies; 4042nd, Truck Company; 3103rd QM Company; 272nd and 260th Battalions; 523rd and 524th Car Companies; 4353rd and 3033rd Bakery Companies; 960th QM Service Company, and the 999th Collecting Company.

ORDNANCE — 607th, 647th, Fifty-seventh, 651st and 656th Ammunition Companies; Seventy-first Group and the 655th Company. 5-19-45

PORT—483rd Battalion; 577th, 535th and 658th Companies.

CHEMICAL — Eighty-second and Eighty-seventh Smoke Generating Companies.

MEDICAL—318th Service Detachment and 711th Sanitation Company; 686th General Hospital Unit.

SIGNAL — Twenty-ninth and Forty-first Construction Battalions; 259th Heavy Construction Company.

SPECIAL—Seventeenth Special Service Company.

FIGHTING ABILITY WINS CITATION

Typical of the heroism of the Negro fighting man in this war was that of the glorious action of the 969th Field Artilelry Battalion which won a Presidential citation for its courage in defense of encircled Bastogne. Of this outfit an official War Department release said:

"So close to German infantry that mortar bombs fell on them liket rain, men of the 969th Field Artillery Battalion, a Negro 155-mm howitzer outfit, stuck to their guns and fired all around the compass during the defense of encircled Bostogne."

The 969th hit the Normandy beach in early July of 1944. It supported the Eighth Infantry Division around La Haye du Puits; helped the Fourth Armored Division in the breakthrough near Rennes, then fired in support of the Eighth Division on the Brest peninsula.

SPECULATIONS IN PACIFIC THEATRE

In the dying moments of the war in Europe, it is to be remembered that probably the last shots were fired when the famed Ninety-second took La Spezia in Italy.

* * *

The scene now shifts to the Pacific. With this shifting, speculation is rife as to when and how Negro troops, now in the European theatre, will be arrayed alongside Negro troops already in the Pacific theatre.

The nature of the allied military requirements in the Pacific at this stage of the war there, along with detailed knowledge of the composition and deployment of Negro troops in Europe, does portend how and when Negro troops in the European theatre will be shifted to the Pacific. 5-19-45

NEGRO TROOPS TO BUILD INSTALLATIONS

At present we do not have sufficient large base installations from which to launch a large-scale land offensive in the Pacific. (Infantry assignments, at this time, are devoted to "clearing the decks for action" by wiping out Japanese pockets of resistance in Burma, New Guinea, New Britain, the Solomons, the Carolines, the Paluas, the Marianas, New Ireland, the Philippines, the Volcanoes and the Ryukus.) Until these large installations are built there probably will not be any great transfer of combat units to the Pacific. Since only a small minority of all Negro troops in the European theatre are in combat units, plus the problem of replacement, it is not likely that many Negro combat units will be shifted to the Pacific at an early date.

This should not hold true, however, for the vast majority of Negro troops who have been concentrated in non-combat units in the European theatre. These troops have been performing the jobs that are now desperately needed in the Pacific theatre; to build great staging bases, airdromes and naval stations to accept the vast flow of men and material from Europe.

Once again it seems that it will be the Negro soldier who will throw up huge depots, push highways through barren wildernesses, construct hospitals, lay down rail lines and perform, for the most part, by the sweat of his brow, at those necessary but inglorious tasks demanded for the staging of a modern offensive.

ONLY FIVE COMBAT UNITS IN PACIFIC 5-19-45

Thus, it is believed that the vast majority of Negro troops, deployed in Engineer and Quartermaster units, probably will be among the first troops shifted to the Pacific. Moreover, an examination of Negro troops already in the Pacific theatre gives credence to this belief.

Of the thirty-three units of Negro troops now in the Pacific theatre, five are combat units. These are 207th and 369th Coast Artilleries; Ninety-third Infantry Division; Twenty-fourth Infantry Regiment (remnants) and the 742nd Antiaircraft Battalion (the only unit in the Pacific theatre commanded by a Negro—Lieut. Col. DeMaurice Moses).

The remaining twenty-eight units of Negro troops in the Pacific theatre are deployed as follows:

ENGINEER — 811th, 813th, 839th, 855th, 856th, 867th, 868th, 869th, 870th, 939th, 828th and 857th Battalions; 1225th Fire Fighting Detachment; 855th Aviation Battalion; 771st Dump Truck Company; 810th Regiment; 890th, 891st, 892nd and 893rd Companies.

QUARTERMASTER — 992nd General Service Company; 3460th QM Company; 490th Battalion and the 1998th, 3667th, 1954th and 3523rd Trucking Companies.

CHEMICAL — The 101st Processing Company. 5-19-45

It is believed that a vast majority of Negro troops in the above groups will be immediately transferred to the Pacific. Accompanying them will probably be a large contingent of the 738 Negro Wacs now stationed in the European theatre.

THE RECORD SPEAKS

So runs the official record. Accounts of individual and group heroism, bravery and courage on the part of the Negro soldier are star-studded pages in the irrefutable records and documents of the War Department.

As the final chapter of the war in the West closed in victorious tribute to the Negro troops who fought and died there, thousands of them prepared to "go East," but not to "grow up with the country."

Valiant Race Truckers Keep Supplies Rolling To Airmen

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

5-2-45

Deliver Bombs, Gasoline, Munitions To Ninth Units

A IX AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND UNIT IN FRANCE — (ANP) — A company of Negro "truckers" landed in the British isles during the hectic month of September, 1942. Several months later in England their commanding officer, Captain Charles E. Jones of Monrovia, Calif., led them in review before Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who commended them highly. Since that day this company of truckters has led the way for IX Air force service command quartermaster truck units in the European Theatre of Operations.

The men call themselves "Buck Jones' Rough Riders". a name given them while they were fighting across France with Gen. Patton's Third army tank forces after the St. Lo break through.

ROLL INTO FRANCE

After outstanding service in the British isles, where they hauled thousands of tons of bombs, munitions and supplies for Ninth Air Force fighter-bomber and medium bomber fleets blasting the invasion coast of France, Capt. Jones and his "rough riders" rolled from LST land craft onto the "Omaha Beach" in Normandy shortly before the historic allied dash across France.

Unloading the Ninth Air Force supplies they carried across the channel, the truckers raced in convoy up behind the Third army to St. Mihiel. Here they worked on a round-the-clock timetable, hauling men and material to build airstrips, and later, the bombs, munitions and gasoline used by these advance 9th air force units.

5-2-45

Under the Third Army jurisdiction at the time, and within range of enemy artillery fire, the truckers worked day and night, short in personnel and equipment and meeting every obstacle. They resalvaged trucks and burnt-out parts; slept and eat on the road in convoys for days at a time. Enemy snipers took a toll of men and machines.

HAD TO BE TOUGH

"They had to be tough," Captain Jones remembered. "No job was too tough. We kept morale high by showing 'we'd get it there if we had to carry it on our backs.' "

Currently Capt. Jones' truckers are hauling bombs, munitions, gasoline and supplies to ninth air force strips in France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany. The "rough riders" have received verbal commendation from ninth air force headquarters on three occasions, and from Gen. Patton's Third army headquarters, for their timely and skillful work.

On one occasion they were removed from the path of the German Ardennes counter-offensive airstrip personnel and equipment under fire, and have won recognition in army trucking circles for being on the spot when they were most needed.

Claim They're First On German Soil

Chicago Defender

While reading the Defender, I have read of several Negro troops and their activities in combat. As yet I have not seen anything about our outfit. We were the first Negro troops to fire on German soil. We are a field artillery battalion with the Ninth Army.

4-21-45

It will certainly help the morale of the men in our outfit to know that we are getting the credit due us on the home front. Recently the battalion was given the honor of being the best in the group.

The chiefs of the four gun sections are Sgt. Wallace P. Bruce of Atlantic City, N. J., S-Sgt. Garland E. McAfee of Metropolis, Ill.; Sgt. Sidney P. Gilmore of New York.

4-21-45

We crossed the German border November 1, 1944, and are making stepping stones to Berlin. The boys of this outfit realize they have a great task before them and are making every effort to accomplish the task. So far we have been very successful in battles and have kept our casualties very low.—Sgt. Bruce for Men of Battery "A," Somewhere across the German Border.

NEGRO INF'RY. COMES THRU BIG

Savannah Tribune Ga.

by Harry McAlpin

WASHINGTON, D. C. (AAPA) Negro infantrymen who volunteered for transfer from service troops to combat infantry and are serving side by side with white troops on the Rhine did a "magnificent job" on their first day in the line, according to reports reaching here from their battalion commander, Lt. Col. Norman Moore. Moore credited them with saving a company in a tight spot.

This heroic performance occurred about the same time the jim-crowed, segregated 92nd Division—all Negro except its top command of white officers and staff—was being maligned in the white press as result of a press conference in Rome with Tumman K. Gibson, JJ., civilian aide to the secretary of war. Gibson was quoted as saying the Negroes of the 92nd "melted away" in the face of combat fire

3-29-45

Thomas R. Henry was correspondent with the United States troops on the Rhine for the Washington Evening Star, reporting the praiseworthy performance of the Negroes said:

"I checked the situation in two divisions today. The best story is that of an infantry company getting a platoon of colored men, mostly Sicily and African veterans in behind-the-line jobs, eager to prove their worth as fighting soldiers.

The colored platoon trained hard for months for the new roles.

3-29-45

"The white regiment was stalled before high ground commanding approaches to Honnigen, Germany. Its advance in the previous 24 hours had cost a high price and the remaining men were exhausted. The colored troops were sent in with no idea of the job ahead. They took off through the woods their objective a Jerry machine-gun nest which had pinned the company flat.

"Sparked by Pvt. James Oliver of Nyack, N. Y., the new men silvered up in back of the enemy guns and captured them with their crews intact. The platoon then was fired on by a 20-millimeter flak gun. The men quietly deployed and concentrated their rifle fire on the Jerries. (They did not break or run. They threw grenades and sprayed machine-gun fire from every position They captured the ack-ack position with four prisoners.

"These men deserve mention as colored heroes of the war: Willie Pace of Columbus, Ga.; Preston Williams of Mobile, Ala Ellis Butts of Smithville, Va.; Robert Decasseres of New York City; Harold Robinson of Buffalo, N. Y., Harold Shaw of Canton, Texas; Raymond Randsom of Detroit and Donald Skeeters of Baltimore.

3-29-45

"That night, two had more important business—Arthur Holmes, former night club entertainer, and Tom Williams, both of Los Angeles. They led a sqaud Through Inky Darkness and disposed of three Germans with knives before the rest fled (They did did not break "especially in the darkness of night").

"The next day the colored men were given the job of flushing out two houses suspected of harboring German artillery observation posts; this under murderous artillery fire. They advanced up the hill to their objective, peppering the target with their rifles. They took 26 prisoners and a signalling set."

Negro Field Artillery Rose To Great Heights In Battle of Ardennes

Philadelphia Tribune 4-14-45 Pa.

BY RUDOLPH DUNBAR
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

PARIS—(ANP) — The 578th Field Artillery Battalion suffered heavy casualties in the battle of Ardennes last December. Although three months have elapsed since the attack, there is still no accurate confirmation about the casualties of this battalion. It is known, however, that the battalion has lost many of its guns. There is reason to believe that the men who were taken prisoners are now freed by the rapid sweep of our victorious armies into Germany.

Commander of the Battalion was Lt. Col. Gilbert C. Barnes from Wisconsin, Mass. He is the brother of Lt. Col. Hubert D. Barnes who is now in command of the famous 969th, another Negro field artillery battalion. 4-14-45

This battalion has also written glorious pages in the history of artillery firing. It was equipped with eight inch howitzers which fired a 200 lb. projectile. It played a major and important part in the fall of St. Malo which was contested so fiercely by the Germans. "A' battery, of which most of the men were from New York, was the best in the battalion. This battery received the bronze plate for having consistently established the highest firing record which dates back from their inception in the States.

I once met a major at the officer's clothing store in Paris who approached me and immediately asked if I knew anything about the 578th. "Yes", said I, "I've been following them and have reported all of their big battles from Normandy into Brest." With gleeful enthusiasm he exclaimed, "They are marvellous gunners; and I am proud to tell you that I have assisted in their training. They can shoot a button off your coat at a distance of 12 yards." 4-14-45

At this tragic moment I completed my mission with the 578th. This battalion had a well trained and highly skilled medical detachment. I am therefore positive that they have rendered excellent service to their wounded comrades. These are the names of the group: S/Sgt. Albert G. Hubbard from Kansas City; T/3rd Daniel L. Lundy, Detroit; T/4 Luther C. Faine, Ft. Worth, Texas; Cpl. Elmer B. Williams, New York City; T/5th Gay Johnson, Augusta, Ga.; T/5th Edwin L. Pierce, Elizabeth, N. J.; Ralph E. Dunmero, New York City; Pfc. Willie D. Mannings, Tulsa; Pfc. Williams Hoggard, New York City; Pvt. Oscar Mercer, Fayetteville, N. C. and Pvt. Fred J. Moran, Birmingham.

Gunners Soften Essen For Big Infantry Push

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill. —

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

WITH THE NINTH ARMY IN GERMANY — American troops were battling in the streets of Essen, largest city in the Ruhr, this week after thorough shelling of the town by crack Negro artillerymen of the 777th Field Artillery Battalion.

The efficient "softening up" of the German metropolis, which is the home of the famed Krupp munitions plant as well as Reichsmarshal Herman Goering, by the Negro GIs' big guns enable U. S. troops under the command of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson to enter Essen and engage Nazi defenders in house-to-house fighting.

Keeping pace with the fast-moving Ninth Army, the crack artillery outfit has moved four times in the past several weeks to keep the Germans on the run across the Rhine. 4-14-45

The battalion is now set up i a crowded industrial section here and operates while German children roller skate and play hop scotch in the streets, occasionally thrusting fingers in their ears as the big guns boom.

Among Chicago men in the unit are:

Pvt. Sam Hopkins, 5120 South Parkway; Pvt. William Ross, 715 E. 45th street; Pvt. William McClain, 4413 Calumet avenue; Pvt. Raleigh Younger, 4941 Vincennes avenue; Corp. Eugene Ward, 6711 Rhodes avenue; Corp. John Wade, 6201 Evans avenue; Pvt. Wilton Willis, 3247 Vincennes avenue; Corp. Gerald Ewens, 3823 South Parkway; Pvt. Willy Walker, 4844 State street; Pvt. Jesse Fowler, 547 E. 60th street; Sgt. James Brown, 4930 S. Michigan avenue; Sgt. Benjamin Owens, 4719 Langley avenue, and Staff Sgt. Anderson Miller, 3748 Vincennes avenue.

The 777th is the oldest field artillery battalion in the 16th corps and was the first artillery battalion to fire across the Rhine.

Activated at Camp Beale, Calif., in August, 1943, the unit arrived in England one year later in August, 1944. 4-14-45

By October 1944, they were in action and November found them firing in the vicinity of Ubach, Germany. From November until they crossed the Roer river, they had been firing in Germany some miles from the Roer. On March 3, they went across the Roer and it was my good fortune to accompany

Colored Girl Becomes Soviets' Crack Sniper

Chicago Defender 3-24-45

Chicago, Ill.

By CHATWOOD HALL
(Defender Moscow Correspondent)

USSR GERMAN FRONT. — A brown-skinned, black-eyed Kazak girl patriot, Baijan Baikozhina, has become one of the most expert snipers among Soviet women fighting the "superior race" on the German Front. 3-24-45

If it were not for her high Mongolian cheekbones, this crack scout could pass along Chicago's South Parkway or State street as just another colored girl.

Patriot Baikozhina comes from Kanakhstan, far across the Volga in Soviet Asia and has been fighting the German Fascists through Byelo, Lithuania, Poland and is now off picking Germans inside the third Reich itself.

Her sharp black eyes which out Kazakhstan way often closely followed the swift flight of eagles and the dash of wild horses across the Russian steppes first drew a bead on the Germans at Byelo.

Detects "Peasants"

Once while guarding an important bridge at the front she noticed two "peasants" pulling a sled loaded with hay. Her suspicions were aroused. Peasants did not usually pull sleds this way through the dangerous Front zone. She glued her eyes on these "peasants" as they pulled their load under the bridge. None came out on the other side.

From her vantage point she noticed the "peasants" removing the hay from the sled, disclosing underneath a load of explosives with which they intended to dynamite the structure. Baijan Baikozhina opened fire.

One "peasant" fell dead and the other raised his hands. Both were discovered to be German spies dressed as Russians. For this act of vigilance she was awarded the "Order of the Red Star."

By the time the front had passed across the German border she had ten notches on the butt of her trusty sniper's rifle, each notch representing one German less.

When the Red army began overrunning the city of Hindenburg in Silesia, the Germans were shooting from attics and roofs, basements and trees. Here was a field day for the brown-skinned black-eyed Baijan Baikozhina's sniper's rifle and even eye. 3-24-45

She climbed up a brick wall and waited, but a German shrapnel splinter struck her. She bandaged her own wound and took up watch again. She soon found the perches from which the Germans were shooting at Red Army soldiers.

She patiently aimed deadly beads with her rifle on the hidden German Fascists. One by one the German rifles became silent. Her score was fifteen Fascists sniped dead by the time the Red Army cleared the Germans out of Hindenburg.

For her "good work" in making good Fascists out of bad ones she was awarded the "Order of Patriotic War."

"There's much work for me in Berlin," she said as she swung her trusty rifle over her shoulder and moved on toward the next job.

Patton Needed Tankmen— Lt. Injured at Nazi Border

AFRO-American 3-31-45

Balt., Md.

WASHINGTON

"I don't give a damn what color you are as long as you get out there and kill those - - - ," declared Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., addressing members of the 761st Tank Battalion at Nancy, France.

His words were quoted by Lt. William E. Blake, son of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Blake of Atlantic City, N.J., a former member of the battalion, on leave here last week from Camp Pickett, Va., where he is recovering from injuries.

The battalion, he said, almost wore out its tanks trying to catch the fast-rolling Third Army. "The only way we caught them," Blake went on, "was by taking off the steel combat tracks and putting on the faster rubber ones."

Caught Up at Nancy

When the 761st tankmen caught up with General Patton, he was waiting impatiently for supplies at Nancy, prior to continuing his push to Germany. 3-31-45

At Gros Rederching, 3,000 yards from the German border, Lt. Blake, liaison officer between the 26th Infantry (Yankee) Division and a tank company received orders to report to the regimental command post for instructions.

As soon as he reached his destination, he added, a German shell landed on the top of the building and a big pile of debris fell on his back as he lay flattened out.

Continues 8 Days

When he finally crawled to the command post he did not inform anyone of his injury and went with the division a total of eight days, making typical Patton marches, before he surrendered to the Medical Corps. 3-31-45

At the hospital, it was found that he had suffered serious injuries to his spinal column and had to be evacuated at once. He was sent to a hospital at Rheims, flown to England and later shipped to the United States.

Even Least was Needed

Sent out to take the pressure off Bastogne, we moved so fast and fought so often that once we had only nine out of 54 tanks ready but General Patton called for that nine," he declared.

The lieutenant, who plans to study law at Howard University when he is discharged, calls his experience overseas a failure for he moved so fast he was unable to buy a cigarette lighter he desired

GI's Dream Comes True--Scribe Finds Base In India With No Color Problem

Chicago Defender 4-21-45

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN INDIA.—Once in a while a dream comes true . . . You visit a military installation and colored GIs greet you, saying, "Mister, we don't have any color problem here. We get the same break all the other soldiers do." 4-21-45

Then you wonder if they're kidding and you become more interested than ever to find out what the real score is.

So when one "Joe" after another of the Negro General Service squadron attached to this advance Air Transport Command base sang this same tune and warbled a loud note of praise for youthful, 26-year-old Illinois-born Lt.-Col. Vilas C. Rice, post commander who sports a pilot's silver wings, I was impressed but not convinced—until I saw the base in operation.

Squadron "Keeps 'em Flying"

The Negro squadron is only one of four whose job it is to keep a fleet of sturdy C-46 cargo planes in the air around the clock shuttling supplies over the "Hump" to war-torn China.

When the unit came overseas some seven months ago there had been no opportunity for many of the men to learn highly skilled ground crew jobs of the air corps. They were at first confined, therefore, to more menial tasks. But as they got into the swing of things, Col. Rice has given them an opportunity to take on more responsibility.

Now they are working on a number of skilled jobs: They are operating as expert plane loaders who must see that the load-weight is proportioned correctly over the entire ship so that it will not be overbalanced. There are 10 teams of "tie-down men" whose job it is to secure cargo so that rough air will not jar it loose. Entire servicing of ships is in their charge. And some of them are now working as apprentice's mechanics on engine modifications at the hundred-hour-overhaul.

Work With White GIs

In the chief engineer's office working as a chief clerk is Curtis Green, Detroit, Mich. Assistant base photographer is Pfc. George Sawyer, New York City, formerly a news photog for the Amsterdam News. Sgt. Fred Smith, Chicago, Ill., chief, says Sawyer "is darn good" and with Smith only a short time away from rotation, Sawyer has a good chance to succeed him. Two Vaughn brothers, Detroit, Mich., are the base bricklayers. Some of the men have also been assigned as "spot-welders" to repair broken plane parts.

In all these jobs, they work side-by-side with the white GIs. When I visited the dispatcher's office to talk to Sgt. Curtis R. Woods, Newborn, N. C., in charge of truck drivers, for instance, he immediately called over Sgt. Carl Wilson, white, Jersey City, to help explain their duties. Their work is so thoroughly integrated that it was impossible to get a full picture of their work without a description from both of them.

That the base policy is to give Negro soldiers an opportunity to get ahead was evidenced by the number who were to appear before the Officer's Candidate Board the day following my visit. Seven men, most of them with some college training, had been recommended by their company commander to compete for commissions in air corps administration. This war a fair percentage of it is considered that there are less than 400 colored soldiers on the base. 4-21-45

No Discrimination

Though they have their own day room which is considered the best equipped on the post, there is no restriction as to the use of any other facilities. This includes the Red Cross club and the consolidated post exchange. In athletics they have demonstrated that they are the best—so much so that when the boxing team left for Calcutta it was all-colored.

In order to achieve this success Col. Rice has been extremely careful to select one of his ablest officers as commander of the colored unit for, like at every other post, there are those that feel the "Negroes should be kept in their place." Company commander is energetic, efficient Capt. William H. Tebay, Butler, Pa., who takes no foolishness in case some less enlightened officer starts some "stuff" with the colored boys. And because he gets full support from his commanding officer, he is a popular guy, too. 4-21-45

Like in most colored units, some of the men have had very little chance for formal education. Fortunately, a former Stanford university instructor in education, 1st Lt. Albert Lewis, is in charge of this program and he is taking quite an interest in raising their level of training. As he says, "When the Negro soldier is convinced that he can improve himself because of further training, he studies as hard—if not harder—than the white soldier."

Men Like Their C.O.

Interestingly enough, white GIs on the post think as much of Col. Rice as the colored boys—even though he insists in fair treatment for all men under his command. No wonder that in spite of the fact that this is not the largest base shipping supplies to China it boasts the highest monthly tonnage. With everyone co-operating, from pilots to garbage cleaners, this isn't hard to understand. Working with ATC gives colored boys their first opportunity to learn some of the ground jobs connected with commercial flying. For ATC, with its globe-encircling network of bases and daily schedule of planes from the United States to every section of the allied-controlled world, is commercial flying applied to military needs. Thus, these GIs are more fortunate than numbers of other soldiers for they are learning skills which may be used in a civilian industry with which they are now directly connected.

No wonder they're the most satisfied group of colored GIs I've visited—and as long as they stay under the present set-up they can't be blamed.

Dunbar Asserts Nazi Cities Are Like Graveyards

Atlanta World 5-5-45

Correspondent Says Snipers Are Still Active

Atlanta Cons. 5-5-45

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

WITH THE U. S. 7TH ARMY IN GERMANY— (ANP)— The hands of death are in Germany and I stand in her midst to watch her die.

I traveled from France and covered more than 2,000 miles. This particular trip had all the fascination of an adventure. The first real destruction I saw was at Sadrbrucken. The city was like a grave yard. A few people were here and there looting or salvaging what they could find from wrecked homes.

SEES PUERTO RICANS

At Kaiserslautern, where I stopped to be guided on to my correct destination and replenish the jeep with the gas, I saw an infantry unit from Puerto Rico. Their job was to parade the streets in order to keep the defiant Nazi civilians in check. Snipers were active, I was told. 5-5-45

I finally arrived at our press camp in Gaunsbadt. A white correspondent can remain at the camp and learn all about the battles of an army from the briefings. A Negro correspondent cannot work in the same manner. His primary object is to cover Negro units, and since not is not the duty of the briefing officer to know the kind of troops that are fighting in the line, a Negro correspondent must, at all times, go to the front in order to collect his war news.

Sometimes it takes two days to find a unit; especially if it is changing positions daily as was my experience in trying to find the 969th. And believe me it was really secret. Just as I was getting ready to give up the search, I saw the wire party on a lonely road laying the telephone wires.

"Are you from the 969th?" I asked.

"Yes," was the reply.

It was a great relief when I was shown the correct location of the outfit. 5-5-45

CROSSING THE RHINE

At two 'oclock on the morning of March 28 the 969th convoy was moving through the wrecked town of Worms where the battalion made the historic crossing of the Rhine. This town was wrecked to atoms.

In the little town off Mannheim, I saw some houses that were constructed in 1936 complete with air raid shelters. We occupied a house in the same district that was presumably owned by a Nazi boss. This town was of considerable importance to the Germans. They fought like savages to defend it. Our artillery played hell with them when they were trying to cross the bridge on the river Mainz.

Warzbur was another town that was completely wrecked. The Germans were pulling out so quickly that when we entered the town their dead were lying unhooded in the streets.

MOVE FOR ATTACK

Early one morning the batteries moved in the surburban area for an attack. Orders have been given that whenever soldiers enter a town they may select any house they see fit and put the occupants out on the street. The morning, I saw some GIs go into a house.

The house was partly destroyed by blast and the woman occupant seemingly well-to-do, had packed all her belongings in one room. She came back to find GIs in possession of her house.

When she broke down in sudden tears, I politely turned to her and said that she must thank Hitler for her fate, and pointed out that people elsewhere in Europe had suffered infinitely worse.

ALL ARE NAZIS 5-5-45

It is dangerous to take pity on these people and share their houses with them. They are all Nazis and will not hesitate to shoot our soldiers in the most treacherous manner. I saw 12 and 13 year old boys, a 30-year-old woman and scores of civilians of the "die for Hitler" type in the prison cage.

I witnessed one of the strangest pilgrimages of all time. French, Polish, Jugeslaves, numbering tens of thousnads of prisoners liberated from Nazi slave prisons, were in a slow and painful excursion across frozen plains and devasted villages. Some were in rags with hardly any foot-wear to cover their feet.

These wretched people are free again. They have been fortunate to see Nemesis—the god of retributive justice— speedily at work. The "master race" is beaten; their spirits are as flat as their homes. They are burning Nazi flag of surrender.

They are now tasting the very dregs of humiliation. But those pompous brutes had classified Negroes worst than lower animals much to the delight of their "Aryan" buddies in other countries. The master race today has come out in its true colors—colors that show the dreadful virus of bestiality, sadism and contempt for the decencies of civilization.

I repeat, the hands of death are on Germany and I stand in her midst to watch her die.

Pfc. Napoleon E. Taylor First to Land in Africa

5-12-45

Colored soldiers have traveled all over the world in this war, many of them having carried out assignments in two and three continents, but none is prouder than modest 33-year-old Pfc. Napoleon E. Taylor, 502 Bloom Street, Baltimore, Md., who holds the distinction of being the first American soldier to land on African soil.

Pfc. Taylor, now back in the States after two years of duty overseas and recently stationed at Camp Shanks, N.Y., led ashore the first American Expeditionary Force to put foot on African soil June 17, 1942.

His unit, a coast artillery outfit, was sent to Liberia six months after the United States' entrance into the global war under an agreement with the Liberian Government, signed March 31, 1942, at Monrovia.

SGT. NAPOLEON E. TAYLOR of Baltimore (He has been promoted since returning to the States.)

Defense Agreement

Under terms of the defense agreement, the United States was permitted to construct, control and protect air bases in Liberia as a safeguard to the West Coast African region that could have, at the time, been of strategic military value to the Germans.

American forces, chiefly colored soldiers, have been stationed in Liberia since that historic June 17 date, when Pfc. Taylor and his travel-weary comrades, tense and excited after the long 4,000-mile sea trip across the sub-infested Atlantic, gleefully stepped off the landing barges onto African soil.

Pfc. Taylor delivered a dramatic greeting to the Liberians upon landing, declaring:

"Liberians! We are here to join hands and fight together until this world is free of tyrannical dictators."

Greeted by Natives

Only a half-dozen Liberian boatmen who were assisting with the unloading were on hand to listen to the greeting, but the record shows that they stopped, looked and listened admiringly.

One of the small group walked over and shook Taylor's hand. The others silently resumed their work, putting an end to a dramatic and historic moment of the war.

Taylor, who left his packing house job in Baltimore to enlist in the army in January, 1941, moved forward with his comrades and stayed in Liberia two years before returning to the States.

He was among the U.S. soldiers who set up airports, cantonments and other installations in record time in spite of such tremendous difficulties as malaria, bad terrain and the rainy season.

Ex-Douglass Student

Taylor, former Douglass High School student in Baltimore, resided with his relatives at the Bloom Street address prior to enlistment. He is married to the former Ethel Oliver of Georgia who resides in NYC.

Liberia is the only independent republic in Africa, and was first colonized by American freed slaves in 1822. Its capital, Monrovia, was named for James Monroe, fifth President of the United States.

Eboue Key To Success Of Invasion In North Africa

By A. M. WENDELL MALLIET
(Foreign News Editor)

As we celebrate victory over the European members of the Axis, and contemplate with disgust the humiliating end of Italian fascism and its creator, Benito Mussolini, and speculate on the death of, or slinking away to some obscure hide-out by, Adolf Hitler, there come before us the personalities of some of the great architects of victory.

These men, two of whom are no longer among the living, are the leaders who really made victory possible. They stood like mighty oaks in a forest when all around them had been blown down and men's hearts had been failing them from fear. We remember today, Winston Churchill, prime minister of Great Britain; Franklin Delano Roosevelt, late President of the United States; Felix Sylvester Eboue, late governor-general of French Equatorial Africa, and Josef Stalin, marshal of the Soviet Union.

Britain Holds Out Alone

In the Summer of 1940, Great Britain stood alone with Winston Churchill holding the nation together and shouting words of encouragement in England's darkest hour of peril. Franklin D. Roosevelt declared his country the arsenal of democracy, ordered United States warships to convoy and help deliver the goods, materials and weapons to embattled Britain, and arranged the transfer of 50 destroyers to the British navy.

France had fallen under the ruthless heel of Nazi military might. Marshal Petain, Admiral Darlan, Pierre Laval and others had decided to do business with Hitler and collaborate beyond patriotism's call to stand in humility and suffering with one's fallen countrymen. The British had been driven back to their embattled island fortress of England from Dunkirk, and the men of Vichy had actually handed over French Africa to Hitler and his aids, supported by Franco's Spain as a dagger at the heart of South America and the United States.

At that time a pact of peace was in effect between Nazi Germany and Communist Russia. Marshal Rommel's Nazis and Il Duce's Blackshirts were racing toward Alexandria and the Suez Canal. British resistance was feeble enough, especially because Italian planes, submarines and warships had made the Mediterranean a hazardous route by which to transport men, food and arms. If the war had been lost in Africa, India would have been gone and the Germans and the Japanese would have linked up their forces by marching around the oceans of the world.

deGaulle Reaches Britain

General Charles deGaulle had escaped to Britain and was attempting to rally the forces of France for freedom. Without knowledge of what deGaulle was doing in London, a black man, who was a colonial governor in the Tchad Territory in Africa, refused to obey the order of Vichy to surrender to Hitler. He stood firm and rallied his colleagues in other French Equatorial African colonies. These colonial governors were white men, born in France. But this man was black and born in the West Indies: Felix Sylvester Eboue was his name.

DeGaulle and Eboue were doing the same thing at the same time. DeGaulle needed French soil on which to plant France's flag of freedom. This was the first major contribution of Eboue to the cause of a United Nations' victory. Other far reaching contributions to the invasion of Europe by way of the continent's "soft under-belly" were made by this great son of Africa. Eboue provided airfields which facilitated the fueling and flight of hundreds of planes each day in support of British arms against Rommel and the Italians.

Eboue Saves the Day

Furthermore, it was in French Equatorial Africa, under the administration of Eboue, that General LeClerc trained his African and European army which is said to have made the longest march in history to take part in the defeat of Rommel in the pocket at Bizerte and Tunis before the grand assault across to Sicily and thence to Italy.

With a large force of German and Italian troops pinned down in Italy, the way was cleared for the Italian surrender and the successful D-Day crossing to Normandy. If the British and American forces had not landed in France, that unfortunate country could not have been freed and the mighty armies of the Soviet Union could not have rolled on to Berlin as it has done.

Today, in victory, we salute the memory, loyalty, devotion, courage and patriotism of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Governor General Felix Sylvester Eboue.

We salute, too, the heroic and indefatigable labor of Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Marshal Josef Stalin. The victory of the United Nations in Europe is victory for the peace loving and democratic peoples of the world.

29th Signal First Negro Wire Unit To Work On German Soil

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

WITH U. S. SUPPLY FORCES IN FRANCE — "Leap-frogging" from the Normandy beachhead through France and Belgium, Company B of the 29th Signal Construction Battalion, has been assigned to the Advance Section, Communication Zone, the border on the Saarbrucken front. Company B, working in close cooperation with Company A, set up its quarters on the enemy's home ground several weeks ago.

When questioned concerning the extremely low casualties in company, Captain William D. Carswell, of Waycrosse, Ga., said, "The men are good soldiers as well as good workers. Our mine detector crews have the respect of all the men, and if it were not for them I'd hate to see what would happen in some of the fields we have to go thru."

Most of the work on this particular section of the line, that extends far back as Nancy, is done under adverse conditions due to the unfavorable terrain. Crews have to carry the heavy 20 and 30-foot poles across country where the line trucks cannot travel over the muddy soil. Six-foot holes have to be dug with spoon shovels by hand, since the earthborer blades will not grab the sandy earth and carry it clear of the hole.

stringing copper strands of telephone and telegraph wire over German soil. This unit is the first Negro signal group to work in Germany.

Following two armies across the Continent, the 29th Signal

NEGRO AND WHITE TROOPS FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE TO VICTORY IN EUROPE

St. Louis Argus Mo. 5-4-45

WITH THE 78TH INFANTRY DIVISION, EAST OF THE RHINE IN GERMANY

—The volunteer Negro Infantrymen who joined the 78th "Lightning" Division on March 14, crossed the Rhine that day and entered the hot battle then in progress, have established themselves as fighting men no less courageous or aggressive than their white comrades. These "Tan" Doughs welcomed the opportunity to fight alongside their white buddies of the 78th, the outfit that gained no small share of fame by smashing all the way through the Siegfried Line to capture Schmidt and the Schwammenauel Dam. It was the 78th which on February 28 leaped from the Roer to the Rhine where the First Battalion of the 310th Regiment crossed the Ludendorf Bridge the night of March 7 to secure and enlarge the trans-Rhine bridgehead. 5-4-45

The 78th, as did several other infantry divisions on the Western Front, recently received three platoons of Negro Doughboys. One platoon was assigned to each of the 78th's infantry regiments, the 309th, 310th and 311th.

Among the first Negro troops to engage in combat east of the Rhine, men of these platoons came from Quartermaster, Engineer, and Transportation Corps units. Most of them took reductions in grade to become fighting privates in foxholes.

Following is an account by regiments of the activities of these platoons:

309th Regiment

The platoon assigned to F Company of this regiment did "a swell job" in the capture of Honnef, on the west and south banks of the Sieg River, deep in the Remagen bridgehead.

They followed tanks into the city and wasted no time in cleaning up their assigned objectives.

Lieutenant John M. Green, their platoon leader from 1725 12th Avenue, Nashville, Tenn., asserted, "They are aggressive and eager, and when they see a Jerry they want to go after him. I'm well pleased with their performance under fire."

Private William Blackwell, platoon runner from 42 Debbs Ferry Road, Fairview, White Plains, New York, shot a running Jerry with his M-1 from a distance of 500 yards.

"I just saw him running," Blackwell said, "so I took cover behind a little bank and let him have it."

Lieutenant Green who helped with the training of the platoon in February, said he had difficulty in confining his men to their objectives. Seeing there Jerries still in front of them, they wanted to go ahead even after they had captured and cleaned out all sections of the town that they had been assigned.

Private First Class Harold Chandler, 369 West 116th Street, New York City, who took a break to private from staff sergeant, volunteered to go and get an unknown number of Germans that had been spotted in dug-in positions near a house.

Armed with grenades and his M-1, Chandler advanced alone while his men covered him. Six Jerries, armed with Burke guns, gave up and came back with Chandler.

Private First Class Vincent R. Malveaux, who took a reduction from first sergeant to private, drew praise from his platoon leader for cool-headed work in helping to get the men out from under a mortar barrage. Malveaux, who lives at 5034 Just Street, N. E., Washington, D. C., was an attorney in the Capital before entering the service.

310th Regiment

Negro troops assigned to A Company of the 310th Regiment won the praise and respect of officers and enlisted men fighting with them in the Remagen bridgehead.

They are referred to as "the fightingest sons-a-guns you ever saw." 5-4-45

Lieutenant Millard G. Durham, their company commander from Steger, Ill., says, "The colored troops, in all engagements, proved to be as courageous and aggressive as the veterans of any other company.

"Their first engagement was a terrific small arms battle. They never faltered. On the contrary, they were hard to control. Their sole desire seemed to be to close with the enemy, regardless of the scheme of maneuver. It was difficult to hold them on the company objective when there was an enemy in front of them."

"Shortage of ammunition was the only thing that stopped them from going too far ahead when two squads of the platoon spearheaded an attack at Wiese," says Lieutenant Robert R. Dobson, platoon leader from Charlotte, North Carolina.

After fighting for two days the platoon suffered its first serious casualty when one member was killed in a fire fight.

The way the men themselves size it up is best expressed by one of them, who said, "We always did want to get up here at the front. It kind of makes you feel good inside." 5-4-45

311th Regiment

The Negro platoon assigned to G Company of the 311th Regiment also has done well.

Lieutenant Lee Luther, their leader from 199 Elm Street, Ilion, New York, remarked, "They came through their baptism of fire in great shape. Sure they were scared at first, but who isn't!"

At the end of a week's fighting one had been killed and nine wounded out of the original platoon strength of 43.

Private George Hutchinson of Brenham, Texas, who had been overseas for 18 months, said, "The Infantry is a heck of a lot better than some of the service outfits we have been in. Here a man's a man. Dangerous as Hades too."

Already they have taken shots at the Germans, killed some, captured some and routed others.

Private First Class Osborne B. Blanton, 1212 Delores Street, Fort Worth, Texas, recounted. "It was January 6. Boy, I'll never forget that date. That's when they asked for volunteers. First General Eisenhower asked, then General Lee asked, and finally they got around to asking me. I snapped it up in a hurry. There are plenty more who would like to get in the Infantry."

Private Jack (Pop) Walling, from Forkton, Ky., at 36 the "oldest" man in the platoon, said. "All we dread is those 88s—and that's all of us. But put this down, will you? I was going through this town and saw a Jerry stick his head out of a window. That was enough for me. I fired a clip at him. That was too much for Jerry."

Most of the men of G Company, fifth platoon, have had from 14 to 24 months' service overseas. All have received the coveted Combat Infantryman Badge and commendation from the regimental commander, Colonel Chester M. Willingham, of 308 E. Temple Street, College Park, Ga. 5-4-45

Captain George Foelsch, their company commander from 22-63 21st Street, Astoria, Long Island, said, "They're making out all right. I told the colonel if he had any more I'll surely take them."

Private Willie Banerman, from Route 1225, Bargas, North Carolina, is impressed with his company commander. "That Captain Foelsch," he said, "is a tough man but a fair man. He always has a map and a compass in one hand and a pistol in the other. He walks right down the road with bullets going all around him. Sort of reminds me of Captain Gandy, colored company CO of the 92nd Division."

Among other Negro Infantrymen in the platoon are Pvt. Lee Robinson, 1008 N. 18th St., St. Louis, Mo.; Pvt. Warren H. Lyle, 203 Hickory St., Orange, N. J.; Pvt. James Everett, 5521 Swiss Ave., Dallas, Texas; Pvt. Abraham Harris, 1015 Springfield Ave., Baltimore, Md.; Pvt. Richard Scott, 51 Seaton Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Pvt. Henry Williams, 2134 Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Jesse Bailey, 630 Fifth St., Birmingham, Ala.; Pvt. George Bolling, 603 Herald Ave., Bridgeport, Conn.; Pfc. Lawrence Jones, 42 6½ St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Negro Combat Vets Made Service Units

Daily Worker

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Elements of the first Negro combat troops to reach Germany, the 777th Field Artillery Battalion, and inactive elements of the first two Negro combat units to arrive in Europe, the assigned to Signal heavy construc- 450th Anti-aircraft Artillery Bat- tion, Quartermaster, Engineer, Ordtalion, have been reconverted into nance and Transportation Corps non-combat outfits for service in battalions and will be shipped immediately to the Pacific Operations Area.

The 777th, only unit of its kind to participate in one of the largest mass field artillery barrages in the history of warfare, is an outfit of 400 men with seven months front-line experience. They are being reconverted into service units.

Most of the 450th men served in two theaters, with assignments in England, North Africa, Italy and France. Many have more than 90 points, each but have volunteered, according to the War Department, to remain in the service. As non-combat troops their accumulation of discharge points will be considerably slower than they were as combat soldiers. 9-3-45

The 450th Anti-aircraft Artillery Battalion, cited four times by King George VI of England and by its former commander, General Mark Clark, was dissolved a few months before the end of the war in Europe

Glad He's Back

Philadelphia Tribune

PFC. WILLIAM L. OULDS is barely able to restrain himself as he and his wife, Mrs. Eva Oulds, of 2229 Catherine street, greet each other for the first time in over two years.

6-9-45 Pa.

A member of the 99th Combat Division, serving in the European Theatre of Operations under the command of General Omar N. Bradley, Oulds was one of the 50 service men returned here Monday to take part in the 7th War Loan Drive. He wears the Combat Infantryman's badge, the Good Conduct Medal and the ETO medal with three stars. (Oth-

Pittsburgh Courier

6-9-45

BIG DAY IN CHICAGO—General Mark Clark, fresh from the Italian campaign, shakes the hand of Sgt. Zachery Love, a Chicagoan and Fifth Army veteran, during Memorial Day ceremonies in Chicago Wednesday of last week. Other Fifth Army vets in photo are: Lieut. Thomas Jefferson and Lieut. Albert Loving of Chicago, and M/Sgt. William C. Chaney, Washington, D. C., the general's orderly. The group, which included forty-eight whites, flew to Chicago from Italy. —Myles Photo.

Pitts., Pa.

Of American Origin!

French Newspaper Slanders Negroes

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK—"Young women of Marseille, be careful." Thus goes a headline in the June 29 issue of the French daily, Le Soir, of Marseille, France. This titilating headline covers a two-column discussion of what the writer, one Marguerite Polgy, calls a "delicate question." American Negroes are, of course, already thoroughly familiar with this "delicate question"—it is simply the fraternization of American Negro troops stationed in Europe, with white women.

Whether in England, France, Australia, or Germany, these simple human contacts become very "delicate questions" in the eyes of Americans, and they set out to try to stop such fraternization if possible.

8-4-45

This latest slanderous attack begins with the usual canards about Negroes being "overgrown children," "crap shooters," "knife wielders," "street-corner loafers," and bad fellows generally. These stereotypes are put forth in a prefatory paragraph and are expressive of American and not French opinion.

A translation of pertinent parts of the article follows:

"Opinion of an American General—We mentioned the vicious conduct of Negroes in Marseille very tactfully to General Ratay, commanding officer of the Delta Base. He told us he regretted them.

"We are on guard and we mete out severe punishment," he said. "I shall increase the military police personnel very soon. But I can't do it at once because there are thousands of soldiers passing through Marseille and they create many complex problems which have to be solved one at a time. These soldiers are coming from Germany, where they have not been allowed to fraternize with the people. They are on their way to the Pacific theatre of war and naturally their stopover in Marseille is a sort of leave, and like all soldiers on leave, they commit a few excesses.

"Our punishment is severe," added Captain Lichine, aide to the general "I can assure you that where a French Council of war would give five years, we give ten."

FAMILY COUNCILS

"Few people in France know that American Negroes live under laws different from those in France, for here we have no race problem. Our blacks live in Africa in conformity with their own customs and with no wish to adopt ours. Only a few of them live in France. This is why the French exhibit such little interest in these race questions. But in America, things are different. In certain of the Southern States, Negroes make up almost 55 per cent of the total population. Therefore this important question cannot be ignored. Every white American sucks it in with his mother's milk.

"But just now there are thousands of Negro soldiers passing through Marseille and this makes the education of our people on this delicate subject very necessary. This is why we must talk to our readers after this friendly fashion.

"Parents, watch your young daughters: A black soldier is not just an object of curiosity. He is a man. And this man lives in accordance with American customs and laws. Now, a Negro knows very well that in his own family and hometown white women are denied him. The white woman who intrudes herself where she is disbarred will lead the existence of a pariah. She will be spurned by Negroes, who will never accept her, and by the whites, who will repudiate her. Now that you know this, watch your daughters. Though these young girls are ignorant, they will understand the counsel which their parents will not fail to give them."

An immediate reply to this slander came from Corp. Percy de Freitas of Brooklyn, N. Y. He wrote Madame Polgy the following letter in French, under date of July 2:

"Madame Polgy:

Allow me to express my deep interest in your article, 'A Delicate Question,' which appeared in the June 29 issue of Le Soir. It is unfortunate that the virus of American race prejudice has erupted amidst the French people at this time. The goodwill and friendship between Negro Americans and the French people must not be allowed to reach an impasse because of the prejudice or jealousy of a few individuals.

". . . The conduct of a few American Negro soldiers should not be made the basis for an unjust attack on a whole people. German defeat was accomplished because of Nazi racism, and any country which encourages race hatred will suffer a similar fate.

"This 'stereotype' manner of thinking is no way to treat any question, and it smacks of chauvinism. Race prejudice is an American phobia which needs to be cleaned out.

8-4-45

"All the sacrifices of this war will have been in vain if the race question is permitted to ruin the opportunity for liberty and accord among all the peoples of the world. Almost all Negro American soldiers are happier in France, from the standpoint of freedom, than they ever were in their own country. Strange, isnt' it? Racial propaganda has had no success in Australia, England, and even in Italy. Let us hope that it will also fail in France. Quo vadis? Be careful! Perhaps Hitler is not dead." Yours truly, (signed) Corp. Percy de Freitas.

1st Reports Told of Only White Troops

AFRO-American

Balt., Md.

Commander Who Said "Nuts" to Nazi Demand for Surrender of 10,000 Was Backed Up by Black Gunners

By OLLIE STEWART 1-13-45

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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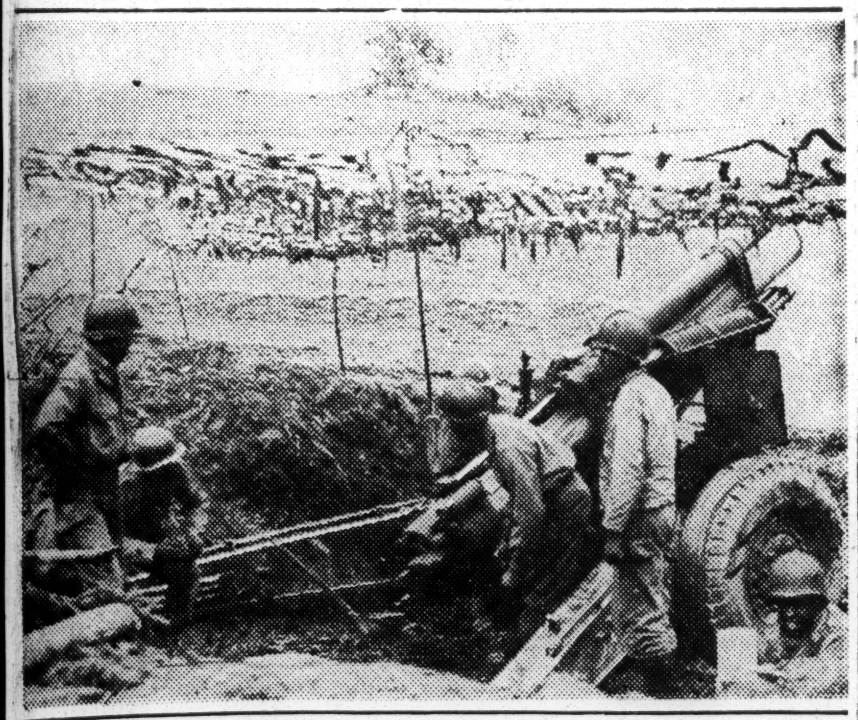

WITH U.S. TROOPS IN BELGIUM — By Cable — The city of Bastogne will long be remembered as the scene of one of the most heroic stands made by Americans during this war. I passed through Bastogne near the middle of December and talked to some men who a few days later held the city, although encircled, against the best German troops Field Marshal von Rundstedt had at his command.

On December 21, when the ring of steel had been thrown almost around the place, and the 82nd and 101st Airborne Division had been rushed to the front to stem the Nazi tide at Bastogne, colored artillery men manned their 105-mm. Howitzers and pitched lead twenty-four hours daily as coolly as though on a target range.

Defied Nazi Shells

Three men on a radio truck at the division command post maintained contact between the gun position and headquarters while German shells fell thick and fast, but they never hesitated in the performance of their duty.

They were Sgt. Tillie May of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Cpl. William Rich, Jr., Jamaica, N.Y.; and Pfc. Charles Maddox, Kansas City, Kans.

Two messengers, Cpl. James Kendley of Paris, Tenn., and Pvt. Richard Morgan of NYC, were pushed out of Bastogne by the first German thrust but returned when our forces were regrouped and stayed on the job until the garrison was relieved and reinforced by airborne troops.

Fought in Normandy

This artillery battalion was the same one I watched in action when American troops broke out of Normandy. They helped shell Perior, Lessay, and Laye du Puits until the Nazis surrendered. Their record for speed and accuracy at Bastogne earned them praise from all who sweated out the German assault for ten days that embraced most of the Christmas holidays.

The following men huddled in a room of a partially ruined building when a Jerry shell passed through the wall and exploded in the next room killing four men: Pvt. Walter Henwood, Dayton, Ohio; Pvt. George Moelhenry, Granite City, Ill.; Cpl. Everett Brown, Fairmount, W. Va.; Cpl. Charles Wysong, Hamlin, W. Va.; Pfc. Gerald Durnedetto, Renovo, Pa.; Pvt. Oliver Davis, Tell City, Ind., and S/Sgt. John Willox, Hamilton, Ohio. Some were white, others colored; but no one had time for the separation of races at Bastogne.

Chief Steward on Troop Transport

At a certain port city, I met the first man made a chief steward on a troop transport. He is Winfield Scott Conte of NYC, a former musician who first visited France years ago with Sam Wooding's orchestra. He played the drums with the band when the Regent Theater opened in Baltimore. Conte has been in the transport service almost three years.

Other soldiers seen recently were Lt. Theodore Shell of Rahway, N.J., with an engineer outfit; Cpl. Shellie Pelzer, 2526 S. American St., Philadelphia, Pfc. Furman Sixon of Bayonne, N.J.; Pvt. Gunious Blackwell, Brooklyn; S/Sgt. Willie Balwin, Hickman, Ga.; Sgt. James Lloyd McIntosh, Ga.; Cpl. Milton Jones, Pfc. Cleveland Johnson, Cpl. Robert Mann, Sgt. Quincy Billingsley, all of Atlanta, Ga.

Why Colored Artillery Unit Is Not Identified

WASHINGTON

Dispatches from the war fronts frequently give the unit designations of white soldiers which have engaged the enemy. In the accompanying story, the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions are mentioned by Ollie Stewart but the unit designation of the colored artillery unit which helped to stem the tide at Bastogne is deleted.

A War Department spokesman explained that the designation of component parts of a division is not given because such information would play into the hands of the enemy by revealing strategical weakness or strength. Identification of a unit as large as a division, however, is of little or no value to the enemy.

Since most of the colored units are detached, there is less opportunity to identify them, the spokesman added. The 92nd and 93rd Divisions, however, have long been identified in news dispatches just as have all-white divisions.

Service Troops Shift to Combat Units at Front

BELGIUM—From Cherbourg to Aachen, men in service units were offered the chance to transfer to combat outfits, and many colored soldiers with combat training have taken advantage of the opportunity, some even asking for a place with paratroopers.

Inside Germany, Capt. John Hughes of Chicago, commanded a service company that performed miracles recently, moving stores of ammunition, gas, and food from German clutches. With his four officers 1/Lt. Harold Dolly, 1/Lt. Alfred Ray, 2/Lt. John Castaneda, 2/Lt. James Shields, the company evacuated thousands of tons of vital materials in record time.

Service Troops Heroes in Halting of German Blitz

AFRO-American Balt. Md. 1-6-45

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM (By Cable)—For sheer courage, self sacrifice and just plain guts, nothing that has happened in this war surpasses the efforts of our truckers and QM lads since Rundstedt started his recent blitz.

Here is the picture. When the German steam-roller got under way we had to rush men and supplies to critical spots to stem the advancing tide, but in many cases these men and supplies were

great distances away.

Day and night, long columns of reinforcements, gas, ammunition, and medicines moved snake-like toward the front over roads covered with snow and ice and in bitter cold.

Worse 'Lugs' in France

Not even in our rapid advance across France did drivers suffer so much. Their trucks skidded every time they tried to halt. Their motors froze when they halted too long.

They had no hot meals for days, no sleep and no heat for the supplies had to go through despite ferry planes went through strafed our convoys by day

92nd Facing New Attack

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

Germans Launch Drive in NW Italy

FIGHTING TOUGH

Most Prisoners Are Colored, Nazis Say

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

and parachutists who sniped them at night.

In Belgium, with the heavy fog calling for lights even at noon, I saw numerous wrecks where vehicles slid off road whose surface was as slick as glass. But still the trucks kept inching along and delivered their loads.

The courage of the men who stuck by their guns cannot be praised too highly, but without ammunition and other necessities these men would not have halted the fanatical Germans probing deep into Allied positions.

When it will be possible to tell the full story of incidents surrounding this momentous period, the boys who keep 'em rolling will stand high on the hero roster.

On Tuesday, January 2, I talked with Pfc. Leversey Henry of Amarillo, Texas, just off duty as a train guard. For days he rode with vital supplies until his destination was reached and eager hands unloaded the cars.

Dirty and cold, but grinning, he

Talks With Captured Nazi

Afro-American 1-6-45

Cpl. Hutchins B. Coleman of Detroit (left), a member of the 92nd Division in Italy, is shown conversing with a captured German captain, while Lt. Clarence Phillips of Washington looks on. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Preston Coleman, the corporal, who studied German while a student at the University of Michigan and was given a year's training in advanced German at City College in New York by the Army, can determine a German's section by his dialect. He is a musician, paints a little and is also a prolific writer.

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BULLETIN

Dispatches from Rome said Sunday that 92nd Division troops had retaken Barga, one of two Italian towns captured by the Nazis a week ago, and pushed into the hills beyond.

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—Following in the wake of their great Western front counter-offensive, German forces are now launching a new drive along this 5th Army front aimed especially at one sector held by the 92nd Division.

The strength of these new co-ordinated enemy attacks has not yet been officially revealed, but it is known that some of the fiercest fighting this front has seen since the battle for Florence is now under way in the Serchio River Valley area where the Nazis are making their bid.

These attacks center so far, according to the latest reports, around Gallicano, a town at the head of the Serchio River Valley, which is a key road junction spot located 15 miles inland from the West Coast.

Gallicano is 40 miles northeast of the seaport town of Leghorn, an Army supply port.

Washingtonian in Command

Some elements of the unit I accompanied overseas are participating in the fighting in this area. The commanding colonel is ill, and Lt. Col. Alonzo G. Ferguson of 2433 M Street, Northwest, Washington, World War I veteran and a member of the unit since its activation, is temporarily in command.

The difficult terrain of the Apennine Mountains along the slopes of which the 92nd is now fighting has offered a major problem. The Germans hold the highest surrounding ground, thereby making their defense to our spearhead attacks comparatively easy.

The terrain at some points of the conflict is such that it is necessary for 92nd members attempting a forward movement to use their hands to climb slopes and to maneuver for sound footing before they can halt to answer German fire.

Unable to Defend Selves

The Germans in some such instances have rolled hand grenades down on troops, while in others they have been content just to roll rocks.

This marks the first time in almost two months that there has been contentrated enemy activity on the 5th Army front west of the town of Bologna.

Whether the new drive is planned to coincide with the German Western front push is not yet determined, partly because of strength of enemy attacks is still unrevealed.

Elsewhere on the 5th Army front, including the extreme coastal sector and the area east of the Serchio River Valley, activity is limited to reconnaissance patrols.

1-6-45

Lines Confused by Parachutists

Afro-American 1-6-45

Only Tan Yanks Not Suspected as Spies

EVERYBODY FIGHTS

Service Troops Take Posts Beside Infantry

By OLLIE STEWART

AFRO War Correspondent with Invasion Forces in Germany

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[EDITOR'S NOTE: Twenty-three Marylanders and ten other Easterners are mentioned in this dispatch.]

PARIS (By Cable) — This is being written on the verge of the New Year, when all along the Western Front the outcome of the German thrust still remains in doubt but Allied forces seem to have regained the offensive and in some places have thrown the enemy back several miles.

Most hopeful sign to the American correspondents who have watched the war for years is the confidence of both officers and enlisted men during this crucial moment, when bitter cold is making fighting difficult and poor visibility robs us of our air advantage.

They say it is simply a question of when we will win, not whether or not we will win.

All Became Combat Troops

Significantly, the German attack made all troops combat troops. Colored soldiers performed heroically by the side of white pals when the going was toughest, though many of them had never before been in the front line.

Truck drivers became infantrymen. Port battalions guarded bridges and prisoners. Railhead units fought like mad to protect vital stores of gas, food and ammunition.

Colored MP units were assigned to duty where none ever were seen before.

All But Tan Yanks Suspected

When German parachutists were known to have been dropped behind American lines dressed in American uniforms, it became necessary to demand identification papers from everybody, but with colored troops it was only a matter of form, since the Germans have no known colored soldiers.

For several days colored troops were the only ones not suspected. Visiting along the front with officers and men I was halted many times, but my face was my best identification.

On several occasions colored soldiers captured German spies behind our lines and proved their alertness when everything hung in the balance.

Sees Record Port Unit

At an inland port I found a port company which set a barge-building record while in England. In France they hold the record for unloading a Liberty ship and for the highest tonnage for this particular port. Its members are mostly Marylanders.

Coming from Earleigh Heights, a graduate of Bowie State Teachers' College and approved for direct commissioning as an officer is S/Sgt. Everett Pettigrew. Best French linguist is S/Sgt. Paul J. Wheeler, 2355 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore. Other Baltimoreans in the unit include:

Pvt. Leo Green, 422 Laurens Street; Cpl. Von Zo Gunther, 403-A Schwartz Avenue; Pvt. Horace Gail, 510 Robert Street; Pvt. William Gassaway, 1704 Parker Court; Pfc. Frank Sheppard, 1101 Argyle Avenue; Pvt. Thomas Foster, 2432 Etting Street; Pfc. Kenneth Grandison, 1828 McCulloh Street; Sgt. James McKenney, 1918 McCulloh Street; Sgt. James Johnson, 503 Gold Street; Pvt. Samuel Parker, 247 Oxford Court; Sgt. Charles Johnson, 1328 Whitelock Street; and Cpl. Floyd Matthews, 1600 block Division Street.

Other Marylanders are:

Pvt. Oscar Fosque, Crisfield; Cpl. Harry Gibbs, Churchill; Pvt. Theodore Hayward, Princess Anne; Pvt. James Dorsey, Pimlico; Pfc. Joseph Snowden, Turners Station; Pfc. George Greenwell, Valley Lee; Cpl. Andrew Henson, Joppa; Cpl. Charles King, Gaithersburg; and Pvt. James Miles, Leonardtown.

Other members include:

Cpl. Nathan Duffin, 26 L Street, Northwest, Washington; Sgt. Wilmot Harris, 46 N. Fifty-third Street; S/Sgt. Roderick Lynch, 5113 Aspen Street; S/Sgt. Joseph Medley, 4320 N. Gratz Street, and Cpl. Calvin Davenger, 219 N. Farson Street, Philadelphia; Pfc. William Powell, Harrisburg, Pa.; Pvt. William Jordan, Uniontown, Pa.; Cpl. C. K. McGee, Pittsburgh; Pvt. George Richards and Pvt. Roy Moore, both of Suffolk, Va.

Negroes Prove Real Heroes In Morville Rout

Memphis World Tenn. 1-9-45

Nazi Lieutenant Admits Crew Had Few War Equals

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE — (ANP) — Real heroes of the 12th corps rout of Nazis forces in the Morville-les-Vic area were members of a Negro tank outfit attached to the 4th Armored division supporting the 26th infantry division.

This is the opinion of a "superman" lieutenant captured during the battle who declared that their bravery and imagination surpassed anything he'd ever witnessed in four years of fighting on several fronts.

"Only once before have I seen a tank crew as full of fight as that one and that was the crew of a Russian tank knocked out and in a similar situation," he said.

According to the story, a Sherman commanded by Sgt. Roy King, River Rouge, Mich., was the lead tank of a force column when bazooka fire hit it on the outskirts of Morville. Crew members removed two wounded comrades with difficulty while German AT and small arms fire peppered their vicinity.

Crawling between the vehicle's boogie wheels the Americans retaliated with a barrage at the enemy only 70 yards distant. Cpl. James Whitby, Detroit driver, with the aid of Pvt. John McNeal, of N. C., accounted for the whole bazooka team and felled six other German anti-tank gunners. 1-9-45

Cpl. Herbert Porter, Asheville, N. C., tank gunner hit by small fragments shell, was the last to leave the disabled tank. The battle raged until elements of the 26th division arrived to kill and capture the remaining opposition. 1-9-45

Meet Canadians Near Rhine To Cut Off Foe

Chicago Defender 3-10-45 Ill.

Paced by a Negro tank battalion, the U.S. 9th Army merged with the Canadian 1st Army after a 6-mile push northward from Geldern in Germany. More than 20,000 German troops were caught in a vise of steel as the two Allied forces formed a junction at point indicated by arrows on map.

(Defender Washington Bureau) 3-10-45

WASHINGTON—A sensational smash through Nazi lines by a Negro tank column spearheaded the American 9th Army in linking up with the Canadian 1st Army Saturday.

Caught in the Allied noose by the swift advance of the colored tank battalion were an estimated 20,000 Nazis, it was learned. 3-10-45

The British Reuters news agency reported from London that the first junction of the Canadians and Americans some six miles north of Geldern was made by Negro-manned tanks. Captain Robert Gropolde of Los Angeles was at the head of the column.

From Edward B. Toles, Defender war correspondent now with the 9th army in Germany, it was learned that two Negro units, the 761st Tank Battalion and 784th Tank Destroyer Battalion are now operating with General William Simpson's army now battling for a Rhine bridgehead.

One of these, probably the 761st, led the attack which sealed the fate of two Nazi outfits, the 1st Paratroop and the 15th Army, when they were cut off between the Maas and Rhine rivers.

The 761st has now been in the line for three months.

From Sevelen, Germany came a dispatch telling of the heroism of the 784th tank destroyer battalion, which staged a "miniature Bastogne" when a bridge was blown up behind them.

The Negro tank drivers mauled Nazi parachute units in savage street fighting although cut off for 18 hours.

The 784th was fighting its first offensive action besides the 35th infantry division. The battalion won a place in the hearts of the white soldiers of the battle-hardened 35th who had fought from St. Lo to Venlo.

Knocks Out Gun

Sgt. Walter "Pop" Half, a 47-year-old veteran of the last war from Little York, Ill., who came back in this war as a commander of a tank bulldozer was called out under fire to fill craters in a road. He went on to knock out a German 88 mm. anti-tank gun.

Sgt. Ambrose Hicks of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., an auto mechanic, was sent back to bring a supply convoy through. He saved three trucks parked near a burning ammunition dump. Many Negro tankmen climbed out of the shelter of their tanks under mortar and shell fire to refuel for the battle.

Also with the 9th army in its big drive on the Rhine was the Negro 777th field artillery battalion which has been in action in Germany since November.

The junction between the Canadian and Negro manned tanks came between Geldern and Kevelaer. So speedy was the American advance that Canadians were unaware of their presence and a tank sent over a shell very close to the 1st Army.

Eyewitness Account

A British correspondent, Ned Nordness, describing the junction said:

"We had set out from Weeze, heading south, with no idea where or under what circumstances we would meet the Americans.

"Outside another town, after working our way over badly cratered roads, we were met by walking infantry who were to make the link-up.

"Progress was a series of cautious advances, interspersed with halts while infantry smoked out houses and patches of woods, ducking into roadside ditches occasionally when enemy machine guns or mortars opened up.

"Just outside of a town in the Geldern-Kavelaer area we halted.

"'Here we believed we would meet the American spearhead,' said Major David MacIndoe. 'We had better take it easy until we can patrol ahead.'

"We knew the Germans were ahead, for we could see them dashing across fields, discarding their gear as they fled.

"After an hour's wait a shell burst near by and a tank man shouted: 'That ain't German. There must be American tanks near by.'

"The patrol returned and reported that tanks, obviously Americans, were approaching the town from the south.

"Soon we could see them outlined against the tree-lined road in the distance.

"Carrying a red and white flag we cut through the fields to meet them.

"We set out feeling very much surrounded. Hard but sporadic fighting was going on ahead, and many houses that had sheltered snipers were blazing furiously after they had been set afire by tank guns.

"We got within forty feet of the nearest American tank when a German Spandau gun opened up ahead of us and a British officer almost broke my neck as he shoved me into a ditch.

"We went on in a trench but had to cross a footbridge to reach the Americans. The British did it so nonchalantly that I stood up and walked across, too.

"Just as we made contact with the Americans, at 3:30 p.m., the Germans laid down a barrage, so there wasn't any of that 'hi, chum,' stuff. When quiet descended, the officers got right to work discussing future operations.

Yanks Pick Off Snipers

"After leaving the officers, I hid behind an American tank to escape a persistent sniper whose bullets kept digging the dirt in front of me.

"'Don't worry, I'll get him,' said a voice from the tank turret, suiting action to the words.

"My savior was Pfc. John Coster of Cincinnati, Ohio, who said he hoped to return there 'just as soon as possible.'

"Another soldier, Pvt. Warren Wiley of Statesboro, Ga., said he was sore because a sniper had almost hit a cheese sandwich he was eating.

"'We saw you guys coming across the field,' Corp. Selza Martin of Little Rock, Ark., told me, 'and we didn't believe the enemy would come at us that way. But if you'd made a single false move, you just wouldn't be here, sir.'"

Negro Tank Unit Wins Hearts Of 35th in Sevelen Battle

Richmond Times Va. 3-5-45

By Wes Gallagher

SEVELEN, GERMANY, March 4—(AP)—With a bridge blown behind them, a Negro tank battalion task force staged a miniature "Bastogne" in Sevelen today, mauling Nazi parachute units in savage street fighting while cut off for 18 hours.

The 784th Tank Battalion was fighting its first offensive action beside the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division. The battalion won a place in the hearts of the men of the battle-hardened Thirty-fifth Division, who had fought from St. Lo to Venlo and beyond, by the battle it put up here and the spearhead fighting it did to get here.

Sergeant Walter "Pop" Half, a 47-year-old veteran of the last war from Little York, Ill., who came back in this war as the commander of a tank bulldozer, was called out under fire to fill craters in a road. He went on to knock out a German 88-millimeter antitank gun.

Sergeant Ambrose Hicks, of Mount Vernon, N. Y., an artillery mechanic, was sent back to help bring a supply convoy through. He saved three trucks parked near a burning ammunition truck loaded with 2,300 pounds of TNT. 3-5-45

There were Negro tank men who climbed out of the shelter of their tanks under mortar and shellfire to refuel.

GI Tells How Negro Buddy Saved Him

Daily Worker N.Y. 3-5-45

WARREN, Ohio, March 4.—William Gillespie, white private formerly with the Third Army in France and now recovering from an attack of siatic rheumatism in an English hospital, tells the story of how a Negro GI, James Alvin Wilson of New York City, saved his life in a foxhole.

Writing in the Daily Examiner's column, About People, Gillespie says:

"In spite of the rain and snow, I could see Jim reach down into the foxhole. He lifted me gently to the edge. I weigh 176 pounds but it evidently didn't make much difference to this soldier who had volunteered to take me back to the aid station. 3-5-45

"The pain in my hips was at that time quite acute, and Jim was always asking if he was hurting me. As I laid my head upon his chest, I could hear his deep breathing and the laboring of his heart. He carried me a little over a mile to the aid station, and it was then that I learned Jim had 'trench feet,' and had carried me all that distance through snow. Every step must have been torture.

HE CARED FOR ME

"We were together from then on, sleeping in cots close together, because Jim told them he would take care of me. 3-5-45

"The care he gave me became a legend with the other patients. At night when I awoke from the pain, Jim was there with water, talking to me, telling me to 'take it easy,' bringing me a cool towel and wiping my face. He would bring cigarets every day, and I had the best of everything.

"And then came our parting. Jim back to his outfit and myself to a general hospital. He carried one end of my litter to the ambulance and when they drove away his parting words were, 'I'll see you in the States, kid,' and we pulled away. As I looked back the sun was shining, and Jim stood there waving his big powerful hand, and, as the sun hit his combat helmet, it seemed to glow into a halo, and I could see he was crying as I was.

"Thus was my friendship with a fellow named Jim. I wondered as the days passed why he didn't write as he promised. Then one day I had my answer as I was reading the 'Stars and Stripes.' I came across an article something like this:

"'James Alvin Wilson, colored, 1224 Lenox Ave., New York, N. Y., Killed in action.'"

Members of Crack 810th Engineer Battalion at Work in the Philippines

3-3-45 AFRO AM.

Members of the crack 810th Engineer Aviation Battalion on Luzon prove adept woodsmen as they fell a cocoanut tree in their camp area near the northern front. 3-3-45

3-3-45

AFRO - AMERICAN

These men are tapping an artesian well which was struck by shrapnel in the bombardment preceeding the landings of U.S. troops. T/5 William L. B.arnes, Richmond, Va., welder, is at exereme right.

This photo shows a completed water point. The three big tanks are filled with purified water, chemically treated after being drawn from a nearby stream.

AFRO - AMERICAN 3-3-45

FIRST NEGRO WACS OVERSEAS — Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis welcomes Pvt. Nisha Tankard, of New York City, left, the first member of an all-Negro Wac postal Unit to step on British soil. Major Charity Adams, 2113 Lady Street, Columbia, S. C., right, is commanding officer of the battalion. The unit will handle the Army postal directory service for the entire European theatre. (Signal Corps Radio Telephoto.)

English Press Filled With Stories Of Black War Heroes

Atlanta World - Ga. 2-18-45

Exploits Make Front Page In Britain; Ignored In America

By NANCY CUNARD

2-18-45

LONDON — (ANP) — A round-up of recent events affecting Negro peoples reveals two American colored soldiers in front-page news, British and French African troops in the fighting, and tribute to Britain's colonial peoples' part in the war effort. France, too, reiterates the fact that she regards her empire and herself as one entity.

On a recent front-page of the London Daily Express was the story of American Negro six-foot lorry-driver, Cpl. Riggins Earle, who saved the lives of dozens of people near Lunton, Bedfordshire, in this country. When his truckful of high explosives collided with another lorry, Earle leapt from his seat and rushed 400 yards down the road, waving his arms and shouting "bombs", past a farm (whose inhabitants owe him their lives) to a row of cottages where a children's party was going on. All sped to cover and no one was hurt as the bombs blew up, firing a patrol-tanker on the road, killing three people in a bus and blasting the farm and other buildings.

NABS NAZI 2-18-45

The second American Negro, a truck driver on the first American Army front in Belgium, escaped being the victim of a bogus "American military policeman" directing war traffic when he realized the instructions this man gave him were somehow phony. He remembered the way and drove back — And pretty soon the "American" was discovered to be a German parachutist in a stolen uniform. This was one of the tricks the Germans used in territory taken from them during the allied advance.

While Africans from Britain's colonies fight in the east, the co-operation of colored seamen in the merchant navy has been praised anew. Colonial Secretary Oliver Stanley, opening a new club for these seamen in Liverpool, urged the British people to show their gratitude for the way colored seamen have helped Britain to survive.

2-18-45

Among France's Arab soldiers are numbers of dark-skinned Negro, or Negro-Arab Mohammedian fighters (the pure Negro troops being mainly the Tirailleurs Senegalais from West Africa). The Official French Mission of Information in London recently published a description by French reporter, Andre Camp, of his visit to the Vosgos front on the occasion of the Mohammedan feast. As he gazed at the numbers of North Africans eating their ceremonial mutton in the deep snow of those historical and over-strategic frontier mountains, the French Regimental Colonial said to him: "France and her Empire constitute one entity and it is right that all members of such a community should share in the same interests and the same risks."

FRENCH HERO AIDED AMERICAN INVADERS

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

Pg. Pa.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Roi Ottley, New York-born author of the famous best-seller, "New World A'Coming," who serves as War Correspondent for the liberal New York daily, PM, and is special feature writer with Liberty Magazine, this week joins the staff of The Pittsburgh Courier as Special Correspondent. His articles in The Courier will be exclusive to Negro newspapers.

The noted journalist and author left the country last June on a roving assignment overseas, with special emphasis on the vital problems of the war and peace roles of colored peoples everywhere. He covered more than 30,000 miles on the tour, during which he talked to a great number of GIs—both Negro and white—on the fighting fronts in the European Theatre. He also secured exclusive interviews with important Allied political leaders, including the Colonial Ministers of Great Britain, France, Belgium and The Netherlands.

He is returning abroad . . . and his exclusive articles EACH WEEK in The Courier will be both informative and interpretive.

Mr. Ottley, winner of the Ainsworth Award and the Life In America Award for his novel, is a Rosenwald Fellow and creator of the radio series bearing the title of his book, now entering its second year. He attended the University of Michigan and St. Bonaventure College, and is former public relations director of the National CIO War Relief.

By ROI OTTLEY, Special Correspondent

One of the most inspiring figures I met in Europe was a Negro—decidedly so in appearance. He was tall and dark, and possessed a wonderful smile. His name was Antoine Montbrun—a name that is swiftly becoming a legend in France. For he was a leader in the Underground Movement in Cherbourg—though he was the only Negro in the city until the Americans invaded.

I first saw this twenty-four-year-old lad on Bastille Day. He was tumultously happy. He waved to the crowds along Rue Gambette, as he proudly marched with his white comrades under the sweeping banner, "Les Forces du Resistance."

FRENCHMEN HAILED CONQUERING HERO 2-17-45

His six-foot frame, erect and flexible, was clad in a patched brown suit. His shoes were old and turned over at the heels. But his smile was full, even contagious. So, people smiled back. Bearded old veterans of French campaigns, wearing medals hidden for years, had tears in their eyes. Hoarse voices shouted, "Viva le Toni!"

Antoine Montbrun was, perhaps, the happiest man in France that day. And he had reasons. For he had come out of the forbidding shadows of the underground movement—at last—and had personally aided in throwing the Germans out of France.

How a lone Negro in Cherbourg got mixed up with the French Resistance Movement, goes back to a day ten years ago when he left his home in Martinique to join the French Merchant Marine. Fed up with growing coffee, he became a seaman. When war began he joined the French Navy.

SHIP SUNK IN DUNKIRK DEBACLE

He was a ship's navigator when the Germans invaded France. He was aboard a destroyer that was torpedoed in the Dunkirk evacuation. The vessel limped back to Cherbourg. Here the ship's officers called for volunteers to go ashore to help stem the Nazi tide. Antoine was one of those who stepped forward. 2-17-45

He was sent to Fort Querqueville just as a German spearhead drove in. Antoine's lips quivered when he told me what happened: When the French commandant gave the order to fire, the soldiers refused, pleading that it was hopeless to resist. When Antoine dashed for his gun, they solemnly warned him, "If you shoot, we'll shoot you!" The young patriot broke his gun and threw the pieces into the river.

IN CAMP WITH SENEGALESE

The whole detachment was thrown into a concentration camp, where 6,000 Senagelese were also held captive. Here Antoine spent two excruciating years of torture and brutality. But he didn't break. For he had heard about the Resistance Movement and determined to get free and join up. 2-17-45

To this end Antoine cleverly played the fool. And played it well. He pretended to have gone insane. A French physician, called to examine him, shook his head hopelessly. He was a party to Antoine's plan. Subsequently he was released and sent to Cherbourg. The Gestapo issued a passport which indicated that he was "insane" but harmless.

JOINED PATRIOTS

Thus began Antoine Montbrun's heroic activities. One night at a cafe a man approached him. He asked Antoine if he wished to work to free France. "I am a patriot," was the reply. The man warned Antoine that if caught by the Gestapo any number of things could happen. He might have his hot iron poked into his belly, or his finger-nails pulled out one by one, or his eyes bored out and then shot—if he refused to denounce his friends in the Resistance Movement. Antoine simply said, "I am ready."

Accordingly, Antoine was assigned the dangerous job of courier—after all, his passport gave him unusual freedom of movement. One project assigned him was the theft of the headquarters—which by now he knew exceedingly well—slipped was told. The unnoticed and snatched the fortification plans. The Resistance importance of this assignment was impressed upon Antoine. The Allies would come and kick the German High Command out. That furious day arrived. Antoine was given the task of guid-

ing the first American units that broke through the German defenses—for the Resistance Movement knew in advance the hour of invasion. As the first spearhead broke through, Antoine dashed toward it, leaped aboard the leading tank, and steered the column by pillboxes, land mines, and fortified spots which the Nazis had set up in advance. When a German soldier was killed by a stray bullet that whistled across Place Divette, Antoine snatched up the gun and went prowling for Nazis.

VIVA LE TONI

For Antoine it was a grim field day. When the sun had set, official Army records show Antoine Montbrun had killed twelve Germans and captured 106 single-handed. The French people say he killed fifteen and captured 197. Lt. Col. Frank L. Howley, officer in charge of Civil Affairs in Cherbourg, declared that "Antoine Montbrun was one of the bravest men in the Resistance Movement." 2-17-45

He was recently decorated for bravery by his superiors in the Resistance Movement. And the crowds can still be heard shouting, "Viva le Toni!" — to a distinguished French patriot, the only Negro who lived in Cherbourg.

BIG SCALE OFFENSIVE SUCCESSFUL

Pittsburgh Courier 2-17-45

By COLLINS GEORGE
(Courier War Correspondent)

Pb. Pa.

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, Italy—Elements of the 92nd Infantry Division are now engaged along the coastal flank and last week saw action on a big scale for the first time since entering this theatre. They met stubborn German resistance.

Real action began the morning of February 8 when a company of tank-riding Infantrymen, led by Lt. W. E. J. Bundara, Baltimore, crossed the mouth of the Cinquale Canal to form a new beachhead. Action was preceded by heavy artillery barrage and came as a complete surprise to Germans, according to reports of captured enemy prisoners. 2-17-45

NAZIS BRACE FOR FIGHT

In the initial wave of attacking troops were Lt. Melvin Walker, Covington, Ky., and Capt. Harold Johnson of Akron, Ohio. Capt. Roy Sorrell of Washington, D. C., was in charge of support furnished by heavy artillery weapons.

Coordinating the advance with that of troops along the coast, another small unit pushed along Highway One until it was stopped by enemy gunfire. By mid-morning, the Germans had recovered from the surprise and braced themselves for a stiff fight.

The mouth of the Cinquale Canal was the focal point for everything the Germans could release in the way of mortar, artillery and small weapon fire. Nevertheless, coastal troops advanced 1500 yards to the mouth of the Margo Canal, then started inland.

SEVERE TEST 2-17-45

The Cinquale battle of three days will go down as the severest test yet met by members of the 92nd. During the big battle, elements of the Division repulsed every enemy attack. Flame-throwers were called into use to dislodge the enemy from dug-in mountain positions and doctors established first aid stations right along the front lines. American planes strafed and bombed German mountain strongholds.

On hand the opening day of the attack was Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Fifth Army commander. The entire general staff was pleased with the performance of the Division in its first large offensive battle.

The 92nd is now fighting for the former swanky seaside resort area.

Black French Hero Traps, Kills or Wounds 500 Nazis

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

2-10-45

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR
Associated Negro Press War Correspondent

PARIS—(ANP)—Five hundred Nazis were either killed, wounded or captured by Antoinne Montbrun a 25-year-old colored man from Martinique, during the bloody battle of Cherbourg and is acknowledged as the outstanding hero of that city. 2-10-45

His dauntless courage and fanatical nationalism are comparable to that of the late Felix Eboue. His parents are farmers, but he was trained as a navigator. He worked on a ship, the "Oriea," and ran between L'Havre and America.

When the war broke out, he immediately joined the navy, was assigned by request to serve on the "Dilligent," a destroyer which was later bombarded off the coast of Holland and towed into the Cherbourg harbor.

Joins Volunteer Force

Antoinne answered the call for men to form a volunteer force in Cherbourg in order to stop the rapidly approaching German, but France surrendered in the meantime. Antoinne's volunter force established a line at Saint Sauveur Levicomte just outside Valognes.

The commandant gave orders to attack the Nazis within range of fire. Nothing could have pleased the young warrior more. Antoinne, in the front line of the forces, was eager. Then, men in the rear told him not to shoot at the Germans. 2-10-45

"I must obey," Antoinne replied. "Well," replied his comrades, "if you aim at the Germans again we are going to shoot you." Fifteen minutes later, Antoinne and his comrades were prisoners and en route to a concentration camp at St. Lo.

Crazy Act Tricks Nazis

Antoinne did not really [illegible] under the strain of prison life, but the Germans thought so. Told by a French specialist that Antoinne was positively crazy, the Nazis immediately released him with identity papers certifying that he was crazy. 2-10-45

He later joined the resistance movement and was assigned to the action group. (The resistance movement was composed of two groups, the action group and the information group). His chance came for action when the American Army arrived in France.

Killed Nazi With Own Gun

He seized an abandoned German rifle and rushed to one of the forts in Place Divette. He wounded a German and captured 67 others, turning them over to the first American troops.

Antoinne knew exactly where the Germans were hiding, because there was excellent team work between the information department and the action department of the resistance. They camped until the next morning, then started for Beaumont-Hague to join the American forces. 2-10-45

He killed two Nazis in Beaumont and six at Jobourg. Before he finished his revenge, he accounted for 500 Germans, killed wounded or captured. The black hero of Cherbourg is slated for decoration soon.

Cherbourg's Black Hero Accounts For 500 Nazis

Chicago Defender ILL

2-10-45

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR
(ANP War Correspondent)

PARIS—(ANP) — Five hundred Nazis were either killed, wounded or captured by Antoinne Montbrun, a 25-year-old Negro from Martinique, during the bloody battle of Cherbourg.

Young Montbrun is acknowledged as the outstanding hero of Cherbourg.

Antoinne is the assistant jailer at the Mason d' Arrest.

He is a slim chocolate-colored lad about five feet, six inches, whose zealous patriotism, sparkling eyes and expressive hands convinced me that he only understood one language—that of fighting the Germans. Antoinne's parents in Martinique are farmers but he decided not to follow the same occupation. He joined the merchant navy at 14 and was trained as a navigator.

Antoinne worked on a ship named the "Oriea" and ran between L'Harve and America. When the war broke out, he was on a voyage to Valparaiso and Panama. His ship afterwards called at Halifax for important cargo which had to be delivered to England in a convoy. From England, his ship went to Havre where he received his mobilization papers.

Young Antoinne immediately joined the navy, a place where he was best suited, and was assigned by request to serve on the "Dilligent," a destroyer which was later bombarded off the coast of Holland. The Dilligent was towed into the harbor of Cherbourg just at the time when things had begun to look very serious for France.

In Volunteer Force

Antoine answered the urgent call for men to form a volunteer force in Cherbourg in order to stop the rapidly approaching Germans. Antoinne's volunteer force established a line at Saint Sauveur Levicomte just outside Valognes. But this line was easily cracked by the blitzkrieg tactics of Hitler's victorious panzer divisions.

2-10-45

Breaks Rifle

The commandant gave orders to attack the Nazis. Antoinne was in the front line of the forces. He was eager. But men in the rear told him not to shoot at the Germans in defiance of the commandant's order.

"I must obey," Antoinne replied.

"Well," replied his comrades, "if you aim at the Germans again we are going to shoot you. It is no use shooting at the Nazis when they have an overwhelming superiority of men and material. Let us lay down our arms and surrender."

Antoinne broke his rifle in despair and threw it into the river.

Later Antoinne and his comrades became prisoners and were on route to a concentration camp at St. Lo. They were not even given the "luxury" of a ride in a cattle van. Thy walked 55 miles to their imprisonment. The Germans immediately erected the color bar. A large number of Senagalese were in the prison cage and together with Antoinne they were thrown into a separate camp.

The Nazis, however, served the same "slop" to all prisoners but Negro prisoners were made to work in the snow for long periods during the cold days of 1940 while the whites remained indoors. Some of the Negro prisoners died from exposure.

After six months as a prisoner of the Nazis, Antoinne convinced them he was crazy. The Nazis released him with identity papers certifying that he was crazy.

Once free, Antoinne hurried to join the resistance movement.

His chance came for action when the American army arrived in France. 2-10-45

NEROES SHOULD BE INCLUDED

New York Age 1-12-45

Have you noticed that in the pictures on the screen of the war in both Europe and in the Pacific, you do not see any which portrays the part which Negro troops are taking in that war?

General Patton's success near Aachen was due largely to the Negro transportation corps troops, as well as the installation at Herkensthal of machinery, electrical equipment, and every kind of mechanical device. Had it not been for these Negro troops, General Patton himself said, the victories of the Allies would have been impossible.

These Negro transportation troops drive their jeeps through the mud and slush of rain-soaked France. They themselves are soaked with rain and they wade through mountain-like difficulties to get supplies to the front. 1-13-45

For the boys at the front must have food, they must have ammunition, they must never for one moment be permitted to think, "Too little and too late."

And so our Negro boys toil on, uncomplainingly, knowing they are doing a good job, knowing they are doing their bit for democracy, for that better world which shall come out of this holacaust. 1-13-45

We give them all honor. We would not have them complain for one second. We would feel humiliated if they did. And yet—do you remember that old saying about giving even the devil his due?

We feel that in those motion pictures of our fighting fronts, the splendid work of the Negro soldiers should be given its due. They should be shown driving their trucks and jeeps through that sticky mud and slush. They should be shown doing their bit for victory.

Perhaps if enough of us suggested this to the managers of the motion picture theatres, they might relay it to the movie who make

Let's try it next time the pictures! the we see a war picture with the Negro soldiers groes left out.

The California Eagle

56n-1945

'NUTS!' RETORT HELD NO SHOCK TO NAZIS

N.Y. Times 3-4-45

Bastogne Paratroop Heroes Assert Foes Knew They Were Up Against Tough Outfit

Maj. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe's famous reply of "Nuts" to the German surrender demand during the battle of Bastogne came as no surprise to the two men officers who delivered the ultimatum last Dec. 23, Corp. John Shaw of Franklinville, N. Y., cocky little paratrooper of the 101st Airborne division said yesterday.

The Germans, a major and a captain, sort of expected what the answer would be after they saw we were a parachute outfit," the 23-year-old veteran of eighteen months' overseas duty said. "The Germans call us the 'butchers with the big pockets' and they know that the word surrender is not included in the airborne trooper's vocabulary."

N.Y.

Corporal Shaw was one of seven heroes of the battle of Batagne who described that decisive engagement in an interview at Army Public Relations, 90 Church Street. The men were trapped for seven days by superior enemy forces and had to fight not only severe shell fire, but hunger and cold and a lack of ammunition, their stories revealed. 3-4-45

Says Nazis Knew Slang

Corporal Shaw, a radioman, said that when the German officers appeared on a frozen road outside Bastogne, he and his buddies thought the Nazis wanted to surrender. They were taken to a company command post, where they stood for two hours while awaiting word from General McAuliffe. Apparently they were familiar with American slang, he said, for they walked off as soon as our colonel gave them the one-word reply.

Staff Sgt. Stanley Koss of Corpus Christi, Tex., said he entered the Bastogne fight with fortyfive men, only thirteen of whom remained unscathed after the first few days of fighting. He told of holding off an entire battalion of German grenadiers trying to enter the city.

"We set up our two machine gune to cover a road," the sergeant related, "and settled down to await the enemy in weather so cold that our weapons froze. Some 800 men of the 696th Grenadier Battalion attempted to cross the road and we cut loose. The battle lasted from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. and at its end the Germans had lost 250 killed, compared to our loss of two men."

Lieut. Clair L. Hess, 25 years old, of Blairsville, Pa., who took over his company when his captain was wounded, was trapped in Bastogne without food or supplies and without means of communication, re revealed. His men, he said, had to search the area for discarded ammunition and guns to continue the fight.

The outfit had one tank-destroyer, the lieutenant said, but it was manned by Quartermaster Corps men, who were delivering it to the front and did not know anything about fighting from it. A graduate of Pennsylvania State College, Lieut. Hess is a veteran of the Normandy, Holland and Belgian campaigns. 3-4-45

Found Aid for Trenchfoot

A medical corpsman, Cpl. Thomas W. Stephens, 29, of Hornbeck, Pa., said his outfit used a German medcial supply dump in Bastogne as a hospital. Among the supplies they found, he said, were the first effective treatments for trenchfoot he had seen.

Staff Sgt. Robert Clifford, 27, of Grand Saline, Tex., complained of the lack of ammunition at Bastogne. Some of the batteries, he said, had to scratch for lost and damaged ammunition to fire, sometimes using damaged and rejected shell cases if they could be pounded back into shape.

Sergeant Clifford jumped in the vicinity of Cherbourg on D-day, he revealed, but found himself in German lines. He was captured and bombed by Allied planes several times before he escaped.

Sgts. Franklin D. Hendricks and Sandy Wyatt, Negroes, attached to the 278th Field Artillery Battalion, were assigned to divisions sent to the relief of the trapped paratroopers at Bastogne, they said.

Sergeant Wyatt, who lives at 146 West 111th Street, was operating a message center at St. Vith when the Germans broke through. A German shell, he said, landed a few feet from his message center, wounding four of his men, but leaving him unscathed. 3-4-45

Sergeant Hendricks, who lives at South Boston, Va., said his outfit was shelled for forty-eight hours without a let-up. They lost a lot of equipment, he said, but they returned with the Third Army to help relieve the trapped division.

The seven heroes, led by Capt. Edward W. Cissel of Elizabeth, N. J., will tour war plants in this area during the next sixty days. They hope their experiences will emphasize to war workers the great need for continued flow of arms and supplies to the front lines.

HEROES OF THE BITTER FIGHTING AT BASTOGNE

New York Times 3-4-45

3-4-45

Airborne soldiers who have been returned here to tell of the need for increased production of war materiels as they were interviewed yesterday. Left to right, front: Tech. Thomas W. Stephens, Sgt. Sandy Wyatt, Tech. John H. Shaw and Capt. Edward W. Cissell. Left to right, rear: Sgt. Franklin D. Hendricks, Sgt. Stanley P. Koss, Sgt. Robert Clifford and Lieut. Clair L. Hess. The New York Times

White, Negro Troops Fight Side by Side

Atlanta Constitution 3-20-45

PARIS, March 19.—(UP)—Negro and white troops are fighting side by side—for the first time in American history—in the infantry companies of the U. S. First and Seventh Armies, it was disclosed today in a front line dispatch by the Army newspaper Stars and Stripes.

62.

The mixture of the races in unified commands was made after repeated requests by the Negroes that they be permitted to enter combat units, the newspaper said in a dispatch from the U. S. First Army.

62.

Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, the Army's highest Negro officer, reviewed the volunteers. Their sentiments were summarized by Pfc. Leroy Kemp, of Atlantic City, N. J., who said:

"We're all in this together now. That's how it should be. Most of the Negro troops in service outfits have been giving lots of sweat. Now I think we'll mix some blood with it."

NEGRO DIVISION'S LOSSES HIGH IN ITALY SETBACK

Chicago Daily Tribune 2-14-45

Gen. Clark Reports on 92d's Attack.

ROME, Feb. 13. (AP).—The United States 92d infantry division and its supporting armor suffered "relatively high" casualties and tank losses when its week-end attack in the Ligurian coastal sector of the Italian front was repulsed, 15th army group headquarters disclosed today.

Official dispatches earlier had tended to discount as minor this attack of the Negro division, which was launched last Thusday. It was the 92d's first full attack as a division. 2-14-45

A special report from Lt. Gen. Clark's headquarters said "no net gains in terrain were made," and the division was compelled to relinquish the hold it had secured north of the Cinquale canal and at Strettoia and to fall back virtually to its original positions.

Driven Back a Mile.

The Negro doughboys had penetrated as much as a mile on a five mile front to within two and a half miles of Massa before the Germans drove the Americans back in four days of fighting.

The 92d was deployed yesterday near the south shore of the Fiume La Foce, a small stream south of Massa, and action on its sector was limited to patroling.

In the Serchio valley about 15 to 20 miles inland, however, the enemy continued to launch small scale counter-attacks against American positions. 2-14-45

South of Bologna the German laid down smoke screens apparently to shield parties digging strong points and laying mines.

Fog Over Front.

Fog hung low over most of the 8th army front. The only important action there was a strong enemy raid which compelled 8th army troops to withdraw from an outpost on the east bank of the Senio river.

The weather also restricted air operations. Four enemy aircraft were destroyed and three allied planes were missing. The enemy losses were accounted for by B-25 gunners who fought an engagement with 15 enemy fighters over Legnango. Gunners who shared the victories included Sgt. Emil M. Strebec of Cudahy, Wis.

Negroes Enter Combat Units, Fight Beside White Troops

Richmond Times 3-20-45

PARIS, March 19.—(UP)—Negro and white troops are fighting side by side—for the first time in American history—in the infantry companies of the United States First and Seventh Armies, it was disclosed today in a front-line dispatch by the army newspaper, Stars and Stripes.

The mixture of the races in unified commands was made after repeated requests by the Negroes that they be permitted to enter combat units, the newspaper said in a dispatch from the United States First Army.

The Negro infantrymen were picked from the thousands of applicants who had been working as service and supply troops and who volunteered after a special Lieutenant-General who told them: "Your relatives and friends are urging that you be granted this privilege. 3-20-45

Quota Is Exceeded

"The supreme commander is confident that many of you will take advantage of the opportunity to carry on in keeping with the glorious records of colored troops in former wars."

The original quota was quickly exceeded and hundreds of volunteers were rejected. Stars and

anxious to share victory with you.

Stripes said. Some 2,300 were accepted and given a refresher infantry course.

Applications came from port battalions unloading materials as well as the famed Negro truck companies. The newspaper said that 171 men out of the 186 in one engineer regiment had volunteered and four first sergeants in another unit accepted a lowering in rank to private in order to qualify for training. From one laundry unit, 100 out of 260 men volunteered but only 36 were chosen. 3-20-45

Brigadier-General B. O. Davis, the army's highest Negro officer, reviewed the volunteers. Their sentiments were summarized by Private First Class Leroy Kemp, of Atlantic City, N. J., who said:

"We're all in this together now. That's how it should be. Most of the Negro troops in service outfits have been giving lots of sweat. Now I think we'll mix some blood with it."

26 Tan Yanks in India Promoted

Balt. Md. 1-6-45

Afro-American

CALCUTTA, India.—The promotion of twenty-six enlisted men was announced here recently by Brig. Gen. R. R. Neyland, commanding general, Base Section 2.

Serving in the largest and most important supply command in the India-Burma-China Theater, these men have been commended by the War Department on numerous occasions for establishing almost a dozen world's records.

The newly promoted men, all former privates, include:

James Liggins, Lexington, Va., to technician fourth grade; Benjamin F. Johnson, to technician fourth grade; James T. Hooper, to corporal; Lucies McNair, Laurinburg N.C., to technican fifth grade; Terry J. Graham, Troutman, N.C., to technican fifth;

Thomas M. Greene, Clover, Va.; Percey L. Knight, William E. Norris, Whitestone, Va.; William H. Peck, NYC; Willie C. Scott, St. Matthews, S.C.; Chester E. Comfort, Grante Springs, Va., and Charles A. Williams, Baltimore, all to private first class.

Italians, Others Flock to Tan Yank Service Center

Balt. Md.

the AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45

WITH THE FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND IN ITALY—If one should happen to walk down the main street of one of Italy's larger towns, he would notice the crowd in front of the shop called "Mobili," the information and education section of a colored service group.

Mobili was in other days an upholstery shop; today it serves as a public library where soldiers and civilians alike gather at all hours of the day to read the latest news.

Posted in the big display window are the latest news bulletins; maps showing the progress of Allied troops in various theaters and even newspaper clippings of interest written in English and Italian.

The customers are as varied as the literature and among the hundreds of people who use these services daily, one [illegible] find New Zealanders, A[illegible]stra[illegible]ns, South Africans, Hindus, P[illegible] and other allies, in addition [illegible] Italian civilians.

These services we[illegible] by First Lt. Fred L. [illegible] Eleventh Street, Northw[illegible], ington, D.C., first of his ra[illegible] to complete the Army Information and Education course at the Army Special Service School, Lexington, Va., assisted by Cpl. James L. Allison of Cape May, N.J.

The news service and the group information and education program are now being conducted by Lt. Charles W. Clarke, NYC, also a graduate of the special service school, and his assistant, Cpl. William T. Towns, Chester, Pa.

HARVARD STUDENT JOINS AIR CORPS

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Paul W. McCree, freshman at Harvard College and eldest son of Mrs. Hazel M. McCree of this city, has joined the Air Corps and was feted at a going-away party on Monday.

Daily Press Did Not Tell Full Story of Bastogne

1-13-45

Daily press reports that Bastogne was held by General McAuliffe's 82nd and 101st paratroopers did not tell the full story.

General McAuliffe was in temporary command when the German break-through came. The unit commander was flown back from Washington to his troops, who stood off the Nazis, even though completely surroundeded.

To the demand for surrender McAuliffe sent back the one word: "Nuts."

Tan Artillerymen There

In Bastogne attached to the partroop division was this colored artillery unit whose story Ollie Stewart tells in this cable from the front:

One colored artillery unit, identified in a weekly press association release as the 969h Field Artillery, has already been praised by General McAuliffe for its support in the Bastogne battle, according to reports from the front.

Bastogne is a key road junction. If it had fallen the German advance would have been much speedier. The hold-out compelled the Nazis to make time-consuming detours.

Chemical Unit's Artificial Fog Sets All-Time Record

Afro-American Balt., Md.

1-13-45

Hides Entire Division from Nazis for 16 Days; Protects 2 Saar River Crossings

SAAR RIVER FRONT—Major credit for creation of the greatest artificial fog in this or any other war goes to the all-colored 161st Smoke Generator Company.

The feat, accomplished in conjunction with white units of the 81st Chemical Battalion, enabled the entire combat force of the 90th Division to remain concealed for sixteen days, during which it made two crossings of the Saar River in Germany.

Members of the 161st, who earlier in the Continental invasion had shielded a successful Allied crossing of the Moselle River in France, kept nearly 9,000 smoke pots in effective operation, using 146,000 gallons of oil.

Under their protective screen, infantry, tank and tank destroyer units of the 90th were ferried across the Saar by Army engineers early in December. These combat units had the same protection throughout their advance to Dillingen, Germany, during which they destroyed over 250 Siegfried Line pillboxes.

They were obliged to re-cross the Saar in General Patton's shift of the Third Army, still shielded by the smoke screen, which was credited with helping to keep casualties to a relatively low figure.

"Master Race" Flees from Tan Yanks—Returned Vet

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

COLUMBIA, S.C. (ANP)—The "master race" theory of the German soldiers disappears like magic when faced with the daring and capability of colored Allied troops, said T/Sgt. Walter Malichi, Jr., of Bennetsville, S.C., here last week.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Malichi, the sergeant, who is back from France on furlough, added:

"I have seen Germans, fully armed, run away like the devil upon being confronted with colored soldiers."

Most feared by the Germans, he said, are the Senegalese, French colonial troops who, the Germans contend, delight in cutting off their heads and ears as retaliation for brutalities inflicted upon their comrades in the battle for France in 1940.

Senegalese Best Soldier

The Senegalese, the veteran said, "are beyond doubt the world's best soldiers. They are plenty tough and I am very glad we are on the same side."

T/Sgt. Malichi's outfit, an AA balloon battalion, the Army's only such outfit, was assigned on D-Day to fly barrage balloons from the invasion convoy and captured areas on the beachhead to prevent strafing.

"We were the first all-colored outfit to reach Normandy," Malichi boasts. Cited by its commanding officers, Generals Timberlake and Eisenhower, it is back home for re-equipping before being sent into another theatre of operation.

Nazis Kept Drugged

Sergeant Malichi believes the American and British soldiers are far superior to the German soldiers, who, he says, are kept sogged in dope and alcoholic drinks.

When without the influences of these stimulants, they surrender in large numbers. "I have seen them slipping away from their own outfits with white flags or upraised hands over to our men to surrender," he continued.

Declaring that both the French and the British seem puzzled over the race question, he cited, the reception tendered the colored soldiers by both groups, adding that the British go the French perhaps a fraction better in their treatment.

Nazi Lieutenant Admits Crew Had Few War Equals

Afro-American 1-7-45

BY GEORGE COLEMAN MOORE

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE — Real heroes of the 12th corps rout of Nazis in the Morville-les-Vic area were members of a Negro tank outfit attached to the 4th Armored division supporting the 26th infantry division.

This is the opinion of a "superman" lieutenant captured during the battle who declared that their bravery and imagination surpassed anything he'd seen witnessed in four years of fighting on several fronts.

Negroes Prove Real Heroes In Morville Rout

Afro-American Daily Worker 1-7-45

BAITING BACKFIRES

GIs Leave Good Impression On England, DuBois Finds

The Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

By W. E. B. DuBOIS
(Defender Columnist)

LONDON — There have been not less than a half million Negro soldiers in Great Britain during the last three years. Most of them have now gone home but several thousand still remain. 11-24-45

My first reaction when I heard of the large numbers of this migration was one of anxiety. It makes no difference what people are involved when you suddenly transport any such vast number of young men into alien surroundings, friction and disillusion are bound to occur. It is not easy in this case to compute rapidly and accurately the total result. While in England, I inquired from various sources and while I'm sure I have not the whole truth, perhaps in its main my story will not be inaccurate.

First of all, this great incursion of black men into a modern European country has not been disastrous, as it easily might have been. On the whole, I should say, the results are encouraging despite unfortunate incidents and difficult situations. 11-24-45

The black Americans came from all parts of the land and naturally the bulk of them from the South. Their activities covered a wide range of work. They did more varied work than the labor battalions of the first World War; as engineers and members of the Quartermaster Corps, they not only moved material but did skilled and scientific work as radio men and even in directing artillery fire.

Curiously enough the first thing that impressed the English were the manners of the Negroes as contrasted with those of the white Americans. The Negroes were often diffident and apologetic. This was a part of their caste training in the South on the one hand; and on the other hand, it was the courtesy due to their hosts from strangers in a strange land. Negroes asked at bars if they could have a drink; they asked if they could be served in resaurants; they did not, like so many white Americans, order, demand and swagger. 11-24-45

Moreover, the white Americans themselves, feeling that they had a duty to perform, made it their business, in a large number of cases, to spread propaganda against the Negroes; to warn Englishmen of what they might expect and especially English women. There was, for instance, a certain Major Theffel, port chaplain at Liverpool, who crusaded mightily for "white supremacy" and when the colored chaplain, Golding, intervened, Golding was removed.

The American anti-Negro propaganda had its effect but on the other hand, it often backfired. It certainly was not good sportsmanship in the eyes of the British to malign your own fellow soldiers; and since the British were none too happy at the white American invasion, they tended often in sheer resentment to take the part of the Negro against the whites. 11-24-45

This was illustrated perhaps most notably in the celebrated court-martial at Bath. A Negro soldier was convicted by American court-martial of raping a white woman. But it was on ridiculously inadequate testimony and I'm told that a petition in his behalf was signed by 80,000 Englishman. At any rate, Eisenhower ordered an investigation and released the soldier. 11-24-45

On the other hand, there have been fights and riots between whites and blacks such as the one in Manchester in December, 1943. Quite recently, a Negro was beaten to death in a little village. The incident was characteristic. The soldier was drunk; he entered a public bar at closing time and the proprietor announced that the bar was closing and that he could not be served. 11-24-45

Undoubtedly, the Negro thought that he was being discriminated his companions but he rushed back standing of cultural patterns and and stabbed one of the bystanders to death. The same misunderresentment against strangers might happen anywhere with any people.

Mostly the Negro soldiers were quartered in camps in country districts, in sea ports and outside the larger cities. Some were in Scotland and in North Ireland and even in the Orkney Islands. But of course human beings do not meet in masses but as individuals and in thousands of cases, Englishmen came to know Negroes as friends. Negroes visited in their homes and talked to them. They entertained them with music. They told their stories of oppression and difficulty and they gained sympathy and understanding. 11-24-45

Fall in Love Too

The influence of this personal contact between Negroes and whites can hardly be overestimated. It led inevitably to closer unions. Consider the situation: the men of England were off to war; the women, both wives and girls, were left without companionship. Millions of foreign soldiers, young men ready for adventure, moved in. It was ordinary biology, that thousands of connections, legitimate and illegitimate, took place and this happened with Negro soldiers as well as with white.

There were for instance some 15 Red Cross hostels scattered in the large cities all over the Kingdom, where black soldiers came on leave. A colored personnel was in charge with colored men as leaders and several well-trained colored girls. But, of course, most of the hostesses and all of the help were white English girls. They danced with the black boys and entertained them and fell in love with them.

The Army tried valiantly to discourage this, especially they discouraged inter-marriage, absolutely prohibiting it in the western bases, but permitting a few legal unions unwillingly in the southern bases. How many marriages of this sort took place it is difficult to learn but probably less than 50. On the other hand, the result of this crazy policy could be seen in illegitimate children left behind.

Some of the Negro welfare centers working for British, colored personnel, tried to make an investigation. They found in 7 cities, 222 such children. In addition to this, the report from Cardiff said, "The number was so great that the staff did not have time to count them."

Grim Outlook

There can be no doubt that but what there are a thousand mulatto children in Great Britain today as a result of the presence of the American Negro soldier; and there may be twice this number. These children along with other mulattoes resulting from West Indian soldiers and sailors will make a peculiar problem after the war.

Free schooling in England ends at the age of 14. An illegitimate, unsupported child has no chance for secondary or higher training, and would with difficulty be absorbed into industry. If they got into the public orphanages like the Bernado homes, they would in all likelihood be sent to the colonies like South Africa as indentured servants. The outlook for them is grim. 11-24-45

Not only did the Americans try to keep down sex intermingling but it was charged openly in Parliament, that a directive had been given the WAAF (the English WACS) not to converse with colored soldiers except in the presence of whites. This was denied but another directive was hastily sent out which I quote in part:

"I am commanded in the Air Council to refer to recent allegations made in the House of Commons and in the press to the effect that in certain RAF stations, racial discrimination is commanded between personnel of the WAAF and colored airmen from Jamaica.

"Investigation of these allegations has suggested that uncertainty may have arisen on this matter to the extent of two Air Ministry confidential orders dealing respectively with the attitude to be adopted towards (a) U. S. Negroes in the UK; and (b) colored troops as British subjects from the colonies serving in this country with the RAF. Although the orders are still in operation, it is obviously undesirable that any instructions to WAAF and any advice which it is deemed necessary to give RAF in conformity with this order should only be in the way of confidential talks and that any offending notices on notice boards should be removed forthwith. 11-24-45

"It should also be understood clearly that the above was issued not to encourage racial discrimination which would be contrary to order to meet the difference in outthe established government, but in look between white Americans and British personnel and should be explained in confidential talks to WAAF personnel, as to the relationship between white and black people. 11-24-45

"In the case of British colored personnel serving with the RAF similar considerations do not arise and it is the earnest wish of the Air Council that WAAF, equally with RAF personnel, should be encouraged to observe on stations towards these men the normal standard of service comradeship.

"It is realized, however, that some airwomen, particularly the young and inexperienced, may regard the requirements of paragraph 4 of the above as an encouragement to associate off the station with the colored men. I am, therefore, to request that all airmen should be advised in a confidential talk, that they are not to infer from the requirements of the order intimate social contact off-station with West Indians or other colored RAF personnel, although civility should always be observed."

So the experiment was made and the results were bad and good. And yet it has been made clear to the people of Great Britain that American Negroes are average human beings, rather likeable on the whole; and in many cases of splendid character and that they are fighting in America an unequal battle against prejudice, a battle which they deserve to win.

56n-1945

Regular Army- Foreign- Europe

Sacrifice Lives To Save Buddies

Memphis World Tenn.

2-6-45

WITH THE ADVANCE U. S. SUPPLY FORCES IN BELGIUM — (SNS) — Fighting mad, a but not fighting trcops, members of a Negro Quartermaster Company en route to a forward area, withstood a relentless 45-minute air attack on their train. Heroic deeds on the part of the dying and wounded men featured attact on the Quartermaster Service Company. Many of the men died so that their buddies might live, refusing aid that others needed more than they did.

CITE THOMPSON

Individual acts of heroism on the scene were too numerous to mention, but Corporal Elsa Thompson, 761 North Elder St., Indianapolis, Indiana, former sparring partner of Joe Louis, was conspicuous by his daring.

2-6-45

Amid the whizzing bullets, Corporal Thompson fought a fire in one of the freight cars, in a vain effort to rescue three men who had been trapped. By the time he extinguished the flames it was too late, for the men had died from bullet wounds.

Removing the bodies of the dead men from the charred remains of the car, Corporal Thompson then went about removing gas and oil from the other cars in the 15-car train.

"There were no signs of disorder or panic among the men as they left the train and sought cover on terrain that had very little protection to offer," said Second Lieut. Ernest W. Anderson, of Corydon Ind.

PRAISE OFFICER

Lieutenant Anderson was mentioned by most of themen as having been responsible for the small amount of victims among the 206 enlisted men on the train. In relating the role played by the lieutenant that night, Staff Sergeant Carl Haines, 1202 West Oak Street, Louisville, Kentucky, said:

Apparently Lieutenant Anderson must have been asleep, because when I first saw him he was coming down the train to where the car was burning, very scantily clad. It was cold, snow was on the ground, but he was among the men offering assistance where he could and directing others to a wood almost a mile from the railroad track. During all this, the plane attacked twice more."

Haines, modest of his own display of courage, was cited by his comrades for failing to leave the scene until all others had been removed. He assisted with the wounded, and made frequent trips to the train to procure bandages blankets for the men.

2-6-45

WOUNDED SILENT

According to Second Lieutenant Joseph P. O'Neill, 4706 Greene St., Philadelphia. "It was remarkable how the wounded men behaved. Some of them had pretty nasty looking wounds, but they did not cry out or whimper. They just lay where they were and waited patiently until aid reached them. Those who were able to, assisted others unable to help themselves."

The night before, enemy planes after firing several bursts at the train, were driven off by antiaircraft gunners. While in one city where the train had stopped for rations, the company assigned to Advance Section, Communications Zone, was forced to abandon the train for an air-raid shelter.

2-6-45

Recipients of two letters of commendation for operations in England and on the beach, members of the outfit proudly wear a Sea Horse insignia, awarded them for their outstanding work at Omaha Beach, where their unit designation is inscribed on a monument. At that time they were assisting the 6th Engineer Special Brigade in amphibious operations. The men also were guards over captured Germans working on the Red Ball highway.

Reveal 2 Race Units Used To Stop Rundstedt

Atlanta World Ga.

2-9-45

Deny Enemy Open Road To Paris, French Interior

BY JAMES A. SANDERS

WITH THE U. S. FORCES IN FRANCE — (ANP) — The two Negro engineer outfits used as combat troops to stem the tide against Nazi Field Marshal Gord von Rundstedt in the bulge can now be revealed. They were the 366th and 392nd. Engineer General Service regiments who took up positions along the Mouse river.

The positions held by these men denied to the enemy the open roads to Paris and the interior of France. Forty-eight hours after being alerted the engineers were well dugin in their assigned positions. Barricades were erected on the approaches to all bridges, and the bridges wired for demolition so that if the pressure had gotten too strong they could be blown up. Numerous road blocks were set up in every road west of the Meuse to thwart the movement of armored columns. Guard patrols were set up to reinforce the silent challenge of the obstacles. Numerous other patrols, both reconaissance and security, operated deep inside the no man's land east of the river

2-9-45

GLOWING TRIBUTE

Among the normal duties of this kind of outfit are tasks such as building roads and bridges, repairing tunnels, and clearing mine fields, but assigned to any task they will be found adequate. That is a glowing tribute to the training of US ground troops. When they do their basic, they get the works. Perhaps that is why it is so easy to convert US soldiers from the services to the arms an vice versa. But it is not just the training and weapons alone that helped these men in the part that they played in the Battle of the Bulge. It was also the innate courage and devotion to everything dear to the hearts of free people.

2-9-45

The two-pronged Nazi push was believed by SHAEF observers to have as its objective control of the Meuse, but it was a plan that had to be discarded in the face of determined resistance by allied doughfeet. This enemy-forged battle ground that rolled dangerously into liberated territory became the scene of the most terrific clashes in history. They threw away the book and played everything across the board. The poured in everything of courage and fire that they had They hammered the Hitler planned and conceived offensive until his 5th Panzer army and 7th Infantry army turned tail, maimed with the life blood leaking out of it, but not until the US first and third, and British second armies had beaten off 21 separate drives which were dramatically halted on Christmas Eve.

PRONE THEIR METTLE

2-9-45

The chroniclers who depict the deeds of fighting men can now write "finis" to the chapter of "Negro firsts." They have been tried and their mettle in every arm in this theater. Reinforcement centers have them as replacements in infantry teams without regard to race or color; they have demonstrated their prowess with tanks; they have performed magnificently with artillery in the Battle of the Bulge, and these engineer troops primarily service troops have proved their worth; dark-skinned elements of the air corps have helped to batter the Reich. They have all been good because they have been decorated for their work.

92nd Repulses Nazis, Captures 7 Towns

Chicago Defender Ill.

2-17-45

ROME—Repeated German counter-attack on the Serchio River valley positions of the all-Negro 92nd Division this week failed to dislodge the colored soldiers from seven towns they gained in an offensive last week. Sunday's action by the Nazis was the strongest since the big 92nd push which caught the foe flat-footed and resulted in important gains towards the big Italian naval base of Spezia.

On the east side of the Serchio, three counter-attacks, two in company strength, were repulsed and a fourth broken up by strong artillery.

Earlier, Gallicana, the Serchio River valley town taken from 92nd Division forces by the Nazis during a pre-Christmas counter-offensive, was re-occupied when Negro troops overcame slight enemy resistance. Germany reported capturing numerous Negro prisoners at the time of the December breakthrough.

Gathering speed after its recapture of the key town of Gallicana, 92nd soldiers seized the villages of Castelvecchio, Lama di Sotto and Albiano in the Serchio Valley on the east side of the river, while a parallel column on the river's west bank occupied Calomini.

Exploiting their gains, the troops then occupied Monte Bono and the village of Renaiao. The drive northward toward German strongholds of the mountainous Gothic line is the first Allied offensive along the "forgotten" Italian front since October, and breaks a long winter stalemate.

Nazi Aegnts Rounded Up

WITH U.S. SUPPLY FORCES IN BELGIUM. — When Hitler's armies made a desperate effort to break the death-hold applied by the Allies and failed, they left in their wake agents to carry on their schemes of destruction.

These men who were left behind met with no greater success, thanks to the constant vigil of the members of the 4198th Quartermaster Service company, assigned to the Advance section, Communications Zone. Before and since the German counter-attack, men of this unit have been apprehending German agents disguised as civilians, local police, Allied soldiers, and refugees.

2-17-45

"Since the men caught the first Germans, it seems as though every civilian, male or female, caught near the depots or railheads operated by this company, is subjected to a thorough examination," explained 1st Sgt. Fred L. Russell, of 2316 Vine street, Kansas City, Mo.

"Of course it annoys the local people at times, but now and then the men will catch a German, in their self-styled dragnet. Then, too, one can't be too careful around those places the boys guard. That stuff's for up front, and it's their duty to see that it gets there. I can feel pretty safe in saying that they will."

the German breakthrough in the early stages of our campaign there which, so far as I know, has never been published. A Negro airbase security battalion was guarding an airfield a short distance behind the line. The German assault broke our front and remnants of our combat units came streaming back to and through the position of this Negro battalion. Seasoned troops often are demoralized by such a spectacle. These Negroes had never been under fire. Yet, they did not break when their fellow Americans, who happened to be white, fled through their positions. They did not break when they felt the full weight of the German drive. They stood and fought. They held until reserves could be brought up to reinforce and relieve them. The ultimate tribute to their performance was not characterize Negro troops generally.

3-25-45

The suggestion that Negro combat troops generally have performed poorly in this war is a serious error and a gross libel on tens of thousands of men, both living and dead. The campaign in North Africa is now history. However, there's one story of

Washington Post A Communication

YOUR EDITORIAL of Sunday, March 18, "Negro Soldiers," based upon war correspondents' censored reports of a press conference held recently in Italy by Truman K. Gibson, jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, has caused me to write this letter. I am a Negro and formerly held the position which Mr. Gibson now occupies.

Although I am unwilling to believe that the published reports of Mr. Gibson's press conference accurately reflect what he said, that is beside the point. The important point is to the credit of your editorial did not accept these reports as American public opinion that Negro combat troops generally are not performing well in this war, and that the Ninety-second Division made an unsatisfactory record. In this particular has made an unsatisfactory record. In this connection it is to the credit of *The Post* that your editorial did

the fact that an entire division was assigned to this sector which one Negro battalion held when the chips were down.

Artillery at Bastogne

3-25-45

There has been so much written, and deservedly so, about the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne that it is very easy to overlook the story of the 969th Artillery Battalion, a Negro unit which was at Bastogne before the 101st arrived and stayed there until the Germans were beaten. In fact, this was the only artillery unit at Bastogne. Its guns were heavy 155-mm. howitzers, designed for lobbing shells at ranges in excess of 10 miles. But at the crisis of the battle for Bastogne these Negroes had their big cannon drawn up in a semi-circle, reminiscent of the Western plains, firing point-blank at Germans advancing so near that men manning the guns were falling under direct rifle fire. Yet those guns were served as steadily and rapidly as though in firing practice. And those Negroes who were not needed to fire the big guns picked up rifles and machine guns to stand shoulder to shoulder with the embattled paratroopers on the thinly held perimeter. The men of Bastogne have brought back the story that as these Negroes moved into the line they took time to stuff their thousers into their socks in a reasonable facsimile of paratrooper boots, assuring the men of the 101st Airborne that they were "a' bo'ne" too. I only hope that all who chuckle over this story fully understand it.

Then there was Climbach. Yank, the Army newspaper, told the story. Things were not going well with the Seventh Army. "Task Force Blackshear" was an emergency improvision of Infantrymen, Engineers, tank destroyers and whoever else was available who could fight. It just happened that Negro tank destroyers, and odds and ends of other Negro soldiers constituted the backbone of "Task Force Blackshear." But it didn't just happen that they took Climbach by assault. Everyone agreed that Climbach had to be taken, and that only crazy men would tackle the job. Nature and German ingenuity had made the position that tough. It was raw courage, a willingness of many to die, as they did die, to capture a few square rods of fortified territory from the enemy, that took these men, black and white, into Climbach.

Emphasis Is Weighed

3-25-45

If the daily press notices these stories at all, it usually giveh them but scant attention. They appear inconspicuously. Certainly, they are not given any general significance as typical of the Negro soldier. Yet, let a report get out that a Negro unit is not doing so well in combat and there is widespread comment about "the combat failure of Negro troops."

3-25-45

As for the Ninety-second Division, even the reports of Mr. Gibson's conference which refer to "the combat failure of the division" allude in passing to the fact that Gibson contrasted the "melting away" of some patrols and platoons with the earned citations of entire regiments of the division. Many of us bitterly remember that several months ago when the Ninety-second Division was driven back some five miles the daily press generally announced the defeat of the "Negro division." Yet when the Ninety-second rallied a few days later and retook every bloody foot it had lost, many of the same papers reported merely that the "Fifth Army" had made a successful counterattack. All credit to Drew Pearson and to that minority of papers which told the full story. Some of us also remember that on another occasion when the Ninety-second made an important advance, capturing its objective against stern resistance, it was forced to retreat with heavy casualties because flanking units found themselves unable to advance, thus leaving the Ninety-second exposed to deadly crossfire. Yet this was reported merely as a defeat suffered by the Ninety-second.

3-25-45

In these circumstances, we should know much more than censored communiques or reports of correspondents have told us before we arrive at the conclusion that the Ninety-second Division has been a failure in combat. Of course, there should be an objective appraisal of every defeat, large or small, and constructive criticism to avert a repetition. We know that Negro soldiers, like white soldiers, are sometimes successful and at other times unsuccessful. But there has been too much unfair and unwarranted condemnation of Negro combat troops both in World War I and World World II to let pass unchallenged even criticism intended to be constructive, when it is based upon unwarranted distortions and misinterpretations of the facts.

WILLIAM H. HASTIE.
Dean, Howard University School of Law
3-25-45
Washington, March 19

Il Duce Tells Fascists Colored Troops Facing Them 'Earth's Scum'

Norfolk Journal & Guide

2-10-45 Va.

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN
Guide War Correspondent
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WITH 92ND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—(Via Wireless)—"You are fighting the scum of the earth," the aging Benito Mussolini is reported to have told the remnants of his dwindling Fascist Army which are facing the 92nd Division in sectors of the Gothic Line here in Italy last week. The Duce, in exhorting his troops to fight to the last ditch, delivered a stinging verbal attack at the Negro, South African, Indian, British and Jewish troops which make up the Allied armies facing the Italians and Germans in this sector, according to reports received at 92nd headquarters.

Brought into Northern Italy to bolster his failing Fascist Army, Mussolini is reported to have run the gamut of his old repertoire in attempting to restore the fire and vigor which was once a part of the Fascist Army Corps.

2-10-45

In calling the Negro and other colored troops which are attacking the Fascists in the Appenine Mountain sector, the "scum of the earth," Il Duce was following in the pattern which he had set years before when he ordered his soldiers to attack Ethiopia in a move which is now regarded by many as the initial action of the European war. In his recent appearance in Northern Italy, Il Duce is said to have shown a flare of the old spirit which sent the Italians to war against Ethiopia.

JORDAN

MAKES PERSONAL APPEAL

2-10-45

The once-powerful Mussolini, in making personal visits and appeals to his soldiers in Northern Italy, urged them to fight to the last for the Fascist way of life, according to the reports reaching us.

The comic-opera Duce, who once ruled all Italy with the pomp and flare of a Ceasar, was said to have appeared briefly directly in front of the 92nd's lines, begging his once proud black shirts to fight fanatically for what was left of his former empire.

DEFENDS FASCISM

Information has reached us that the Italian troops paraded for the deflated Duce who made a typical rabble-rousing speech in defense of fascism. After two hours of ceremonies, Mussolini and his escorting motor convoy, left while soldiers shouted "Duce, Duce!!" Officers of the Fascist infantry opposing the 92nd are believed to have accompanied the former Italian premier.

2-10-45

Meanwhile the 92nd scored significant advances in the sensitive Serchio Valley sector in an advance which began early this week. These rough and ready fighters are plodding the mountain trails on both sides of the icy Serchio River smothering whatever light opposition is met.

Patrol activity has continued. Patrol missions have jabbed and probed into enemy positions killing many Germans and destroying installations. The patrol results are regarded as excellent.

British Laud Ingenuity of Aviation Engineers in Italy

Afro-American Balto, Md.

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY.—As a result of the ingenuity and efforts of a detachment of American aviation engineers, a British fighter wing was able to move onto an all-weather airfield and continue operations against the enemy many weeks earlier than was at first thought possible.

For the achievement of that feat the members of the detachment have received a letter of commendation from the British air commodore of the Desert Air Force in the Italian theatre of operations.

50 Planes on Muddy Field

When they arrived at the airfield they saw over fifty planes hopelessly bogged down in the mud, some of them standing in three feet of water. They had one bulldozer and about thirty feet of steel cable to do the job. The weather was discouraging.

But that small detachment of engineers went in after those planes. Working from dawn to dark in water and mud that sucked the shoes off the feet at every step, they eased them out inch by inch, hoping against hope that the landing gear would stand the terrific strain.

Members of the honored detachment were:

Lt. Roswell L. Finlay, Lakeville, Conns.; T/5 George W. Atkinson, Macclesfield, N.C.; T/5 Walter R. Hare, Little Rock, Ark.; Pvt. John R. Hutcherson, Madison, Tenn., and Pvt. Andrew W. Fordson, Elberton, Ga.

92nd Infantry Division Gets Severe Pounding

Birmingham News

3-13-45

ROME—(AP)—The U. S. 92nd Infantry Division and its supporting armor were mauled severely in week-end fighting attendant upon their abortive attack in the Ligurian coastal sector, 15th Army Group headquarters said Tuesday.

A special report from Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's headquarters concerning the attack of the Negro division, which official dispatches earlier had tended to discount as minor action, said:

"Casualties and tank losses were relatively high and no net gains in terrain were made."

2-13-45

Sharp German counterattacks supported by concentrated artillery and mortar fire repulsed the Negro doughboys after they had gained as much as a mile on a five-mile front. The 92nd's first full attack as a division was launched last Thursday and penetrated to within two and one-half miles of Massa before the enemy recovered from the surprise and drove the Americans back in four days' fighting.

German parachute units in savage street fighting while cut off for eighteen hours.

The 784th Tank Battalion was fighting its first offensive action beside the Thirty-fifth Infantry Division. The battalion won a place in the hearts of the men of the battle-hardened Thirty-fifth Division, who had fought from St. Lô to Venlo and beyond, by the battle that it put up here and the spearhead fighting that it did to get here.

3-5-45

Sgt. Walter (Pop) Half, a 47-year-old veteran of the First World War from Little York, Ill., who came back in this war as the commander of a tank bulldozer, was called out under fire to fill craters in a road. He went on to knock out a German 88-mm. anti-tank gun.

Sgt. Ambrose Hicks of 328 South Ninth Avenue, Mount Vernon, N. Y., an artillery mechanic, was sent back to help bring a supply convoy through. He saved three trucks parked near a burning ammunition truck loaded with 2,300 pounds of TNT. Other Negro tank men climbed out of the shelter of their tanks under mortar and shell-fire to refuel.

NEGRO TANK OUTFIT NOW HOLDS BASTOGNE

3-3-45

SEVELEN, Germany, March 4 (AP)—With a bridge blown behind them, a Negro tank battalion task force staged a miniature "Bastogne" in Sevelen today, mauling back in four days' fighting.

56n-1945

Foreign Service- Pacific

The Only American Who Can Boast Of His Good Fortune

Ex-Farmer Houston, Tex 85

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

MANILA—Until his claim is successfully challenged, William Dixon, 59 retired U. S. Army veteran, enjoys the distinction of being the only American national who refused to surrender to the Japanese for internment—and lived to boast about it! 4-7-45

Not that Dixon is boastful about an exploit that saw him emerge triumphant with the odds at least 1000 to 1 against him. He was almost prayerfully thankful for his good fortune when I ran across him on a visit to the 820th Amphibious Trucking Company, whose members have adopted Dixon as their own since the day he came up from his little refuge in the city of Pasig.

Here is Dixon's story as he told it to me while adoring members of the 820th sat around drinking in his every word:

"I was a First Sergeant in the old 10th Cavalry, Troop A which served in the Spanish-American War. I served in the Philippines for many years before going to America to retire after 25 years and three months in the Army."

"I came back to the islands because I like it over here. I had met and married a Filipino girl and decided that I could live well over here on my retirement pension. Things were beautiful until the Japanese came. My color made no diffenence to the Filipino people. I was a respected gentleman in my communtiy."

NOTICES POSTED

"The Japs posted notices all over the islands warning all Allied nationals to surrender themselves for internment. The penalty was death if caught."

"A group of us old vets talked the thing over. Some owned small farms; others were in business in Manila and nearby barrios. They told me I was a fool when they learned I would take a chance at hiding out rather than surrender." 4-7-45

"When the Jap soldiers began to strut in and out of the cities; slapping the Filipinos around, robbing them of their food, their money, and household possessions, I began to think that they were right. Many a day I wished I had given up. I could not leave my home during the daytime, and sometimes I did not venture outside for weeks at the time. However, I managed to sneak outside in the dead of night for short walks and fresh air."

"My Filipino friends proved the most loyal and faithful friends in the world. They had always declared they liked me, and now they really proved it. They would, at the risk of their own lives, warn me whenever the Japanese came into the neighborhood. They brought me food from their meagre supply, and kept me alive during all those three terrible years. I shall never forget their kindness."

"Finally the Americans came—as every one of us knew they would, and the Japanese rats scurried for shelter. In their rush to escape the American soldiers, they almost caught me. I was sleeping in my home one night when I heard Jap voices underneath my house. They had found my underground hideout, and decided to spend the night there."

"I was scared as hell—suppose they decided to come into the house? As soon as they quieted down, I sneaked out of bed, stole down the stairs and got away to another place I had prepared about six miles away."

"Sure enough, the Nips decided to take over the house next day. About three days later, an American shell hit the place and killed all six of them! I stayed in hiding until I was sure the Americans had mopped up most of Luzon, then I started for Manila. Imagine my surprise when I ran into this group of brownskinned boys from back home, driving what looked like a big boat on wheels. They told me to come along with them, and they've been taking care of me ever since." 4-7-45

The listening GI's nodded their heads in agreement. Later they told me of the tremendous kick they had got out of Dixon's amazement over the modern weapons like the M-1 rifle and Carbine, and the amphibious trucks they drove in and out of Manila Bay unloading our ships.

The day I saw Dixon he was dressed in a pair of coveralls, the gift of one of his new admirers, and was wearing regulation GI shoes. Other than his obvious age, the only thing that distinguished him from the colored GI's was his old-fashioned cavalry campaign hat that he has kept through all these years.

Dixon told me he was a native of Henderson, Kentucky. He has a brother, Lindsey Dixon who lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and two sisters, Mary Parker and Marguerite Tyler, residents of Baskett, Kentucky. He has not heard from them since 1939. 4-7-45

His immediate problem is to figure out some way to join the 820 officially. I hadn't the heart to tell him how impossible a task he had set for himself.

They said he couldn't hide out from the Japs, didn't they?

Philippine Guerilla Leader Called 'Black Robin Hood'

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-13-45 Balt., Md.

Organized Own Army, Made Ammunition; Finally Wins American Army Recognition

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent

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WITH GUERILLA FORCE ON SAMAR ISLAND, PHILIPPINES—(By Courier)—During the recent attempt to find the colored guerrilla leader, Frank (Pedro) Merritt, this correspond was told many daring tales of the "Black Robin Hood of Samar."

There have been many reports on the man, Frank Merritt, and the soldier, Major Merritt. Many vary, but they agree on one point—he's an excellent soldier. Arrogant, dogmatic, a stern disciplinarian.

He's been in and out of trouble with the brass hats, but he still commands the largest and most respected guerrilla army on Samar, and soldiering is his meat, having graduated a third lieutenant from the "West Point of the Philippines," Constabulary Academy in Baguio in Luzon.

Dad American, Mother Filipino

Merritt, 32, is black, with kinky hair, has powerful legs loosely joined to slim hips, and a huge torso that muscles into wide shoulders on which are placed a bull neck and handsome, broad head. Almost 5 feet 10, he is much taller than the average Filipino.

Born in Luzon of a colored American soldier and Filipino mother, he was brought up a strict Catholic, even studying for the priesthood. However, he exchanged the Bible for the rifle and thusly began the stormy life of Merritt, the soldier—one that was to see him the virtual ruler of northern Samar.

Organizes Guerrilla Army

Evidently, it was apparent to Merritt that organizing an army was just one of the jobs which he was destined to do. He had to win the people, and most of them were simple farmers with a fear of God and of the modern weapons and might of the enemy.

Japanese paraded their strength, the American force, those who did not die or escape, were beaten. The people hesitated while getting the bad news which slowly filtered through, then fled headlong into the mountains. Confidence and a desire to avenge had to be instilled in them once again.

To Make Own Ammunition

Merritt's guerrillas were low on ammunition. In fact, low is an understatement. Americans were able to sneak in a little, but not enough to serve the cause. There was one thing left to do—make ammunition and weapons.

From timber and bamboo two ordnance plants were constructed under Merritt's supervision. A tommy gun was produced by using water pipes. Bows and arrows were made with powder in arrow tips which exploded on contact. Much of the powder was secured from floating mines which drifted along shore.

Because there were several guerrilla forces operating on Samar and the general command was not unified, General MacArthur stepped in. A Colonel Ruperto K. Kangledon, stationed on Leyte, late in 1943 dispatched Lt. Col. Causing to Samar in an attempt to unify guerrillas, both on Samar and Leyte.

Merritt distrusted Kangledon, and he was advised by Col. Marcario Peralta, Fourth Philippine Corps commander, to refuse Causing because of his weakness and his love for peace. In refusing Causing, Merritt charged that Kangledon surrendered to the Japanese, had no authority from General MacArthur, promoted undeserving people to high rank and that his guerrillas were organized prior to Kangleon's.

Kangleon was appointed Leyte commander. He and Merritt have not spoken to each other since. Kangleon at present has offices in Leyte. Merritt fought his war in the North and while in bitter struggle, continued civil improvements. He was lord over what he surveyed, a deadly fighter, a scholar, a protector.

Finally Wins Recognition

On November 15, 1943, he was awarded the Silver Star of the Philippine Army by President Quezon.

As the guerrilla condition on Samar became clearer, it became evident that to win against the enemy the whole of the command had to be unified. Merritt had emerged as the strongest leader in the North. Causing appeared to be the Southern leader. The situation dragged.

In September, 1944, an American officer representing GHQ reported, the guerrilla leaders, Merritt, Causing and a Major Abia representing the Southern area, met at his headquarters for the purpose of unifying the forces of Samar.

In order to get American military recognition, the leaders agreed to unify under any commander designated by GHQ. On October 4, such a commander was appointed. Merritt was immediately made his chief of staff and officially given Northern Samar.

Easterners Spark Pacific Invasions

AFRO-AMERICAN 1-6-45 Balt., Md.

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC — The 4188th Quartemaster Company, formerly Company C of the 543rd Quartermaster Battalion, including men from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania was the only colored unit to take part in the New Guinea invasions.

Under fire for twenty-one consecutive days, the unit was complimented highly for the vital and significant role it played during the campaign, and in all of the action it encountered, it suffered not one single casualty.

In Netherlands Invasion

Members of the outfit have taken part in several other major campaigns and in each case have been praised highly by high-ranking officials for their achievements and cited as valiant and courageous soldiers of the highest calibre.

The company's participation in a recent major invasion of the Netherlands East Indies, which sparkled in all the headlines, won for it the honor of being farther advanced in this theatre than any other colored outfit prior to the invasion of the Philippines.

Shipped overseas after a seven-month training period, the unit has now been abroad thirteen months and has seen service in Australia and many islands of the very New Guinea group. The battalion was activated in March, 1943.

Many Easterners in Group

Easterners in the group include:

NEW JERSEY

NEWARK — Cpl. Alexander Reynolds; Pfcs. Charles Grimsley, Robert L. Perry, Lee Powell, Clinton Jenkins and Carroll L. Thompson; Pfc. James H. Jones; PENNINGTON — Pvts. Dudley Newberry, Jr., Joseph Riley, and Kelly Henderson; ATLANTIC CITY—Sgt. Alfred J. Burr; Pfc. George W. Burr; EAST ORANGE — Pfc. Jeremiah and Pvt. Fred Harrielll; Lunsford; ELIZABETH—Pfc. George A. Morrison; WILDWOOD—Cpl. Harry W. Hayward; HOPEWELL— Pfc. Oscar Theodore Cain; HACKENSACK—Pvt. Lloyd H. Thompson; JERSEY CITY—Pvt. Ernest Stark; TRENTON— Pfc. George A. Butler; PALMYRA—Cpl. Bowen Pfc. Edward K. Person.

PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA—Cpl. James Daniel; Pfc. Jackie L. Smith, Pvts. Walter Ellis; CAPE May—Sgt. Warren B. Overby; VINELAND—T/5 Walter E. Robinson and Pfc. Henry Patterson and Allison; PENNINGTON — First Sgt. Montclair N. John H. Thomas; Pfc. Ernest Robinson; NYC — Pvt. Richard Smith; TRENTON— Cpl. Lemuel C. McRae; CAMDEN—S/Sgt. Robert W. Johnson; ASBURY PARK—Pfcs. George W. Pressley and Pvt. Walter E. Dickson; PENNS GROVE — Cpl. Theodore Cain; HACKENSACK—Pvt. Lloyd H. Thompson; JERSEY CITY—Pvt. Ernest Stark; TRENTON— Pfc. George A. Butler; PALMYRA—Cpl. Bowen Pfc. Edward K. Person.

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Storey, Cpl. MMitchell R. Strong, Pfcs. Charles C. Taylor, Jr., Hubert A. Francis and Earl Webster; Pvts. Stanley Burroughs and Philips L. Saunders; BROOKLYN—Sgt. Oscar R. Parris, Pfc. Norman Clark and Pvt. Charles W. Epps;

BUFFALO—Cpl. Bernard D. Phillips; BRONX—Cpl. Robert L. White and Pfc. Harry McGuire; LONG ISLAND—Pfc. William L. Perrineau.

First to Engage Enemy on Ground

Men Forget Color when Jap Sky Army Attacks

WIPE OUT 17 JAPS

2 Baltimoreans, Other Easterners in Outfits

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
NNPA War Correspondent
(Copyright—Reproduction prohibited)

LEYTE ISLAND, Philippines By Courier—(Delayed) — In determined defensive action which saw enemy troops hurled into confusion and finally annihilated, colored engineers helped form the spearhead that thwarted the Japanese two-prong attempt on the American airstrip at San Pablo sector, these colored troops became the first to engage the enemy in ground action in the campaign to liberate the Philippines.

Set Pace for Infantry

For two days, elements of the two engineer battalions helped herd the enemy into a pocket of annihilation. They had secured their position and taken the offensive when infantry troops arrived and completely routed so-called "prize-troops" from Lt. General Sasaku Suzuli's 35th Army.

During the quiet, early hours of December 7, enemy transports, flying low, made the sneak pass, loosing an estimated 250 paratroopers. Simultaneously, enemy ground troops were infiltrating in from the West.

Alerts rent the air before dawn on the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Baleful orange flames from the mouths of anti-aircraft artillery and red tracers revealed enough light to show up Japanese troops floating lazily to the ground.

Baltimoreans in Group

T-5 William R. McCall, Detroit; T-4 Winzer Alston, Jr., and T-5 Charles Mumford of Baltimore, were working near the strip when they recognized the enemy aircraft. Grabbing up rifles they rushed to a white depot unit that was then forming a defense perimeter and fought alongside the whites all night.

Although most of the action of the colored troops was confined to the infiltrating enemy groun troops, several manned antiai craft guns during the sky inv sion.

Using a water-cooled .50 ca machine gun, Sgt. Leon Wilbur Berwyn, Pa., and Cpl. Milton Pi gins, Cumberland, Md., were o ficially credited with helpin down one transport, assists o two probables and killing a par trooper.

Japs Meet Their Match

On the ground the enemy wa in the vicinity of Burauen, one half mile west of one of the co ored units and one mile south o the other. They attacked the for mer with automatic fire afte sneaking through the intens darkness. Units from the othe battalion rushed to what wa then the miniature front.

With the same swiftness the have used in building airstrip in the Pacific, they formed defen sive positions and set about the business of shooting down be wildered, running targets. Thei casualties were 2 killed, 3 wound ed. They were credited with 2 Jap dead.

Back at the supply camp, on of the enemy approached withir 10 feet, was spotted by a Filipin and Sgt. Martin fired, as did Cpls Fred Barnes of Jackson, Miss. Horace Akins of Savannah, Ga. and Norman Curley of Washing ton, filling the Jap's body wit bullet holes.

Easterners in the unit include Sgt. James F. Martin, Newpor News, Va.; T-Sgt. Hugh Smith Philadelphia; Capt. E. J. Bonner Freeline, Pa.; Cpl. Herbert John son, of Washington, D.C.; Sgt Burrell Nelson of Washington; Cpl. Herbert J. Johnson, Winston Salem; Pvt. William R. Runsey, Chester, Pa.; and T-5 Samuel Johnson, Washington.

Big Guns Landed By Negro Soldiers On Iwo Seen Key To Marine Victory

Chicago Defender 7/12.

3-31-45

By T.-SGT. H. SCHYLENBURG
(Marine Corps Combat Correspondent)

IWO JIMA (Delayed)—A company of Negro soldiers accomplished unbelievable things here, but what they did that marines on Iwo Jima will never forget is to land artillery on D-Day when the big guns were the difference between taking the island or getting off it.

Japanese on Mount Suribachi were raking the beaches and moving their range inland occasionally to plaster Marine units trying to dig in before nightfall of D-Day. There was no Marine artillery ashore yet. Machine guns were no match for mortars and heavier Japanese guns. Men inching up the steep inclines of Iwo's terraced beaches kept their heads down and wondered when will our guns get in—when will we start to answer these barrages? 3-31-45

Early in the afternoon a Negro amphibious truck company, a U.S. Army unit attached to the Fifth Amphibious Corps, started inland in 50 bobbing, swaying "ducks" (amphibious trucks), bringing with them 105m. howitzers — the guns that have ssince swept the four miles of Iwo with salvo after salvo.

Lose 29 Ducks

When the Negro soldiers finished 48 hours later, they had lost 29 out of their 50 ducks, but the guns were emplaced and doing full-time work. In the face of huge odds, only two guns were lost.

Their story was told by their commanding officer as he squatted in front of his sandbag-covered foxhole a few yards from the beach whose hazards of high surf and mortar fire they had licked. He was Army Capt. William Duryea, of Suffern, N. Y. Next to him stood a platoon leader, Army First Lt. Grover Groves, of 2152 Stacia Way, Sacramento, Calif. These men had deep pride in their eyes. You understand this pride when you heard the story of their men.

"Iwo Jima is tenable only to that force which has artillery ashore," the captain said. "We knew days before the assault that progress of Marine striking forces would hinge in many ways on whether their own artillery could give them the support they needed —both near the airfields and on the slopes of Mount Suribachi. We told our men that the 105's in their care were precious cargo — they could mean keeping or losing a foothold on the beach. They did the rest." 3-31-45

48 Hours In Stretch

He called over his first sergeant, Houston D. Austin, of 248 Kennilworth, Detroit, Mich. Sgt. Austin recited facts in a clipped, matter-of-fact way. It was so matter-of-fact that you almost forgot the significance of what you were hearing.

"Our job was not only to land the first artillery," he said, "but to move it inland to predesignated positions. We had one hell of a time. Mortar fire filled many ducks full of holes. High surf swamped others. Some couldn't make the beach's steep incline and had to make half-a-dozen tries under fire.

"We had drivers who had ducks shot out from under them and then came back for more. I had to order several men off their ducks after they had worked 48 hours unloading ammunition where one hit would have blown everything nearby sky-high."

Swept Out To Sea

"We expected loyalty of men to vehicles, but not like it turned out. Drivers kept their sinking ducks afloat until the last second before going under, when they would jump into naval small craft. Sometimes they were fished out, half-drowned themselves, by sailors who were luckily in the area.

"One man, Francis Goodrich Army technician fifth grade, ran out of gas, refused to abandon a destroyer. He was missing for 13 hours. We gave him up for lost but he finally came in and, although exhausted, remained in action. That night his gun helped repel a Japanese counterattack.

"We knew speed was everything. One hour after, we hit the beach with these guns—and enemy fire kept us from landing again and again—our guns were set up and we had brought in ammunition for them to start firing. The marines sometimes yelled at our drives up around Mount Suribachi to jump off their ducks and take cover. The drivers had to stand up, exposed, to unharness the howitzers. The Gyrenes thought we were crazy, but we figured if they could land on this place we could give them the stuff to make the landing stick." 3-31-45

By now it is known that the landing has "stuck." It is impossible to list all the boys whose ducks carried guns in during the hectic hours of D-Day. Anyway, they are not asking for credit, they'll take a little rest, instead.

Three of them are from the St. Louis (Mo.) area. They are Army Privates Calvin C. Davis, of 3432 Belle avenue, and Edward Turner, of 3304 Hickory street, St. Louis, and Technician Fifth Grade Fred L. Watson, of 22 North 14th Street, East St. Louis, Ill.

They are all dug in, now, on the fringe of beach near Iwo's southern end. At night they can hear the thunder of the 105's they brought in. They grew fond of those big fellows. Anyone ashore on Iwo that first day grew fond of them.

The marines are grateful to this company of Negro boys. They'll remember them as long as they remember Iwo Jima, and that will be pretty close to always.

56n-1945 Foreign Service Pacific

AA Battalion Battled As Infantry During Cleanup In Islands

Norfolk, Va.

Journal and Guide

Loeb Represents Combined Negro Press At Outpost For War On Japs; Tells Of Casualties In All-Negro Unit

7-14-45

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent
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OKINAWA—(Via Cable)—A battalion composed of officers ~~and men from~~ the disbanded 369th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment is the only all-Negro combat group participating in the Ryukus campaign which has thus far wrested Okinawa and its satellite islands from the Japs.

Under command of Lt. Col. Lilmer F. Lucas and directed by Negro officers this hard hitting outfit of former New York State Guardsmen has during the past 69 days on a combat infantry mission in the Kerama Retto added the following achievements to the glorious record compiled by their parent organization during World War I.

LOEB

7-14-45

First Patrol Captures Jap Major

MAY 30: During its first patrol in the Kerama Retto, the battalion captured a Japanese major, one lieutenant, two superior privates, one female nurse, one heavy machine gun, eight rifles, and large quantities of ammunition without the loss of a man.

Two members of the patrol suffered slight injuries. The Jap major personally surrendered his sword to Lt. Col. Lucas, who through kind treatment of the Jap officer, succeeded in setting the stage for peace negotiations with the enemy garrison entrenched on a nearby island in which the Jap major volunteered to act as intermediary.

Officer, 2 Enlisted Men Killed

JUNE 24: In a day of blazing action on June 24 the battalion captured a valuable hill position from the Japs and killed 20 enemy soldiers and wounded 10. They captured enemy grenades, destroyed two machine gun nests and supplies of ammunition, knocked out two enemy pillboxes, and burned an enemy encampment.

Our losses were one officer and two enlisted men killed and nine men wounded.

7-14-45

In 60 days' operations the battalion has captured in the neighborhood of 700 prisoners, including Jap officers and soldiers, and Korean and Okinawa labor troops who steal their food and supplies. The patrols are engaged in preventing isolated Jap garrisons from attempting suicide forays by small boats against Naval vessels in the vicinity and preventing the enemy from making contact with the Jap mainland.

The 369th, then a Coast Artillery Regiment, left the United States in June, 1942, under the command of Col. Chauncey M. Hooper of New York City, the Hawaiian Islands, where they maintained defensive positions for 34 months. Col. Hooper has since returned to the United States.

Old 369th Halts Enemy Suicides

Japanese Major Captured By Tan Yanks On Okinawa

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

By CHARLES LOEB, NNPA War Correspondent

OKINAWA—(By Cable)—A battalion composed of officers and men from the disbanded 369th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment is the only all-Negro combat group participating in the Ryukyu campaign which, thus far, has wrested Okinawa and its satellite islands from the Japanese.

7-14-45

Under command of Lieut. Col. Lilmer F. Lucas, and directed by Negro officers, this hard-hitting outfit of former New York State Guardsmen has in the past sixty-nine days on a combat infantry mission in the Kerama Retto, added new achievements to the glorious record compiled by its parent organization during World War I.

CAPTURES MAJOR

May 30, during its first patrol on the Kerama Retto, the outfit captured a Japanese major, one lieutenant, two superior privates, one female nurse, one heavy machine gun, eight rifles and large quanities of ammunition, without the loss of a man. Two members of the patrol suffered slight injuries.

The Japanese major personally surrendered his sword to Lieutenant Colonel Lucas. Due to the kind treatment offered the captured Japaneses, the major succeeded in setting the stage for peace negotiations with the enemy garrison entrenched on a nearby island. The Japanese major volunteered to act as an intermediary.

BURN ENEMY CAMP

In a day of blazing action June 24, the outfit captured a valuable hill position from the Japanese, killed twenty enemy soldiers and wounded ten; caputured two machine gun nests and supplies of ammunition, knocked out two enemy pillboxes and burned enemy encampment.

All-Negro Infantry Unit Sparking Ryukyu Drive

Chicago, Ill.

Chicago Defender

By CHARLES LOEB
(NNPA War Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO.—An all-Negro infantry battalion, the only one of its kind in the Ryukyu campaign which already has netted U. S. troops Okinawa and its satellite islands, is chalking up a glorious record for itself.

The courageous outfit, made up of Negro officers and men from New York City's old 369th Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) Regiment, is a constant thorn in the side of Japanese troops encountered.

7-14-45

Under the command of Lt. Col. Lilmer F. Lucas, the hard-hitting outfit during a 69-day combat infantry mission in the Kerama Rettoe, added the following achievements to the glorious record compiled by its parent organization during World War I:

On May 30, during its first patrol in the Kerama Retto, the battalion captured a Japanese major, one lieutenant, two superior privates, a female nurse, one heavy machine gun, eight rifles and large quantities of ammunition without the loss of a man. Two members of the patrol suffered slight injuries.

Personal Surrender

The Jap major personally surrendered his sword to Lt. Col. Lucas, who succeeded in setting the stage for peace negotiations with the enemy garrison entrenched on a nearby island with the Jap major acting as intermediary.

In a day of blazing action on June 24, the doughboys captured a valuable hill position from the Japs, killed 20 enemy soldiers and wounded 10, captured enemy grenade-launcher, destroyed two machine gun nests and supplies of ammunition.

Duck Drivers 'Hot Stuff'

Chicago Defender

By ENOCH P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

TENTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Okinawa—In the navy it's the submarine crews; among combat troops it's the men who man the bombers, but the glamour boys of the service forces are the duck drivers. 7-7-45

Ducks, the amphibious two and one-half ton trucks that glide through the water and race over land with equal facility are an innovation of this war and the colorful feature of most all amphibious operations.

Landings on many of the coral-rimmed islands of the Pacific would have been impossible were it not for them. Here at Okinawa, the role played by these sea-going trucks since D day when the first of them began operating has been a leading one.

Here, as elsewhere, many of the drivers are Negroes, and as such have brought new glory to themselves, their race and the service.

New Lingo

They're an interesting lot. Like aircraft pilots, they're self-confident, cocky and full of the recklessness of youth. Soldiers, with a smattering of seamanship, they have developed a distinctive jargon, a combination of army and navy lingo.

The envy of most service troopers, they, with characteristic immodesty, regard themselves as "hot stuff"—and they are. Everyone says so.

William B. Manning of Brooklyn, N. Y., is first sergeant of one of the veteran companies to hit these shores April 1 when American troops for the first time in history invaded territory heavily populated by Japanese civilians.

The company, commanded by Capt. Herbert H. Taub, white, of Lewistown, Pa., and a staff of seven other white officers, mostly Pennsylvanians, was activated at Indiantown Gap, Pa., in October, 1943.

Land At Leyte

After serving in Hawai from July of last year, the company landed with the Seventh Infantry division at Leyte when the re-occupation of the Philippines began on October 20. Then on April 1, this year, they dropped their craft into the waters of the China Sea to be among the first ashore here.

Adventure marks their daily efforts, but it's adventure that carries with it great personal risk. The men know this and glory in it. It accounts, in part, for their bravado which has enabled many to distinguish themselves.

This is a charmed company. Its men have emerged from their frequent brushes with disaster through uncanny escapes. In spite of their perilous assignments, not a man has been injured or killed by enemy action. On the contrary they have been instrumental in the saving of lives.

Even now, the reckless drivers who bounded shoreward on D-Day with careless disregard for themselves in the face of enemy fire, now guide their craft outward, slowly and with care, for their cargo is one of helpless, wounded fellow soldiers. Chi. Def.

Daring Water Rescues

Their records bulge with material for many action-packed thrillers, stories of deeds that have brought high praise and commendation from high ranking army officers and undying gratitude from fellow soldiers, who, but for the courage of these men, might be white crosses in a military cemetery.

Varied are the stories that could be told.

Of daring water rescues under fire: by Cpls. Robert Cruse, of Trenton, N. J., and Wilfred Celestine, of New Orleans.

Of fearless demonstrations of courage: Cpls. Ernest Townsend and Edward Van Stevenson, of Louisville, Ky., drove trucks loaded with high explosives from a flaming ammunition dump which had been hit by Japanese bombs during an air attack at Leyte.

Of heroic excursions through Jap infested territory to carry ammunition to the front lines: Cpls. Richard Washington, Alexandria, La.; Willie B. Wright, of Memphis, and Titus Taylor of Fort Worth, voluntarily drove three duck loads of .50 calibre ammunition eight miles to Agnu for the Seventh Division at night and because of enemy action were unable to return for 24 hours.

Carry Wounded 7-7-45

There are stories of less spectacular, but important accomplishment: The hauling of 16,000 tons of supplies at Leyte in two months; of similar performance here where the men have transported 22,000 tons of cargo since D-day exclusive of personnel.

But of all its tasks, the company is proudest of having been called upon to provide shore to ship transportation for the wounded.

It is an assignment calling for the best drivers, and to Manning it was a recognition of superior ability that of all the companies here, white and colored, his was called upon to serve.

And it is with justifiable pride that the drivers selected are serving. In this group are Cpls. Luke Alston, Florence Villa, Fla.; Clifford Sturdivant, Miami; Melvin Sears, Birmingham; Gaylord Reid, Westfield, N. J.; William Jones, Birmingham; John Moore, Jersey City; Joseph Johnson, Philadelphia; Winfred A. Cawthorne, Jackson, Tenn.; John T. Mayfield, Anniston, Ala.; Richard E. Daniel, Lambertsville, N. J.; and Pfc's. Charley Harris, Columbus, Ohio; David W. Smith, 2227 Maypole avenue, Chicago; Luther D. Salters, Jackson, Miss., and Willie F. Lucas, Louisville, Ky.

Manning, formerly with the now disbanded 369th Coast Artillery regiment, returned to the states after 11 months overseas to help form this company.

He is proud of his non-com staff, for he had a hand in its selection.

They include such men as Sgt. Adam Kado, New Orleans; S-Sgt. Henry Tolen, New York City; S-Sgt. Kendall A. Taylor, Pennington, N. J.; S-Sgt. Robert A. Hopkins, Washington; S-Sgt. Cornelius J. Beach, New York City; S-Sgt. Marion S. Brown, Spartansburg, S. C.; S-Sgt. Joseph L. Moore, Miami; and S-Sgt. Owen C. Jordan, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Heroism, Awards Mark 93rd's Pacific Progress

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa. 3-3-45

WITH THE 93RD INFANTRY DIVISION IN NEW GUINEA—The story of the Ninety-third Infantry Division this week is a story of heroism in face of the enemy, promotions for jobs well done, and awards for proficiency and exemplary conduct in action against the enemy.

Sgt. Frank Portee of Clover, S.C., has been decorated with the Combat Infantryman Badge for prowess in battle against the enemy, and the Purple Heart for wounds received as the result of enemy action in the Southwest Pacific area.

SHOT BY SNIPER 3-3-45

Sergeant Portee was advance scout for a reconnaissance patrol operating in enemy territory when he was fired on by a Japanese sniper. A .25-calibre bullet struck him in the arm and he slumped to the ground, firing as he fell. Though wounded, he returned the fire with such accuracy that the sniper abandoned his position, thus permitting the rest of the patrol to come up and form a perimeter.

Crawling into the center of the perimeter, without assistance, Sergeant Portee directed the fire of his patrol until the danger point had been neutralized. After receiving first aid, he then continued to perform as advance scout for the patrol until its mission had been completed. 3-3-45

The story of Pfc. Samuel King of Melwood, Ark., is a story of heroism in the face of the enemy. While out on a special mission with a unit dispatched to secure information—and fight if necessary—Private Smith came face to face with three Japanese charging him with fixed bayonets. With deadly coolness, Smith killed all three with a burst from his automatic rifle. One of the dying Japanese fell almost at the feet of the straight-shooting Negro doughboy. This week Smith was still in action, having been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

MADE CAPTAIN

The story of Capt. Edgar G. Davis of the Ninety-third is a typical story of hard work, with promotion as the reward. This week an announcement from Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Headquarters said Captain Davis was advanced from first lieutenant. 3-3-45

As regimental communications officer, Captain Davis, then a lieutenant, had direct supervision of the broad network of communications for the division.

In Today's Mail

WATERBURY, CONN.
DEMOCRAT
Cir. D. 10,143

JUL 11 1945

RACE DISCRIMINATIONS IN RESTAURANTS, BUSSES ETC., ONLY PROLONGING THE WAR

Waterbury, Conn.
July 11, 1945.

We wonder if the people who practice race discrimination in restaurants, busses etc., realize that they are prolonging the war and causing thousands of lives to be lost. The Japs are emphasizing the treatment of the Negro by other Americans as the American Way," of treating those they consider their inferiors. Call this propaganda if you will, but remember that there has never been a rumor that did not find many persons to believe it. And can America deny the truth of the accusation?

Remember, also, that many Japs have served as domestics in America, and have first hand knowledge of the manner of those whose chief claim to superiority is their inherited or acquired wealth.

Returning to the propaganda, the Japs say they will fight to the last man, commit suicide, or do anything else to keep from falling into the hands of Americans, to be abused as the Negro has been.

Jim Crow Foe Out

Afro-American Balti[illegible] Md.

WINFRED W. LYNN, who in 1942 fought induction into the U.S. Army because he objected to the jim crow practices of Selective Service as well as the Army, is again a civilian after serving 19 months as a sergeant in the South Pacific.

Color Ignored by Officers, Men at Jap 'West Point'

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

GI's Live 'Life of Riley' at Disposition Center in Mountains; 14-Year Vet Plans to Re-enlist

By PEYTON GRAY

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ZAMA, Japan.—Thousands of officers and enlisted men are literally living "the life of Riley" at the Fourth Disposition Center here, approximately 35 miles from Yokohama, while waiting for their ships to come in.

Color is rarely mentioned by these men, who share the barracks of this former "West Point" of Japan high in a mountainous region, a quick train ride from the heart of Japan.

In one room I found a colored warrant officer playing gin rummy with several white officers, two of whom spoke with distinctive Southern accents, while perched on the side of a cot nearby sat an American-born Japanese officer.

Live Normal Lives

In the barracks of the enlisted men, likewise color for the most part has been relegated to a place with the least important thoughts.

Time is spent rehashing Army experiences, writing letters, reading outdated magazines, going to the movies, playing cards, and of course, in the natural position of a soldier, lying prone on one's back dreaming of home.

"Sweating out" transportation to some West Coast port, most of these men are going home for discharges, while others will accept a furlough prior to re-enlisting.

14-Year Vet Awaits Furlough

In this latter group was Chief Warrant Officer Frank Reeder of Port Arthur, Tex., who had been consulting the barrack bulletin board many times daily for over a week expecting to find his name on the "alert list."

More than eligible for a discharge with 108 points, Reeder, a Regular Army veteran with over 14 years' service, plans to spend a vacation with his wife and five-year-old son before re-enlisting.

He has spent more than two years in the Pacific theater, this time with the 278th Quartermaster Service Battalion.

Expressing concern over the delay and recent controversy over procuring ships in which to return the men, Reeder says that he expresses the feeling of thousands of GI's when he says that he would ride a Liberty ship back before passing —"anything to get home."

At that time he will have spent a permanent discharge under more favorable regulations.

Rose Through Ranks

He began his Army career in the ordnance department with the famed 25th Infantry Regiment at Fort Huachuca and worked up to technical sergeant before passing an examination for warrant officer.

Mixed Engineer Unit Builds Manila Hospital

Philadelphia Tribune 5-26-45

By CHARLES H. LOEB

MALILA. — Members of the 1871st Engineer Aviation Battalion had little time for the entertainment of war correspondents when I visited them last week. . . . they were busy. . . . very busy . . . . meeting the challenge offered them by hard-hitting white units engaged with them on the construction of a 4000-bed general hospital on the outskirts of the city.

Major Gregory J. Skinner, commanding the battalion, gave me free rein to interview individual GI's and to inspect the work of picked platoons on the hospital site, and rushed away after turning me over to Sgt. Major Edward F. Bayles, 1315 Park street, Des Moines, Ia.

The 1871st is a proud, cocky outfit which has been setting records since the day it was activated at Greenville Army Air Base, Greenville, S. C., February 1, 1943. In December of that year the outfit was shipped overseas landing January 29, 1944 at Milne Bay, where they cut their construction teeth on warehouses and pipelines.

January 29, 1945 found them at Finchaven where they were given a variety of assignments that included roads, water points, station hospitals, earth moving projects and operation of a gigantic coral pit.

Their next jump was up to Leyte where at Macloben, they were assigned to improve the terrible roads, to maintain water points, and to operate a gravel pit.

In Luzon, they were given the hospital project, sharing the work with a white outfit. Those officers who have watched white and tan units work together on similar projects know well in advance that records are going to be broken, for the keen and friendly rivalry between white and tan outfits in the Southwest Pacific is almost legendary. . . . and the score is about 50-50 5-26-45

While the men openly express their disappointment over the fact that there are no Negro commissioned officers in the battalion, they generally agree that their white officers, most of them southerners, "are on the ball." Evidences of good leadership are to be found in the orderly camp area, the general attitude of military alertness among the men, the low sickness rate, and the full inventory of engineering equipment boasted by the battalion. Good tools are an evidence of good organization, and the 1871st has more tools—all in good working condition than any other Engineer Aviation battalion I have encountered over here.

Non-commissioned leadership is excellent. Outstanding in the organization are the following men:

S/Sgt. Ephraim Alston, of Savannah, Ga.; Motor Sgt. Leonard J. Jackson of Brooklyn; S/Sgt. Theodore R. Dekle, of Pensacola, Fla., who holds the Good Conduct Medal. 5-26-45

S/Sgt. Richard J. Mack, Montgomery, Ala., is one of the best liked men in the battalion. He formerly was a truck driver and in his own terms "a ham-fat mechanic."

S/Sgt. William G. Simpson, 10 Edgewood Park, Roxbury, Mass., is in charge of heavy equipment, and is doing a "damn good job" according to Major Skinner. Prior to his induction he was a private chauffeur. 5-26-45

It was not surprising to find that the best mess sergeant in the outfit was a former lumber mill hand, Sgt. Willis Collier, 392 Scott street, Memphis, Tennessee.

Sgt. Major Bayles is one of the few college men in the battalion. He was inducted into the army on December 5, 1942, while attending Drake university.

Mess Sergeant William K. Arnold is one of several regular army men in the outfit. Arnold hails from Mazia, Texas, and was a cook before Uncle Sam found him willing and ready for service.

Another regular army man is Sgt. Timothy Gregory, 745 Second avenue, New Kinsington, Pa., a construction worker as a civilian, and a former trooper in the Tenth Cavalry. 5-26-45

Some Purple Hearts

The battalion had had its taste of battle thrills and several of its members wear purple hearts as the result of a little engagement with Jap planes as their convoy neared Finchaven on January 31, 1944.

One of the attacking plans got in a lucky hit with a bomb on their Liberty Ship, killing one man, and injuring several others. William Griffin, 2126 Elmore square, Pittsburgh, Pa., did not live to wear his Purple Heart, but four of the men wounded, and now on active duty, posed for photographs during my visit. They are Pvt. Larn Harbrow, 274 Jordan Park, St. Petersburg, Fla.; SGT. A. J. RODGERS, Philadelphia, Mississippi; Cpl. Geo. Howell, 206 Jackson street, Amarillo, Texas, and Pfc. George L. Gillespie 1011 Harrison avenue, Saint Louis, Mo.

Sorrow Swept Islands As GI's Left Trinidad

Pa.

A discharged veteran of the 99th Coast Anti-Aircraft Regiment, the first all-colored unit of its kind to go out of the country, tells the story of those men. They left Continental United States in April 1942 for Trinidad, British West Indies, where they found that white soldiers, who had preceded them and who had told many stories of the "barbarism" of the Negro soldiers.

How the barriers were broken down and how the men finally were accepted by the citizens is told vividly in the accompanying letter of the veteran, Edward Thompson, of 1702 north Bouvier street. He attended Central High School for two years but was graduated from the Mastbaum Vocational School. Inducted into the service in June 1941, he went overseas from Camp Davis, N. C., in April 1942, and received his discharged after hospitalization for tropical fever from Camp Stewart, Ga., where the unit was disbanded.

I guess a great deal of people are wondering what happened to the 99th C. A. A. which was the first Negro Anti-Aircraft outfit to go out of the western hemisphere. Of course we realize the war is going on into its fourth year, and there are so many other outfits that are making so many new advances that it is hard for readers to keep up with all the progress our Negro service men and women are making in this war. 4-7-45

I, myself, am a disabled veteran of World War II. I happened to be an ex-member of the 59th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft in which I served for a period of three years. A great many people throughout various parts of the city seeing me out of the army and back in civilian life, ask me about their sons. The real truth has never been revealed, but it's about time that the truth should be told to our Negro citizens who have loved ones in the service.

The 99th C. A. A. was formed at the same time the 99th Pursuit Squadron was in progress. Our regiment was formed by a cadre of Officers and Non-Coms of the 76th and 77th Coast Artillery which were the first two colored technical outfits formed. We left American shores for overseas in April 1942, bound for Trinidad, British West Indies. 4-7-45

We realize our Negro Correspondents have a great many assignments and stories to cover. Perhaps we were overlooked isolated as we were in the jungles. Our outfit was sent to the West Indies to guard the gateway to the Panama Canal when the war was in a very critical stage for the United States. That's the time Martinique was told to disarm by the American government while at that time she was under the rule of Vichy France. Our boys served their purpose well down in Trinidad, because that island was very well shaken up. Enemy submarines and aircraft carriers lay out in the Caribbean waters crippling American and British shipping alike.

I was at that time a member of the coast artillery band—of both the military and swing aggregations. It was pretty tough for the first six months after we arrived there getting used to the climate, for we arrived during the monsoon season and it was very difficult setting our positions up in the jungle. The morale of our troops was very low. The band played a great part toward keeping up the morale of our soldiers. Finally, after a period of three months, we were granted a pass privilege which permitted us to visit the town. We found it very difficult to become friends with the people of the island because a great many people had heard of our coming and their minds had been poisoned against us by the white soldiers who were stationed there two years prior to our arrival. 4-7-45

Most of these white soldiers who had filled the minds of the people with a lot of scandalous lies about us were out of small illiterate towns in the deep south, towns which you and I have never heard of before. They told the people that we were monkeys and that we carried long knives and would cut their heads off and rape their women. But it so happened that a lot of people who had been to the United States and who still kept in contact with their loved ones over here in America knew better.

I can recall, for instance, Mrs. Jeffers, a very prominent business woman there and many others. They gave us our first get-together affair at the Princess Building in the Port Au Spain, which is practically the largest city on the island. I want to call to the attention of the Negro reader to the fact that the people were amazed to see that we had all shades of men even though in uniform, and that the majority of us were educated and cultured. 4-7-45

The closer relationship between us and the people of Trinidad sprung up over night after that affair. Even our own officers told us not to have anything to do with the natives. But later on they found out they couldn't keep us divided, so they didn't bother any more about it. If they, the people of Trinidad, could speak for themselves, they would tell you that they have accomplished a great deal since the Negro soldiers were stationed in Trinidad. They learned much from us so far as education health habits, and economics were concerned. The whole island wept when we had to evacuate. Our departure was a great loss so far as the people were concerned, especially after they had begun to learn the American way of life. The remains of our regiment was brought back here to the United States to Camp Stewart in Georgia where the outfit was split up into labor battalions, trucking outfits and quartermaster companys.

Our men are scattered all over the country. Some we shipped back overseas, and others are perhaps waiting to be shipped over again. It seems a pity that such a technically trained outfit as the 99th should have been disbanded the way it was. 4-7-45

Our Negro citizenry should be proud to know that their sons and daughters abroad are bringing better relationship and are enacting the good neighbor policy throughout the world, factors which will bring about the advancement of the colored man through the entire world.

I happened to be one of the first to be discharged from the 99th Regiment. Malaria Fever and a nervous breakdown necessitated my discharge. I hope this story will open the eyes of our Negro readers so that they may not be blind to the truth.

Tex. General Says 93rd Div. 'Fine Soldiers'

Philadelphia Tribune Pa. 5-26-45

With The 93rd Division In The Southwest Pacific—(ANP—The Negro soldier's valor was praised here last week by Brig. Gen. Leonard R. Boyd, a native of the state of Oregon.

"The Negroes are good fighters," he said. "I think they are just as good as white soldiers of the same IQ."

Gen. Boyd's praise was echoed by Maj. Gen. Harry J. Johnston, the Texas-born commanding officer of the 93rd division.

"I've commanded white soldiers and colored soldiers and I say these boys are fine soldiers," Major Johnston remarked. "I think the division has the finest esprit de corps of any I have seen. All these boys want is to be treated like any other soldier, to do a job like any other soldier."

"See Lefty" Captains Tell Men, To Solve Any Problem In Manila

Philadelphia Tribune Pa.

By CHARLES H. LOEB
(NNPA War Correspondent)

MANILA.—See Lefty! That's what every ship captain who brings his precious cargo into Manila harbor tells his crew as they board landing boats taking them to shore for a few days liberty. See Lefty!

5-26-45

Lefty happens to be Claude Alfred Leftridge, 1471 - 21st avenue, Seattle, Washington, a middle aged, handsome American Negro evades questions about his age, but who talks freely about his children, Delores, thirteen, and David fourteen, who live at the Seattle address with his foster father, William E. Crooman, retired master sergeant in the 10th Cavalry.

5-26-45

The story of how Claude Leftridge happened to become the first Negro port steward for the War Shipping Administration, a Manila port byword, began that day when Japanese bombers swarmed like angry bees over Manila Harbor, bombing and straing American shipping. Lefty was a steward on the SS Capillo, a merchant ship that found itself on the receiving end of a 500-pound bomb.

Lefty and other crewmen survived that one by jumping overboard and swimming to safety When the Jap army took over on Luzon, these survivors headed for the mountains where they joined guerrila forces under the leadership of the famous Col. Thorpe. The band roamed up and down the Cagayan Valley, harrassing the Nips until Col. Thorpe at last surrendered his feeble forces to the Japanese.

Lefty and 40 other Americans were interned at Santo Tomas, the notorious Jap prison camp. Always, cocky, and hard to discipline, Lefty "got out of line" with a Jap official one day, and was given a 82 day "purge" in Ft. Sanitago's dungeons; a treatment reserved for particularly "tough" Americans When he was, in the opinion of his jailers, sufficiently subdued, he was returned to Santo Tomas, where he remained in confinement until released by American troops, February 4, 1945.

5-26-45

Among those who accompanied 1st Calvary troops into the ancient courtyard of Manila's oldest university was Walter K. Neill, regional director, War Shipping Administration, in charge of Recruitment and Manning. Neill recognized Leftridge among the joyous group of half-starved internees, and gave him an "on the spot" appointment as Port Steward for War Shipping, and Steward Manager of the United Seaman's Service Residential Club.

Lefty's assignment was to locate and lease, somewhere in the Manila area, a house or houses sufficient to billet and feed the large flow of Merchant Marine and Naval personnel expected to swarm into Manila harbor.

"We don't want to wait until the sailors are here," Neill told Lefty, "we want to have something ready for them when they arrive. Get busy."

5-26-45

collaborators. Maybe so. But long before funds were available for furnishings, the Seaman's Center was ready to accommodate 50 guests.

Among the first to be housed there were shipmates of Lefty's who had survived the bombing of the S. S. Capillo. Among them was Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Calvin Browne and their 11-weeks-old daughter who had been born in Los Banos prison camp.

5-26-45

True to the traditions of the Merchant Marine, the Seaman's Service Center is open to all Navy and Merchant Marine crewmen, regardless of color. For a small fee, barely sufficient to cover the cost of food, the sailor is lodged and given three meals daily. The fact that the table at Seaman's Service is one of the best in Manila is a tribute to Lefty's superlative ability to "scrounge," swap, barter, and in extreme cases . . . er, appropriate!

The fellows around Seattle, and at the University of Washington will remember Lefty; jolly, carefree, and as talkative as an old maid. He's the same today as he was then, though little streaks of gray in his curly hair mark the passing of time.

He's the No. 1 at the Seaman's Service to the score or more Filipino boys who serve, cook and clean. He's No. 1 to the hundreds of seamen whose eyes pop out in surprise when they enter this swell layout on arrival in Manila. He's No. 1 to Walter Neill, regional director. whose eyes twinkle when he tells how Lefty made bricks without straw.

A drunken sailor wants to start a fight. . . See Lefty!

Sugar's all out, and rice is low. . . See Lefty!

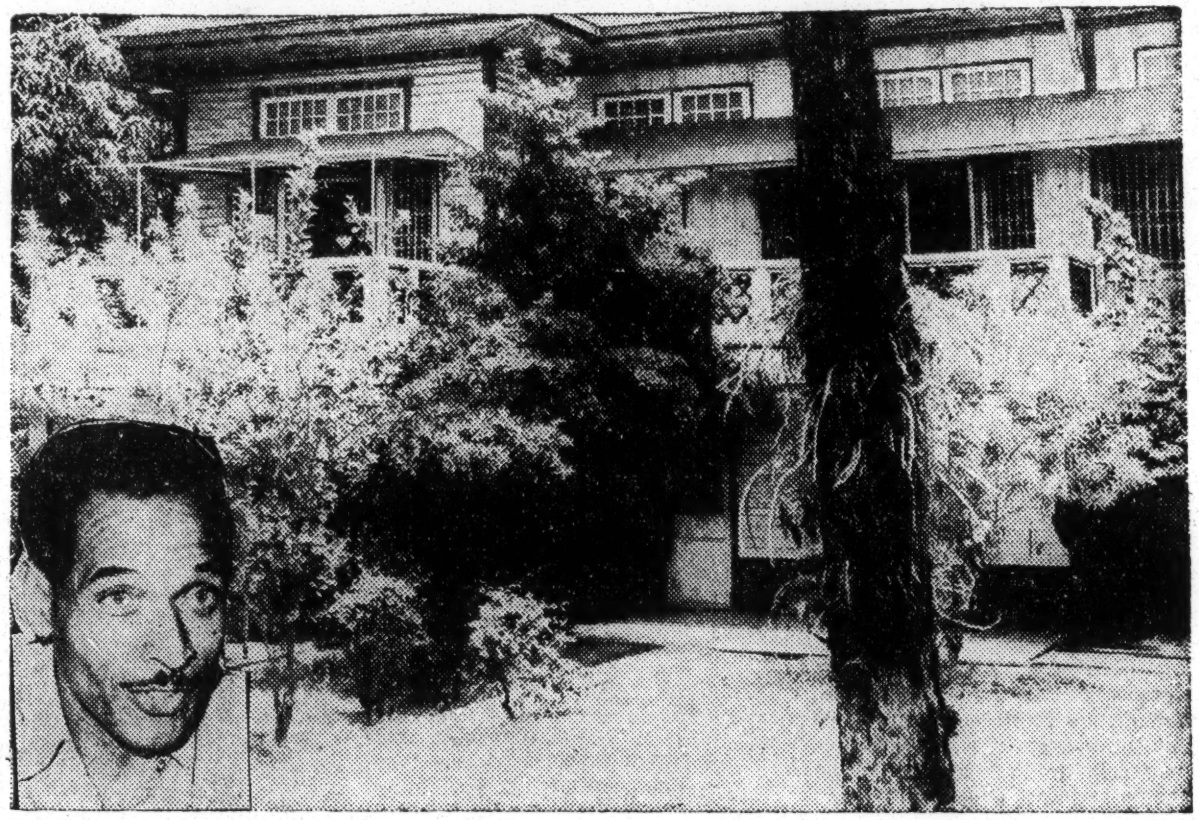
5-26-45

Who's got any cold beer? . . . . See Lefty!

Got a bunk here for me, fellow? . . . . See Lefty.

And what do you think I did when I wanted to locate one of the very few bottles of American whiskey to come into Manila harbor last month. . . . Yep, saw Lefty.

Solves Problems for His Unit



CLAUDE ALFRED LEFTRIDGE
1471 21st street, Seattle, Washington, the first Negro to be appointed a Port Steward by the War Shipping Administration, is now Steward Manager of the United Seaman's Service in Manila. The house that "Lefty" built, houses hundreds of sailors daily, ashore in Manila on liberty or awaiting call.

Lefty got busy. Within two weeks after his appointement, he had located two fine mansions, virtually untouched by the shelling and bombing, but thoroughly looted of their contents. One of the houses, a palatial 20-roomer, had expansive grounds and a private swimming pool. Lefty negotiated a lease with the agents of the absent owners, and turned to the equally important task of securing furnishings.

Lefty claims that most of the furniture that now adorns the United Seaman's Service Center was "gathered" by Filipino guerrilas in his employ from the ruins of homes of

Black "Robin Hood of Samar" Wants To Visit U. S. After The War

1-13-45 Philadelphia Tribune

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing the Philadelphia Tribune and NNPA.

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WITH GUERILLA FORCE AN SAMAR ISLAND, PHILIPPINES—MAJOR FRANK MERRITT — (By Courier)— During the recent attempt to find the Negro guerrilla leader, Frank 'Pedro' Merritt, this correspondent was told many daring tales of the "Black Robin Hood of Samar." Since weather conditions, distance, and presence of enemy troops thwarted the search—the summation of these various stories gives some insight into the personality and the conditions surrounding him.

There have been many reports on the man Frank Merritt, and the soldier, Major Merritt. Many vary, but they agree on one point —he's an excellent soldier. Arrogant, dogmatic, a stern disciplinarian. One officer put it:

'He can out-drink, out-dance, out-curse, and out-fight most of his fellow soldiers."

He's been in and out of trouble with the brass-hats, but he still commands the largest and most respected guerrilla army on Samar. And soldering is his meat, having graduated a third lieutenant from the "West Point of the Philippines," Constabulary Academy in Baguio which is nestled in the mountain province of Luzon. 1-13-45

Part Negro and part Filipino, Merritt is black, with kinky hair. A vigorous youth fitted him with powerful legs loosely joined to slim hips. These balance a huge torso that muscles into wide shoulders on which are placed a bull neck and handsome, broad head. Almost five feet ten, he is much taller than the average Filipino which makes him appear even taller than he actually is. He's thirty-two.

Born in Luzon of an American Negro soldier and Filipino mother, he was brought up a strict Catholic, even studying for the priesthood. However, he exchanged the Bible for the rifle and thusly began the stormy life of Merritt, the soldier. One that was to see him, the virtual ruler of northern Samar, its protector, its Black Robin Hood.

Following surrender to enemy forces at Corregidor, organized resistance in the Philippines was quitted by American forces temporarily. Jap forces moved southward—Mindora, Panay, Leyte, Cebu, Samar, Mindanao. There was little organized resistance to the Japanese occupation of Samar Island, third largest in the Philippine Group. Scattered parties branded together and harrassed enemy installations as opportunity afforded. The enemy did not concentrate any strength since Samar was not of operational importance. 1-13-45

Guerrillas established themselves in unoccupied areas. It has been stated that their means of obtaining support were as varied as they were numerous. Terror methods causing compulsory cooperation by civilians. Civilians were wooed by appointing government officials and establishing civilian agencies.

At the time of surrender, Merritt, then captain, was attached to the Leyte Provisional Regiment stationed at Ormoc. He refused the order to surrender and escaped to the mountains of northern Samar and immediately organized the nucleus of his force. He nursed a hatred for the short-statured, malicious invading Japanese and vowed the sword rather than the pen. He made himself colonel and began absorbing other small guerilla groups in northern Samar. The time, May, 1942.

Evidently, it was apparent to Merritt that organizing an Army was just one of the jobs which he was destined to do. He had to win the people. And most of them were simple farmers with a fear of God and of the modern weapons and might of the enemy. Japanese paraded their strength, the American force, those who did not die or effect escape, were beaten. The people hesitated while getting the bad news which slowly filtered through, then fled headlong into the mountains. Confidence and a desire to avenge had to be instilled in them once again.

Politics on Samar, as other places in the Philippines, had a foul odor. Old, festered political scores were settled by powered crazed politicians. There was no time like the present, and no law and order. The condition seemed an exact replica of the infamous Tombstone of Wild West yarns. It has been proved that civilian Filipinos were dying at the hands of Filipino civilians.

All phases of normal life save those which are requisites to existence disappeared. No hospitals, no schools, no communications and transportation facilities. Almost nothing except a few gardens, chickena, and pigs for the stomach sake.

That was the condition Merritt faced. And remedying caused what has been termed harsh methods. One source stated that his relations with the civilian population left much to be desired. The people were held under control by terror tactics and anyone opposing the army was eliminat- San Jose de Buan, Matuginao, and Wright on the west coast. They have been reported as receiving enemy assistance and being supplied with ammunition to fight Merritt and other anti-Japanese elements. Their reported strength is 3000, including women and children.

Because there were several guerilla forces operating on Samar and the general command was not unified General MacArthur stepped in. The reason was apparent—guerillas began mistrusting each other.

A Colonel Ruperto K. Kangledon was unifying guerilla forces on Leyte, and late in 1943 he dispatched Lieutenant Col. Causing, his chief of staff, to Samar to try and contact forces in an attempt to unify guerillas, both on Samar and Leyte.

Merritt distrusted Kangleon. And he was advised by Colonel Mercario Peralta, 4th Philippine Corps commander, to refuse Causing's weakness and his love for peace and normality in this time of war.

In refusing Causing, Merritt charged:

1-13-45

Kangleon surrendered to the Japanese.

Kangleon had no authority from General MacArthur.

Kangleon promoted underserving people to high rank.

That Merritt's guerillas were organized prior to Kangleon.

Kangleon was appointed Leyte commander. He and Merritt have not spoken to each other since. Kangleon at present has offices in Leyte

The Negro fought his war in the north. He isolated himself, and while in bitter struggle, continued civil improvements. He was lord over what he surveyed, a deadly fighter, a scholar, a protector of the largest individual area on the island.

Tan Yanks Aid Russian Supply Keep Roads Open

Philadelphia Tribune 1-13-45

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing the Philadelphia Tribune and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association

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ON THE RUSSIAN SUPPLY ROUTE, IRAN — By Courier, Delayed—One of the most important tasks handled by American troops here on the Russian supply route is that of maintaining the highways. As part of the maintenance force engaged in doing this work, the 352nd General Service Engineer Regiment has discharged its duties faithfully. 1-13-45

These Tan Yanks have been on the job for over 18 months in the most rugged areas of the Persian Gulf Command. They have crushed and hauled gravel, blacktopped road, handled road equipment, driven trucks and pulled guard duty in a merciless heat that often caused the thermometer to soar to 170 degrees. This heat, plus the ravages of dysentery, malaria, and sandfly fever, which beset them during their earlier days here in the Command, drank deep of the vitality of these "pick and shovel commandos" and today some of them look aged far beyond their years.

Two of the better GI construction engineers and supervisiors of maintenance crews are: Sgt. Harold Beard, of Philadelphia, Pa., and Ollie Christian, of Columbia, Mo., who are quite adept at the mechanics of maintaining roads under such severe climatic conditions. 1-13-45

Holding the responsibilities of First Sgts. are: Robert L. Griffin, of Augusta, Ga., Marvin C. Bridgeforth, Chicago, Illinois, David R. Hilton, Winston-Salem, N. C. Milton L. Tucker, Newport News, Va., and Huey Foster, also of Chicago, and Albert Johnson, of La Grange, Ga.

Others "sweating out" the tough grind of these labor battalions are: Staff Sgts. William Peace, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Owen White, Richmond, Ky., and Robert Pearley, of Liberty, Mo.; Cpls. Robert Ratliff, Mesa, Ariz., Marvin Heard, Pittsburgh, Pa., and James L. Hooper, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Techs. 5th Gr. Reuben Vaughn, Detroit, Michigan, GEORGE F. NELSON, Philadelphia, Pa., Forrest Jones Clarkesville, Texas, Henry Allen, Oakdale, La., and Curtis Jackson, of Okmulgee, Okla.; Pfcs. Joe Mitchell, Pittsburgh, Pa., Samuel Mathes, Colbert, Okla., Nathaniel Austin, Palatka, Fla., Joseph Holmes, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Billy Myers, of St. Louis, Mo.; and Pvts. Jacob Thompson, Chicago, Illinois, Harold Augusta, St. Louis, Mo., and Thomatra N. Scott, of Meridian, Miss.

Negro Engineers Help Spearhead Jap Attack

Philadelphia Tribune 1-13-45

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
U. S. War Correspondent
Representing the Philadelphia Tribune and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association

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LEYTE ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, By Courier—(Delayed)—In determined defensive action which saw enemy troops hurled into confusion and finally annihilated, colored engineers help form the spearhead that thwarted the Japanese two-prong attempt on the American airstrip at San Pablo, Leyte.

By delivering the coup de grace to Japanese arms in the Pablo sector, these colored troops become the first to engage the enemy in ground action in the campaign to liberate the Philippines. 1-13-45

For two days elements of the two engineer battalions helped herd the enemy into a pocket of annihilation. They had secured their position and taken the offensive when infantry troops arrived and completely routed so-called "prize troops" from General Sasaku Suzuli's 35th Army.

During the quiet, early hours of December 7, enemy transports flying low made the sneak pass, loosing an estimated two hundred and fifty paratroopers. Simultaneously, enemy ground troops were infiltrating in from the west. From all indications the two arms were to brush aside what opposition was met and centrate attack on the airter concentrated troops strip.

Alerts rent the air before dawn on the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Baleful orange flames from the mouths of antiaircraft artillery and red tracers reveal enough light to show up Japanese troops floating lazily to the ground.

Three soldiers, T-5 William R. McCall of Detroit; T-4 Winzer Alston, Jr.; and T-5 Charles Mumford of Baltimore, were working near the strip when they recognized the enemy aircraft. Grabbing up rifles they rushed to a white depot unit that was then forming a defense perimeter. The three Negro soldiers fought alongside the whites all night.

Although most of the Negro action was confined to the infiltrating enemy ground troops, several manned anti-aircraft guns during the sky invasion. Using a water cooled .50 cal. ma

Leon Wilburn, of Berwyn, Pennsylvania; and Cpl. Milton Piggins, of Cumberland, Maryland, were officially credited with helping down one transport, assists on two probables, and killing a paratrooper.

Pennsylvanians in the group are T-SGT. HUGH SMITH, of Philadelphia; PVT. WILLIAM R. RUMSEY, of Chester, and Capt. E. J. Bonner, of Freeline.

Tan Yanks Paid Most for Life-a-Mile Ledo Road

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

WASHINGTON.

For every mile of the 1044-mile Ledo Road, whose construction has been hailed as the greatest engineering feat of the United States Army, there is the grave of an American soldier, the War Department declared in a report on March 5. 9-10-45

That colored soldiers paid the greatest price is admitted inasmuch as 65 per cent of the more than 15,000 soldiers used in the work were colored troops of the U.S. Services of Supply who constantly faced Jap snipers, malaria, mud and continuous rain.

The work was begun at Ledo in December, 1942, by a detachment of the 823rd General Service Engineer Regiment, and the convoy was led into China by a colored driver, T/5 Richard Barnett of York, S.C., the statement revealed. Moreover, it added, the Tan Yanks supervised the thousands of natives used on the project

Men From Texas, Miss. And La. Included In Co.

Informer Houston, Texas

By CHARLES H. LOEB

4-14-45

Informer-NNPA War Correspondent

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MANILA.—The greatest pride of the 610 Port Company is in the fact that they are commanded by Negro officers, some of whom rose from privates to their present ranks. It is for these men that they won the reputation for efficiency, and tenacity that stamps them one of the best Port Companies in the Southwest Pacific.

Included in this company are 26 Texans, 4 Louisianians and 8 Mississippians.

S-Sgt. Isaac Campbell, Jr., Orange Texas, will proudly display War Department General Order No. 21, citing elements of the Papuan forces for a little affair at Port Moresby, May 6, 1943. 4-14-45

Among the enlisted men in this great company are:

Texas: S-Sgt. Quinus Caldwell, Texarkana; S-Sgt. Issac Campbell, Jr., Orange; S-Sgt. Mack Luster, McKinney; S-Sgt. R. L. Rish, Di-Boll Sgt. O. D. Bigbow, High; Sgt. William Gill, Beasay; T-4 Edward C. Epps, Linden; T-4 Alvin T. Johnson, Texas City; T-4 Herod B. Ward, Crockett; Cpl. Phillip Dickie, Huntsville; Cpl. James L. Durant, Jr., Beaumont; T-5 Clinton Armstrong, Quinlan; T-5 Anthony Bradley, Texas City; T-5 James Burroughs, Houston; T-5 Willie J. Gardner, Atlas; T-5 Clarkson Hicks, Powderly; T-5 C. T. James, Atlanta; T-5 Oscar Porter, Gonzales; T-5 Jesse P. Powers, Rusk; T-5 N. E. Tims, Douglas; T-5 Walter B. Worthington, Dallas; Pfc. Twilver Briscoe, Beaumont; Pfc. Thelma Gibson, Garrison; Pfc. George Russell, Denison Pfc. Thomas Watson, Jefferson; and Pfc. Garfield Lafond, Flatonia.

Louisiana—Pfc. Herman Language, New Orleans; Pfc. Arthur Dandridge, McCall; Pfc. Frank Johnson, and Pfc. James Dunn, New Orleans. 4-14-45

Mississippi—T-5 George Ervin, Raymond; T-5 Leroy Jones, Crosby; T-5 Lemon T. Liddell, Schlater; T-5 Charles Porter, Woodville; T-5 Leon Smith, Eathehart Pfc. Leroy W. Dunbar, Natchez; Pfc. Chester Gates, Houston; and Pfc. Othel Flowers, Greenwood.

Below me, straining and tugging at the cargo, are the ebony, sweat-drenched bodies of the men who are writing a new chapter in the "Battle for the Philippines." They are the members of this company whose prowess with machine and gun and rifle will never win them citations; who will probably never sport the Bronze Star on their jaunty dress uniforms, but whose straining muscles are evoking more heartfelt prayers of thanksgiving than did the triumphant entry of our fighting forces.

It has been the same story for these Brown Yanks since the day their outfit was first activated in Oakland, California back in July, 1941. It was the same story in Brisbane, in Mt. Isa. in Port Moresby, in Finchhaven, and in Hollandia—a story of sweat and toil around the clock in the tropic inferno that saps the strength of body and mind alike.

Disconsolate—? Hell no! Not these men. They know the importance of their job, and moreover, are cockily confident that nobody else in the world can do it better—or faster! All doubters are invited to check Army records of the astounding tonnages piled up by Negro port companies under the most adverse conditions, and often under enemy bombing and strafing. 4-14-45

The men of the 610th are proud that they came into the Philippines on D-Day. They were in the vanguard of the first convoy to hit Leyte, and the trip was not without its peril and excitement The men tell how Jap-launched torpedoes narrowly missed their ship, crashing into another, cutting it in half—how they hit the beach with our fighting troops.

United Nations. In fact, a movement is presently under way to permit Italy self-government as soon as the European War comes to a close and to just forget that Italy was an active member of the vicious combine that plunged the whole world into war.

Journal & Guide Va. Norfolk, Va.

NAVY RADIOMEN—Heavy radio message traffic is no problem for these technicians at a Naval Air Station in Hawaii. Seaman First Class Roosevelt Smith of Jackson, Miss. adjusts the controls while Radio Technician Third Class Joseph E. Lacey of San Francisco, Calif. manns the plugs and Radioman First Class John E. Hendrix of Winston-Salem, N. C., passes the messages to Seaman First Class Jesse Smith of Philadelphia, Pa. —(Official U. S. Navy Photo)

93rd Division To See Combat Soon, Says MacArthur

Chicago Defender 3-10-45

MANILA. — Rumors that the all-Negro 93rd Infantry Division now stationed in the Pacific theatre, would be changed from combat to service status were scotched this week by no less an authority than General of the Army Douglas MacArthur himself.

In an exclusive interview with Walter White, Chicago Defender columnist and N. Y. Post war correspondent, the commanding general in the Philippines asserted: "The 93rd Division is and will remain a combat division and will be used as such as circumstances warrant. 3-10-45

"Race or color have nothing whatever to do with failure to use this division to date. Lack of ships, among other circumstances, has prevented us from moving the 93rd and several other divisions to forward areas. We hope to remedy that soon," MacArthur explained.

The 93rd was the first all-Negro division to be activated in World War II. It was set up at Fort Huachuca soon after the United States entered the war and the men underwent rigorous maneuvers in Louisiana before being sent overseas.

Stationed first in New Guinea when they left the country nearly two years ago, a portion of the division was recently sent to the Dutch East Indies. The 92nd, activated the following year at Camp Atturbury, Ind., and Fort McClellan, Ala., and later sent to Huachuca, is now fighting with General Mark Clark's Fifth Army in Italy.

Lynn Reveals Army Not Bad

Afro-American

Fought Induction in 1942 Over Jim Crow

Baltimore, Md.

SERVED 19 MONTHS

Feels His Protests Resulted in Change

11-24-45

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—"It's very hard to be patriotic in the Army when you're segregated," Sgt. Winfred W. Lynn, who fought induction because he objected to the draft's jim crow system back in 1942, told AFRO in an exclusive interview this week. "The other men in my outfit felt the same way about it."

Lynn was honorably discharged from the service last month after serving overseas with the 721st Medical Sanitary Co. for 19 months in the South Pacific.

"I found out that the Army wasnt half as bad for me as I expected because all the men with me knew of my case and were watching out for any persecution. The Army knew that The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segrgation in the Armed Forces back home in the States would raise hell if they'd tried anything."

Officer Was Careful

He feels that because he joined, the commanding officer in his company was a little more careful in his relations with colored personnel; and that his presence was of some help to them. 11-24-45

In June, 1942, Lynn wrote a letter to his draft board, Local 261, Jamaica, Queens, refusing to serve in a segregated Army. He later went to jail rather than join.

It was only after he was informed by the court that he could not beat the issue legally until he submitted to the draft that he went into the Army on Dec. 19th after serving 13 days in jail. In the Army, he continued the fight against discrimination.

He was sent to various camps, and from there overseas to Milne Bay, New Guinea, and Manila.

Didn't Mind Fighting

"I didn't mind fighting as long as I wasn't fighting in a segregated Army," he pointed out to the AFRO. "That's the reason why I objected to being drafted."

However, all efforts to convince the courts about this failed despite the fact that a proviso to the draft act states that "there shall be no segregation in the Armed Forces or in the manner of selection."

The American Civil Liberties Union went to bat for him and a committee in his honor was established, The Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces.

"My brother, Conrad, an attorney, told me that if I went into the Army, I could prove segregation and fight it, but if I didn't go in, I couldn't do anything about it," he explained.

His first proof came when he was placed in all-colored outfit.

Fights USO Jim Crow

"On several occasions, whenever I was segregated, I fought it right then and there," Lynn continued. "In Gadsden, Alabama, I went into a USO and they told me colored weren't allowed. I said I was under the impression that the USO's were for all men in uniform. 11-24-45

"I was the only colored serviceman there, but some white soldiers took my part and told the USO director I was right. So I was allowed to stay without further trouble."

During his basic training at Camp Sibert, Ala., he objected to riding in a jim crow government bus marked, "colored." He promptly went to the commanding officer of the Chemical Warfare Department and voiced his objections.

The officer almost blew into the ceiling. Lynn returned to Camp where his corporal and sergeant told him he would get into trouble if he persisted in his action.

"Advised" By Officer

Three days later, a second lieutenant came to see him and asked him if he wanted to go to Officers' Candidate School and from there into Chemical Warfare, since he was considered good Army material. He also told him it would be a good idea to abolish the Lynn Committee back home.

Sgt. Lynn told the officer he had nothing to do with forming the Committee and couldn't abolish it; also, that he knew he was right and even if he couldn't accomplish what he wanted, he was at least breaking ground for others to follow."

"I told him that if you want to walk a thousand miles, you have to start by taking the first step . . . and I was taking it."

Lynn said he was glad he went into the Army because he got a chance to fight discrimination and see first-hand what harm it could do.

High-Ups Sponsor Jim Crow

"I found out that it's the policy of the high-ups to enforce segregation because the common soldier like my self rarely thinks of it. When I returned from overseas, there was no segregation whatsoever on the ship. The matter was never once brought up by white soldiers.

"They didn't seem to mind it, because if they did, they certainly would have said something. Even on the train coming from San Francisco to New York, I had no trouble.

"In my berth, another colored soldier slept in the upper and a white soldier and myself occupied the lower. All the way home we travelled that way without the slightest friction.

"We didn't encounter any segregation until we reached Fort Dix —and then we knew we really were back in the U.S."

Single and 39

Sgt. Lynn is 39, single, and lives with his sister at 240 Manhattan Avenue, N.Y. He was formerly in business for himself as a landscape gardener and intends to go back to this line.

Asked how he felt about being a civilian again, he replied:

"I'm very happy to be out of the Army. You know, it's very hard to be a man and be in the Army . . . especially an officer."

Troops Attached to 75 Service Outfits

The Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

Move Into Nip Capital for First Time; MP's Patroling Dock Area

12-15-45

By VINCENT TUBBS
AFRO Foreign Correspondent

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TOKYO (By Cable)—Gen. Robert Eichelberger's Eighth Army Headquarters revealed this week that colored troops assigned or attached to occupation forces in the Tokyo-Yokohama area number 14,866 men in 75 different organizations.

The units are all of the Service Forces and are of five types, breaking down into 17 specialized groups. The types are engineers, ordnance, signal corps construction, port and quartermaster. 12-15-45

The specialized group includes firefighters, aviation engineers, dump truck, water supply, amphibious truck, railhead, laundry, bakery, gas and heavy signal construction units.

Scattered throughout dozens of small villages between Tokyo and Yokohama, the men have billets at Tachikawa, Haneda, Otaru, Yokosuka, Aomori, Ichikawa, Sapporo, Asahigawa and some live like occupation troops should, while others do not.

Many on Japanese Islands

The above figure does not include all of the colored troops in the Japanese area. There are thousands of others with the Sixth Army and Fifth Amphibious Corps located on other Japanese islands. Figures on these will be released later.

Most observers, including many high officers of the Eighth Army, were startled to learn that so many colored soldiers are here in a single sector.

Significantly this correspondent observed the recent movement of at least three units into Tokyo, which heretofore has not sheltered colored American soldiers. At one dock area provincialized military police are colored.

Col. W. A. Metcalfe, in charge of the Tokyo post exchange, states that the greatest demand for Japanese Kimonas has come from colored soldiers.

He said that in an effort to give the garments a more practical rather than a souvenir value, consideration is being given the idea of making revolutionary changes in the design of kimonas.

Garments to Become "Zooted"

"Padded shoulders would replace sloping ones and tight waists instead of the back effect may see kimonas become "zooted" largely because Tan Yanks are buying them in such large quantities.

Men Alerted for Trip Home

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Names Removed from List at Last Minute

MORALE IS LOW

Commander Blamed for Voyage Refusal

By THOMAS E. WATSON

MANILA, P.I.—Six hundred and thirty-seven colored troops and officers, ready for shipment back to the United States, stood by Friday and saw their names cancelled from the shipping lists after they had been officially entered. They learned that the reason was their race. 12-8-45

Up until then, the 21st Replacement depot has shipped out thousands of troops headed for discharge without regard to race or religion. The depot commander has administered all out-going and incoming personnel alike.

"While the men were getting ready to load onto trucks en route to Base "M" and shipment to the United States with the 37th Division, I received a telephone call from the Replacement command that simply said:

'You know the 37th Division commander won't take any colored troops.' So there was nothing else for me to do but issue an order to have them taken from the list."

Came From Command

Lt. Col. A. F. Solomon, executive officer of the 21st Replacement depot, when asked who gave him the order, said: "I don't know. It just came from replacement command."

Col. Solomon further stated: "I know that no matter what we do now to expedite the quick shipment of these men, the damage has already been done. As soldiers, they have been humiliated beyond repair. 12-8-45

"But they'll be on the very next ship allotted to this depot. That's all I can do. As a matter of fact, they will all be out of here within the next 48 hours on the S.S. Catron."

If that is actually the case, the men will arrive in the United States days ahead of the ship they were originally scheduled to sail on.

The 634 enlisted men and three officers were listed on shipment order number 279, dated 21 Nov., by the 21st Replacement depot.

Story Given Straight

The story was given to them straight from the beginning: "Major General Robert S. Beightler, commander of the 37th Division, refuses to take colored troops on the same ships with his men."

The 37th Division, now shipping home from Lingayen Gulf, has been allotted several Dutch ships for its exclusive use. However, when there is room left for other troops, the division notifies Replacement command, AFWESPAC, and they in turn pass the quota on to the 21st Replacement depot.

Such a quota was sent down a few days ago, but without the intended stipulation that only white personnel would be acceptable to the division commander. Consequently, the 21st commander made up the shipping list with his usual disregard for racial differences.

The result was that 637 colored troops and about 300 white troops appeared together indiscriminately on Special Order number 279.

Remove Colored From List

When the "anonymous" telephone call came, the Army regulation that says all troops must be designated by race and religion, made it possible for the staff to go through the orders and draw a pencil line through each name with a big, capital "N" after it.

Among the troops involved were:

Lts. Mervin O. Parker, Baltimore, Md.; Neil J. Gibson, Brooklyn, N.Y., and William M. Driggins; S/Sgt. Vincent Ringo, Camden, N.J.; Sgt. Marcus Boatwright, Newark, N.J.; Pfc. Benjamin Barnes, Newark, N.J.; Pfc. Arthur Fortune Jr., Asbury Park, N.J.; Pfc. Lucish Murray, Newark, N.J.; Pfc. Russell Williams, Montclair, N.J.; Pvt. Ralph C. Wilkinson, Atlantic City, N.J.;

Staff Sgt. Neva R. Jackson, Chesterfield, S.C.; S/Sgt. Walter J. Moses, Sumter, S.C.; T/5 Roosevelt Hemphill, Rock Hill, S.C.; Pfc. James H. Robinson, Florence, S.C.; Pfc. C. T. Wilson, Laurens, S.C; Privates Samuel E. Anderson, Hartsville, S. C.; James D. Byrd, Clinton, S.C.; Willis M. Dickerson, Jamestown, S. C., and Frank Suber, Clinton, S.C.

According to present schedules, all of the officers and enlisted men involved will be home by Christmas or sooner.

Downs Planes

UNIT FIRED LAST SHOT IN WAR II

11-24-45

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

OKINAWA—Confirmation of the claim of the 503rd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion gives this Negro organization the distinction of having shot down the last two Japanese planes destroyed by land-based anti-aircraft artillery in World War II, the War Department reported this week.

This claim was based upon the two kills made by Batteries C and D of the 503rd on the morning of August 6, 1945. Records from higher headquarters established that no other Japanese planes were shot down by land-based anti-aircraft after that date.

At about 2 A. M., August 6, the anti-aircraft on Okinawa was alerted to the approach of enemy aircraft. At 2:32 A. M., Battery D, commanded by Capt. William R. Bulloch of Lakewood, Ohio, picked up on its Radar an enemy flight previously unreported. The four 90-mm guns of the battery opened up at extreme range and the Japanese plane went out of control immediately and crashed into the sea in flames about 9,000 yards off-shore.

KNOCKED INTO SEA

One minute later, Battery C, commanded by Capt. Charles K. Woltz of Salem, Va., picked up another flight headed in from the opposite direction and immediately opened fire. Five rounds burst around the target and the last Japanese plane destroyed by anti-aircraft in the Pacific disappeared into the East China Sea, off Okinawa.

The battalion is commanded by Lieut. Col. Lawrence H. Calloway of Chattanooga, Tenn. Following is a list of key personnel of the batteries credited with the kills:

BATTERY C MEMBERS

Battery Commander—Capt. Charles K. Woltz, Salem, Va.; executive officer, First Lieut. K. B. Nicholson, Marion, Iowa; range officer, First Lieut. D. L. Brady, New York, N. Y.; assistant executive officer, John S. Cholewinski, Brooklyn, N. Y.; gun commanders, S/Sgt. Glanville F. Riley, Rochester, N. Y.; Sgt. Arthur McAfee Jr., Gadsden, Alabama; S/Sgt. Burl Simpson, Palmer, Tex.; Sgt. Willie J. Verrett, Houma, La.

Range Section—S/Sgt. Alfred C. Garrett, New York, N. Y.; T/3 Grade William Singleton Jr., Montgomery, Ala.; Sgt. Harry E. Matthews, New York, N. Y.; S/Sgt. Boyd J. Loving, New York, N. Y.; S/Sgt. Theary Moore, Ruleville, Miss.; Sgt. Early Mayweather Jr., Shreveport, La.; T/4 Grade George Falgout, New Iberia; T/4 Grade Thomas W. Heard, Elberton, Ga.; T/4 Grade Lincoln Harper, Atlanta, Ga.; Corp. McHenry Johnson, Atlanta, Ga.; T/4 Grade James A. Hunt Jr., Iaeger, W. Va. 11-24-45

BATTERY D MEMBERS

Battery Commander, Capt. William R. Bulloch, Lakewood, Ohio; executive officer, First Lieut. Maurice J. Cahill, Bronx, N. Y.; range officer, First Lieut. Leonard B. Main, Natick, Mass.; assistant executive officer, First Lieut. Edward P. Prosser, McComb, Miss.; gun commanders, Sgt. Walter H. Nails, Philadelphia, Pa.; S/Sgt. Anderson Hardin, Nashville, Tenn.; Sgt. Judge Blair, Atlanta, Ga.; S/Sgt. Walter H. Oram, New York, N. Y.; range section, S/Sgt. John W. Burton, New York; Sgt. Charles A. Foster, Sgt. Henderson F. Williamson, New York, N. Y.; T/4 Grade John T. Sonait, New Orleans, La.; S/Sgt. Gerard B. Verdun, Franklin, La.; First Sgt. Jessie W. King, New York, N. Y.

Help Herd Enemy Into Pocket Of Final Annihilation

Memphis World 1-12-45 Tenn.

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN
War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World And NNPA
(Copyright — Reproduction prohibited)

LEYTE ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, By Courier — (Delayed) — In determined defensive action which saw enemy troops hurled into confusion and finally annihilated, colored engineers helped from the spearhead that thwarted the Japanese two-prong attempt on the American airstrip at San Pablo, Leyte.

By delivering the coup de grace to Japanese arms in the Pablo sector these colored troops became the first to engage the enemy in ground action in the campaign to liberate the Philippines.

For two days elements of two engineer battalions help herd the enemy into a pocket of annihilation. They had secured their position and taken the offensive when infantry troops arrived and completely routed so-called "prize troops" from Lt General Sasaku Suzuli's 35th Army. 1-12-45

TRANSPORTS IN SNEAK PASS

During the quiet early hours of December 7, enemy transports flying low made the sneak pass, loosing an estimated two hundred and fifty paratroopers. Simultaneous, enemy ground troops were infiltrating in from the west. From all directions the two arms were to brush aside what opposition was met and center concentrated attack on the airstrip. 1-12-45

Alerts rented the air before dawn on the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Baleful orange flames from the mouths of antiaircraft artillery and red tracers reveal enough light to show up Japanese troops floating lazily to the ground.

Three soldiers, T-5 William R. McCall, of Detroit; T-4 Winzer Alston, Jr.; and T-5 Charles Mumford of Baltimore, were working near the strip when they recognized the enemy aircraft. Grabbing up rifles they rushed to a white depot unit that was then forming a defense perimeter. The three Negro soldiers fought alongside the ammunition and medical supplies to the avenging Americans. Out in the Bay, swarming about like bees were big amphibious trucks manned by members of the Negro 720 Amphibian Truck Co. Working with another Negro outfit, the 218th Port Truck Co., these men are again proving their mettle under fire and making heroic and otherwise unglamorous job. 3-6-45

Among the personnel of these groups were: Pvt. Joseph Leonard New Orleans, La. 7/5 Everett Payne, Washington, D. C., Cpl. Williard Bonner, Pitsburgh, Penna., T/4 Eddie Wilkins, Norfolk, Va., Cpl. Walter Lane, Philadelphia, Pa., Pvt. William H. Harris, Baltimore, Md., and 1st Sergeant E. F. Cannon, Houston, Texas.

Builder Of Ledo Is Leader

Informer Press 2-10-45 Houston, Texas

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
(Informer, NNPA War Correspondent)
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KUMMING, China. (by Wireless February 5)—Led by Brigadier General Lewis A. Pick, builder of the Ledo Road, a convoy numbering 113 vehicles, including trucks, jeeps, wagon carriers and mobile artillery, with a personnel of 372, arrived in Kumming, China, February 5. It was the first overland convoy via the Burma Road in two and a half years. The trip required 23 days through jungles and over the towering Himalayas.

In the convoy were ten tan yanks, Sgt. George Butler, Brooklyn; Harold Lopez, New York City; T/5 Otha Adams, Sheridan, Ark.; James Allison, Louisville, Ky.; Richard Burnett, York, S. C.; Wilbur Miller, Tupelo, Miss.; Edgar Moore, Dodge City, Kansas; and Cpl. Otis Moore, Smyrn, S. C. There were also two Negro war correspondents, Deton Brooks of the Chicago Defender, and this scribe.

Though they were the first Negroes to enter China on such a mission, these drivers gave an excellent account of themselves on the toughest highway in the world. 2-10-45

Members of the convoy were personally welcomed by General Lung Yun, governor of Yunnan Province.

General Pick, in a stirring address, praised the Allied efforts responsible for clearing out the Japanese and building the road. He then turned the convoy over to Major General Gilbert X. Cheves, commander of the service of supply in this area.

Bedecked With Finery

The Chinese city was bedecked in typical magnificent Chinese finery. Crowds waved flags and banners bearing the label, "Welcome" greeted the first convoy on Tillwell road. The crowd shot fire crackers and offered fruit and flowers to the Americans as the colorful procession moved through the town.

Gratitude was expressed on the faces of all the natives, who showed a keen interest in the tan yanks, as it was the first time that many of them had seen Negroes.

One young girl, evidently well acquainted with a popular brand of cigarette slogan, while viewing the procession, was heard to remark as several drivers passed by that "Something New has been added." At the same time she gave driver Allison of Louisville, Ky., a most welcome smile.

All along the route, Chinese hospitality was most generous and evident; our GIs enjoyed it immensely. During the entire trip the tan yanks were treated the same as white soldiers, both by the convoy personnel and natives, who were unanimous in stating that the first convoy to China was the biggest event in the history of this theatre. There will be other convoys following this one.

A Former Globe Democrat Man Tells Of Heroism Of St. Louisans Fighting Japs

St. Louis Globe Dem. Mo. 4-6-45

Boldness and Skill Gave Foothold

IWO JIMA (Delayed) — This company of Negro soldiers accomplished unbelievable things, but what they did that marines on Iwo Jima will never forget is to land artillery on D-Day when the big guns were the difference between taking the island or getting off it.

Japanese on Mount Suribachi were raking the beaches and moving their range inland occasionally to plaster Marine units trying to dig in before nightfall of D-Day. There was no Marine artillery ashore yet. Machine guns were no match for mortars and heavier Japanese guns. Men inching up the steep inclines of Iwo's terraced beaches kept their heads down and wondered: when will our guns get in—when will we start to answer these barrages? 4-6-45

Early in the afternoon this Negro amphibious truck company, a U. S. Army unit attached to the Fifth Amphibious Corps, started inland in 50 bobbing, swaying "ducks" (amphibious trucks), bringing with them 105mm. howitzers—the guns that have since swept the four miles of Iwo with salvo after salvo.

When the Negro boys finished, 48 hours later, they had lost 29 out of their 50 ducks, but the guns were emplaced and doing full-time work. In the face of huge odds, only two guns were lost.

Their story was told by their commanding officer as he squatted in front of his sandbag-covered foxhole a few yards from the beach whose hazards of high surf and mortar fire they had licked. He was Army Capt. William Duryea, of Suffern, N. Y. Next to him stood a platoon leader, Army First Lt. Grover Groves, of 2152 Stacia Way, Sacramento, Calif. These men had deep pride in their eyes. You understood this pride when you heard the story of their men.

"Iwo Jima is tenable only to that force which has artillery ashore," the captain said. "We knew days before the assault that progress of Marine striking forces would hinge in many ways on whether their own artillery could give them the support they needed—both near the airfields and on the slopes of Mount Suribachi. We told our men that the 105's in their care were precious cargo—they could mean keeping or losing a foothold on the beach. They did the rest." 4-6-45

"We expected loyalty of men to vehicles, but not like it turned out. Drivers kept their sinking ducks afloat until the last second before going under, when craft. Sometimes they were fished out, half-drowned themselves, by sailors who were luckily in the area. One man, Francis Goodrich, Army technician fifth grand, ran out of gas, refused to abandon his duck and gun, and was swept 13 miles out to sea, where he was picked up by a destroyer. He was missing for 13 hours. We gave him up for lost, but he finally came in and, although exhausted, remained in action. That night his gun helped repel a Japanese counterattack.

St. Louisans Outstanding 4-6-45

"We knew speed was everything. One hour after we hit the beach with these guns—and enemy fire kept us from landing again and again—our guns were set up and we had brought in ammunition for them to start firing. The marines sometimes yelled at our drives up around Mount Suribachi to jump off their ducks and take cover. The drivers had to stand up, exposed, to unharness the howitzers. The Gyrenes thought we were crazy, we figured if they could land on this place we could give them the stuff to make the landing stick." 4-6-45

By now it is known that the landing has "stuck." It is impossible to list all the boys whose ducks carried guns in during the hectic hours of D-Day. Anyway, they aren't asking for credit, they'll take a little rest, instead.

Three of them are from the St. Louis (Mo.) area. They are Army Privates Calvin C. Davis of 3432 Bell avenue and Edward Turner of 3304 Hickory street, St. Louis, and Technician Fifth Grade Fred L. Watson of 22 North 14th street, East St. Louis, Ill. 4-6-45

They are all dug in, now, on the fringe of beach near Iwo's southern end. At night they hear the thunder of the 105's they brought in. They grew fond of those big fellows. Anyone ashore on Iwo that first day grew fond of them.

People aren't running around tossing salutes and backslaps at them as long as they remember Iwo Jima, and that will be pretty close to always.

But the marines are grateful to the company of Negro boys. 4-6-45

Ten Negro Drivers, Two Correspondents Make Lengthy Trip

Memphis World Tenn.

2-9-45

BY FRANK E. BOLDEN
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

KUMMING, China, — (Wireless) — February 5 — Led by Brigadier General Lewis A. Pick, builder of Ledo Road, a convoy numbering 113 vehicles including trucks, jeeps, weapon carriers and mobile artillery, with a personnel of 372, arrived in Kumming, China, February 5. It was the first overland convoy via the Burma Road in two and a half years. The trip required 23-days through jungles and over the towering Himalayas.

2-9-45

In the convoy were ten Tan Yanks—Sergeants George Butler, of Brooklyn, and Harold Lopez, New York City; Technician Fifth Grade Otha Adams, Sherida, Arkansas; James Allison, Louisville, Kentucky; Richard Barnett, York, S. C.; Wilbur Miller, Tupelo, Miss.; Edgar Moore, Dodge City, Kansas; and Corporal Otis Moore, Smyrna, S. C. There were also two Negro war correspondents, Denton Brooks, of the Chicago Defender, and this Scribe.

EXCELLENT ACCOUNT

Though they were the first Negroes to enter China on such a mission, these drivers gave an excellent account of themselves on the toughest highway in the world.

Members of the convoy were personally welcomed by General Lung Yun, governor of Yunman Province.

General Pick, in a stirring address praised the Allied efforts responsible for clearing out the Japanese and building the road. He then turned the convoy over to Major General Gilbert X. Cheves, commander of the service of supply in this area.

The Chinese city was bedecked in typical magnificent Chinese finery. Crowds waved flags and banners bearing the label "welcome" greeted the first convoy on Stillwell Road. The crowd shot fire crackers and offered fruit and flowers to the Americans as the colorful procession moved through the town. Gratitude was expressed on the faces of all the natives, who showed a keen interest in the Tan Yanks, as it was the first time that many of them had ever seen Negroes.

WELCOME SMILES

One young girl, evidently well acquainted with a popular brand cigarett slogan while viewing the procession was heard to remark as several drivers passed on that "something new has been added," at the same time she gave Driver Allison of Louisville, Ky., a most welcome smile. All along the route, Chinese hospitality was most generous and evident, and our GI's enjoyed it immensely.

2-9-45

During the entire journey the Tan Yanks were treated the same as white soldiers, both by the convoy personnel and natives, who were unanimous in stating that the first convoy to China was the biggest event in the history of this theatre. There will be other convoys following this one.

73 Negroes sentenced for mutiny

Los Angeles Tribune Calif.

2-10-45

U. S. Army court-martials have sentenced 73 Negro soldiers to prison terms ranging from 8 to 30 years at hard labor for their part in a mass mutiny at an American air base on Oahu Island last July, it was reported Feb. 1 by the United Press from Honolulu.

Another accused mutineer was convicted but is waiting retrial after a review of his case by Major General Henry T. Burgin, commander of the Central Pacific base command, the U.P. said. It did not specify whether all involved were Negroes.

The convicted men were sentenced after two extensive court-martials, the first mutiny trials held in this area since the start of the war. 2-12-45

The men, whose names were not disclosed, were members of company E, 1320th engineers, general service regiment. They were convicted of refusing to obey orders of their superior officers to report for work at an airfield on the night of July 31, 1944.

Two other men who did not join in the mutiny but who were accused of aiding it, are awaiting trial, according to the news service.

Negroes on Leyte entered "hell" to save shells

Los Angeles Tribune Calif.

1-1-45 Tribune

WITH THE 96TH DIVISION (Delayed) — Negro soldiers have played an important role in the landings in the Philippines, the War Dept. revealed for the first time today. Cal.

Two members of an amphibious tractor unit attached to the 96th Division distinguished themselves by entering an ammunition dump which had caught fire and saved from destruction three huge amphibious trucks loaded with mortar and artillery shells. They were: Sergeant Clarence Jackson, Washington, D.C., and Technician Fifth Grade Samuel Bryant, New York City. 1-1-45

Private First Class David Mitchell, Philadelphia, and Sgt. Samuel Binkins, Washington, D.C., members of a Transportation Corps unit, killed a Jap sniper infesting their bivouac area. Later they narrowly escaped death when their jeep, carrying a casualty to the hospital, hit a mine, throwing them from their vehicle.

Negroes in the beach party landing in the vicinity of Dulag were warmly greeted by the Filipinos. Their admiration for them arose from the heroic deeds of a Negro guerrilla, Joe George of San Francisco, who came to the Philippines prior to the war. Marrying a Filipino woman in Tacloban, he became a popular local figure. He set up a trucking service between the towns of Dulag and Tacloban on the island of Leyte.

1-1-45

After the fall of Bataan, he used his truck to supply Filipino guerrillas operating in the hills. Captured by the Japs and sentenced to be shot, he escaped and became a local hero by carrying out daring raids on the Japs.

HAWAII TROOPS SENTENCED TO LONG TERMS

Chicago Defender Ill.

2-10-45

'Work - But - Not - Fight' Policy Of Army Brings Protests

HONOLULU, Hawaii — The U. S. army's "work-but-not-fight" policy for Negro soldiers this week brought long prison terms for 73 GIs convicted of mutiny.

Reflecting the growing bitterness of colored servicemen against the army's restriction of most Negroes to labor battalions, the court martial topped all other mutiny trials of this war in the number of defendants.

The sentences to confinement at hard labor for periods ranging from eight to 30 years were announced by the Central Pacific Base Command of the U.S. Army

Refused To Obey Orders

All soldiers involved joined on the night of July 31, 1944 in refusing to continue their jobs as common laborers on an airfield on Oahu. They were members of Company E of the 1320th Engineers, general service regiment, which is a "fancy' name for a labor battalion.

It was charged the men "refused to obey orders of their superior officers to report to a work formation on the company area at an airfield on Oahu."

Names of the soldiers convicted were not revealed Neither was the exact cause for the mutiny.

One of the leaders of the group was given 30 years, another 25 years. Three others got 20 years sentences.

Blind to Racial Differences'

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

Luzon Filipinos Fete GI's

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

2-24-45

LUZON — Indifferent to racial segregation and its significances, Filipinos continue to haunt the camp site of an engineer aviation battalion here, inviting the Tan Yanks to the homes.

However, as a result of the Filipinos' religion and family pride, romances between the American troops and the native girls are few, the girls being quick on the smile but slow on the date, the GI's complain.

The situation is attributed to incidents which occurred during the Japanese occupation, when the girls learned the stratagem of either getting quickly married to a native boy or pretending to do so.

Must Watch for Japs

Meanwhile, every member of the battalion goes about his business of repairing roads, building bridges and putting wrecked railroad lines back into service, always keeping his eyes open for Jap snipers.

In this same camp area recently, thirty Japs were killed after they infiltrated into the Tan Yanks' lines.

2-24-45

Within twelve hours after orders came for the outfit to move into the area, the camp was practically set up and regular work schedules on a "round-the-clock" basis were established.

As a result of the increasing danger of enemy infiltration and the tightening of the campaign in this sector, Chaplain J. C. Clanton of Raleigh, N.C., baptized his first Luzon convert in the waters of Lingayen Gulf.

He was Pfc. Rudolph Almeida of Providence, R.I., who accompanied by this correspondent and Pvts. Joshua Barnes of Boston and Leonard Sams of San Antonio, walked to the beach where he met the chaplain who took him fifty yards out for the baptism.

Jap Victim

5-26-45

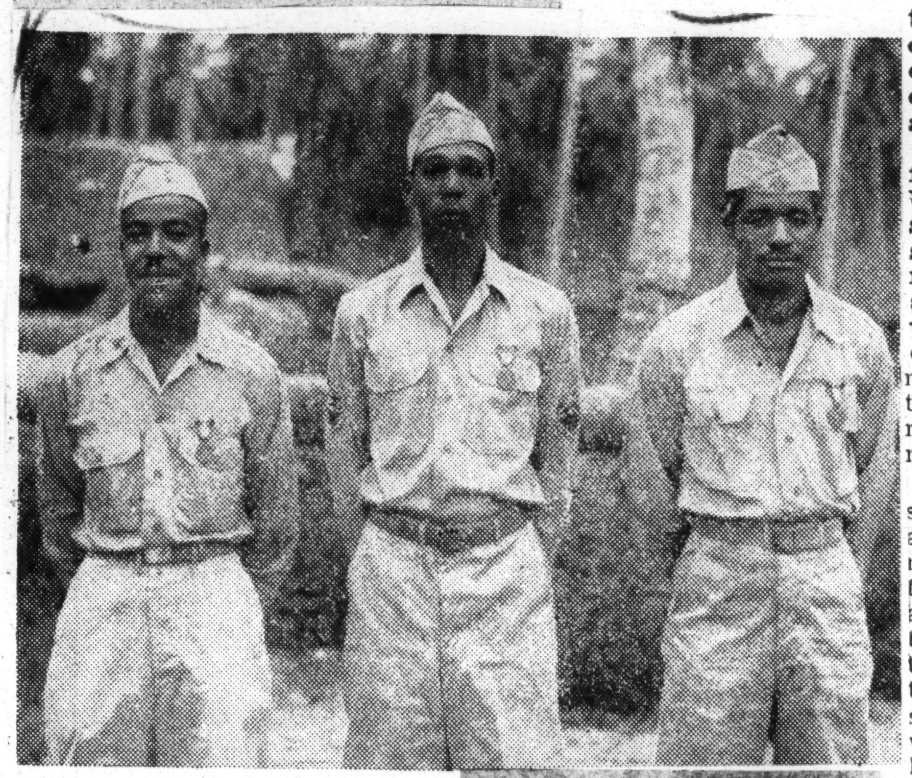
5-26-45

CAPT. CLARENCE GRIGGS

Chicago Defender

Courageous chaplain serving with Pacific forces who was killed in action on Okinawa April 12. A native of Temple, Texas, Capt. Griggs was a graduate of Fisk university and Union Theological Seminary and resided in Schenectady, N. Y. He was commissioned in the Chaplains Corps in December, 1942.—U.S. Signal Corps photo.

ATLANTA, GA WORLD
JUNE 2, 1945



THREE HEROES OF SOUTH PACIFIC — Three members of the all-Negro 742nd Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion now in New Guinea, who were awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism displayed in saving two enlisted men from drowning in the Renee River when the 742nd was stationed in the New Hebrides. Left to right, they are: Chief Warrant Officer Laydell Buckmon, Sr., 550 Alfred Street, Detroit, Michigan; Staff Sergeant F. Harold Tinsley, 1023 Florida Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C., and Corporal Eddie L. Brown, 1103 Willough Street, Perry, Florida. The presentation was made by Colonel G. A Chester, Acting Chief of Staff to Major General William F. Marquat, Commanding General of the 14th Antiaircraft Command. (U. S. Army photo).

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 60,366 — S. 100,152
JUL 8-1945

Negro-White Clash In Pacific Told

By Thomas L. Stoke

CINCINNATI, July 7 (AP)—Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said Saturday a group of marines on an important Pacific island threw hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by Negro navy men in a series of incidents that resulted in a clash.

White, who returned recently from a four-month tour of the Pacific theater, told a radio (CBS) audience that he accepted an invitation from the island commander to serve as defense counsel before a navy board of inquiry appointed to investigate the clash.

"For weeks," he related, "a few marines had been throwing bricks, empty beer bottles and, upon three occasions, hand grenades and smoke bombs into camps occupied by Negro navy men.

No Action Taken

"When no attempt was made by the authorities to stop the attacks or punish the attackers, the colored men in despair determined to defend themselves when next attacked.

"The next assault took place a few days later on Christmas eve," White said. "A group of white service men fired upon colored sailors and ran them out of the main town on the island. Shortly after midnight, a truck load of white marines went to the Negro camp charging that one of their number had been hit by a stone thrown by a Negro navy man. The marines threatened to 'take the matter into their own hands.'

"On Christmas day one Negro service man was shot and killed and another shot by white service men. These and other assaults infuriated the men who had been attacked to the point that twice they attempted to go into town to take vengeance. On one occasion they were turned back; on the second they were arrested, charged with rioting and unlawful assemblage."

Outcome Undisclosed

White did not disclose the outcome of the board of inquiry's investigation.

He said the point he wanted to make in telling of the clash was not to emphasize such happenings but "to personalize the corrosive effective of ignorance and bigotry on the progress of the war in the Pacific and at home."

He declared that the Japanese eagerly capitalize upon instances of friction between white and Negro personnel and give wide publicity among the Pacific's colored peoples to "the anti-Negro rantings of congressmen like Rankin and senators like Bilbo in filibustering a proposal to establish a fair employment practice committee."

93rd In Mop-Up Drive In Southwest Pacific

Pittsburgh Courier
6-9-45
Pgh., Pa.

By BILLY ROWE, Courier War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—(By Cable)—Together for the first time in sixteen months of overseas service, members of the Ninety-third Division are doing collective combat duty in this sector. Facing a by-passed enemy garrison of thousands of troops, the Division is sweeping up remnants of Imperial forces on two islands.

On the largest island held by the Tan Doughboys, more than 1,200 Japanese have been killed and more than 300 captured.

SPEARHEAD BIG DRIVE

Though the island is devoid of organized resistance, the Division is using every possible tactic to clear the strategic base. Last week Bougainville veterans of the outfit spearheaded the most important operation in this sector. Making history with the first all-colored amphibious landing in this theatre, the group killed forty-four Japanese and captured six, losing only one man.

6-9-45

Backed by the entire battalion in floating reserve, two assault companies hit the beach at 0600 hours. Led by Capt. Lemuel Penn, Washington, D. C., and Lieut. Mabry Gibson of Arizona, the group raced 250 yards inland. Meeting no resistance, the body established a defensive perimeter from which forces operated for nine days. During that time several landings were made up and down the coast, perfecting 1,000 yards of beachhead.

ONE YANK KILLED

Enemy forces encountered were in small groups and were killed after offering light defensive tactics. The patrol was led by S/Sgt. Robert Ruth of Baltimore and Sgt. Booker Jones of Texas. They met stiff opposition during which one Yank was killed. Later contacts by other patrols completely wiped out Japanese pockets in the section.

Among the first to hit shore were Lieuts. Charles Brown Jr. of Georgia, Andrew McDonald, Penn Julius Keller, Philadelphia; Chaplain Kenneth White, Jacksonville, Florida; T/Sgt. Wilson Burton, Mississippi; S/Sgt. George Jordan, Tennessee T/Sgt. Lemuel Venable, New Jersey and T/Sgt. Learan Anderson Texas. The operation took place on the northern end of the island where the enemy roamed in small groups for survival. Though short of food and ammunition they sold their lives dearly and proved aggressive fanatics. Some of them were husky specimens. Others were found dead because of lack of medical attention.

On the second island members of the Division ran into a greater number of Japanese. They were well led, organized and equipped. Several fire fights took place last week wit Tan Yanks fighting their way ø out of ambushes. Some thirty-eight Japanese met death while our side recorded seven wounded and two killed. Our men have beaten off several night charges when Japanese rushed in hitting the established perimeters with mortar machineguns and grenades.

6-9-45

CLEAN JAPANESE POCKETS

Among those leading the Yanks against stout resistance were Lieuts. Lafayette Belk, South Carolina; Glenn Allen, Chicago Harold Saunders, Washington, DC Frederick Smith, Boston, and William Heath, New York City. In cleaning these various Japanese pockets, members of the Division received the best collective training to date. After long months of hard and vigorous training, the Division Doughboys are in razor sharp condition and have taken on the cool nerve assurance of professional killers. According to a headquarters spokesmen members of the Division are doing a creditable job, but the future role in the stepped up war against Japan is shrouded in military secrecy. 6-9-45

Negro Marines On Okinawa

Chicago Def.
Chicago, Ill.

By ENOC P. WATERS JR.
(Defender War Correspondent)

7-7-45

TENTH ARMY AIR HDQ., Okinawa.—Tennessee-educated Benjamin P. Jacques, of 6212 Eberhart avenue, Chicago, and a staff of 23 Navy medical corpsmen are administering to the medical needs of almost 2,000 Negro Marines assigned to a huge supply depot here.

Operating in a long hospital tent equipped with cots, a pharmacy and a laboratory, Jacques, who earned his bachelor's degree from Tennessee A. and I college and is a licensed embalmer, and his staff treat an average of 150 men per day.

Only rarely is the medical officer, who covers several similar establishments, called upon outside of the one visit per day he makes to the sick bay from which the corpsmen operate.

Trained for Emergencies

In addition to handing out panaceas for heat rash, sunburn, stomachache, athlete's foot and a dozen other frequent complaints for which standardized remedies have been devised, the corpsmen are capable of meeting practically any emergency without the assistance of a qualified physician.

This is no accident. Each of the 24 men was trained at Great Lakes Naval Training Station and Camp Le Jeune, N. C., to operate in the absence of a physician or surgeon in forward areas.

At present Ph.-M 2-c Robert Hague, of Toledo, and Ph.-M 3-c Archie Hughes, 414 E. Pershing road, Chicago, are serving with Marine service detachments with the First and Sixth Divisions on the fighting front.

Relieved From Navy

These men, among the first Negroes to be relieved from the Navy to serve with the fleet Marine force, have been overseas more than a year.

Handling emergencies at the rate of one per week, they have become proficient in the treatment of gunshot wounds, fractures and skin punctures.

In less than 30 minutes after Pfc. James Price, Detroit, was brought to the sick bay last week suffering from a gunshot wound, they had cleaned the wound, administered morphine and blood plasma, controlled hemorrhage and dispatched him to a hospital in their jeep ambulance.

Group Handpicked

Pfc. Hezikiah Hopkins, who was rushed to them with a broken leg, had received emergency treatment, including anesthetizing the wound and setting the fracture with a splint and was en route to a hospital in 15 minutes.

Handpicked and highly trained, the men are capable of performing a variety of duties imperative to the welfare of men in areas such as this.

For this particular group, the staff administered all required immunization shots before they left the States and all the boosters since required.

7-7-45

Service to Islanders

Since their arrival on Okinawa on D-Day, the corpsmen have been making periodic tests of water, maintaining a vigil against malaria, giving lectures on sanitation, checking sanitary facilities, kitchens and mess halls, examining food handlers, maintaining an alert against the spread of contagious diseases and keeping a 24-hour watch for emergencies.

Serving soldiers, sailors, Marines, merchant seamen and civilians of all races connected with the military services, they have extended their service even to the Okinawans whose health is a matter of concern to the military forces because of their frequent contact with servicemen.

Many Specialists

Some of the men are specialists. PhM 2-c Frank C. Gordon, a Howard university graduate, of Washington, is a neuro-psychiatric technician; PhM 2-c Henry P. James, of Toledo, who attended Toledo university, is a pharmacist; PhM 2-c Richard Gordon, of Mansfield, Ohio, a graduate of Ohio State university, is the only lab technician and runs tests for two other sick bays, and PhM 2-c Augustine McWilliams, of Cleveland, a Tuskegee graduate, is a sanitation expert.

Other corpsmen include:

PhM 3-c Charles Alston, Raleigh, N. C.; PhM 3-c Clarence Mason, Washington; PhM 3-c Earl B. Hicks, Chicago, who attended the University of Chicago; PhM 3-c William T. Brown, Chester, Pa., graduate of Temple university; PhM 3-c Glenn Crawford, 6138 S. Aberdeen street, Chicago, Wilson Junior college graduate; PhM 2-c George Cuiellette, New Orleans, Xavier university graduate; PhM 3-c Calvin Brooks, McKeesport, Pa.;

7-14-45

H 1-c Henry B. De Joie, New Orleans, Dillard university grad; PhM 2-c T. P. Harris, Texarkana, Ark.; PhM 3-c D. C. Jackson, Mobile; PhM 3-c Herbert Freeman, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., graduate of Virginia State college; PhM 3-c Robert Larkins, Jersey City; PhM 2-c Le Marr Williams, New York City, graduate of Morehouse college; PhM 3-c B. D. Barton, Oakland, Calif.; PhM 3-c William Marshall, Birmingham; PhM 2-c J. P. Martin, Plainsfield, N. J., graduate of Virginia State college, and PhM 3-c H. B. Hardee, Ft. Worth, graduate of Prairie View State college.

93rd to Remain in Combat

Will Not Become Labor Unit

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
2-2-45

Rumor That It Would Be Broken Up Found False

By CHARLES H. LOEB
Representing the Combined Negro Press

DUTCH NEW GUINEA. — The famous 93rd Infantry Division, pride of America's millions of Negro citizens, is to retain its integrity as a combat outfit. When I reached this sprawling Army and Navy base, rumors were rampant that the troops who have proven their courage and efficiency at Bougainville and Munda, would be broken up and converted to port, transport and labor units.

To Combat Again

The rumor was given compelling foundation for your NNPA correspondent, when he saw members of the outfit unloading boats and driving heavily loaded Army trucks over the torturously winding roads of this base, many of which were hewn out of the mountainsides by Negro hands manning the most modern equipment. 2-2-45

However, during the past few days I have received assurance from highly authoratative sources that the men who have been trained to fight in combat will again travel the glory road in D-Days to come. When I later witnessed a brilliantly executed practice maneuver by a platoon of the 368th combat team, I was convinced that the 93rd will write new chapters in the conquest of Japan.

Morale High

I found morale in the 93rd of the very highest order. Much of it is due to the sterling leadership of as fine a group of Negro officers as has ever been privilege of a correspondent to meet, but top leadership has played a vital part. 2-2-45

Every GI with whom I talked was high in praise of Major General Harry Johnson, who has through this forthrightness an unqualified democracy wrough a working harmony between hi white and Negro officers tha could well set a pattern for Ame ica at home. General Johnso swear both GIs and officers, wi not tolerate the slightest sen blence of discrimination in th 93rd. Officers with "wrong att tudes" soon find themselves o the way out, and lazy officers ru into one continuous round c "unadulterated hell" from th caustic, exacting General that the soon straighten up and fly righ

The general takes pride i bringing officers from other ou fits based here to the 93rd divi ion area, where with all the prid of a doting father he shows of the spotless halls, the orderl company streets, and the aler military demeanor of the troops Many a visiting officer has bee forced to acknowledge that hi outfit "simply has to come up t scratch." 2-2-45

These jaunts of the genera make it imperative that every unit in the division remain con stantly ready for inspection, fo the general may, at the most un expected hours, dash into the camp area, with from two to 12 cars following in the wake of his jeep. 2-2-45

The general takes great pride in out-saluting the GIs who snap into conventional Army greeting on his approach. He claims that he regards saluting as a sign of alertness, and feels obligated to prove to every GI that the general too is on his toes.

Physical fitness on the part of the officers is a "must" on the General's list, and at the time of my visit to the 318th Medical battalion, every officer in the outfit was engaged in playing volleyball. White and Negro officers play together, even as they work, eat and sleep together. 2-2-45

I was considerably impressed with the quiet unassuming but firm leadership of the 318th Medics by Lt. Col. Bob Bennett, whom I am told is the only Negro C. O. of a battalion in this theater.

War correspondents are no novelty to this cocky outfit, for Fletcher Martin lived and travelled with the 93rd throughout the Bougainville and Munda campaigns but both officers and men expressed pleasure over the prospect of having their photos published in the leading Negro newspapers "back home."

Put Guns Ashore To Save Attack Of The Marines

Memphis World
Tenn

Can't Give Men Enough Credit, Writes Officer

4-13-45

SACRAMENTO, Calif.-The work of a Negro Army amphibious truck company the afternoon of D-Day on IWO Jima "made the difference between taking the island and handing it back to the Japanese" according to a letter received here by the parents of Lt. Grover I. Groves, white platoon leader of the heroic colored men.

The Negro company braved a hail of Japanese mortar and artillery fire on the IWO beach to bring in the the guns—155 mm howitzers—had failed to make the shore, U. S. forces might have been forced to withdraw from the island.

UNDER HEAVY FIRE

"I can't give enough credit to my boys," wrote Lt. Groves, "I hope there is some way everyone learns of the marvelous way these colored boys performed.

"I landed my platoon at 2 in the afternoon on D-Day. We were carrying 150 howitzers and ammunition for the marines. We were under terrific mortar and artillery fire while coming in and while on shore. 4-13-45

"The beach was too steep and too soft to get up and when we landed we struck right to the shore until a tractor could pull us up. My men stayed in their vehicles under terrific fire and get their ducks (amphibious trucks) ashore, some of the ducks so shot up they couldn't go back into the water.

SERGEANT HURT

"One of my sergeants was hurt when he was crushed between a duck and a tractor. He was trying to get wounded casualties off a beached duck. Another man stayed with his stuck duck carrying an artillery piece while everyone else was in a foxhole. I could go on and on about the men's brave conduct I am proud to belong to a colored duck company with the calibre of men that are present in this outfit."

Sgt. Larry Schulenburg, marine corps combat correspondent, wrote of Lt. Grove's outfit:

"The Marines on Iwo Jima will never forget this company of colored boys. Japs on Mt. Suribachi were raking the beaches to plaster marine units trying to dig in before nightfall of D-Day. There was no marine artillery ashore yet. Machine guns were no match for mortars and heavier Jap guns.

GUNS DELIVERED

"Then early in the afternoon this Negro outfit started inland in 50 bobbing, swaying ducks, bringing with them the 105 mm howitzers, the long-muzzled guns which since swept Iwo with salvo after salvo.

"When the colored boys finished 48 hours later they had lost 29 out of their 50 ducks, but the guns were emplaced and working. In the face of huge odds only two guns were lost. 4-13-45

"One hour after they hit the the beach the guns were set up and ammunition ready for firing. The drivers had to stand up, exposed, to unharness the howitzers. The marines thought the colored army boys were crazy, but those boys thought that if the marines could land on the place, their duck company could give them the stuff to make the landing stick."

Identify Patrol Which Captured Jap Colonel

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific Area. — The War Department today announced the names of the members of the nine-man patrol of the 93rd Infantry Division who recently flushed out of the hills of Morotai islands the highest ranking Japanese officer ever taken alive in the Southwest Pacific campaign. 8-24-45

Colonel Ouchi, commander of the remaining Japanese on Morotai, where the 93rd has been engaged in mopping-up operations was discovered and captured as he lay face down in the jungle. At least nine members of his personal guard were killed by the patrol which returned to its base without losing a man.

Names and addresses of members of the patrol follow:

Lt. Col. Jacy C. McKinnie, Box 40, Pineville, La.

Major Stanley A. Meydn, 4226 Beaver St., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Major Peveril O. Settle Jr., 19 Westover Road, Fort Worth, Texas.

Capt. John T. Pierce III, Rockport, Mo.

Sgt. Alfonso Dillon, Route 2, Jackson, Tenn.

T-3 X. J. Nakanishi, 338 Second Ave., New York.

Cpl. Albert Morrison, 706 Elm St., Tampa, Fla.

Pfc. Robert Sloan, General Delivery, Clovis, N. M. 8-24-45

Pfc. Robert A. Uvanz, 3827 West St., Oakland, Cal.

Crack 477th Amphibious Truck Outfit Veteran of Four Pacific Invasions

AFRO-AMERICAN 7-14-45 Balt., Md.

By CHARLES H. LOEB
(NNPA War Correspondent)

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Easterners mentioned in this article are from the following States: New York, 11; Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, 2 each; Maryland and North Carolina, 1 each.]

NANSEI SHOTO ISLANDS — One of the best DUWK (generally referred to as "duck") units in the Western Pacific, is the 477th Amphibious Trucking Company, which has won the unstinted praise of every command under which it has served.

Veterans of four invasions, these men participated in the D-DAY action in the campaign for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Leyte and the Nansei Shoto group, the principal island of which is Okinawa.

This fearless group, composed of about 175 non-coms and enlisted men, commanded by five white officers, has received two commendations, a recommendation for a citation and its share of Bronze Stars and Purple Hearts.

Cited for Heroism in Fire

Outstanding man in the unit is T/Sgt. Winston C. Carmichael of Atlanta, Ga., and NYC, who received the Bronze Star for heroic action during a fire on an ammunition-loaded amphibious truck.

The prompt action of the sergeant, who happened to be on the duck when the cargo exploded, is credited with saving the ship and the personnel aboard.

Baltimore, N.Y. GIs Help

Among those who later joined Carmichael in his effort to keep the fire from spreading to other amphibious trucks loaded with ammunition were T/4 Girard Nichols, Baltimore; T/4 William Howell and Cpl. Walter Jonson, NYC.

7-14-45

Commended by Admiral

Another Bronze Star winner was T/5 Jack Golder of Mariana, Fla., whose ingenuity was responsible for the salvaging of a duck which overturned and was floundering on the jagged coral off the shore of Tinian.

Two commendations for its esprit de corps have been received by the unit from Admiral S. W. King and Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson of the Island Command, Saipan.

In the latter case, the 477th was among four companies commended for having "performed the astounding feat of supply, operating under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions, and kept their personnel in shape to accomplish their mission."

Admiral King commended the men for "their efficiency and capability" in rescuing crew members of the barge Asphalt which, during a storm, was dashed upon a jagged reef off an island beachhead.

7-14-45

Rescuers Listed

Among men sharing in the commendation were:

T/5 Robert L. Henderson, Pvts. Arnold Perkins, and Charles G. Reed Jr., Pfc William G. Cox, and T/5 George R. Gill Jr., all of NYC; T/5 John A. Johnson, Philadelphia; Pfc. Henry T. Shipp and T/5 Edward R. Hodges, Norfolk, Va.; Pvt. Timothy D. Chavis, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Rotation is long overdue for this outfit which averages almost three years per man overseas service. Topping the list of men eligible for discharge is Pfc. Andrew J. Nixon of High Point, N.C., who has 114 points.

Among other members of this company who have played an important role in landing supplies, evacuating casualties, and transferring materials from beachhead and inland dumps to ships are:

Pfc. William Cox, and T/5 C. B. Sturdivant of NYC; T/5 Richard E. Daniels, Lambersville, N.J.; T/5 John Moore, Jersey City, N.J., and T/5 Joseph Johnson, Philadelphia.

Coast Artillerymen Led by Own Officers

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

Twelve Casualties Suffered by Only Colored Combat Unit on Okinawa

7-14-45

By CHARLES LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

OKINAWA—A battalion composed of officers and men from the disbanded 369th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment is the only all-colored combat group participating in the Ryukyus campaign, which has thus far wrested Okinawa and its satellite islands from the Japs.

Under command of Lt. Col. Lilmer F. Lucas and directed by colored officers, this hard-hitting outfit of former New York State Guardsmen has, during the past 69 days on a combat infantry mission in the Kerama Retto, added the following achievements to the glorious record compiled by its parent organization during World War I.

On May 30, during its first patrol in the Kerama Retto: captured a Japanese major, one lieutenant, 2 superior privates, 1 female nurse, 1 heavy machine gun, 8 rifles and large quantities of ammunition without the loss of a man. Two members of the patrol suffered slight injuries. The Jap major personally surrendered his sword to Lt. Col. Lucas.

Makes Use of Jap Major

Through kind treatment of the captured Jap major, the unit succeeded in setting the stage for peace negotiations with an enemy garrison entrenched on a nearby island in which the Jap major volunteered to act as intermediary.

In a day of blazing action on June 24, the unit captured a valuable hill position from the Japs, killed 20 enemy soldiers and wounded 10, captured an enemy grenade launcher, destroyed 2 machine gun nests and supplies of ammo, knocked out 2 enemy pillboxes and burned an enemy encampment.

7-14-45

The outfit lost one officer and 2 enlisted men killed and 9 wounded.

In 60 days of operations the men have captured in the neighborhood of 700 prisoners, including Jap officers, soldiers, Korean and Okinawan labor troops.

Meanwhile, they have been maintaining vigilant patrols of the Kerama Retto Group, protecting natives from Jap infiltrating troops who steal their food and supplies; also preventing isolated Jap garrisons from attempting suicide forays by small boat against naval vessels in the vicinity and preventing the enemy from making contact with the Jap Mainland.

Story of Courage

Bayoneted Five Times, Game GI Pulls Through

Pittsburgh Courier, Pa. 11-24-45

FORT GEORGE WRIGHT, Wash.—This is the story of a Negro's courage on and off the field of battle. It is not a blood and thunder tale of exploits that earned Pvc. Henry Daniels, of Americus, Ga., a wealth of medals and acclaim. He wears only the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon and the Purple Heart . . . some small carbines.

and five bayonet wounds, the scars

WOUNDED BY GRENADE

of four automatic rifle slugs in his right shoulder and arm. In the first skirmish Daniels was three in his left arm and hand wounded by a hand grenade but grenade and shrapnel wounds in he kept firing away. Snipers fir- his chest.

Private First Class Daniels was a member of an aviation guard squadron on Iwo Jima when the Japanese made a surprise attack about 4 A. M., March 25, with an estimated 400 in the party. The defenders numbered 250. Yanks their equipment consisted of a few Thompson submachine guns and

no chances, gave him a few jabs in the throat and chest for good measure.

In spite of the odds against them the Americans drove off the Japanese. Daniel was treated at an emergency hospital and then sent to the States via hospitalization at Hawaii. The doctors at Oliver General Hospital in Augusta, Ga., told the veteran his right arm was gone due to paralysis of the bicep muscles from nerve injuries that had caused almost complete atrophy.

REGAINS CONTROL

Daniels reported to the corrective gymnasium of the AAF Regional and convalescent hospital at Fort George, Washington, in September and Staff Sergeant John Parsons of Toledo, Ohio, NCO in charge, gave him a set of self resistive arm exercises which utilized the initial stages of the elbow and arm to build the injured one. In the treatment Daniels had only a fifty per cent range of motion his range and shoulder. He now has a complete range.

He is the brother of Mrs. Callie Wilkinson, 121 Hinkle Street, and Mrs. Daisy Wilkinson, 306 Mayo Street, Americus, Ga.

56n-1945 Foreign Service Pacific

Made Way to Tokyo Easier

Pittsburg-Courier

Record of Tan Yanks in Pacific

9-8-45

Saga of Courage, Devotion

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Ever since December 8, 1941, when Pvt. Robert Brooks became the first member of the Armored Force, and probably the American Army, to lose his life at Fort Stotsenburg in the Philippines, Negro soldiers have contributed blood, sweat and tears to the cause of freedom in the Pacific. Ever since April, 1942, when swarthy Negro Engineers streamed ashore from landing craft to whip out steel carpets on New Guinea for the reception of planes of the Nineteenth Bombardment Group, Negro soldiers have assisted materially in avenging the infamy of Pearl Harbor, perpetrated by the Japanese less than four months earlier.

The Twenty-fourth Infantry Regiment was the first all-Negro combat unit to face the Nipponese when it landed in the New Georgia Islands two days before the Battle of the Coral Sea, May 4-7, 1942. Men of this organization have been singled out by the Inspector General of the Army for their exceptionally meritorious conduct in routing the enemy from Saipan in the Marianas.

PRAISED BY MacARTHUR

On Dec. 1, 1942, Negro soldiers were included in the first contingent of American troops to arrive at Ledo in India to construct the famed Ledo (now Stilwell) Road. Utilizing a handful of bulldozers and a fleet of dilapidated British lorries, the Negro Engineers had pushed the road fifteen miles into the Patkais by Jan. 1, 1943.

As early as Jan. 23, 1943, ten Negro units, ranging from engineer to Chemical Warfare Service outfits, had been commended by General MacArthur for their "courage, spirit and devotion to duty" in expelling the enemy from Papua, New Guinea.

For extraordinary heroism displayed at Porderch Harbor, New Guinea, March 8, 1943, Pvt. George Watson, Birmingham, Ala., received the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously. Since that time the number of decorated soldiers of color has become legion.

In April, 1944, the Ninety-third Infantry Division had its first taste of action at Empress Augusta Bay on Bougainville Island in the Solomons. By the end of that month, the Ninety-third had secured the Saua River and a portion of the land east of the Torokina River. The Division next went to the Treasury Island Group, thence to Morotai Island in the Dutch East Indies and more recently to the Philippines.

9-8-45

CONSTRUCTED LANDING FIELDS

When the mighty B-29 Superfortresses first took off from China to hammer Japan proper, they taxied off of superb landing fields constructed by Negro Engineers from Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's China-Burma-India Theatre. In the words of Maj. Gen. Kenneth B. Wolfe: "They came with a battery of concrete mixers and put on the damnedest exhibition of instantaneous concrete laying you ever saw. Beautiful concrete, no mud pies."

Besides the Twenty-fourth Infantry and Ninety-third Division, six other Negro combat units have been announced as being in the Pacific. They are, with present stations: 207th Coast Artillery (AA), New Guinea; 369th Coast Artillery (AA), Okinawa; 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery, New Guinea; 234th Anti-aircraft Artillery, Saipan; 320th Anti-aircraft Barrage Balloon Battalion, and the 372nd Infantry, both in Hawaii.

Roughly 200,000 Negro soldiers are scattered throughout the Pacific and Far East, from Noumea, New Caledonia to Calcutta, India; from Kunming, China to Attu Island in the Aleutian chain. Substantial numbers are deployed in the Alaskan Department, Pacific Theatre, and the China and India-Burma Theatres of Operations. They are serving in such highly technical organizations as the 101st Chemical Processing Company at Manila in the Philippines and the 689th Signal Air Warning (Radar) Company in the Sulu Archipelago.

Three months after the complete capitulation of the Germans, Negro troops, fresh from the European and Mediterranean Theatres of Operations, began arriving in the Philippines, and many more were awaiting shipping orders. As of July, 1945, more than 550 all-Negro organizations were assigned to stations in the Middle, South, and Western Pacific areas. A list of these units follows:

U. S. ARMY FORCES, MIDDLE PACIFIC

9-8-45

UNIT	STATION
24th Infantry Regiment (with units at Kume Shima)	Kerama Retto
30th Quartermaster Pack Troop	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
71st Chemical Service Group Co.	Okinawa
81st Signal Construction Batt.	Okinawa
114th Port Company	Okinawa
115th Port Company	Aiea
126th Port Company	Ie Shima
129th QM Bakery Company	Saipan
129th Port Company	Ie Shima
130th QM Bakery Company	Okinawa
131st Port Company	Ie Shima
133rd Port Company	Ie Shima
135th Port Company	Okinawa
136th Port Company	Okinawa
137th Port Company	Okinawa
138th Port Company	Okinawa
139th Port Company	Guam
142nd Port Company	Okinawa
145th Port Company	Okinawa
146th Port Company	Okinawa
147th Port Company	Okinawa
148th Port Company	Okinawa
150th QM Truck Company	Okinawa
151st QM Bakery Co.	Saipan
159th Port Company	Tinian
168th Port Company	New Caledonia
169th Port Company	New Caledonia
170th Port Company	New Caledonia
181st Port Company	Guadalcanal
197th Port Company	Fort Shafter, Hawaii
198th Port Company	Saipan
212nd Military Police Company	Saipan
219th Port Company	Guadalcanal
221st Port Company	Guadalcanal
234th Anti-aircraft Gun Battalion	Saipan
239th QM Signal Company, First Platoon	Saipan Iwo Jima
240th Ordnance Ammunition Co.	Tinian
242nd Ordnance Ammunition Company	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
243rd Quartermaster Battalion	Ie Shima
245th Ordnance Ammunition Co.	Saipan
247th Ordnance Ammunition Co.	Okinawa
248th Ordnance Ammunition Co.	Okinawa
255th QM Laundry Detachment	Tinian
256th QM Battalion	Okinawa
257th QM Battalion	Okinawa
260th Military Police Co.	New Caledonia
264th QM Bakery Co.	Iwo Jima
267th QM Battalion	New Caledonia
269th QM Laundry Detachment	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
271st QM Laundry Detachment	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
272nd QM Laundry Detachment	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
277th QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
278th QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
289th Army Ground Forces Band	Espirity Santo
290th Port Company	Tinian
291st Port Company	Ie Shima
291st Army Ground Forces Band	Kerama Retto
292nd Port Company	Okinawa
293rd Port Company	Okinawa
299th Army Ground Forces Band	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
310th Port Company	Tinian
311th Port Company	Saipan
312th Port Company	Saipan
320th AA Barrage Balloon Bn.	Honolulu
Company C	Aiea
339th QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
340th QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
341st QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
342nd QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
343rd QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
344th QM Laundry Detachment	Okinawa
364th Port Battalion	Okinawa
369th Anti-aircraft Gun Battalion	Okinawa
372nd Port Battalion	Saipan
372nd Infantry Regt.	Schofield Barracks
372nd Anti-Tank Co.	Schofield Barracks
Company A	Fort Kamehameha
372nd Hq / Hq Co, 2nd Battalion	Hawaii District
Company E	Hawaiai District
Company F	Kauai District
Company G	Maui Island
Co H (less 2 Platoons)	Molokai District
Co. H, 1st Platoon	Hawaii District
Co. H, 2nd Platoon	Kauai District
Company I	Fort Kamehameha
Company K	Fort Shafter
372nd QM Laundry Detachment	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
373rd QM Laundry Detachment	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
374th QM Laundry Detachment	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
376th Port Battalion	Saipan
384th Aviation Squadron	Iwo Jima
385th Aviation Squadron	Guam
386th Aviation Squadron	Hickam Field
386th QM Truck Company	Saipan
387th Aviation Squadron	Hickam Field
387th QM Truck Company	Saipan
388th Aviation Squadron	Okinawa
389th Aviation Squadron	Wheeler Field
390th Port Battalion	Espirity Santo
392nd QM Truck Company	Fort Shafter
406th Ordnance Motor/M. Co.	Okinawa
418th QM Bakery Company	Okinawa
432nd Engineer Dump Truck Co.	Saipan
435th Aviation Squadron	Saipan
438th Port Company	Tinian
439th Port Company	Fort Shafter
440th Port Company	Tinian
441st Port Company	Fort Shafter
442nd Port Company	Iwo Jima
443rd Port Company	Fort Shafter
444th Port Company	Saipan
457th Aviation Squadron	Tinian
459th Aviation Squadron	Guam
460th Signal Heavy Con. Bn.	Ie Shima
Company B	Wheeler Field
460th Aviation Squadron	Ie Shima
461th Aviation Squadron	Okinawa
462nd Aviation Squadron	Guam
463rd Aviation Squadron	Guam
464th Aviation Squadron	Guam
465th Aviation Squadron	Iwo Jima
466th Aviation Squadron	Okinawa
467th A/Sqd.	Kahuku Army Air Base
468th Aviation Squadron	Hickam Field
469th Aviation Squadron	Hickam Field
470th Aviation Squadron	New Caledonia
471st Aviation Squadron, Detachment	Guadalcanal Espiritu Santo
471st Amphibian Truck Co.	Iwo Jima
472nd Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
473rd Aciation Squadron	Okinawa
474th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
475th Amphibian Truck Co.	Iwo Jima
476th Amphibian Truck Co.	Iwo Jima
477th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
482nd Bomb Squadron	Ie Shima
486th Port Battalion	New Caledonia
488th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
490th Amphibian Truck Co.	Guam
491st Amphimian Truck Co.	Okinawa
492nd Quartermaster Battalion	Okinawa
492nd Amphibian Truck Co.	Fort Hase
493rd Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
494th Amphibian Truck Co.	Fort Hase
495th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
496th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
503rd Anti-aircraft Gun Bn.	Okinawa
504th Port Battalion	Okinawa
510th Port Battalion	Tinian
521st Quartermaster Group	Okinawa
536th Salvage Repair Company, Detachment	Guam Tinian
538th Port Company	Saipan
539th Signal Heavy Con. Co.	Okinawa
539th Port Company	Saipan
568th Engineer Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
575th Engineer Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
576th Port Co.	Hawaiian Ordnance Depot
589th QM Laundry Company	Okinawa
590th Port Company	Saipan
591st Port Company	Saipan
592nd Port Company	Iwo Jima
594th Ordnance Amm. Co.	Guadalcanal
594th QM Laundry Company	Okinawa
627th Quartermaster Battalion	Tinian
632nd Ordnance Amm. Co.	Okinawa
635th Port Company	Espiritu Sante
644th Ordnance Amm. Co.	Okinawa
645th Ordnance Amm. Co.	Aiea
667th Ordnance Amm. Co.	Okinawa
669th Ordnance Amm. Co., 2 Sections	Peleliu Island Guadalcanal
702nd Chemical Company	Hickam Field
702nd Signal Company	Guadalcanal
704th Signal Company	En route Manila
715th Signal Company, Second Platoon	Tinian Guam
716th Signal Company	En route Manila
717th Signal Company, First Platoon	Iwo Jima Ie Shima
719th Signal Company	Okinawa
726th Anti-aircraft Signal Battery	Schofield Barracks
743rd Signal Company	Saipan
760th Signal Company	Schofield Barracks
765th Engineer Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
811th Engr. Aviation Battalion	Iwo Jima
814th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
827th Amphibian Truck Co.	Okinawa
828th Amphibian Truck Co.	Ie Shima
848th QM Gas Supply Co., First Platoon	Saipan Iwo Jima
855th Port Company	Sand Island, Hawaii
856th Port Company	Sand Island, Hawaii
857th Port Company	Sand Island, Hawaii
865th Port Company	Okinawa
867th Port Company	Okinawa
868th Port Company	Okinawa
870th Anti-aircraft AW Battalion	Kerama Retto
872nd Port Company	Sand Island, Hawaii
890th Engineer Aviation Co.	Tinian
891st Chemical Company	Tinian
891st Engineer Aviation Co.	Tinian
892nd Engineer Aciation Co.	Wheeler Field
893rd Engineer Aviation Co.	Tinian
893rd Quartermaster Truck Co.	Hawaiian Ordnance Depot
894th QM Truck Company	Waipahu
895th QM Truck Co.	Schofield Barracks
897th QM Laundry Co.	Peleliu Island
927th Engineer Aviation Regiment	Guam
975th QM Service Co.	Guam
976th QM Service Co.	Guam
977th QM Service Co.	Guam
981st QM Service Co.	Saipan
982nd QM Service Co.	Guam
1188th Engr. Base Depot Co.,	Fort Shafter
1224th Engr. Fire Fighting Platoon	Guadalcanal
1322nd Engineer General Service Regiment	Tinian
1356th Engineer Dump Truck Co.	Guam
1357th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Ie Shima
1387th Military Police Company, Aviation	Fort Shafter
1534th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
1862nd Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
1863rd Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
1864th Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
1868th Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
169th Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
1970th Engr. Aviation Battalion	Okinawa
1882nd Engr. Aviation Battalion	Saipan
1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
1889th Engr. Aviation Battalion	Okinawa
1894th Engr. Aviation Battalion	Okinawa
1895th Engineer Aviation Battalion	Guam
1903rd Ordnance Ammunition Co.	Ie Shima
1908th Engr. Aviation Battalion	Okinawa
1909th Engr. Aviation Battalion	Saipan
1914th Ordnance Ammunition Company Avn.	Guan
2007th QM Truck Co. Avn.	Wheeler Field
2031st QM Truck Co. Avn.	Hickam Field
2045th QM Truck Co. Avn.	Hickam Field
2046th QM Truck Co. Avn.	Hickam Field
2278th QM Truck Company Avn.	Guam
2280th QM Truck Co. Avn.	Guam
2281st QM Truck Co. Avn	Guam
2282nd QM Truck Co. Avn.	Guam
2283rd QM Truck Co. Avn	Guam
2284th QM Truck Co. Avn.	Okinawa
2301st QM Truck Co. Avn.	Okinawa
2700th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
2701st Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
2801st Engineer Service Company	Tinian
2803rd Engr. General Service Bn.	Saipan
2804th Engr. General Service Bn.	Saipan
2805th Engr. General Service Bn.	Saipan
2806th Engr. General Service Bn.	Saipan
2807th Engr. General Service Bn.	Saipan
2917th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Ie Shima
2918th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Ie Shima
2919th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Okinawa
3064th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Guam
3065th QM Service Company	Iwo Jima
3067th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3068th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Guam
3069th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Guam
3070th Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Ie Shima
3071st Engr. Dump Truck Co.	Ie Shima
3077th QM Gas Supply Co.	Okinawa
3085th QM Service Company	Iwo Jima
3098th QM Laundry Co.	Iwo Jima
3108th QM Service Co.	New Caledonia
3292nd QM Service Co.	Tinian
3293rd QM Service Co.	New Caledonia
3294th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3295th QM Service Co.	Saipan
3296th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3297th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3388th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
3610th Ordnance HA M/Co.	Okinawa
3665th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
3697th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
3753rd QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
3754th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
3829th QM Truck Co.	Espirity Santo
4013th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4039th QM Truck Co.	Tinian
4070th QM Service Co.	Tinian
4071st QM Service Co.	New Caledonia
4102nd QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4103rd QM Truck Co.	Saipan
4104th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4105th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4106th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4107th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4109th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4110th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4111th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4112th QM Truck Co.	Ie Shima
4113th QM Truck Co.	Schofield Barracks
4126th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
4117th QM Truck Co.	Okinawa
3119th Engr. Fire Fighting Det.	Okinawa
3125th Engr. Fire Fighting Det.	Okinawa
3126th Egr. Fire Fighting Det.	Okinawa
3127th Engr. Fire Fighting Det.	Okinawa
3128th Egr. Fire Fighting Det.	Okinawa
3239th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3240th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3243rd QM Service Co.	Guadalcanal
3258th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3259th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3260th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3261st QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3274th QM Service Co.	Espirity Santo
3290th QM Service Co.	Okinawa
3291st QM Service Co.	Tinian
3 Second Platoon	Saipan

9-8-45

4121th QM Truck Co. .....Ie Shima
4122th QM Truck Co. .....Okinawa
4123rd QM Truck Co. .....Okinawa
4124th QM Truck Co. .....Okinawa
4125th QM Truck Co. .....Ie Shima
4126th QM Truck Co. .....Okinawa
4161 QM Fumigation and Bath Co.....
..... Schofield Barracks
4207th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4208th QM Service Co. .....Ie Shima
4209th QM Service Co. .....Saipan
4210th QM Service Co. .....Saipan
4216th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4217th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4342nd QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4344th QM Service Co...Schofield Barracks
4345th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4464th QM Service Co. .....Ie Shima
First Platoon .....Okinawa
4481st QM Salvage Repair
Composite ..... Okinawa
4482nd QM Salvage Repair
Composite ..... Okinawa
4513th QM Service Co.....Okinawa
4514 QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4515th QM Service Co. .....Ie Shima
4516th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4517th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa
4524th QM Service Co. .....Okinawa

U. S. ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

415th Army Service Forces Band.Hollandia
4th Air Cargo Resupply Sqd...Clark Field
5th Air Cargo Resupply Sqd...Clark Field
345th Aviation Squadron.....Okinawa
383rd Aviation Squadron .....Leyte
391st Aviation Squadron .....Leyte
436th Aciation Squadron .....Biak
437th Aviation Squadron.....Finschafen
455th Aviation Squadron....Nielson Field
458th Aviation Squadron .....Hollandia
77th Anti-aircraft Gun Battalion
and Group .....Admiralty
207th Anti-aircraft Artillery AW
Battalion ..... Hollandia
466th Anti-aircraft Artillery AW
Battalion ..... Finschafen
477th Anti-aircraft Artillery AW
Battalion .....Ore Bay
741st Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun
Battalion ..... Hollandia
742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun
Battalion ..... Finschafen
933rd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun
Battalion ..... Admiralty
28th Chemical Decontamination Co., Manila
29th Chemical Decontamination Co., Manila
704th Chemical M/Co Aviation.....Leyte
49th C/Artillery Batt 155-mm..Finschafen
91st Engr. Gen. Service Regiment....Biak
96th Engr. Gas Service Regt....Malabang
97th Engr. Gen. Service Regt...Finschafen
567th Engr. Dump Truck Co.....Manila
570th Engr. Dump Truck Co. .....Davao
571st Engr. Dump Truck Co...Clark Field
573rd Engr. Dump Truck Co....La Union
576th Engr. Dump Truck Co. ....Manila
585th Engr. Dump Truck Co.....Bulacan
738th Enfir. Base Depot Co. .....Biak
766th Engr. Dump Truck Co. .....Leyte
768th Engr. Dump Truck Co. .....Leyte
769th Engr. Dump Truck Co. ....Manila
771st Engr. Dump Truck Co. .....Manila
772nd Engr. Dump Truck Co. ..Finschafen
773rd Engr. Dump Truck Co. ....Manila
774th Engr. Dump Truck Co. ....Manila
795th Engr. Dump Truck Co..Nichols Field
810th Engr. Aviation Battalion....Manila
822nd Engr. Aviation Battalion.....Leyte
828th Engr. Aviation Battalion..Pampanga
839th Engr. Aviation Battalion.....Leyte
855th Engr. Aviation Battalion....Manila
856th Engr. Aviation Battalion....Manila
857th Engr. Aviation Batt..Fort McKinley
867th Engr. Aviation Battalion..Batangas
868th Engr. Aviation Batt.....Nadzab NG
869th Engr. Aviaiton Battalion....Manila
870th Engr. Aviation Battalion.Pampanga
1225th Engr. Fire Fighting Det.....Leyte
1311st Engr Gen. Service Regt...Milne Bay
1312th Engr. Gen. Service Regt..La Union
1315th Engr. Construction Batt.....Biak
1322nd Engr. Gen. Service Regt.....Leyte
1351st Engr. Dump Truck Co. .....Leyte
1361st Engr. Dump Truck Co ..Lingayen
1462nd Engr. M. Co., ESB....Pampanga
1517th Engr. Water Supply Co.....Manila
1518th Engr. Water Supply Co.....Biak
1519th Engr. Water Supply Co.....Manila
901st Air Base Security Batt.....Batangas
903rd Air Base Security Batt...Milne Bay
922nd Air Base Security Batt...Milne Bay
924th Air Base Security Batt...Milne Bay
268th Station Hospital .....Manila
569th Motor Ambulance Co. .....Leyte
579th Motor Ambulance Co.....Finschafen
721st Sanitary Company .....Manila
722nd Sanitary Company .....Manila
725th Sanitary Company .....Batangas
728th Sanitary Company .....Leyte
735th Sanitary Company .....Manila
739th Sanitary Company .....Leyte
742nd Sanitary Company.....La Union
745th Sanitary Company .....Biak
747th Sanitary Company .....Leyte
759th Sanitary Company .....Manila
808th Motor Ambulance Co. .....Manila
42th Military Police Co.....Cebu Island
169th Ordnance Battalion .....Manila
577th Ordnance Ammunition Co..La Union
578th Ordnance Ammunition Co.....Davao
579th Ordnance Ammunition Co..Pampanga
580th Ordnance Ammunition Co....Manila
590th Ordnance Ammunition Co....Manila
595th Ordnance Ammunition Co.....Leyte
622nd Ordnance Ammunition Co...San Jose
628th Ordnance Ammunition Co...Ore Bay
629th Ordnance Ammunition Co..Lingayen
630th Ordnance Ammunition Co...Lae NG
636th Ordnance Ammunition Co..Batangas
642nd Ordnance Amm. Co.....El Salvador
643rd Ordnance Ammunition Co.....Leyte
650th Ordnance Ammunion Co.....Biak
14th QM Car Platoon.....Leyte
29th QM Group .....Manila
29th QM Battalion (Mobile).....Manila
28th QM Group .....Manila
57th QM Battalion (Mobile).....Batangas
57th QM Battalion .....Leyte
71st QM Battalion .....Manila
91st QM Railhead Co. .....Mindero
92nd QM Railhead Co. .....La Union
119th QM Battalion (Mobile).....Manila
119th QM Bakery Company
Second Platoon .....Clark Field
233rd QM Laundry Det (Mobile)...Manila
234th QM Laundry Det.....Panay Island
235th QM Laundry Detachment..Pampanga
236th QM Laundry Detachment..Cagayan
237th QM Laundry Detachment..Batangas
238th QM Laundry Detachment....Manila
239th QM Laundry Detachment....Manila
240th QM Laundry Detachment.....Leyte
241st QM Laundry Detachment..Malabang
244th QM Laundry Detachment..Batangas
245th QM Laundry Detachment.....Biak
246th QM Laundry Detachment.....Biak
247th QM Laundry Detachment.....Biak
248th QM Depot Company.....Finschafen
268th QM Battalion .....Manila
275th QM Battalion .....Manila
276th QM Battalion.....Leyte Island
302nd QM Railhead Co. .....Milne Bay
311th QM Battalion .....Biak
321st QM Truck Co. .....Cebu Island
322nd QM Truck Co. .....Cebu Island
323rd QM Truck Co. .....Oro Bay
324th QM Truck Co. .....Oro Bay
325th Gas Supply Company .....Biak
361st Laundry Det. (Mobile).....Manila
369th QM Laundry Co. .....Manila
384th QM Truck Co. .....Manila
390th QM Truck Co. .....Zamboanga
393rd QM Truck Co. .....El Salvador
420th QM Bakery Co. .....Leyte Island
466th QM Truck Co. .....Finschafen
467th QM Truck Co. .....Finschafen
469th QM Battalion (Mobile)..Finschafen
490th QM Battalion .....La Union
491st QM Battalion .....Morotai Island
493rd QM Battalion .....Manila
494th QM Battalion .....Cebu Island
531st QM Battalion .....Mindero Island
539th QM Battalion .....Manila
540th QM Batalion .....Lingayen
543rd QM Battalion .....Milne Bay
557th QM Battalion .....Finschafen
569th QM Railhead Company
1 Platoon .....Negros Island
570th QM Battalion.....Finschafen
572nd QM Railhead Co. .....Hollandia
589th QM Laundry Co. .....Leyte Island
591st QM Salvage Repair Co..Leyte Island
630th QM Battalion .....San Jose
849th QM Gas Supply Co.....El Salvador
897th QM Laundry Co. .....La Union
983rd QM Service Co. .....Malabang
984th QM Service Company ....La Union
985th QM Service Company....Finschafen
986th QM. Service Company....Finschafen
91st QM Service Co. .....Leyte Island
992nd QM Service Co. .....Leyte Island
993rd QM Service Co. .....Biak
994th QM Service Co. .....Leyte Island
1906th QM Truck Co. Avn...Leyte Island
1918th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Okinawa
1932nd QM Truck Co. Avn.....Biak
1943rd QM Truck Co Avn..Palawan Island
1954th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Clark Field
1963rd QM Truck Co. Avn....Clark Field
1998th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Lingayen
2001st QM Truck Co. Avn....Madzab NG
2009th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Lingayen
2011th QM Truck Co. Avn..Mindoro Island
2012th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Okinawa
2013rd QM Truck Co Avn..Palawan Island
2015th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Lingayen
2017th QM Truck Co. Avn..Mindoro Island
2020th QM Truck Co. Avn..Morotai Island
2021st QM Truck Co. Avn....Clark Field
2025th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Clark Field
2026th QM Truck Co. Avn....Finschafen
2027th QM Truck Co. Avn..Leyte Island
2039th QM Truck Co. Avn..Leyte Island
2052nd QM Truck Co. Avn.....Manila
2053rd QM Truck Co. Avn..Leyte Island
2058th QM Truck Co. Avn.....Manila
2059th QM Truck Co. Avn....Leyte Island

U. S. ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC

160th Port Company.....Cebu Island
161st Port Company.....Cebu Island
162nd Port Company.....Cebu Island
164th Port Company.....Leyte Island
167th Port Company .....Manila
179th Port Company .....Batangas
180th Port Company .....Batangas
210th Port Company .....Manila
218th Port Company .....Manila
234th Port Company .....Manila
235th Port Company .....Mindoro
236th Port Company .....Mindoro
493rd Port Battalion.....Leyte Island
503th Port Battalion .....La Union
578th Port Company .....Manila
579th Port Company .....Manila
593rd Port Company .....Hollandia
603rd Port Company .....Biak
608th Port Company .....Leyte Island
610th Port Company .....Manila
611th Port Company .....Manila
637th Port Company .....Finschafen
638th Port Company .....Finschafen
639th Port Company .....Finschafen
650th Port Company .....Lingayen
811th Amphibian Truck Co. ....Lingayen
812th Amphibian Truck Co. ....Batangas
813th Amphibian Truck Co. ..Leyte Island
820th Amphibian Truck Co. .....Manila
824th Amphibian Truck Co. ....Malabang
825th Amphibian Truck Co...Leyte Island
826th Amphibian Truck Co...Leyte Island
851st Port Company.....La Union
852nd Port Company .....La Union
Americal Division Hdq. Company,
Company CS .....Negros Island
7th Cavalry Weapons Troop
Division .....N Laguna
8th Cavalry Hdq. Troop .....Batangas
103rd Infantry (Company I).....Manila
93rd Infantry Div. Hdq...Morotai Island
93rd Inf Div Spe. Troops..Morotai Island
93rd Inf Div Hdq Co.....Morotai Island
93rd Reconnaissance Troop..Morotai Island
318th Engrs. Combat Batt..Morotai Island
93rd Division Artillery.....Zamboanga
593rd Field Artillery Battalion
105th-mm .....Morotai Island
594th Field Artillery Battalion
105th-mm ..... Zamboanga
595th Field Artillery Battalion
105th-mm .....Morotai Island
596th Field Artillery Battalion
155th-mm .....Morotai Island
25th Infantry ..... Zamboanga
368th Infantry .....Zamboanga
318th Medical Battalion....Morotai Island
93rd Div M/Police Platoon..Morotai Island
93rd Infantry Div. Band...Morotai Island
793rd Ordnance Light Maintenance.....
Company .....Morotai Island
93rd QM Company.....Morotai Island
93rd Signal Company.....Morotai Island

Gl's in Hawaii Balked at Work

The Afro American
Baltimore, Maryland
10-6-45

Honorable Discharges Will Be Granted Men RETURNED TO DUTY

Ring Leaders Given 10 to 25 Year Terms

FORT SHAFTER, T.H.—Fifty-two soldiers, convicted of mutiny in this Hawaiian command last fall, have been restored to duty with their original sentences suspended, Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson Jr., commanding general, announced here Wednesday.

Honorable discharges await the men when they become eligible.

They were among 73 soldiers involved in a case of refusal to obey lawful orders given to them by superior officers to report to a night work formation at an airfield on Oahu.

Five ring leaders were given 10 to 25-year sentences, the remaining 68 were given 8 to 10-year sentences.

Fifty-two of the 68 were restored to duty following a training period in a rehabilition company.

Two Trials Held

The mutiny took place on the night of July 31, 1944. All of the men were members of Company E, 1320th Engineer General Service Regiment.

The two courts martial which convicted the men were the first Army trials for mutiny to be held in the Central Pacific area since the outbreak of World War II. No names were disclosed.

A separate trial was held for the five accused as ringleaders with the other 68 being tried at a second court martial. All original sentences called for confinement at hard labor, dishonorable discharge and forfeiture of pay and allowances.

FREE 52 GIS CONVICTED OF MUTINY IN HAWAII

The Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois 10-6-45

FORT SHAFTER, T. H. — 52 Negro soldiers convicted of mutiny in the Hawaiian Command last fall have been restored to duty, with original sentences suspended and honorable discharges awaiting each soldier as soon as he becomes eligible.

They were among 73 involved in a case of refusal to obey lawful orders of superior officers to report to work formation in Oahu.

Five ringleaders were given 10 to 25 year sentences, and the remaining 68 were given 8 to 10 year sentences. 52 of the 68 were restored to duty following training in a rehabilitation company.

End of a 'Mutiny'

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
10-13-45

It is good news that the fifty-two colored soldiers convicted of mutiny in Hawaii last fall have been restored to duty.

This action on the part of the War Department vindicates the contention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that these men were provoked into their action by jim-crowism practiced against them.

The NAACP deserves credit for the persistence with which it fought for the freedom of thse men, going to the highest officials in an effort to get just consideration of their case.

Neither the Army nor the Navy officials can expect young Negroes to take jim-crowism without protest, and while no one will condone disobedience of orders given by superiors, these superiors should live up to the letter and spirit of the Federal Constitution and the regulations they are sworn to uphold.

An even greater injustice was done to the fifty sailors in California who were tried and convicted of mutiny because they balked on loading ammunition ships after a devastating explosion a little before had taken the lives of several hundred of their comrades.

It was later brought out that these men had not actually refused to do the work but had naturally hesitated, knowing the danger involved.

These men should also be freed at the earliest possible date.

If the Army and Navy are interested in having no recurrence of these regrettable incidents, it is suggested that the responsible officials so reorganize the Services that there will be no color discrimination or segregation.

Soldiers and sailors seldom go to the extreme of mutiny unless there is a very good reason for it, and such outbursts are more of a reflection on the officers than on the men.

Says Negroes First To Land on Okinawa

Atlanta World 6-2

Marines Depend On Ducks To Land Guns, Supplies

By JOHN WALKER McCAIN
(B. M. 1-c, a Coast Guard correspondent)

ABOARD AN ATTACK TRANSPORT IN A PACIFIC BATTLE ZONE — (SNS) — Negro Americans everywhere will take the pride in the part the Negroes are playing at Okinawa. The Negro history of America in World War II will include the story of this company, which helped wrest from the Japanese this island of top military importance in the Pacific war.

Before going into battle, Pvt. Herbert W. Seward, of an amphibian truck company, prepared a record of the names and addresses of the men in the unit and after operations had begun he added an account of some of the initial phases of the battle for Okinawa. What follows is based on Private Seward's manuscript. 5-13-45

FIRST TO LAND

Private Seward claim that his unit is the first United States Army outfit to lay foot on the soil of Okinawa. This unit is engaged in supplying the 6th Marine Division and is the only colored unit so engaged. Personnel of the company represents Alabama, Texas, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Virginia, Ohio Maryland, New York, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Iowa, Massachusetts, Indiana, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Michigan, Louisiana, North Carolina and Missouri.

What is this Negro unit doing on Okinawa? They took with them 75mm. guns when they went ashore on the island. They also returned time and time again to haul ammunition and other supplies ashore and to return the wounded to the ships. In short, these Negro men are fighting Americans, doing their share in the battle of Okinawa, which increases in intensity each day. One day this week there were thirteen air raids in less than twenty-four hours. 5-13-45

These fighting Americans have adopted this slogan: "We are the best Duck company in the Army. If you don't believe it, ask the Marines" On landing day (April 1) H-hour was at 8:30 in the morning, and this Negro unit went ashore three hours later.

ONE KILLED

Private Seward concludes his manuscript with these words: "Day-day. In morning of April 1. Gung Ho. Our arty (artillery) throwing it at them. We are bringing it to them. (Later) One of our boys killed last night. Have been working going on 36 hours, no rest, but will continue until we drop."

Okinawa is partially won, and the week is not yet over. With as many as thirteen air aids in one day the battle of Okinawa will never properly be regarded as "easy" even though superb Allied planning and good fortune did make the first day relatively easier than was expected, especially on the beachheads. Organized enemy resistence has intensified during this week, and no man can say how many lives and how long it will yet require to secure the island for full and strategic Allied use in this war. Each day brings new advances—and new problems for our men to meet on Okinawa. When the island is finally brought completely under control, these Negro officers and men with the Sixth Marine Division may well feel pride in the part they are playing in winning this strategic outpost, air base, and supply base for Allied operations in the Pacific.

BUILDING AIRSTRIPS; HAULING SUPPLIES

Pittsburgh Courier Penn. 1-27-45

By BILLY ROWE
(Courier War Correspondent)

WITH GENERAL MacARTHUR'S FORCES, Luzon — Arriving D-Day, and still coming, Tan Yanks of all descriptions are pouring into these channels of war to wrest the Philippines from Japanese aggressors. A part of the largest operation ever contemplated in the Pacific, colored troops are performing every task. Though no infantry troops are in the fight at present, Brown Doughboys are well mixed in as the backbone of combat troops, doing everything from unloading the ships to building airstrips.

SURPRISED ENEMY

From an operational point, the Luzon invasion through Lingayen Gulf was the largest ever aimed at the Japanese forces. From a point of resistance, it was the greatest surprise to the enemy, having pulled out in the face of heavy naval bombardment three days prior to our landing. Long-range shelling was experienced from the hills beyond the city of Lingayen. However, they have since been silenced, and our troops continue their race on the road to Manilla. Our command of the air is complete, and our bombers are making devastating sorties far afield. The only sign of a return air attack came Friday night, but it turned out to be just an alert, and shortly after, we emerged from our foxholes to continue inland missions.

Aviation engineers, a veteran group of youths who have seen three years' service overseas, built the first airstrip in New Hebrides in 1942. They came to Guadalcanal during the hectic campaign of '43, and there built the famous Coli Field. Entering Biak under fire in '44, they completed Seredia Field. Commanded by Maj. Dwayain K. Ford of Seattle, Wash., the 810th entered this operation as one of its most important service units, with a mission to build our first strip under fire.

NEGRO OFFICERS IN COMMAND

One company is commanded by all colored officers, who are First Lieuts. Isham G. Newton, Washington, D.C., commander; Cecil Patterson, Texas; Joseph Kaufman, New Orleans; Joy C. Gould, Washington, and Second Lieut. John Talley, Baltimore. This group came as part of a huge convoy which ranted over many miles. It sailed to the attack right under the noses of the Japanese, passing many heavily fortified points within artillery range. 1-27-45

One day out of Luzon, seven Japanese planes struck fury, but were knocked down into the China Sea without damaging the convoy or halting its progress. Two members of the 810th were killed, however, and twelve were wounded as the evening was filled with flak. Each of these men was in action at the time, aiding the naval crew of their LST, who in turn helped account for the six planes destroyed.

The remainder of the trip was made without incident, and the convoy steamed into Luzon on schedule, but the only Japanese we saw was a dead one ironically floating out to the China Sea. The other units spotted along the beachhead at first glance were the 1998th and 4667th Quartermaster Trucking Companies, the 828th Aviation Engineers, and the 210th.

Record of 636th Under Fire Cited

AFRO-AMERICAN 6-2-45 Bra.

By CHARLES LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

LUZON—The bivouac area of the 636th Ordnance Ammunition Company is quiet now, but during the past six months these men have shown that they possess all the attributes of first-class fighting men.

The company, which marked its third anniversary of active overseas service on May 18, has received the meritorious service plaque and the men expect soon to be declared eligible to wear the Bronze Arrowhead Award for assault landings on hostile shores.

With First Troops on Leyte

Last October 20, attached to the 24th Infantry Division, the 636th, less its rear echelon, participated in "A" Day landings at Leyte, P.I., swarming over Red Beach 65 minutes after the first assault wave landed.

For a month, from Red Beach to Pinamopoan, they maintained a steady stream of ammunition to front line troops, proving in this initial baptism of fire their steadiness, endurance, courage and technical dependability.

Four generals joined in the shower of commendations: Maj. Gen. R. B. Woodruff, Lt. Gen. Walter Kruegar, Maj. Gen. J. L. Frink, and Maj. Gen. F. C. Sibert. 6-2-45

In Luzon Invasion

On January 29, attached to the 38th Infantry Division and the 34th Regimental Combat Team, the unit took part in the initial landings at La Paz, Luzon, with the initial duty of operating beachhead ammunition dumps.

On February 15, 1 officer and 20 enlisted men landed with the Task Force at Mariveles, Luzon, and captured four Jap soldiers, one an officer.

Among Easterners in the company are:

MARYLAND—Cpl. James A. Harris, Annapolis; Pvt. Leroy H. Ligon, 1920 McCulloh St., Baltimore; Pvt. James Owens, 1017 Leadenhall St., Baltimore; Pfc. Russell M. Perkins, Easton; T/5 John Scott, Quincetown.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — T/4 Christopher C. Hough, First Sgt. Murphy J. Leach, 609 U St.; T/Sgt. James E. Robinson, 1415 Morris Rd., S.E. 6-2-45

VIRGINIA—S/Sgt. Preston P. Cason, Norfolk; Pvt. Nelson Cottoms, Lignomin; Pfc. Norman Drew, Norfolk; Pfc. George T. McCall, Clincho; S/Sgt. Morris J. Parker, Portsmouth; Cpl. George Shepard, Petersburg, and T/4 Thomas E. Venable, Randolph.

PENNSYLVANIA—Pfc. Thomas E. Colbert Jr., 2600 E. Glenwood Dr., Philadelphia, and Pvt. Woodrow Smith, Pittsburgh.

NEW YORK—Pfc. Percy G. Dean, Manhasset, L.I.; Pfc. Reverend L. Hedspeth, NYC; Sgt. Joseph L. McKnight, NYC; Pfc. Edward Midgette, Brooklyn; M/Sgt. William R. Spencer, NYC; Pvt. James O. Troupe, Inwood, and Pfc. Rupert C. Weston, NYC.

Negro Troops in New Guinea

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Senator Eastland, the gentleman from Mississippi, who said that Negro units in this war have been a failure, should have been in New Guinea during the dark days of 1942 when both white and Negro worked like hell to push the Japs back—and did. Then maybe his tune would be a different one. I am high in my praise for the Negro soldier, but I can't say as much for the gentleman from Mississippi. Why in the hell doesn't the Senator mind his own business instead of causing a lot of controversy among the men who are winning the war? Maybe I don't know what I'm talking about, because I've had only 37 months in the Pacific.

CPL. FRED PETERS
Camp Pickett. 7-14-45

Negro Soldiers, Sailors Right In Thick Of Things

6-16-45

Loeb Discovers Friends Among Camp's Mess

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

GUAM— Your correspondent has just spanned the 1500 miles of Pacific Ocean that separates Manila from Guam. There's plenty of action north of here where our combined naval, land and air arms are knocking on the threshold of the Japanese mainland, and as usual, Negro soldiers and sailors are right in the thick of things.

When I departed Luzon for this theatre I regarded the island of Letye scene of our first Philippine strike, as merely a stopover point in my hop by air. I hadn't figured that I would spned nearly three full days in a casual camp near Tacloban while more important people with higher priorities were sped on their vital missions.

Having neither the stomach for the casual camp's traditionally mediocre mess, nor the disposition to share a squad tent with a dozen-odd sad-faced gents in my predicament, I decided to spend the time in pop calls on Negro units in the vicinity. 6-16-45

MEETS BALLARD

Before striking out from the camp I bumped into John C. Ballard, 1214 Lamont St., N. W. Washington, D. C. newly-prompted Field Director for the American Red Cross, former member of the faculty at Tennessee A and I College at Nashville. Ballard had flown up from Finchaven and was awaiting air transportation to Manila where he will join the rapidly increasing number of Negro Red Cross workers coming into Luzon to administer the welfare and recreational needs of Negro troops.

Ballard informed me that Miss Clara Wells, 1106 Rusk St., Marshall, Texas, was at a nearby casual camp, also enroute to Manila where she expects to assist in the operation of the Robert S. Treswell Club directed by Ralph Long of Atlanta, Georgia.

After 22 months of Red Cross service in Australia, New Guinea and the Netherlands East Indies, Miss Wells still radiates enthusiasm for her work. While hardly a glamour girl type, Miss Wells is one of the most popular women workers on theis side. She has the open friendliness that makes an instant hit with GI's wherever she goes, but combines it with a poise and dignity that commands instant respect. 6-16-45

She had arrived at Leyte only the day before, but had already visited several units nearby. Word of her presence had spread via the army grapevine like wildfire, and as I talked to her 1st Sgt George F. Hinton drove up in a jeep with a dinner invitation from his outfit. the invitation extended me was a pure afterthought.

EATS FRIED CHICKEN

The piece-de-resistance was Southern fried chicken which I concentrated on devouring while Miss Wells was being devoured by the admiring glances of the entire company. At the conclusion of the dinner my sensational gastronomic performance brought out the following men to gaze at me with awe and at Miss Wells with unconcealed rapture.

Company clerk Richard L. Cogdell, 426 King Street, Fayetteville, North Carolina; Sgt. Judge H. Dixon, 5400 Villerie St., New Orleans, La.; Motor Sgt. Clifton W. Bell, 116 Washington St., Baton Rouge, La.; T/4 Richard J. Brown, 1640 Bergen St., Brooklyn; Sgt. Henry R. Walker, 3 Quincy Place, Washington, D. C.; Sgt. Arthur A. Jones 1319 Howard St., Sgt. Albert Curry, 3225 Thalia St., and Cpl. Herman Chapman, 4100 Thalia St., all of New Orleans, La.

Miss Wells was the first American Negro girl many of these men had seen in two years, and her reception would certainly have been a morale booster to those thousands of brown "left behinds" in the States who have been apprehensive over the effects of their favorite Tan Yanks' exposure to the Filipino feminine. 6-16-45

After dinner, I visited a Quartermaster Headquarters detachment of 14 men who are doing the administrative paper work for some 30-odd Quartermaster units stationed around Tacloban. Learning that I was a Clevelander, Sgt. Major Ricer Ray Leathers of St. Louis, Mo., hastened to call in one of my old friends, Sgt. John Hubbard of that city.

ANSWERS ALL MAIL

Hubbard, I discovered was in better touch with Cleveland events than myself, being one of those conscientious fellows who answer every letter received out here promptly. He is the son of the late Councilman John E. Hubbard, and brother of Nate Hubbard, news distributor for the big national weeklies in Cleveland. His mother is Mrs. Gilbert H. Ambrose of 2215 E. 32nd St.

Sgt Leathers also introduced me to the following men: T/Sgt. Robert Dinsmore, Kansas City, Mo.; T/Sgt Samuel A. Jolly, Topeka, Kans., T/5 Chester Warren Oxford, Ohio; T/5 Thomas O. Wilson, Norfolk, Va.; T/5 Marion Cheatham, Detroit; T/5 Allen C. Thomas, St. Louis, Mo.; and privates first class Kenneth Barnes, Brooklyn; Milton Murrell Los Angeles; William B. White, Atlanta, and Robert Barham, Atlanta, Ga.

It was beer ration day, and the boys shared generously of their new issue.

On the docks at Leyte I was introduced to one of the most colorful Negro commissioned officers in the Philippines, Lt. James H. Hopkins of 2314 N. 5th St., Kansas City Kans. Lt. Hopkins was in charge of crews backloading a big transport leaving for the States. With him was Lieut. Chester "Chet" Thomas, former Cleveland E. Teck and Ohio State track star. Both men were officers of a company commanded by 1st Lieut. Frank Marshall of Helena, Montana.

Lieut. Hopkins, approaching baldness, and chewing on a cigar, was full of tall stories and rare humor. A veteran of four campaigns since he was dumped off in Australia, shipped to New Guinea and subsequently to the Philippines, he is unabashed by the fact that he is still a second lieutenant.

Take 6 Isles With One Shot

Chicago Def.

GUAM—Six islands taken with one shot fired was the record made here this week by two busy Negro platoons.

Landing on six small islands in the northern Marianas, the troops of the 24th Infantry Regiment were forced to fire only one shot at a Japanese who refused to surrender. 7-1-45

Purely a reconnoitering operation to locate more areas where crippled Superforts could crash land while limping back from the raids on Japan, the troops left no holding force behind.

The operations were carried out by two platoons of Negro infantrymen aided by native guides and Japanese captives who promised their compatriots good treatment in the hands of Americans.

The "naval force" consisted of a destroyer escort, and two 153-foot LCI's (land craft, infantry).

As the troops went ashore, Japanese prisoners manned a microphone aboard the destroyer escort, assuring their stranded countrymen in Japenese-language messages over the loud speaker that they would be treated kindly.

The lone shot was fired by a guide, a single pistol cartridge.

The colored troops removed 24 Japanese civilians and 34 natives, employes of a Japanese copra company and survivors of sunken Jap merchantmen. The natives needed medical attention and were taken to Saipan along with some Okinawa fishermen.

Ample foodstuffs were left there for about 260 natives and Japanese civilians who remained behind.

Guam, Tinian and Saipan, the largest islands in the chain, are already firmly held by Americans.

The six new islands are Anatahan, Saigarn, Alamagan, Agrihan, Asconcion and Maug. Maug was the only island which showed signs of Japanese military occupancy. A weather station was once maintained there but it was bombed out earlier in the Marianas campaign.

Unit Transferred From N. Guinea To Philippines

Atlanta Daily World

Major Simmons, Of Washington, Commands Outfit

7-13-45

BY CONRAD CLARK

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SWPA — (ANP) — Overseas since October, 1943, the SWPA's only all-Negro staffed hospital has been transferred from "somewhere in New Guinea," where it had been stationed for more than 13 months, to Manila, capital of the Philippine islands.

The sea voyage from New Guinea took more than 10 days, including a few days layover in the Netherlands East Indies.

The outfit, which is commanded by Major Arthur H. Simmons of Washington includes 13 medical officers, 11 nurses, and an enlisted detachment of 94 men, and one second lieutenant.

PERSONNEL LISTED

Members of the officers' personnel are Major Simmons, C. O., former physician of Freedman's hospital, and a member of the Howard U., faculty; Captain Robert P. Randolph, Durham, N. C., chief of medical service; Capts. Joseph H. Mitchell, Los Angeles, registrar and chief of the x-ray department; Kenneth E. Fletcher, Jackson, Tenn., chief of surgery; William H. Wilson, Abbeville, S. C., surgeon; John W. Skinner, receiving and laboratory officer; William C. Rogers, Philadelphia, pharmacy and ward officer; Edward C. Booker, of New York City detachment commander; Rotan Lee, Montclair, N. J., assistant surgean and chief of anesthesia. Clay M. Wilson, Pasadona, Cal., psychiatrist; and 1st Lt.,s Lowell M. Burrell, of Detroit, mess officer and assistant detachment commander and Barnett M. Rhetta, Jr., former physician at Freedmen's hospital, Washington, detached service with another medical unit. 7-13-45

Other officers not with the hospital anymore are Captains Arthur H. Thomas, Philadelphia, evacuated last year to America; Charles R. Joseph, Brooklyn, transferred to a QM unit; and 1st Lt. William S. Hendricks, Los Angeles, former registrar also evacuated last year to America.

The last two officers to be added to the hospital's staff are Captains Wilson, surgeon and C. M. Wilson, (no relation) the psychiatrist.

NURSES 7-13-45

Nurses are 1st Lts. Alberta L. Smith, Kansas City, Mo., principal chief nurse; Prudence L. Burns, assistant to the chief nurse; Elena A. Townsend, Long Island, N. Y., operating room nurse; Geneva H. Culpepper, Wadley, Ala., surgical nurse; Eleanor P. Jones, Ottoman, Va., dietician, replacing 1st Lt Jean Hamilton of Kansas City., Mo., evacuated to America some months ago; Birdie E. Brown, Jamaica, L. I., general nurse; Thelma L. Fisher, Roxbury, Mass., general nurse; Inez E. Holmes, Norfolk. Va., operating room nurse; Dorothy O Branker, Nashville, general nursing service; Marjorie S. Mayers, New York City, medical ward nurse and recreation officer; and Beulah L. Baldwin, in charge of surgical ward

1st Lts. Bessie P. Evans, of St. Louis, the former hospital's dietician; Louise Miller, Los Angeles, formerly in charge of the surgical and operating room, and 2nd Lt Claudia Matthews, Carlsbad, New Mexico, general surgical nurse, who came overseas with the hospital in October, 1943, have also been evacuated to America.

Says Negroes Have Gained China Respect

Atlanta World 3-3-45

War Correspondent Bolden Reveals Li-Jen's Praise

BY FRANK E BOLDEN
(NNPA War Correspondent)

ENROUTE WITH FIRST CONVOY OVER BURMA ROAD, BURMA — (Delayed) — In an exclusive interview with this correspondent, General Sun Li-jen, brilliant commander of the crack Chinese First Army here in Burma, praised the ability and work of American Negro soldiers whose unstinted efforts had contributed in such a large measure to the successful construction and opening of the Ledo Road connecting link with the Burma Road. 3-3-45

Said he, "Please express to the Negro people of American through your press channels my statement of gratitude and appreciation for the valiant efforts of their sons which helped to complete the construction of the Ledo Road. Their fortitude, industriousness, skill, and contagious disposition of good humor was nothing short of magnificent. Their ability to surmount the seemingly insurmountable obstacles which persistently confronted the Allied Engineers charged with the task of constructing a road through almost impossible terrain was an inspiration of hope to all that the job could be done.

"As Commander of the Chinese First Army, I wish to compliment these American Negro soldiers and gentlemen second to none. I feel sure that they have brought distinguished credit to their country and their race by their meritorious contributions here in Burma to the Allied successes over the common enemy. Having worked side by side during construction, Negro troops have gained the respect and admiration of Chinese troops under my command and they join me in this expression of praise. I am also sure that the Chinese people will be ever grateful for your peoples' contributions in helping to establish world freedom for all nations loving liberty."

Re-supply Outfit in Nearly Every Invasion of Pacific

AFRO-American 5-26-45

PHILIPPINES—Activated primarily to supply trained personnel for handling air-borne supplies and personnel for the Fifth Air Force, the 4th Air Cargo Resupply Squadron has seen service in almost every major invasion since August. Balt., Md.

Composed entirely of colored troops under white officers, the outfit was among the first at Biak, Morotai, Leyte, Mindoro and Luzon.

Typical is the action which followed the landing at Clark Field of a huge transport plane loaded with photographic and radio equipment and radar and airplane replacement parts.

Led by Philadelphian

Almost simultaneously with the opening of the plane's side door, a 6 by 6 Army truck ground to a stop and five Tan Yanks, led by Sgt. Frank A. Mitchell of 1928 N. Camac St., Philadelphia, jumped out. 5-26-45

Using one of the newly-developed fork lifts, they unloaded the delicate equipment "on the double," speeding the "top priority" materiel to the front without damage tot freight or plane.

Nearly 80 per cent of the unit, which was commended by the Navy for its action at Mindoro, have been or will be awarded the Good Conduct Medal, while half of the truck drivers have the Automotive Operator's Award.

Few Courts-Martial

Unit court-martials have been kept down by 1st Lt. William Avery of Greensboro, N.C., who instituted an "Off Limits Tent," in which all offenders are deprived of all companionship, reading and writing materials. 5-26-45

The first sergeant is Louis P. McHenry of 719 Howard Rd., S.E., Washington, a Howard University Law School graduate, who was commended by the Fifth AAF adjutant general for investigation necessary to setting up the Clark Field detail.

Awarded Purple Heart

Another Washingtonian is Pfc. Ransteen Johnson, 4853 Rockwood Parkway, who received one of the unit's two Purple Hearts, having been wounded by shrapnel in the Mindoro invasion. He is married.

Sergeant Mitchell, mentioned earlier, and another of the outfit's key men, is single and a graduate of Cheney State Teachers' College, Cheney, Pa., where he excelled in football, track and basketball.

Engineer Battalion Mourns Loss of Brave Pa. Soldier

AFRO-American

Balt., Md.

By CHARLES LOEB
NNAP War Correspondent

5-26-45

SOMEWHERE ON LUZON—The loss of Big Jim Carter, victim of a Jap sniper, has been felt very keenly here by officers and soldiers alike of the 870th Engineer Aviation Battalion.

Big Jim, T/Sgt. James W. Carter, 36, Erie, Pa., a 6-foot, 230-pound former amateur boxer and ball player, was both loved and feared by his men, and he possessed that utter disdain for danger that leads men down the glory trail.

Holder of the Bronze Star for meritorious service during the New Guinea campaign, Big Jim was killed while leading a squad in search of Japs who had been spotted in the vicinity of vital U.S. installations on Luzon.

A Jap sniper got him through the heart after he had killed three Nips with his tommy gun, and a hand grenade had accounted for two others. 5-26-45

Medics Too Late

Big Jim's buddies covered his prone body with a steady fire from their M-1 rifles, but the answering fire of the concealed Nips made it almost impossible to reach his body. T/5 Johnny Priester of Columbia, S.C., went back for help.

A party of medics which included T/5 Percy Irby, News Ferry, Va.; and Cpl. George Basquette, New York City, and the battalion surgeon, Captain Ritter, rushed to the spot, but it was fully 20 minutes before they could reach the body. Big Jim was dead.

Meanwhile the entire area was in a furor. Infantrymen from the 38th Infantry Division, Filipino guerilas, and four picked platoons from the 870th converged on the pocketed Japs, estimated at 200.

The Jap hunt continued for three days, ending April 28, accounting for a total of 160 Japs killed and 21 captured. The 870th was credited with 18 killed and 4 captured. 5-26-45

The 870th patrols were led by Sgts. Leslie Tatum of Mt. Vernon, N.Y.; Whitfield Scott, Charlotte Court House, Va., and F/Sgt. Lenwood Traywick, Southerville, Ga.

The following men each bagged one or more Japs during the brief conflict: Cpl. Johnnie Priester, Columbia, S.C.; Pvt. Milton Shorter, Washington, D.C.; Sgts. Whitfield Scott and Cornelius Roberts.

Praised by C.O.

Eighteen to one is a praiseworthy ratio over here in Luzon, but there's little elation in the 870th over this demonstration that they can fight as well as they work.

"It's a damn poor exchange for Sgt. Carter," Lt. Col. George D. Burch, commanding officer declared with visible emotion. "He was one of the best soldiers I have ever commanded. I shall recommend him for the Distinguished Service Medal. He certainly deserves it." 5-26-45

Sgt. Carter's nearest of kin is his brother, Wilson Carter, 613½ Harr St., Harrisburg, Pa., who has been notified of his death.

The burial ceremony for the soldier was conducted by Chaplain (Captain) Ernest N. Mattison of Washington, D.C., while 28 of his buddies stood at attention, many of them openly weeping as the Battalion Glee Club sang "The Lord's Prayer" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

Unit First Saw Action At Bay On Bougainville

Ga.

Fought Alongside Vets During The Solomons Fighting

Atlanta Daily World

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The famous 93rd division is being moved into the Philippines on the road to Tokyo while the 92nd division is being readied to return home after battling the Germans in Italy, the war departmentr revealed last week.

The 93rd, the first Negro ground unit larger than a regiment to engage the enemy in this war, first saw action at Empress Augusta bay on Bougainville island early in 1944, when it fought alongside the veteran American division during the campaign for the Solomons.

OVERSEAS IN 1944

7-12-45

In January, 1944, the 93rd went overseas under the command of Major General Raymond H. Lehman of Minnesota, and landed at Guadalcanal on February 7, 1944. The division had its first encounter with the enemy in April on Bougainville and is also entitled to battle credit for participation in the northern Solomons campaign. Maj. Gen. Harry H. Johnson, Glenflora, Texas, is currently in command.

The first all-Negro fighting unit to face the Japanese was the 24th Infantry regiment, now engaged in mopping up enemy remnants on Saipan. Members of this unit recently landed on six small islands in the northern Marianas and captured their Japanese and native inhabitants without a fight. The 24th encountered the Japanese when it landed in the New Georgia islands two days before the beginning of the Battle of the Coral sea, May 4 1942. 7-12-45

SINGLED OUT

This regiment, a regular army outfit, was singled out by the inspector general for its exceptionally meritorious conduct on Saipan where it exhibited excellent discipline and high morale while destroying an impressive number of the enemy.

The arrival of the 92nd from Italy is expected soon.

Brooks Tells Of Entry Into China With First Convoy On Stilwell Road

Chicago Defender Ill.

2-10-45

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

ALONG THE LEDO ROAD—For two years black and white American engineer troops have toiled through monsoon and heat to blaze a supply route to China.

Today that road is serviceable. The first token convoy has crossed into China with the first Negro soldiers to enter that ancient land and I am with this convoy.

With American and Chinese flags flying from each vehicle, Chinese and American drivers in each cab, newsreel cameramen grinding away, planes saluting overhead, and white-helmeted motorcycle-mounted MP outriders leading the way, this convoy got started in the bright afternoon sun in a frenzy of fanfare from point mile zero on the Ledo Road.

It was December, 1942, that the first American engineer contingent—a black contingent—arrived at Ledo, Assam, in India and poised to plunge into the wilds of northern Burma. They were literally at the end of civilization. Nothing but jungle trails lay ahead. No group before had dared try master this monsoon-swept, malarial-infested terrain which rises and falls into a series of five green-crusted mountains and intervening valleys.

Blaze New Trail

Yet a road to China had to go through, for all existing routes had been closed. China was sealed from the sea. The Japs occupied all its ports. British and American troops had been run out of Burma. Thus the land route across central Burma from the port of Rangoon connecting with the Burma road—the road that thousands and thousands of Chinese coolies had torn from mother earth with their hands—was useless.

That was December 1942. And two weeks when this convoy composed of trucks, carry-alls and jeeps—all loaded with supplies for the Chinese—some even pulling new artillery pieces—moved out of Ledo on the road to China, it stood as a symbol of a hard-earned victory. It was a tribute to American engineering genius and to the strength and toughness of the ordinary GI—better than 50 per cent of whom are Negroes—who have lived in "hell" these two years to make it possible for our government to keep its commitments to the Chinese government and thereby come closer to winning the war.

I have been with these boys as they worked through the jungles. I have seen their lead bulldozer at the point of the road plowing through foliage so thick that daylight never penetrates. I have seen these same bulldozers cutting a new trace 5,000 feet high at the edge of a straight-dropping cliff. Oftimes they worked drenched to the skin knee-deep in mud. At other times they burned in broiling hot sun. They have been discouraged by heart-breaking landslides caused by heavy downpours which no engineering technique could avoid. They have lived on monotonous jungle rations. They have gone for months without even a movie for entertainment. 2-10-45

Some have succumbed to dread jungle diseases—others killed by inevitable accidents. The lead units operated so close behind the fighting lines, they were constantly harrassed by snipers. Yet these troops kept working doggedly forward. So today, though central Burma is not clear and the Japs still have the Chinese ports, supplies can get through by land.

When the convoy left Ledo, I was the only war correspondent who elected to accompany it on this first 270-mile stretch to Myitkyina, strategic center of northern Burma. This was the most difficult section to build. It is also the stretch where most of the colored boys have toiled and sweated to date. So I had a very personal reason for starting at the beginning.

Travelling the Ledo Road again was like coming home. It had been three months since I had first gone over its traces with a convoy—and then it did not lead all the way to Myitkyina. The mountain passes are wider now. Two six by sixes can comfortably go 'round a curve at the same time. The road is hard-surfaced all the way. There were regular convoy stations where one could get a hot meal.

There were motor maintenance shops and gas installations strung out along the way. It could have been any American highway, but for the ever-present jungles standing as background. 2-10-45

Keep Working

But as we rolled through the late afternoon sun and on into the night, there were still thousands of colored boys mounted atop bulldozers and tractors and gravel crushers widening and improving — for weather being what it is in this section of the world, this is a job which will never be completed. They would look up from their work, wave a friendly greeting and anxiously scan the long convoy for the face of colored drivers. They knew its importance as a gesture of friendship to the Chinese and they wanted our allies to know that black Americans had a part too in making it possible.

Time after time clusters of trucks with goggled, dust-covered colored GIs in the cab whizzed past us high-balling it back to Ledo from their regular convoy run. Alongside the road were more Negroes of signal construction companies, stringing new lines of communications. 2-10-45

Later when we stopped for the night Second Lt. Harris, Minneapolis, Minn., a Negro quartermaster put up the whole military press section accompanying me so that we would not have to sleep in the open in jungle hammocks.

Select Nine Drivers

It was Second Lt. Wharton, another Negro quartermaster officer in charge of the rest station mess who saw that we had a good hot breakfast in the morning.

It took three days to complete the trip to Myitkyina. Like the boys I was anxious to know if Negro drivers were to accompany this first convoy to China. This matter was discussed with both Generals Dan F. Sultan, and Lewis A. Pick, in charge of construction, and they immediately ordered that this should be done.

Radios went back to Ledo. Nine crack drivers selected from several colored quartermaster battalions were ordered to draw full equipment and new vehicles and proceed to Myitkyina. These boys have arrived, I have talked to them at the bivouac area. Their names are as follows: Sgts. George Butler, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Harold Lopez, New York City; Cpl. Otis Minor, Smyrna, S. C.; T-5's Richard Barnett, York, S. C.; Sumner Grant, Augusta, Ga.; Richard Street, Millsboro, Del.; Wilbur T. Miller, Tupelo, Miss.; Otha Adams, Sheridan, Ark.; James Aldridge, Louisville, Ky. 2-10-45

Together with T-5 Edgar Moore, Dodge City, Kans., one of eight soldiers from engineering units selected to represent this branch of the service, they were the first Negro troops to enter China.

Entering China in a jeep to become the first Negro soldier of the United States to cross the border was Barnett.

"I didn't know that I was a first," Barnett said, "but I'm proud of the honor because of the folks back home and the fellows who worked on the road with me. We have worked with Chinese and they are fine fellows to work with. For some 15 months they have treated us like brothers. There are few people we would rather help than our new friends. I'm glad to be driving in this convoy."

They are extremely proud of this honor. As Sgt. Lopez said, "I'm tickled pink to be part of this history-making first convoy. I'm sure the other fellows feel the same way. We've worked hard as hell, and we're glad to know that when this gesture of friendship between China and America is being symbolized, our racial group has not been forgotten." 2-10-45

General Pick further stated at a press conference that when regular convoys start rolling into China, colored as well as white trucking companies will be used. If this is done it will put an end to persistent rumors circulating out here that, "The Chinese government has refused to allow Negro troops in that country."

As a matter of fact, Chinese and Negro drivers have worked together for the past two years. Those Chinese, who are on this first convoy, are old Burma road boys who came to Burma when this road was closed. They have slept in the same rest stations and driven alternate convoys with colored boys during this period of time.

Filipinos and Aussies

Courier Journal Louisville, Ky. 8-16-45

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

In an Army paper, Maptalk, your newspaper was quoted as saying that "the Filipinos are our best allies in the Pacific."

I agree with the wholehearted praise given these people by you. The Filipinos certainly deserve it; but they aren't "allies" against a common enemy. My experiences here have convinced me that they are as American as the people of my home State, California, or yours.

Until the Fourth of July, 1946, these people enjoy all the rights of American nationals. When Manila was lost, it was as though San Francisco had been captured, and, when the Philippines were liberated, it was not "allies" but fellow-Americans we were freeing. Louisville, Ky.

Our best allies in the Pacific are the Australians and they too deserve ungrudging praise. Australia has had 870,000 men under arms, including six infantry divisions of 100,000 men fighting the Japanese in Borneo, New Guinea, New Britain and on Bougainville in the Solomons.

These battles have been eclipsed since then by the American liberation of Dutch New Guinea and the 17 U. S. divisions' reconquest of the Philippines; but on V-E Day Australia had suffered 19,430 killed, 35,595 wounded and 25,276 captured, 87,256 casualties out of 870,000 men under arms, or one man in ten. 8-16-45

While we praise the bravery of the 75,000 Filipinos who stood off the Japs at Bataan side by side with 15,000 Americans and the courage of the guerrilla bands during the three years of occupation, let's also laud the six Australian Infantry divisions of New Guinea and Borneo, the 75,000 men of the R.A.F., who supported ground troops not only in the Philippines and Borneo but also south of the equator, and the Australian Navy, whose cruisers Sydney, Shropshire and Australia have supported every landing from New Britain to Leyte and Tarakan and whose cruiser Canberra was lost in the battle of the Solomons.

The war-torn Philippines will need financial assistance aplenty to rebuild Manila. Their agriculture must be helped with seed and fertilizer until the islands can again feed themselves, and they deserve American food every bit as much as did the Dust Bowl victims of the United States.

Australia has not asked for anything under lend-lease but planes, tanks, trucks and guns with which to kill Japs, and farm machinery and seed with which to feed her own fighting troops and the U. S. armed forces in the Pacific. All the Australians want after the war is a share in policing the area south of the equator and reciprocal trade agreements with America so that they can trade gold and wool for Fords and Caterpillars. Canada, Australia and New Zealand are eager to help the U. S. in the big job of feeding the world.

Manila, P. I. Cpl. JOHN C. BODGER, JR.

Discrimination Is Hated By Russians Says Bolden

Atlanta World Ga. 1-21-45

Red Officers Lavish In Praise Of Colored Troops

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
U. S. WAR CORRESPONDENT
(Representing the Atlanta Daily World Newspapers Publishers Association)
(Copyright)

TEHERAN, IRAN— By Courier, Delayed — What are the Russians like? This had been the sixty-four dollar question which had pricked my curiosity for quite a number of years. 1-21-45

During the course of my stay here in the Middle East I have had the opportunity of satisfying some of that curiosity. I have met some of the sons and daughters of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and I have found them to be a people that you can immediately feel at home with upon initial introduction.

SING WITH NEGROES

I have seen the men and women of Soviet Russia working with deadly earnestness and skill. I have eaten sturgeon, herring, and caviar from the Caspin with them, as well as salami and hard bread. I have seen and heard two-head men of the Red Army sing American and Russian songs with our colored GIs. I have seen friendly, blonde Moscow maidens dance with our Tan Yanks. And we have xechanged mutual praises for each others country's contributions in this war against aggression.

This young stripling nation of twenty-six years, which has rejected the poison of racial discrimination and whose ideological hope is to reach that stage in economic development where at the minimum everyone will get samething; has replaced Germany as the greatest power on the continent of Europe, and has emerged as tomorrows' strongest military and industrial force in Asia. It is the new colossus of the twentieth century.

You cannot help but be impressed by the well-disciplined, big, healthy looking, almost perpetually smiling troops in gray-green, mock-bloused uniforms and red tabs of the Red Army. You get the full meaning of total mobilization when you see the Russian women looking neat and amazingly fresh in their plain uniforms or simple dresses, which have been designed more for utilitarian value than for style, working at such tasks as railroad engineers and oilers-jobs which we back home generally reserve for the manual skill of men. Almost all of those whom I saw had well-developed figures. They carried themselves straight and walked extremely well. 1-21-45

Observing these men and women at work here on the supply line, you get a feeling of organization, purpose, and efficiency. They are painstakingly thorough. Every carload of supplies is carefully checked and weighed by their own checkers before Russian authorities will accept it. There must be no mistakes. The Russians do not tolerate such. If there are any-well, among these people you just don't make mistakes. They are exacting in their prosecution of this war and mistakes are considered as crimes against the State! 1-21-45

Husky men of the Red Army load and unload supplies drive trucks and trains, fly planes, and in general keep an over-all eyes on their throbbing lifeline. Healthy, determined-looking women from the shores of the Caspian, who are quite adept at the use of firearms, serve as road guards; and others perform duties as checkers at supply, lumps, interpreters, stenographers, and chauffeurs; while still others work on the railroad.

Some of the men working on the supply line are convalescing from injuries received while at the fighting front. One husky, Georgian youth, who spoke some English and enjoyed my brand of tobbaco, was recovering from a shrapnel wound that had left a depression on his abdomen almost the size of my fist. He was able to do light work and was supervising the loading of supplies on trucks.

PRAISE RACE TROOPS 1-21-45

I had interviews with Lt. Cols. Vladimir Sokolov and Victor Semenchenko, of Moscow, both of whom have seen colored troops in action here on the supply line. Through their respective interpreters Miss Nila Nordstein and Lt. Vladimir Glouskine we were able to exchange conversation with consummate case. 1-21-45

Said Lt. Col. Sokolov, "Negro troops here on the docks, who have been unloading supplies, are very good workers, and soldiers. They are some of the best I have seen. They are deserving of much praise. We judge men by their ability to produce and not on the superficial basis of color and the like. Yes they do well."

Lt. Col. Semenchenko, who has observed the work on at another gulf port here in the Command, remarked to this correspondent that, "Your Negro troops are very hard-working men. They know what to do and like to do it." "You know," he continued, "In Russia that is how we judge a man, by his productivity —his ability to do work. He deserves an opportunity to prove himself. This is a Constitutional right and privilege in the Soviet State." He concluded with the remark that, "We, who have observed your men at work here on the supply line, think that they have done a good job."

SUGGESTS VISITS

The brilliant Miss Nordstein suggested that Americans try and learn more about the Russian people. "People are always more interesting to study and learn things from, than governments," she said. "We try and learn all about your people and you must do the same about ours. Social and cultural intercourse will establish strong bonds of friendship. Your people who can, must visit us more often," she advised. During peacetime Soviet Russia has no restrictive laws against immigration nor visitations.

Russia's post-war economic objective is the reconstruction of war-ravaged areas and a general raising of the standard of living of all its citizens, who have given freely of everything in this war-life, wealth, and leisure. 1-21-45

The USSR will certainly welcome railway and electrical equipment ,mining and industrial machinery-road-building and machine tools; together with engineers and technical advisers. She will also welcome long-term credits in order to purchase heavy equipment. The record of the Soviet nation and the character of its people show that she is deserving of such help. The recrod attests to the fact that the Russians will stick to the letter and spirit of any agreement which they sign. As for their character, the people are now a proud nation, confident in themselves and their leaders, a nation that has met a crisis in the from of a life-and-death struggle and has emerged with the energy, will, and faith to carry out reforms destined to make world history. They know that somebody would have to fight for themselves and their country; they did not count on anyone else doing thier fighting for them; so they prepared.

DELAYS VISIT

I was invited to pay a visit to Russia, but a previous assignment demanded that I delay acceptance of such an invitation until a later date.

This great nation of 16 Federated Republics, 60 different nationalities among them such people as the burnished bronze Buriat Mongols, Tajiks and Turkomans from deep south, dark-skinned Uzbeks, and the Tartars, Ukranians, Yakuts, and Samoyeds from far-northern Siberia, with their Moslems, Armenian, Russian, Georgian, and Mongoloid features; and with a continental area three times as large as that of the United States, will emerge from this war with the largest and most powerful army in Europe and Asia. Industrially she will be outranked only by America and Great Britain. In undeveloped raw materials she will lead the world. 1-21-45

As Tutchev, a Russian poet, wrote in one of his poems, 'You cannot understand Russia with your reason; you cannot measure Russia with a yardstick; you can only believe in Russia.' These are the Russians.

So. Pacific Chaplain Says:

Faiths, Races, Creeds Forgotten On Fronts

Pittsburgh Courier p2 3-17-45

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—(ANP)—"When the chips were down and we were facing the implacable Japanese, I found the lines of faith and races forgoten. The Jew fought side by side with the Protestant. The Catholic was on the other end of a stretcher bearing a Negro," Chaplain Karl B. Justus, recently returned from twenty months duty overseas in the South Pacific, said at a meeting of the New Haven Round Table, National Conference of Christians and Jews. 3-17-45

"Out of these experiences," he continued, "is born a bond of fellowship which continues across the years and which even the creeds of different faiths cannot mar." Chaplain Justus said he had been a chaplain aboard a combat transport and though he was a Protestant chaplain, found men of the Catholic, Protestant and Hebrew faiths frequently coming to him with their problems.

Patton Praises Negro Engineers

Daily Worker NYC 4-24-45

WITH U. S. 3RD ARMY ON THE WESTERN FRONT — Fighting GIs of the 193rd Engineer Combat Battalion have been commended by General George S. Patton for superior performance in assisting the relief of Bastogne last December.

The 183rd was the first Negro organization of its kind to go into action in the European Theatre of Operations under the Supreme Command of General Eisenhower.

In spite of the cold, snow storms and enemy resistance, the 193rd Engineers continued to effectively execute their assignments with the famed 3rd Army. Their work consisted of building snow fences, improving main supply routes, constructing bridges, clearing mine fields, filling bomb craters, and making forward area reconnaissance under fire.

Stillwell Lauds Tan GI's Who Built Road in Burma

Afro American 5-19-45

WASHINGTON

"The spirit of colored troops of an engineering unit in the China-Burma theatre of war is excellent," Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, commanding general of Army Ground Forces, declared at a press conference at the Army War College this week. 5-19-45

The general mentioned particularly the 54th Engineers, an all colored unit, among others cited for their work in rebuilding the Ledo Road, which has since been renamed Stilwell Road in honor of General Stilwell's work in the early days of the Burma campaign.

"Before these troops arrived, no one ever thought of working during the monsoon season," he said, "but I have seen these men continue on the job when there was 10 inches of rainfall in one day."

He also lauded colored trucking units in the C-B-I- theatre, especially for their ability to get along well with the various racial groups they came in contact with. The colored soldiers made friends at once with the Chinese and Burmese.

Asked what colored combat units would be used in the Pacific war theatre, he said that the 93rd and the 24th Infantry Divisions were already operating in this theatre but that he did not know whether colored combat troops in Europe would be transferred to the Pacific. 5-19-45

Will Not Change Units In Pacific

Pittsburgh Courier Pa. 6-16-45

Battle Efficiency Will Control Utilization Of All Troops

In reply to a Pittsburgh Courier cable seeking his position on the use of mixed units in the Pacific Theatre of Operations, Gen. Douglas MacArthur declared Monday that:

"The standard of employment of troops in this area, within the scope of my directives, is based not upon race, color or nationality, but solely upon battle efficiency. I assume that only the best and most proven soldiers will be sent here from Europe and if these comprise Negro troops, their welcome and utilization will be exactly the same as that of all others."

WILL USE FIRST ARMY INTACT

His cable said further: "I do not as yet know the divisions which will compose the First Army when it comes here and know nothing of its makeup as prescribed in the European Theatre. However, I haven't the slighest idea of changing in any way the composition of the units which are furnished me and will use them in the form in which they arrive. What happens after that will be dictated solely by the military necessities of the situation."

Making a suggestion, he said, "I am frank to say that I believe you would be making a grave mistake which might well tend to interfere with the war effort if you should endeavor to institute a racial instead of an efficiency basis in the use of soldiers of the United States Army." 6-16-45

ASKED POINTED QUESTION

The Courier cabled General MacArthur two weeks ago asking if he would continue the policy of integration in the First Army, an experiment that proved successful in the final stages against Germany. The cable was forwarded to the general after it was announced that the First Army would be sent to the Pacific to take part in the last lap against the Japanese.

The Courier asked also whether or not General MacArthur would "use this successful example of integration as a guage for complete integration of Negro troops into all armies in your command."

CALLED "SECOND TO NONE"

The cable was sent to the genral after Under Secretary of War Patterson praised the courage of the First Army as "second to none," but declared integration in the Pacific "would be left to, and decided by, theatre commanders."

In the First Army, Negro troops were integrated by General Eisenhower into the First, Second, Ninth, Seventy-eighth, Ninety-ninth and 104th Infantry Divisions.

Details Of Hawaii Mutiny Told By Defender Scribe

Chicago Defender FHL 2-17-45

By HUBERT H. WHITE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

HONOLULU. — Details of the largest U.S. army mutiny in the Central Pacific were learned this week by the Chicago Defender.

Withheld since July of 1944 by rigid censorship, the Defender learned the facts behind the mass mutiny of Negro troops on Oahu Island.

Behind staggering prison terms given 73 Negro GIs for mutiny on Oahu, was revealed a growing bitterness at the rigid Jim Crow dominating U. S. Pacific bases.

The mutiny of the 73 Negro soldiers began over the army policy of promoting junior white officers above senior Negro officers to command colored regiments.

When Negro officers of the highly-regarded, crack Company E of the 1320th formerly protested this policy they were ousted completely and replaced by all white officers.

The Negro officers of the regiment had sent a formal request through channels asking that the army's promotion policy be reexamined. This promotion policy is said to be based on the white supremacy theory that no colored officer can hold a position superior to a white officer in the same regiment.

The army's answer was to replace all colored officers in the unit with white ones.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD-TRIBUNE
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023
JUN 29 1945

Negro Troops Take 6 Islands With One Shot

Make Their 1st Amphibious Landings of War With 3 Vessels in Marianas

By Wireless to the Herald Tribune

Copyright, 1945, New York Tribune Inc.

GUAM, June 28.—American Negro troops made their first amphibious landings of the war, it was announced today, when two platoons of the 24th Infantry Negro Regiment currently mopping up enemy remnants on Saipan, carried out landings on six small islands in the northern Marianas.

Neither the troops nor the invasion "fleet"—one destroyer escort and two 158-foot LCI's (landing craft, infantry)—fired a shot as the force explored the volcanic islands of Asuncion, Anatahan, Sarigan, Alamagan, Agrihan and Maug. The ammunition expended totaled one pistol cartridge fired by a Saipan native guide at a Japanese who refused to surrender.

Twenty-four Japanese civilians and thirty-eight natives, employees of a Japanese copra company and survivors of sunken Japanese merchantmen, were removed from the islands. Ample supplies and foodstuffs were left for approximately 260 civilians, natives and Japanese, who were permitted to remain. Natives requiring medical attention were taken to Saipan for treatment, along with some Okinawa fishermen marooned in the islands since the invasion of the Marianas more than a year ago.

Maug was the only island that showed evidence of use by the Japanese military. Here the Japanese maintained a weather station, but it had been bombed out early in the Marianas drive. A few survivors of the small force are believed to be still hiding on Maug.

The chief purpose of the expedition was to determine the possibilities of the islands as ditching spots for B-29's unable to complete the return flight from Japanese targets to the Marianas bases farther south. The operation was under the direct command of Lieutenant Commander W. E. Dunlap, U. S. N. R., of Seattle, who participated in a similar operation in the Solomons earlier in the war.

As the troops went ashore, Japanese prisoners manned a microphone aboard the destroyer escort, assuring their stranded countrymen in Japanese-language messages over the loud speaker that they would be treated kindly.

TAN GI'S TAKE JAP-HELD TOWN

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By DETON J. BROOKS
(Defender War Correspondent)

LASHIO-BURMA 4-28-45 — When this last north Burma Jap stronghold fell before an avalanche of Allied might, first American fighters to enter the city were a company of sun-tan warriors of a Negro "ack ack" battalion.

4-28-45

Heavy guns were still dueling with enemy artillery in nearby hills and the sharp staccato of machine gun fire still pierced the humid air when this company was ordered to secure the airfield on the outskirts of the city against possible Jap air attack.

One half hour after the first truck rolled to a halt every gun was in position and ready to give enemy fighters a hot reception in case they dared penetrate their defense. No Nips came, but because of their efficiency, supply-loaded combat cargo planes of Tenth Airforce were able to zoom into the field within an hour after its capture. In recognition of this accomplishment, Lt. Gen. Dan I. Sultan, theatre commander, who observed them on a tour to the front personally commended their commanding officer.

Begin Final Push 4-28-45

When the final push began on Lashio, this outfit was ordered to proceed from Myitkyina, a distance southward of approximately 225 miles. Travelling in forced stages by truck they arrived in plenty of time for the battle and were ordered to bivouac three miles behind Chinese infantry of the 1st army who were carrying the attack. They were held there as auxiliary artillery in case added firepower were needed. But regular Chinese artillery under American command was able to do the job so they reverted to their basic mission of securing the airfield. When they entered the town they were fully two hours ahead of any other American troops. 4-28-45

T-5 John S. Bemby (Edenton, NC) expressed the opinion of the rest of the company when he said, "We were just itching to get a chance to take a crack at the Nips with our heavy guns. But—hell—they didn't put up a tough enough fight."

Troops Of Both Races Angered By Bad Cartoon

Atlanta World
Ga.

Picture Makes Colored Race Look Ridiculous

5-19-45

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN THE PACIFIC — (ANP) — Hollywood could have made a worthwhile contribution to better race relations by not filming 'Sunday Go to meeting Time,' a Merrie Melody cartoon.

That picture made the GI's around here, white and Negro, very angry.

"A great many people now are working to bring around a better understanding between the white and colored people," one said, "but this cartoon served only to make the colored race look ridiculous.

"Hollywood can make a great contribution toward a better understanding between all the peoples of the world. The money spent on this cartoon could have been spent on a short featuring some of the great colored acts in show business today. Several colored men have gained honor for themselves and their race in combat. Their stories would make great motion picture material. Why not use them?"

Negro and white GI's in the European Theatre of Operations have also pressed their resentment against anti-Negro pictures, especially the motion picture called 'Syncopation."

24th Gets Praise For Saipan Action

Atlanta World
Ga.

5-27-45

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Because of the conduct of the 24th Infantry regiment on Saipan was "so meritorious as to be deemed worthy of special mention," the report of the inspector general's office took the unusual tact of singling out this outfit for high praise, acting Secretary Robert P. Patterson disclosed at his weekly press conference on Thursday.

The secretary took the occasion also to speak of the "success" of Negro soldiers fighting under Maj. Gen. M. S. Eddy, corps commander of the 761st tank battalion in Europe.

IN PACIFIC

The 24th is in the Pacific. The report of the I. G. was this:

"Upon arrival at Saipan, the 24th infantry was given the task of clearing the island of all Japanese not previously subjugated. Since then this regiment is credited with having killed or captured an impressive number of the enemy, and even today is engaged in continuous patrolling and jungle fighting. The morale of this regiment is high, its discipline is excellent and it has definitely demonstrated what can be accomplished with Negro soldiers."

The regiment was established as one of four Negro regiments in the regular army in 1869, its original organization dating back to 1866. As early as 1889 two enlisted men of the 24th had been awarded the Medal of Honor. The 24th participated in the Indian, Saipan, Spanish American and World War I.

PRAISED BY EDDY

The tank outfit was commended in the report of Gen. Eddy. "The speed with which they adapted themselves to the front line under most adverse weather conditions," he reported, "the gallantry with which they faced some of Germany's finest troops, and the confident spirit with which they emerged from their recent engagements in the vicinity of Dieuze, Morville Les Vic and Guebling entitled them surely to consider themselves the veteran 761st."

This battalion is officered by seven white and 32 Negro officers.

Negro Drivers To Carry First Burma Road Convoy

Philadelphia Tribune — Pa.

5-27-45

BY FRANK BOLDEN
U. S. WAR CORRESPONDENT
(Representing the Philadelphia TRIBUNE and NNPA)
(Copyright-Reproduction Prohibited)

NEW DELHI, India — (By Cable from U. S. F. General Headquarters)—Skilled drivers of colored Quartermaster Trucking units will have an important assignment in helping to drive the first American convoy carrying vital war supplies via the Burma Road, it has been officially announced at the U. S. Field Headquarters for the Pacific War Theatre.

These drivers are now at Mitkyina, where they will wait until either the few remaining miles of newly cut roads connecting Mitkyina to Ten Chung are completed, or until the last 23 miles of the old Burma Road are cleared of Japanese. (**Editor's Note:** The Road is now open.)

The courageous colored engineering and quartermaster units helped build and maintain the initial 460-mile stretch. The new route, known as the Ledo Road, runs from Ledo over knife-edged ridges, through deep gorges of Patkai mountains at an altitude of 4000 feet, down the Hukawng Valley and through dense, rugged malaria-mosquito infested jungle which is torrentially monsoon-soaked, six months cut off each year, to a Chinese town, Wanting, on the Burma border. 5-27-45

The following veteran colored Quartermaster truck drivers are in the group: Sergeants George Butler, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Harold Lopez, New York, N. Y.; Otha Adams, Sheridan, Ark.; James Allison, Louisville, Ky.; Richard Street, Millsboro, Del.; Sumner Grant, Augusta, Ga.; Richard Batnet, York, S. C.; and one member of the Engineering Corps, Edgar W. Moore, Dodge City, Kansas,

Authorities believe this will be the first time colored ground service forces ever entered China. A representative of the group stated: "We are proud of the honor to represent our country and race on this first important road mission aiding China.'

Negro Troops On Jap Front

Peoples Voice
N.Y.

ABOARD SHIP (ANP) — After 18 months here at this particular "Somewhere in New Guinea," the officers and men of the Southwest Pacific area's only all-Negro anti-aircraft battalion are saying farewell and will soon be located in a forward area closer to the combat zone. 5-19-45

Under the command of Major Cato Baskerville of New York the battalion has just completed extensive combat training. Walking among the men and talking to them, one feels a sense of excitement that cannot be described in words.

The only Negro combat unit here, these boys will now be given the chance to prove their ability and courage under fire.

The Call 5-25-45 Kansas City Mo

5,000 PESOS ON HIS HEAD.—Captain James Coleman, American Negro leader of Filipino guerrillas, on whose head the Japs placed the price of 5,000 pesos. Coleman and his band of Filipinos and Negritos eluded the Nips for three years, stealing their supplies, harrassing their patrols and killing unwary enemy troops until the Americans returned to the Philippines. In the first picture, Capt. Coleman poses with his wife and children in their home at Angeles, Pampanga, Providence, P. I., for the NNPA war correspondent, Charles H. Loeb. The center picture shows a full length picture of Capt. Coleman, and the picture at the right shows the captain explaining the technique of the bolo to Tan Yanks who gather at his home to listen to tales of his heroic exploits while a leader of guerrila forces in Luzon during Japanese occupency. —Loeb Photo for NNPA.

Loeb Describes Landing on Luzon and Fight With Japs

The Call Kansas City, Mo. 1-26-45

Missouri Youth In LST Which Aids In Battle, Watch Enemy Planes Fall From Allied Fire

By CHARLES LOEB

LUZON, Philippine Islands. — By Cable — Wednesday, Jan. 17. — American forces had expanded a 15-mile beachhead on Lingayen gulf to a depth of 25 miles in the general direction of Manilla when this correspondent rode through the surf atop a bulldozer driven by Cpl. Burnam Metcalfe of Charleston, Mo., of the 810th Aviation Engineers battalion.

The LST, one of four that had transported the battalion to the Philippines, had reached the gulf on E-day plus 4 and stood at anchor in the harbor while American battleships off shore threw shells into enemy pockets of resistance miles inland.

Our LST, "the ugly duckling," had plowed steadily ahead in the "coffin corner," of the huge convoy of ships on a route, our air arm provided cover during the day and the convoy was routed to pass the points of imminent danger at night.

CHARLES LOEB

1-26-45

fox holes or had hidden in the city's outskirts until the shelling was over. They had been a little puzzled at the shelling because all the Japs had fled when the Americans arrived, Oris declared, but they were happy to see an American uniform. The Japanese were very cruel, he added.

We learned that in addition to the 810th Aviation Engineers, the 1998th quartermaster trucking company and the 3667th trucking company were on Luzon. The latter two came in with TM troops on E-day. Two of the 1998th members, Cpl. Calvin Thomas and Pfc. William C. Adams of Philadelphia, gave us a lift in their truck to the inland.

Riddle Plane 1-26-45

Alerted gun crews stood by their posts constantly. Around 6:15 o'clock in the evening, enemy planes were reported off our stern. Gunner's mate 3rd class Thomas Topper of Ashtabula, Ohio, an expert on plane identification, identified them as Jap Oscars. The twin 40s on our stern opened up a full minute ahead of the rest of the ship's gang. Soon we had two planes bracketed by our tracers. We watched the tracers go through one ship and its pilot, hell-bent.

As the convoy neared the end of its journey, it ran into the lone and feeble Jap attempt to stop its progress. Around 2 o'clock in the afternoon, a Jap pilot made a dive out of a low-hanging cloud at a Liberty ship off our port side. 1-26-45

Heavy Bombardment

The plane fell near the side of the ship and battered into the ocean. Suffering only negligible damage, the ship remained in the convoy. While our LST went through the tortuous work of unloading heavy tractor trucks, bulldozers and scrapers on the beach, I joined forces with Billy Rowe, the brilliant Pittsburgh correspondent, and we probed the ruins of the city of Lingayen.

The heavy bombardment had wrecked most of its important buildings near the beach and a miraculously small number of natives had been killed.

Genardo Oris, a Filipino in charge of native labor crews aiding the Americans, told me that the citizens of the city had dug

crashed over the convoy, landing in the sea about 100 yards astern of the LST and about 50 feet from the LST on which our sea company was loaded. 1-26-45

Our boys lifted a terrific cheer as the Jap hit the water. A few minutes later, a withering fire from the game guns accompanied by one of the water-cooled .50 calibre machine guns, set up on deck by the 810th, caught another Oscar in their fire. The gunners followed the diving plane almost to water level, riddling it before it hit the water.

The crew of the .50 calibre machine gun was in charge of Sgt. Edgar Arms, 101 Hayes St., La-Grange, Ill.; Cpl. Elva Bradshaw, 1324 South Halstead St., Chicago, and Cpl. Norman Simpson, 29 M St., S.W., Washington.

In the Navy crew was one Negro gunner, Steward's Mate 1st class Robert E. Woody of Covington, Va. We saw at least five Jap planes downed.

30 Men Under Lieutenant King Prove Experts

1-2-45

Claim No Soldiers In Army Better Than This Unit

Memphis World

By LT. JOHN MACAULEY

WASHINGTON-It was the fifth night after the initial American attack on the Philippines. Thirty Negro soldiers--soggy with wet and fatigue--crouched on their rain-filled foxholes near Palo with the water up above their chests.

1-2-45

Within the last two hours, while the rain pelted down incessantly they had helped beat off three Japanese attacks. And now, as the storm dribbled to a stop, the Japanese were trying a different maneuver. They were infiltrating into Palo on the opposite side of the American fortifications. There was almost no defense against this sort of thing.

The Japanese were really close now. Most of the soldiers were holding their fire, for firing from a foxhole gives away ones' position. One of the Negro troops whispered softly to the young white lieutenants in charge of the beleaguered unit:

"Lieutenant King," he muttered "should I fire when I see one of those——?

Wisley, King didn't answer.

Then came another voice, a bit louder, more insistent: 'Lieutenant King--" "I'm hit, Lieutenant King--" "Help Lieutenant King."

Second Lieutenant Dewey King, TC-24 year-old, 200 pound former freshman tackle from Auburn and Mobile, Ala., could take it no longer. He raised his head slightly and peered into the darkness around him, seeking the wounded man.

1-2-45

NEAR PERFECT MIMICRY

"What--" he whispered, and a billet tore through the sandbag on the brim of his foxhole, a fraction of an inch his head. He ducked and held his tongue the rest of the night. The anguished cries had come not from his own men, but from the Japanese! Their mimicry was nearly perfect. Too prefect, perhaps, since most of the Negro troops in the unit were from Northern cities- and Southern accents were a bit at a premium.

The 30 Negro soldiers were all duck drivers, and these chaffeurs of seagoing trucks had joined the invasion on the first Liberty ship to reach the Philippines. Their story, and the story of this first American merchant ship and its gallant crew and Navy armed guard, is told graphically by Lieut. John Macauley, USMS, War Shipping Administration representative with the invading force.

1-2-45

Macauley first met the Negro unit the day before the Liberty ship left a New Guinea port for to Philippines. At that time, neither Macauley nor the men knew their destination.

"Obviously," he wrote "the coming operation was to be no soft touch for this Liberty. This was learned by merely observing the soldiers who came aboard. There was an ack-ack unit, which would be one of the first in the area, one of the first Army units to be relied on for defense against Japanese bombing. Another was an ordnance outfit which would keep replacing vital equipment. There were 30 Negro duck drivers. It was said they would be the first troops off the ship—"

1-2-45

MACAULEY MEETS KING

Later, on Attack Day, Macauley met Lieut. King, the U. S. Maritime Service training center "shavetail" who was in charge of the eight ducks, the amphibious trucks used for carrying small amounts of cargo from ship to shore, up the beach and to combat troops.

"There are duck drivers and duck drivers," he wrote that day, "but the 30 colored boys now under King's command who trained as both drivers and mechanics are experts in their line. They were especially chosen for ability cleanliness and intelligence. They are proud Negroes and King has kept them that way. Both King and his boys were untried in combat until this afternoon, but each day during this trip, King has gone after to feel his boys they must not let him down. Once one of them answered.

"Don't worry sir. We'd all follow you to Manila and back again.!"

1-2-45

Later in the day, when the Liberty ship was being unloaded and the duck crews were rushing ammunition to the front, Macauley wrote:

1-2-45

"King and his boys have spent the entire day going in and out of the small town of Palo. Palo has already fallen, but Jap snipers have made it hot for the unarmed ducsk. Still he kept leading them in and not one of his men has hesitated.

"The shadows are lengthening across the water as the correspondent (Macauley), King and his driver and mechanic make their way towards the beach. The bucking of the duck over the waves makes it difficult for the correspondent to beat out his story on his typewriter which he is holding on his knees. We are on our way to spend the night ashore. King's round, sweaty and begrinned face is beaming. The night to come has no terrors for him. His main fear has been stilled; his men have stood their 1st fire, stood it very well.

NONE BETTER

"By damn!!," he says, "There ain't no soldiers in this man's Army that kin do better than mah boys."

Three days later, when the unloading of the Liberty ship was almost completed, Macauley wrote:

'Last night about 6:15 we found a small sandy beach and decided to spend the night there. King and his driver pulled well above the water mark and signaled the other ducks in. The enlisted men began to dig their foxholes. It was getting dark and they were working fast. An ordnance officer, Captain H. W. Richardson, whose mother lives at 219 Elm St. Mansfield, Mass., and who had hitched a ride with us, suggested that instead of establishing our own perimeter we might do well to find someone else who had been in the region more than a few minute.

1-2-45

"King, always considerate of his foxholes, demurred. At the moment a bullet hit the side of a duck and went singing out over the water. This decided him. We moved up the beach about 50 yards and stumbled right into a camp that was completed blacked out. The men were having coffee. It tasted delicious. The major in charge of the camp told us we could bed down for the night whenever we could find a clear space of ground near aslit trench. The colored enlisted men went down on the beach to dig their own holes.

NO SLEEP ALL NIGHT

"But there was no sleep all night.

1-2-45

Right after breakfast, five Japanese planes attacked the convoy. One of the planes, hit by flak, went out of control and landed on the deck of a nearby vessel. The ship turned turtle and sank. Another dived straight for the Liberty ship, but a 19-year-old seaman first class remained at his gun and kept shooting at the plane even when its wing hit the edge of the sailor's tub and flung hot metal into his torso and face. The plane crashed into the ocean and exploded Macauley and one of the duck drivers Corp. Ray Peoples, of Cleveland, Ohio, rushed the wounded youth to a beach dressing station.

That night, while King's unit staved off attacks from their water-filled foxholes, the Japanese tried the mimicry trick. It failed however, and the Japanese crept closer.

"They were less than 20 yards away," Macauley wrote. "Sometimes our soldiers would fire at them-more often not. One of the duck drivers next to the correspondent, a big rangy ex-Golden boxer named Karl Mahone, took careful aim and fired. There was a Jap scuttling past on the dead run right in front of us. A fusilade of bullets must have been hitting all around him. He zigzagged inward and we saw his arm fly back and forward.

"There was a blinding flash as he hurled the hand grenade into a dump of over 200 boxes containing 105 and 155 howitzer shells 40 and 30 mm. shells. The Jap could not have survived the explosion. The blast from the first box of ammunition blew the correspondent's shirt off as if it were tissue paper. Then it really started.

HORROR OF WAITING

"There would be the deep-throated crackle of 20mm. ammunition and tracer would spangle the sky in all directions. The resounding bank of 40 mm. shells the roar of 105 howitzer shells ,the earth-shaking crash of the 155s turned the night into a horror of waiting 50 feet away, of wondering whether too much ammunition was going to blow up But the small stuff kept going off in salvoos while the big shells seemed to go off one at a time. We dug our faces into the mud and prayed. And how we prayed! Near the correspondent a colored youth was mumbling the Lord's Prayer. We all ran the gamut of every religious plea we had never learnedd."

1-2-45

It was not all prayer and defensive fighting, however. The next day on other occasions, the duck drivers paid off the Japs for that night. One such occasion arose when Macauley was writing his dispatch on the ruined varanda of the town grammar school in Palo. This shed was used as the assembling place for the duck drivers in carrying their ammunition up to the front.

"Groups or doughboys from this unit are patroling the village streets and searching every house as often as possible. A Jap runs right across in front of the corsrespondent with a party of yelling Yanks in pursuit. One of the colored duck drivers, T/5 Pedro Croughter, runs alongside the Nip and puts three carbine bullets in him. Before the Jap has been on the ground three seconds he is riddled with tommy gun M-1 and carbine shells...Later the Filipinos flushed another soldier of the Emperor from under a house. American rifle fire killed him."

1-2-45

In concluding his account of the unit's operations, Macauley wrote:

"Those Negroes had stood like the Rock of Gibraltar-Cpl. James Brown, 1015 N. Caroline St., Baltimore, Md.; Sgt. Osuah Aceptin 142 Ashton St., Los Angeles, Cal; Pfc. Lillean F. Carter, Farmingdale, N. J.; Cpl. Karl Mahone, 2457 Delaware St., Gary, Ind.; Cpl. James A. Johnson, 31 Plainsfield Ave.; Scotch Plains, N. J.; Cpl. Jos. C. Williamson, Jackson, Miss.; Cpl. Eminir B. Hawkins 1405 North 18th St. Philadelphia, Pa.; Cpl. James A. Ross, 56 Kenilworth St., Orange, N. J.; Pfc Jas. Williams, Baton Rouge, La.; Cpl. Karrie Davis, Route 2, Box 63, Vamville, S. C.; Cpl. Zachariah Brinkley, 214 Reid St. Elizabeth, N. J.; Cpl. Paul Wright 2217 East 76th St., Cleveland, O.; Cpl. Jas. S. Wells, 161 North 37th St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Cpl. Pedro Croughter, 49 Veronnica Place. Brooklyn, N. Y.; Cpl. Judge Paterson, 162 Oakwood Pl., Orange, N. J.; Sgt. William O. Jenkins, RFD 3, Box, Henderson Tenn. Cpl Philip Lee, Apt. 2, 501 Hendric St. Detroit, Mich.; Sgt. Tommy L. Thorpe, 209 Madison St., Macon, Ga.; Sgt. William Thorpe, 662 E. Ferry Ave., Detfoit, Mich.; Cpl. George E Hope, 259 Taylor Ave. Columbus, O.; Sgt. Lucius Smith, 255 Cole Alley, Memphis, Tenn.; Pvt. Eddie Ford, Route 1, Box 141A. Caledonia, Miss.; and Cpl. Jas. K. Johnson, 1424 New Jersey Ave., N. W. Washington, D. C They had come through a first and second night of harrowing combat like veterans."

1-2-45

And in describing the Liberty ship's departure, five days after it arrival and two days after its whole crew had helped unload the freighter's military cargo in less than three days, he wrote:

'At sea the ship is riding out the storm. She should ride it out; she is, in seamen's parlance, "a lady," however ugly and battered. And to whom she will be a greatman vessel-not great in the individuajed sense of the ARC ROYAL, the ENTERPRISE, the BOISE, but in the new tradition of steel men on steel freighters, which began when the US Merchant Marine became the first American service to enter World War II, when a took pen in hand and signed the Lend-Lease bill--'Franklin D. Roosevelt."

Problem Of Negro Soldiers Being Based In China Still Unsettled

Atlanta World - Ga.

3-18-45

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World And NNPA)

NEW DELHI, INDIA—(Mar. 13) — The perplexing problem as to whether Negro soldiers in any appreciable numbers are officially wanted or not wanted in China has not been definitely answered, at least not as far as this correspondent is concerned.

There is little doubt but that the problem is somewhat of a "hot potato" and all things considered must be handled with the utmost of caution so as not to contribute towards the rupturing of Allied diplomatic relations

EASED IN, EASED OUT

In previous dispatches I reported that a few of our Tan Yanks had been eased in and eased out as rapidly as possible during the course of "routine duty." The acute need for trained and experienced truck drivers to handle convoys over the newly opened Stilwell Road (Burma Road) until such time as Chinese soldiers now being trained as drivers can take over, necessitates the use of just

Tan Yanks Eased In And Eased Out Of Allied Nation

about all available American personnell that can be spared. I am convinced that at the present moment our colored GIs, who are being used for such duties, are also being used to "test the line." And so far there have been no repercussions from such action.

3-18-45

Suspicion concerning the problem was first aroused when it was learned that no colored drivers had been chosen to help drive the first celebrated convoy; when it was well known by all and sundry that some of the best and most experienced convoy drivers in the entire theatre were to be found among the veteran "Tan Cannonballers" who had made Ledo Road history. Many of them were among the first American troops to set foot in that area. And it was also well known that high American military officials thought and still think highly of the ability of the colored GIs here to "produce the goods" in the face of adverse conditions and especially when the blue chips were down. There was some definite reason why the colored drivers were originally omitted and I doubt seriously that they were just "overlooked."

REALIZE INJUSTICE

However, and upon second thought, some of our ranking officials realized that an injustice had been done in not originally giving veteran colored troops representation in the first convoy. And at press conference some of the correspondents had also brought up the matter; so, ten Negro GIs were ordered to join the convoy at Myitkyina, over 200 miles from Ledo, in Assam. These ten "firsts" made the entire trip as I have previously reported.

While in Kunming, China I saw some 60 more colored drivers who came in with another convoy and they were allowed more privileges in the city by their commanding officers than the first Tan Yanks were. However, none remained longer than three days. As fast as weather conditions permitted all were flown back to their respective bases in Burma.

With the largest number of colored soldiers being represented in the Service Forces and also being represented in maintenance branches in practically every theatre of operations where U. S. Army troops are serving, one naturally expected to find some based in the China threatre where much of the work is of general service classification. But such was and is not the case. There are none based anywhere in the theatre.

RIGID CENSORSHIP

Censorship being what it is in China makes it extremely difficult to interview or quote high government officials. The only official statement on the matter coming from Chungking appeared in Generalissimo Chiang Kaishek's newspaper "Chung Chen Pao," Feb 8. It was a reply in answer to a question regarding the employment of Negro GIs inside the boundaries of China which was put by an American correspondent during a Foreign Press Conference. The answer in effect was, "We have not yet heard of this kind of rumor. The Chinese Government will make no racial or color discrimination." The Chinese Government spokesman was Mr. P. C. Chang.

Much has been written about the present Kuomintang Government of China and much has been withheld by rigid censorship. There is a complexity of representation and it is not safe for one to make accusations nor definite criticism based upon pure guesswork.

It is known that there are some influential and intellectual Chinese who believe in the policy of "Asia for the Asiatics' 'and also give little or no recognition to minorities who in their own countries might be considered as having a lower caste status. This being the case, an American Negro holds the status of being both an Occidental and a minority member of America's great melting pot. Then there are others who realizing that the American Army which is aiding so much.. together with U. S. Lend-Lease aid. has its own definite policy regarding the handling of colored and white troops and because they prefer not to be committal one way or the other by so doing the feel that China may be accused of condonning our Army policy on one hand or interferring with our military help and Lend-Lease aid on the other,) they remain completely mum on the issue.

Colored Soldiers Find Warm Welcome In China

Philadelphia Tribune
3-17-45

By FRANK E. BOLDEN
(NNPA War Correspondent)

KUNMING, China.—As a result of further traffic over the newly-opened Stilwell Road (formerly the Burma Road), colored soldiers are now coming and going to and from here with regularity.

It was only a short while ago that the first colored GIs arrived here and I have seen quite a few since that time. At the time of the first arrivals, rumors were then making the rounds to the effect that Tan Yanks were not wanted in China.

Recently I was informed that during the normal flow of traffic over the Road colored drivers as well as white would be used until the Chinese drivers, who are now being trained, were able to take over the task from all American GIs.

As originally reported from an interview with Major General Gilbert X. Cheves, Commanding General of Services of Supply in the China Theatre, military expediency demands that the number of SOS units here are all white, and according to officials it is doubtful if any further additions will be made. General Cheves, who recently assumed command here, plans to work with the available troops which he found at his disposal.

NO DISCRIMINATION

3-17-45

Speaking for Lt. General Albert C. Wedemeyer, Commanding General of the New China Theatre, whose headquarters are at Chungking, and himself, Gen. Cheves stated that neither of them had any knowledge of any racial discriminatory policy directed against the basing of colored troops in the theatre.

One such unit of colored drivers, who have arrived here since I have been in the city, had an interesting time. Things were much different with them than with the original ten GIs who arrived with the first convoy. This unit received the opportunity to go to town and enjoy themselves with as much liberty as any other unit of enlisted men. 3-17-45

In his welcoming address to them General Cheves gave both praise and advice. He complimented them for making the trip without an accident and for taking good care of government property. He asked if there was anything that he could do for the men, and one lad asked if it would be possible for him to, purchase a whole chicken for himself, whereupon Gen. Cheves ordered a chicken dinner plus ice cream prepared for all of the men with one whole chicken especially cooked for the young GI who had asked for it, and without cost. Finally, he informed them that they all had the privilege of going to town in order to see the sights and to purchase souvenirs. A warning was also given to the GIs to beware of the common elixir that cheers known as "chin pao juice" (means air raid alarm) which is made from raw power alcohol and any kind of fruit juice. Two drinks of it qualifies anyone to become a member of the "Boot Who" club, and it usually entitles the drinker to an MP escort.

CENTER OF ATTRACTION

3-17-45

Later, when the eager lads filed into the city they found themselves, much to the amusement of some and much to the embarrassment of others, a real center of attraction. It was indeed a novelty to the natives, the majority of whom had never seen Negroes before, to see these tall husky GIs of varied pigmentation, in U. S. Army uniforms, and who also spoke English. As you know, the Chinese are small in stature and these "giants" with the big hands and flashing smile were to these natives wonders from another world. The Chinese papers here called them "Indians."

Wherever the Tan Yanks went crowds of children and adults followed with looks of pronounced curiosity etched deep into their faces. One English-speaking native said that the various shades of complexion of the Tan Yanks rated as mystery number one to the populace. Some of the GIs refused to budge outside of the American Red Cross Headquarters because everytime they ventured out and sauntered one block down the street in either direction they would find themselves leading a parade.

I was standing on the sidewalk talking with Sgt. Peter Cole, of Washington, D. C.; Cpl. Thomas F. Griffiths, Baltimore, Md.; Cpl. Alma J. Lecator, Norfolk, Va.; T/5 Lawyer E Davis, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Pfc. Esau Gathers, Mt. Pleasant, S. C.; and Pvt. Stonewall Newberry, of Elko, Ga., and within the short space of ten minutes a crowd, whose size made it seem as if its members were assembling to listen to an address on "One World," gathered on the sidewalk and overflowed out into the middle of the street; thus obstructing traffic. The crowd's attention seemed to have been focused upon the six-foot-two inch Cole, who became quite embarrassed. The MPs asked us to kindly move inside of the Red Cross building so that normal life in that section of Kunming might be resumed.

SOON LOSE SHYNESS

3-17-45

No lawyer ever pleaded harder in defense of his client that I did with those beashful GIs who refused to leave the Red Cross building and enjoy themselves like the rest of their buddies were doing. By telling them that they were pioneering, that here was a fine chance to "win friends and influence people," and by agreeing to accompany them on a tour of the city, I was finally able to get them to venture outside of their sanctuary.

3-17-45

That night I returned to town and bumped into several of the bashful Yanks of the afternoon before, and they were enjoying steak suppers. They were not alone, now they were getting along. One of them jokingly replied, "Who wants to go home?" All smiled. So did I.

Their bashfulness soon disappeared when they found that the natives would return a smile for a smile, would serve them with generous courtesy and hospitality in their eating establishments and wait upon them in amicable fashion in their curio shops.

Negro Heroes Moved Up Guns to Win Iwo

Daily Worker N.Y.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 9.—The work of a Negro Army amphibious truck company the afternoon of D-Day on Iwo Jima "made the difference between taking the island and handing it back to the Japanese," according to a letter received here by the parents of Lt Grover I. Groves, white platoon leader of the heroic Negro men.

The Negro company braved a hail of Japanese mortar and artillery fire on the Iwo beach to bring in the big guns needed by the Marines. If the guns—105 mm. howitzers—had failed to make the shore, U. S. forces might have been forced to withdraw from the island.

Lt. Groves wrote: 4-10-45

"I can't give enough credit to my men. I hope there is some way everyone learns of the marvelous way these colored boys performed.

"I landed my platoon at 2 in the afternoon on D-Day. We were carrying 105 howitzers and ammunition for the Marines. We were under terrific mortar and artillery fire while coming in and while on shore.

"The beach was too steep and too soft to get up, and when we landed we stuck right to the shore until a tractor could pull us up. My men stayed in their vehicles under terrific fire and got their ducks (amphibious trucks) ashore, some of the ducks so shot up they could not go back into the water.

"One of my sergeants was hurt when he was crushed between a duck and a tractor. He was trying to get wounded casualties off a beached duck. Another man stayed with his stuck duck carrying an artillery piece while everyone else was in a foxhole. I could go on and on about the men's brave conduct. I am proud to belong to a colored duck company with the calibre of men that are present in this outfit."

Sgt. Larry Schulenburg, Marine corps combat correspondent, wrote of Lt. Groves' outfit: 4-10-45

"The Marines on Iwo Jima will never forget this company of colored soldiers. Japanese on Mt. Suribachi were raking the beaches to plaster Marine units trying to dig in before nightfall of D-Day. There was no Marine artillery ashore yet. Machine guns were no match for mortars and heavier Japanese guns.

"Then early in the afternoon this Negro outfit started inland in 50 Japanese truck company bobbing, swaying ducks, bringing with them the 105 mm. howitzers, the long-muzzled guns which since swept Iwo with salvo after salvo.

"When the colored boys finished 48 hours later they had lost 29 out of their 50 ducks, but the guns were emplaced and working. In the face of huge odds only two guns were lost."

Landing on Iwo Jima Made Possible by Tan Marines

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-31-45

Balto. Md.

IWO JIMA (Delayed)—Aware that machine guns were no match for mortar and heavier Japanese guns, colored marines on D-Day landed the 150mm. howitzers which were the difference between taking the island or leaving it. 3-31-45

Early in the afternoon members of the amphibious truck company started inland in fifty "ducks." When they finished 48 hours later, they had lost 29 ducks but all except two of the guns were emplaced.

One first sergeant told how some drivers had ducks shot out from under them. One man, T/5 Francis Goodrich, he added, refused to abandon his duck and gun, and swept 13 miles out, where a destroyer picked him up.

Constantly Exposed

Although told frequently by the marines to jump off their ducks and take cover, the drivers stood up, exposed, to unharness the howitzers, and, after them, the ammunition, he declared.

Typical of the heroism of the entire unit was that of Pvt. Leroy Gillian of South River, N.J., who having brought his gun inland, returned for a load of ammunition.

Although told to take cover, he unloaded the ammunition under direct mortar fire. Now, he, with others of the outfit, his helping drive the Japs from the island.

Block Lily-White Cafe in Manila

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-31-45

By CHARLES LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

MANILA. (By Wireless)—The watchful eye of Guy Richards, New York Daily News correspondent, stymied old James Crow who had worked his way into a cafe on Manila's scattered Azcarriga Aveune. Richards spotted a neatly-printed red, white and blue sign over the cafe's door reading: "We cater to white service men only." Balt., Md.

Richards, Billy Rowe of the Courier and I went to the shop where the proprietress, Margarieta Veluz; the Filipino bartender, Romiraldo David, and the Chinese cook, Lem Oy, told us that white customers had complained two weeks ago and that a white technical sergeant had advised that the sign be placed there.

Jim-Crow Sign Destroyed

Both the bartender and the cook had objected. They tore up the sign after we pointed out the absurdity of brown people discriminating against members of darker races. 3-31-45

Several GI's, including Cpl. Horace J. Reeves of Atlanta and ranging from two to twenty on this run from fifty miles south of Berlin on in to the target.

These aircraft were mostly ME-262, though a few tailless rocket ME-163's were observed. They attacked the bombers mostly from the rear in groups of two to eight.

Over Capital 40 Minutes

Lieutenant Brown, who was among the flyers participating in this mission called to give newsmen a firsth-and account in a press conference, said he fought for forty minutes over Berlin and that jet-propelled planes seemed everywhere.

Brown said Nazi pilots seemed reluctant to fight escorting fighters and tried to capitalize on their planes' excessive speed to make passes at bombers and dart away.

Brown said that the first jet he jumped, the pilot bailed out when he saw he was in a tight spot and the other one died in the plane as he scored direct hits causing the aircraft to explode in the air.

Hasn't Seen Berlin

"I still haven't seen Berlin," he said in answer to a query about how that German capital looked now, "and I was kept so busy I just didn't have time for sight-seeing."

During the entire run, thirteen jet-propelled aircraft were shot down, with other victories credited to bomber gunners and another fighter group also escorting our bombers.

This mission to Berlin is believed one of the most successful yet pulled by the 15th AAF and a record for aerial victories over jet planes. Jet encounters in air have taken place since last August in the Mediterranean, but not here until December 9 when the first offensive formation was encountered by Colonel Davis's group composed mostly of photo-reconnaisance planes.

... 2 Get DFC; 3 Promoted ...

Lieutenant Brown and Capt. Armour G. McDaniels of Martins credited to First Lieut. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr., of New York City; First Lieut. Earl R. Lane, Wickliffe, Ohio, and Flight Officer Charles V. Brantley of St. Louis, Mo.

This marked the group's second encounter iwth German jet-propelled planes. The first came during the second week of last December when the group was escorting bombers to targets in the vicinity of Munich, Germany. On this occasion one jet of a small formation made a pass at the bombers and darted away without scoring a hit or being hit by chasing fighters.

Trip a Surprise

The run to Berlin came as a surprise to participating bomber and fighter crew personnel, as previously this was not deemed feasible due to adverse weather conditions.

When news reached Colonel Davis's group that the target for the day was Berlin, every pilot wanted to fly the mission.

Jet-propelled planes were encountered in numerous groups

In a letter to the AFRO this week, a sailor said that the commanding officer went into each dormitory and urged the men to attend the show.

"Mhen," he was quoted as saying, "I found out why you aren't at the show. That recreation hall belongs to you men and no one has the right to tell you where to sit. You sit where you please.

"I didn't know anything about that order. Will you go over to the show for me?"

Blames Southerners

"When the boys agreed," the letter stated, "the officer said he would not tolerate such practices, so both colored sailors, who are in the majority here, and whites sit together, eat together and play together."

New Guinea Veteran Two Go AWOL To Join White Combat Division

Pittsburgh Courier 4-14-45

Chicago Defender 4-14-45

Chicago, Ill.

Praises All-Negro Unit

1-20-45

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Some accomplishments of the all-Negro 207th Coast Artillery Antiaircraft Battalion in New Guinea were revealed here by 2nd Lt. James A. Taylor Jr., Washington, D. C., now convalescing from an operation at Forest Glen Convalescent Center, an annex of Walter Reed General Hospital.

One battle star for the New Guinea campaign is worn by Lieutenant Taylor, whose wife, Mrs. Inez Burke Taylor, lives in Washington and is an employee of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. He explained that he was with the 207th C.A. outfit from August 1943 to August 1944.

He spoke proudly of their proficiency and cited the Inspector General's report on the battalion, prior to their commitment to battle. The report termed the 207th the "most thoroughly trained" and his grade was the highest given the western part of the island.

Set Out For Front Lines

It was the nearest they had been to actual combat and they decided to see some action. They strapped on their combat gear, satisfied with the shouldered their carbines and set given them, but off for the front lines 40 miles about it other away. 4-14-45

In two days they arrived at the rice, of Hartford, headquarters of the 128th Infantry Regiment of the 32nd Division, George G. Haines, matters in their reported to the commanding officer t a taste of what and told him they wanted to fight. he army to do— He was surprised when he 4-14-45 learned how far they had come ers of a laundry and was impressed by their enarrived in Leyte thusiasm. He made them ammumatters when fighting nition carriers. Though they performed their duties without com-

By ENOC P. WATERS JR.
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

LEYTE, Philippines Islands.—There are quite a few soldiers over here who are dissatisfied with the army has given them, but jobs the army has not given them, but do anything about it other than gripe.

Sgt. Robert L. Price, of Hartford, Conn., and Pvt. George G. Haines, of Georgia, took matters into own hands and got a taste of what they came into the army to do—fight.

Both are members of the company which arrived in Leyte early in December when fighting was hottest in the Ormoc sector in

plaint, they reminded their platoon leader that they had come there to fight.

Finally they were given rifles and assigned to a squad. For 18 days they fought with an all white regiment of an all white division, and when the fighting was over, they started back to their outfit.

Upon their arrival they were charged with being absent without leave and confined to quarters where they entertained other members of their organization with thrilling stories of their experiences at the front.

Before a hearing could be held on the charges, a letter of commendation praising their courage under fire and their aggressiveness and signed by the infantry commander was received by their commanding officer. The charges were dropped since the boys had been attached to the combat outfit during the period of their absence, and they returned to washing clothes. 4-14-45

Their work is just as boresome as it ever was, but memories of the glorious 18 days they spent fighting the Japs enables them to endure it.

MacArthur Hails Daring Tan Yanks

Pittsburgh Courier 3-10-45 Pg.

By BILLY ROWE
(Courier War Correspondent)

CORREGIDOR, Philippines — General Douglas MacArthur trod blood-splotched Corregidor Friday and saw the American flag flipping to the breeze, playing over the "rock" facing Manila harbor. It was a great day for our forces. The men who fell under the heels of the cruel Japanese in April, 1942, were avenged.

Paying colorful tribute to the horde which returned to take the island, the General did not single them out by names and races but called them his men. The fact that tan yanks have given great aid to every Pacific operation is accepted without question. 3-10-45

MANY NEGRO UNITS

Filling out supply lines are many Negro units always working, fighting when necessary. Cast in the more glamorous role, tan men of the Navy added weight to the battle for the "Rock" by covering white troops who landed on Corregidor.

Manning battle stations with the PT fleet, they fought in the best tradition of the Naval service. Behind twenty millimeter machine guns these tan gobs pitched into the fight. It was the fleet's task to clear Mariveles Bay of enemy shipping. 3-10-45

Negroes among fighting sailors were: S. 2/c Percy Brooks, Pittsburgh; S. 3/c Edward Clarence Hearn, Chicago; S./c Willie Burrel, Dallas; S. 1/c Elmer Lowe and S. 2/c Clarence Leonard, both of New York.

Overseas with the torpedo fleet for two years, these men have fought in many Navy engagements. Among them are Paliu, Leyte and Mindoro.

COMMIT SUICIDE

As General MacArthur saluted the rising flag on a battle-scratched and scarred pole in shadow of the Administration building where General Wainwright surrendered, the enemy was then blowing himself up in caves. 3-10-45

Across the bay tan yanks were stepping into the pages of war history. In the gray midst of early dawn, after ducking and dodging floating mines, the first convoy arrived in harbor. Out of the bowels of LSTs stepped members of the 820th Amphibian Truck Company, first group in the convoy to arrive in the harbor littered with sunken enemy shipping. Among them were 1st Sgt. Robert F. McMickens, Indianapolis; S./Sgt. Juan Allen, New York; Sgt. Rufus A. Gardner, Los Angeels; Charles Pivalo, New York; Carl Jeffries, Pittsburgh; Corp. Ralph R. Dix, Baltimore; Nathaniel Agnew, Washington; Pfc. Stanley F. Allen, New York; Privates John E. Cary, Cleveland and Charles Gray, St. Louis. 3-10-45

BUSY UNLOADING

On another portion of the dock, tan yanks of the 218th Port Company were busy unloading first Army cargo ship to hit the harbor. Doing one thing or another were 1st Sgt. E. F. Cannon, Tex-New York; John F. Hatchett, Virginia; Sgt. Samuel Peterson, Washington; Thomas Shaw, Richmond; Corporal Levi B. Adams, Louisiana; Walter Lane, Philadelphia; Willard Bonner, Pittsburgh; T./5 Everette Payne, Washington, D. C.; T./4 Eddie Wilkins, Norfolk; Pfc. Mark T. Cooper, Pvt. William C. Taslor, Pittsburgh; William H. Harris, Baltimore; Cyril Haynes, Louisiana; Joseph Leonard, New Orleans; Robert L. McKenney, North Carolina and George Coler, New Orleans.

For The Marines On D-Day

Colored Soldiers Braved Fire To Put First Gun On Iwo Jima

Pittsburgh Courier Pg. 3-17-45

By S/Sgt. ALLEN SOMMERS
(Philadelphia, Pa., a Marine Corps Combat Correspondent)

IWO JIMA—(Delayed)—Four colored Army duck drivers braved Japanese bullets and mortar shells on D-Day here to bring ashore the first big howitzers of a Fifth Marine Division field artillery unit. The four men, who hail from different parts of the country, were under continuous fire while the big guns were being unloaded and while they returned to the beach a second time with ammunition.

Army Pvt. Willie Hawkins, 21, of 928 Market Street, Atlanta, Ga., described the beach as "plenty hot" and Marine casualties as heavy.

GOT "HOT" RECEPTION

"But, those Marines were still coming in," he added.

Duck operator Pvt. Jerome D. Collins, 36, a trumpeter in civilian life, was forced to swing his heavily laden vehicle through wreckage on the beach, and damaged landing craft before he was able to reach his position.

"It was too close a shave," said Collins, who lives at 1237 East San Antonio Street, El Paso, Texas.

"That beach was no plaything," according to Army Pvt. Josh Goodwin, 20, of 1215 W. Ninth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, who was among the first of his outfit to reach the beach. 3-17-45

BULLET HITS DUCK

"It was tough enough trying to plow through that soft volcanic beach without the Japanese bullets and mortars," he added. He is the husband of Mrs. Marguerite Goodwin of the Cincinnati address.

Army Pvt. Thomas Tillman, 34, of Route 1, Polkton, N. C., suffered his only real effects of the Japanese fire when a bullet passed through his steering wheel and bounced up against his instrument panel.

Troop Drivers Do Million Truck Miles Without A Major Accident

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

HEADQUARTERS, 13TH ARMY AIR FORCES, Southwest Pacific—Wheels on the trucks of a quartermaster company of the 13th AAF ground out over 1,000,000 miles without a major accident in 18 months of operation overseas, it was announced recently. 1-27-45

The trucks in this outfit, driven, serviced and maintained entirely by Negro enlisted men, have hauled everything from bombs to casualties. Unusual assignments are run-of-the-mill for this quartermaster unit, for the 13th AAF's sweep from the Battle of Guadalcanal to the Philippines in less than two years has required superhuman tasks from its supporting ground personnel.

DIVE FOR FOX HOLES

In the early days, when the Japs were still attempting desperately to drive American forces from the truck company's home island, the sky was dotted with Zeros nearly every day. When a alert sounded, the men dived for foxholes. With them went some of the precious truck parts they had snatched up at the first sound of a siren, which were too valuable to leave exposed to falling bombs.

The repair and maintenance battle never ends. The rain, glue-like mud, jagged coral particles, and rot and rust haunt the dreams of the truckmaster, First Sergeant John A, Angrum, of Los Angeles, Calif., and his assistants, Staff Sergeant Edward Gordon, 625, Savannah, Ga., and Staff Sergeant Arthur A. Hourtman, Detroit, Michigan. Brake drums, for example, are often found to be packed with silt when the big wheels are removed. 1-27-45

Members of the company, acting on the plans of Sergeant Gordon and Hourtman, built a truckwashing trailer from salvaged equipment. The ambitious maintenance crew salvaged a motor from a wrecked jeep, fixed up a rotary pump, procured a universal joint, a hose and a regular fire hose nozzle. The result: A combination washing trailer and emergency fire-fighting unit! 1-27-45

NEEDED BRAKE LININGS

Another neat trick helped relieve the strain of the tightly-stretched Pacific supply lines. One nightmarish day, 20 of the badly-needed trucks were idle for lack of brake linings. It was urgent that they get back on the road and keep precious supplies moving up to scattered air force units. Two enlisted men came through with a solution—a home-made, but effective substitute for brake linings. They stripped machine belts into proper lengths, adjusted them, and the trucks once more rolled off airstrips of the "Fightin' 13th."

The mechanical wizards who solved this crisis were Technician Fifth Grade Louis Stewart, Richmond, Virginia, and Technician Fifth Grade Choice Williams, Miami, Florida.

The men in the truck company have fewer nightmares, now. With the 13th AAF assaulting the Japs in the Philippines, in Borneo, and the Dutch East Indies, supply lines have been strengthened and expanded. The days when the Allies fought a desperate war against overwhelming odds are over, and the 13th's bombers and fighters have gone on from Guadalcanal to neutralize the Solomons, Bougainville, Rabaul, Kavieng, Truk, Yap, Palau, the Schouten Islands, the great oil base at Balikpapan, Borneo, the Halmaheras, the Celebes, and more recently, the southern Philippines.

MacArthur Proud Of Part Played In Retaking "-Rock"

Atlanta World, Ga.
3-6-45

BY CHARLES LOEB
(War Correspondent of Atlanta Daily World And NNPA)

-- MANILA — March 2 — (Via Cable) — I stood on top of "The Rock" and with Jubilant GI'S of the fighting unit that recaptured corregidor saw the pride — filled face of Gen. Douglas MacArthur follow every upward inch of progress as old glory was again raised on the flagpole in the parade ground where it had waved until ignominiously pulled down by the Japanese in 1942.

Now the little men are paying for their brazen affrontery. The remnants of more than 5,000 were blowing themselves up inside the caves. Even as we watched the ceremonies on nearby Cavallo Island. Our dive bombers were bombing and strafing the remnants of Japanese troops who chose to die there. It was a proud day for American arms. Revenge was sweet and will be sweeter in the days to come. 3-6-45

INTERVIEWS TORPEDOMEN

But my most prideful moment on this day was to see and interview Steward 3/C Edward Clarence Chears of Chicago, Steward 2/C Perry Brooks of Pittsburgh, Steward 1/C Elmer Lowe, New York City and Steward 2/C Willie Burrell of Dallas, Texas, who were among the crews of the deadly little torpedo boats which helped clear the mine-swept waters of Manila Bay for the landing of our amphibious infantry men.

Chears, who was assigned a machine-gun post during hostilities, told how the little torpedo boat avengers tore through the harbor, banging away at Jap ships and barges, and reducing machine-gun positions ashore. 3-6-45

Meanwhile they formed a protective cordon for the destroyers and warships whose guns were clearing away for our landings. From his position on the deck, Chears could see the first of many white chutes open over the rock as men of the 540th Parachute troops showered down atop "The Rock' to race twice their number.

AMPHIBS ACTIVE

After the preliminary shooting was over, these little Marine Hornest aided in landing infantrymen of the 24th, their flashing speed baffling Jap snipers ashore. In Manila Harbor lay the first cargo ships to bring in vital food,

S/Sgt. Juan Allen, New York City; S/Sgt. Oliver Norrell, Richmond, Va.; T/4 George Jones, Kansas City, Mo.; T/5 Jack F. Higbee, Cleveland, Ohio; Pvt. James A. Britt, Atlanta, Ga., Pvt. James R. Tiller, Philadelphia, Pa. and T/5 U. Wilson D. Cotner, Louisville, Ky., who were in combat or assigned to the less heroic tasks of arms.

You simply cannot keep those sepia scrappers out of the thick of things. When the history og Bataan and Corregidor is written and signed there will be many a sepia thumbprint affixed to give it authority. 3-6-45

White Confers With General Mac Arthur

Atlanta World
3-6-45 Ga.

New York, N. Y. —(SNS)— A conference with General Douglas MacArthur was scheduled to be held March 2 by Walter White, NAACP Secretary, now in his office from Leyte P. I., he is observing the treatment of Negro soldiers in the Pacific and conferring with high army and navy officials on their role in World War 11. He has already visited Hawaii, Johnston, Kwagalein, Guam, Saipan, the Phillippines and Dutch Guinea. 3-6-45

A book just published by Doubleday Doran, A Rising Wind, gives the first complete account of Mr. White's trip overseas and his observations of the Negro GI's plight in the European theatre of operations in 1944.

Race Prejudice Unheard Of On Battle Front--Reporter

N.Y. Amsterdam News 3-3-45

LOUISVILLE, (ANP)—The battle front is completely void of racial prejudice, Fletcher Martin, war correspondent for the Louisville Defender and the first Negro war correspondent in the Pacific theater, declared last week to an audience gathered at the Quinn Chapel AME church.

N.Y.

"Men on the front lines honestly work for no other," he declared as he expressed the hope that 'the world to which they return will be decent, without race riots.'"

Sordid Conditions

"If a man is a truck driver or a concrete mixer," the 29-year-old correspondent said, "he is still doing a big job. Negroes build the air strips on Saipan from which B-29 Super fortresses took off to bomb Japan." 3-3-45

Further declaring that "nothing is worth what these men suffer," Martin described the battle story of the 24th Infantry when the Negro unit was sent into the front lines on nine days' notice after spending 24 months loading and unloading ships. "But," he explained, "they fought like dogs." 3-3-45

Further describing the sordid conditions under which soldiers fight, the correspondent told how both Negro and white men encounter severe heat and tropical insects, to say nothing of the bothersome Japs.

Embittered Servicemen Want Change

N.Y.

N.Y. Amsterdam News

Men In Pacific Say They Want Fair-Play; Editor Makes Comment

1-13-45

A group of GI's from various sections of the United States who are now stationed somewhere in the Pacific War Theatre with an Engineer battalion don't like the kind of treatment Negroes are receiving "back home." . . . Even more, they are doing all they can to help improve conditions at home—not only by fighting the enemy, but by contributing their blood-and-sweat dollars earned on the battlefield.

After reading the October 28, 1944, issue of the AMSTERDAM NEWS which carried a story by Barbara Lewis on "Fights Virginia 'Justice'" which described how a battle she had on a Jim Crow bus down in Virginia and how she was forced to face charges in court, of which evidence did not bear out, and that she was "broke" and needed money to push her case to escape a jail term, this group of GI's sent money orders (via the AMSTERDAM NEWS) for $133 to help fight Mrs. Lewis' case.

Others have contributed following an appeal which appeared in this paper, but we are making mention of this grant because it does more than offer money to a worthy cause —It gives America an excellent picture of how our boys overseas feel about this Jim Crow business "back home." Part of the letter, signed by Pfc. Robert Davis stationed (censored) follows:

They Are Embittered

"We were surprised and strongly embittered, upon reading to find such cruel and ignorant methods as were applied in the case of Mrs. Barbara Lewis to still be in practice in the United States.

"It's needless to say how we feel about such demonstrations of Fascism and when we return we will do all in our power to help abolish it there as we are helping here . . .

"In answer to the appeal for financial aid for Mrs. Lewis, enclosed find money order totaling $133 to be used in her behalf contributed by the members of this battalion with Cpl. Edgar L. Lockhart of New York as chairman and myself as secretary of the Soliciting Committee.

Post-War Promise

"It should be noted here that the members of this battalion are natives from various sections of the United States and not just natives of Northern states and you can well understand that when we return such showing of unity as is demonstrated here will continue to be an asset to us."

The Editor Replies

Cpl. Edgar G. Lockhart, Chairman
and Pfc. Robert Davis, Secretary,
Soliciting Committee
For Barbara Lewis Fund,
Co. B 1894 Engr. Bn.,
APO No. 244, c/o Postmaster,
San Francisco, California

Gentlemen:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter in which you speak of how the men of your outfit were surprised and embittered upon reading the Amsterdam News and finding that such cruel and ignorant methods as were applied in the case of Mrs. Barbara Lewis are still in practice in the United States. We also acknowledge receipt of money orders for $133, which you sent to aid Mrs. Lewis in fighting a case.

We agree with you that the case was tragic, and as men fighting intolerance far away from home, we can understand you well when you write: "It's needless to say how we feel about such demonstrations of fascism and when we return we will do all in our power to help abolish it there as we are helping here . . ."

We want you to know that we on the home front are carrying on also in order that America shall be a better place in which people of all races, creeds and colors may live in peace. While there are far too many incidents like that in which Mrs. Lewis was involved, we would like to report that we have made some gains, and that by continuing the fight we shall make more.

With the newspapers, welfare organizations and forward-looking and liberal-minded individuals, white and black, constantly on guard, many steps have been and are being taken to protect minority groups in the United States.

Since you went away, the United States Supreme Court has outlawed the white primary in Texas, which indirectly dealt a terrific blow to the nefarious poll tax system in the South, and with the progress that is being made it is likely that complete enfranchisement for all citizens all over the country is not far off.

2. There are now two Negroes in the United States Congress.

3. Two bills are right now being presented to the New York State legislature for the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission, and strong measures are being taken to secure enactment of similar legislation by the congress of the United States.

4. Jim Crow laws still exist in the South but at least one state in that section has already laid plans for legislation to outlaw segregation in public conveyances, such as street cars and buses. Virginia is the state in question, and the incident of Mrs. Lewis, which occurred in Virginia, may serve to hasten the abolition of that state's Jim Crow transportation laws. Your contribution will play an important part in this fight.

5. Negroes have made gains in the armed services, although discrimination and segregation have not been wiped out. Yet, Negroes have been advanced to some high places in the Army, the Navy, the Marines, the Maritime Service and the Coast Guard.

GI's on Leyte Enter "Living Hell" to Save Ammunition

Balt., Md
AFRO-America
AN 1-6-45

LEYTE, Philippines (Delayed) —Two members of an amphibious tractor unit attached to the 96th Division were recently cited by the War Department for having entered an ammunition dump and saved three huge amphibious trucks loaded with mortar and artillery shells.

S/Sgt. Robert Jones of Roxbury, Mass., says of the men, Clarence Jackson of Washington, and T/4 Samuel Bryant, NYC; "They entered a living hell to save the ammunition.

Surmount Obstacles

Others praised for bringing up supplies and ammunition, despite muddy roads and terrain thought impassable, are T/4 Prince E. Anderson, Sgt. William H. Holland, T/5s Leonard Ingram and Allen Smith, all of New York; T/4 Daniel J. Everetz, Bridgeport, N.J., and Pvt. Everett Elam, Broomfield, N.J.; T/5 Mayo L. Gentry, 2384 Chambers of a Transportation Corps Northwest; T/4s Robert Mitchell, 926 S. 15th Northeast, Washington, member; T/5 Robert Philadelphia, and Sgt. Samuel McCamey, 226 47th Street, North-east, and Robert Wiley, 3028 Parka Place, all of Washington. Pfc. David Ingram, 3869 Alabama Ave-

Black Robin Hood Of Samar Enthralls Eletcher Martin

Atlanta World Ga.

Virtual Ruler Of Northern Tip Of Philippines

BY FLETCHER P. MARTIN

U. S. War Correspondent
(Representing the Atlanta Daily World and Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)

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Atlanta World 1-4-45

WITH GUERRILA FORCE ON SAMAR ISLAND, PHILIPPINES—MAJOR FRANK MERRITT — (By Courier) During the recent attempt to find the Negro guerrilla leader, Frank 'Pedro' Merritt, this correspondent was told many daring tales of the 'Black Robin Hood of Samar.' Since weather conditions, distance and presence of enemy troops thwarted the search — the summation of these various stories gives some insight into the personality and the conditions surrounding him.

There have been many reports on the man, Frank Merritt, and the soldier, Major Merritt. Many vary, but they agree on one point — he's an excellent soldier. Arrogant, dogmatic, a stern disciplinarian. One officer put it:

"He can out-drink, out-dance, out-curse, and out-fight most of his fellow soldiers."

RESPECTED LEADER

He's been in and out of trouble with the brass-hats, but he still commands the largest and most respected guerrilla army on Samar. And soldiering is his meat, having graduated a third lieutenant from the 'West Point of the Philippines,' Constabulary Academy in Baguio which is nestled in the mountain province of Luzon.

Part Negro and part Filipino, Merritt is black, with kinky hair. A vigorous youth fitted him with powerful legs loosely joined to slim hips. These balance a huge torso that muscles into wide shoulders on which are placed a bull neck and handsome, broad head. Almost five feet ten, he is much taller than the average Filipino which makes him appear even taller than he actually is. He's thirty-two.

BORN IN LUZON

Born in Luzon of an American Negro soldier and Filipino mother he was brought up a strict Catholic, even studying for the priesthood. However, he exchanged the bible for the rifle and thusly began the stormy life of Merritt, the soldier. One that was to see him the virtual ruler of northern Samar, its protector, its Black Robin Hood.

Following surrender to enemy forces at Corregidor, organized resistence in the Philippines was quitted by American forces temporarily. Jap forces moved southward — Mindora, Panay, Leyte, Cebu, Samar, Mindanao. There was little organized resistance to the Japanese occupation of Samar Island, third largest in the Philippine Group. Scattered parties banded together and harrassed enemy installations as opportunity afforded. The enemy did not concentrate any strength since Samar was not of operational importance.

Guerrillas established themselves in unoccupied areas. It has been stated that their means of obtaining support were as varied as they were numerous. Terror methods causing compulsory cooperation by civilians. Civilians were wooed by government officials and establishing civilian agencies.

ESCAPES JAPS

1-4-45

At the time of surrender, Merritt, then captain, was attached to the Leyte Provisional Regiment stationed at Ormoc. He refused the order to surrender and escaped to the mountains of northern Samar and immediately organized the nucleus of his force. He nursed a hatred for the short-statured, malicious invading Japanese and vowed the sword rather than the pen. He made himself colonel and began absorbing other small guerilla groups in northern Samar. The time, May, 1942.

Evidently, it was apparent to Merritt that organizing an Army was just one of the jobs which he was destined to do. He had to win the people. And most of them were simple farmers with a fear of God and of the modern weapons and might of the enemy. Japanese paraded their strength, the American force, those who did not die or effect escape, were beaten. The people hesitated while getting the bad news which slowly filtered thru then fled headlong into the mountains. Confidence and a desire to avenge had to be instilled in them once again.

Politics on Samar, as other places in the Philippines, had a foul odor. Old, festered political scores were settled by powered crazed politicians. There was no time like the present, and no law and order. The condition seemed an exact replica of the infamous Tombstone of Wild West yarns. It has been proved that civilian Filipinos were dying at the hands of Filipino civilians.

TAKES ACTION

1-4-45

That was the condition Merritt faced. And remedying caused what has been termeds harsh method. One source stated that his relations with the civilian population left much to be desired. The people were held under control by terror tactics and anyone opposing the army was eliminated.

But, it is believed by many questioned, that the ends justified the means. Training schools for officers and enlisted men were established. A Volunteer Home Guard, Women's Auxiliary Service, hospitals, ordnance works, transportation and communication facilities established.

Back to the war at hand, Merritt's guerrillas were low on ammunition. In fact, low is an understatement. Americans were able to sneak in little but not enough to serve the cause. There was one thing left to do — make ammunition and weapons.

BUILDS WAR PLANTS

From timber and bamboo two ordnance plants were constructed under Merritt's supervision. A Tommy gun was produced by using water pipes. Bows and arrows were made with powder in arrow tips which exploded on contact. Much of the powder was got from floating mines which drifted along shore. From cadre units the guerrillas collected used shells, refilling them with powder.

The enemy did not take Merritt laying down. They wooed the Pulahanes group which was organized under Bonang, a woman, and an old man. Cubalan, who is reported to be mentally unbalanced. The group is still active in the areas of Gandara, San Jose de Buan, Matuginao, and Wright on the west coast. They have been reported as receiving enemy assistance and being supplied with ammunition to fight Merritt and other anti-Japanese elements. Their reported strength is 3000, including women and children.

Because there were several guerrilla forces operating on Samar and the general command was not unified, General MacArthur stepped in. The reason was apparent — guerrillas began mistrusting each other.

REFUSES OFFER

A Colonel, Ruperto K. Kangledon was unifying guerrilla forces on Leyte, and late in 1943 he dispatched Lieutenant Col. Causing, his chief of staff, to Samar to try and contact forces in an attempt to unify guerrillas, both on Samar and Leyte.

Merritt distrusted Kangleon. And he was advised by Colonel Marcario Peralta, 4th Philippine Corps commander, to refuse Causing's weakness and his love for peace and normality in this time of war.

Merritt refused.

The Negro fought his war in the north. He isolated himself, and while in bitter struggle, continued civil improvements. He was lord over what he surveyed, a deadly fighter, a scholar, a protector of the largest individual area on the island.

On November 15, 1944, he was awarded the Silver Star of the Philippine Army by President Quezon.

As the guerrillas condition on Samar became clearer, it was proved evident that to win against the enemy the whole of the command had to be unified. Merritt had emerged as the strongest leader in the north, Causing appeared to be the southern leader. The situation dragged.

AGREE TO UNITY

In September 1944, an American officer representing GHQ reported the guerrilla leaders, Merritt, Causing and a Major Abia representing the southern area, met at his headquarters for the purpose of unifying the forces of Samar. In order to get American military recognition, the leaders agreed to unify under any commander designated by GHQ. On October 4, such a commander was appointed. Merritt was immediately made his Chief of Staff, and officially given northern Samar.

The last report this correspondent received before leaving the area was that the Negro had recently killed 16 Japs, and less than 150 were thought to remain in his area.

From most reports, Merritt represents Samar's struggle. Merritt is Samar; Samar, Merritt. A family man who lost his only child while he and family were evading Jap troops, he stands to see the fight through. His mind and body are fitted with the makings of greatness. His vision clear. He is young, he's ambitious. And what are his postwar plans?

He wants to go into the lumber business. To harness the northern waterfalls for his mills. And if fortune smiles — to some day visit the land of his father's birth America — with his young wife and mother.

Praises Work Of Negro Troops On Ledo Road

Ga.

1-6-45

Movie Actor, Pat O'Brien Is Impressed

Atlanta Daily World

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The Ledo road is "the eight wonder of the world." This is the opinion of Pat O'Brien, movie star, who returned recently from China-Burma-India theatre of the war, and paid tribute to the heroic efforts of Negro Army engineers. As head of a USO-Camp Shows unit, he appeared in 84 shows over a 40,000 mile trip.

"The road is blasted out of solid rock for long stretches," said Mr. O'Brien. "Working and living are hard but we never heard a gripe out of the boys. All we ever heard was 'thanks' and questions about what it was like back home and what it would be like when they got back."

Members of the troupe saw two of the "seven wonders of the world" within a week, the Taj Mahal and the pyramids, said Mr. O'Brien, but the greatest admiration of the troupers was for the work and spirit of the men they entertained. Most of their audiences along the road were predominantly Negro.

In one performance, the GI's held candles and acted as "human footlights," continued Mr. O'Brien, while in another, the small organ borrowed from the chaplains' corps broke down and the performers had to sing the show.

56n-1945 Guam- Pacific F.S.

The Tragedy of Guam

All of us grow weary of constantly complaining about segregation and discrimination.

We would like to be able to stop complaining about it, but those in authority will not let us do so.

Take, for instance, the case of the forty-five Negro sailors who have recently been convicted of rioting on the island of Guam.

Pittsburgh Courier

These Negro sailors were minding their own business, trying to do their best to serve Uncle Sam, when white Marines stationed nearby began attacking them.

The Negro sailors refrained from retaliating until conditions became unbearable.

Pittsburgh, Pa

Then they answered these attacks in kind and were promptly arrested, tried and convicted by Navy courts-martial.

Walter White wrote a story about the abominable situation, but the Navy censor refused to send the story, marking it "for release on July 11, 1945," when the Navy felt that it would be too late for public opinion to be aroused by this miscarriage of justice.

So far as we know none of the white marines has been arrested or tried for the attack on the Negroes.

7-28-45

Now colored people are supposed to accept the conviction of the Negro sailors without protest as if justice had been done.

The Navy is wrong if it thinks that colored people are going to say nothing about what amounts to an atrocity.

Guam, Retaken From Japs Now A Beehive Of Activity

Atlanta Ga Daily World

BY CHARLES H. COLE
(NNPA War Correspondent)

GUAM—Guam was the first piece of American populated real estate snatched back from the Japs on our relentless push across the Western Pacific. Within a year we have built it into the most powerful bastion in the Pacific. The harbor now handles more cargo than any other forward area port in the world. Thousands of tons of vital cargo needed for our shattering blows against the enemy's homeland are loaded and unloaded here daily.

The island contains covered storage space today equal to the area covered by 26 large city blocks. Supplies are stored in hundreds of large and small Quanset huts and wooden buildings, in strange contrast with the open-air dumps we saw in New Guinea and Philippine campaigns.

8-14-45

Ten Marine Field Depot companies; Negro enlisted men commanded by white officers, are responsible for much of the movement, storing, and protection of the heteregeneous supplies that go to forward areas where combat marines sweep on to new glory.

When the first of these companies arrived shortly after the island was declared "Secured" conditions were indeed primitive. We had invaded the islands in the monsoon season, and the heavy rains had left the island's few dirt roads a quagmire and the beaches nothing but mud-filled swampland.

Members of a Marine Depot Company who arirved here arrived here last November 4 can recall they were forced to sleep in puptents before even temporary camps could be constructed.

Activated at Munford Point, Camp Lajeune in May 1944, the unit had spent some time at Pearl Harbor and Eniwetok, but this mud-smeared Pacific hunk of coral and jungle was a new experience for most.

One of their first assignments was patrol duty on which, they learned that a "secured" islands is not necessarily void of enemy troops Sgt. William Wheeler, 938 Pacific Street, Brooklyn, was one of the early patrol leaders whose squads succeeded in bringing in several prisoners.

If there are any Jap remnants on the island they must be buried very deeply, for today shapely Guamanian girls walks to their stores and villages and along the miles of paved highways without fear. Guamanian farmers work their small plots and attend their churches and barter in the public markets.

Members of the company long ago exchanged their puptents for weatherproof squad tents boasting wooden floors. Company streets are carefully graded, and beautified by miniature picket fences surrounding rock gardens planted by the men in their off hours.

There are about 2000 men in the area. Among them are many specialists..... operators of fork lifts and cranes, clerks and checkers, mechanics and truck drivers.

8-14-45

The unit has won no citations for their efficient but colorless duties, but the following men have been highly praised for their proficiency in certain specialized work to which they have been assigned; Pfc A. Thomas, Clearmount, Fla.; Pvt. N. Carter, Washington, D. C.; and Pvt C. Florence, Burlington, N. C. for excellence as tank repairmen in the Ordnance section of a Field Depot. Pfc. James Perry, Anderson, S. C.; and Cpl. Thomas Howard, Lexington, Ky.; for excellence in Motor Transportation duties. Cpl. H. W. Flack, Knoxvile, Tenn.; and Pfc. H. E. McLean, Branham, Texas, for excellenct work in the Artillery repair section. Pfc. J. A. Wright, of Philadelphia; Pvt. J. H. Burrall, Washington, D. C.; and Pfc. H. H. Johnson, Los Angeles, for small arms work Pfc. D. F. Hunter, Alexandria, Va.; Cpl. H. Spann, Sumpter, S. C.; Pfc Harold Jackson, Chicago, and Cpl. Willie Robinson, of Jacksonville, Fla., for work in the carpenter section, salvage section, fire controy section, and instrument repair section, respectively. These men were given promotions on the basis of such performance.

In accordance with the policy of the Marine Corps to staff Negro units with Negro non-commissioned officers as rapidly as possible, the company and the nine other units at the Field Depot have Negro non-coms.

8-14-45

Non-coms in the company include: Acting first Sgt. Claude T. Wright, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Gunnery Sgt. Theodore P. Silas, of Lake Charles, La.,; Platoon Sgt. William Cannady, New York City; Sergeants William Wheeler, Brooklyn; Frank L. Wright, Hot Springs, Ark.; Leroy Morgan, Knoxville, Tenn., and Peter Williams, Winston Salem, N. C.; Corporals Sheridan J. Reynolds, of New Rochelle, N. Y.; Willie F. Robinson, Jacksonville, Fla.; George Rowe, Fayetteville, N. C.; Harmon Spann, Sumpter, S. C.; Ned Wilson Gary Ind.; Murry Wiley, Washington, D. C.; Charles O. Wililams, of Columbus, Ohio; Hugh W. Flack, Knoxville, Tenn.; Joe N. Frazie Cincinnati, Ohio; Lorenzo Grahan St. Petersburg Fla.; Leroy D. Hil Memphis, Tenn.; Thomas B. How ard, Lexington, Ky. and Charles I Jones, Louisville, Ky.

COOKS AND COMMISSARY BRANCH — Staff Sgt. James M Culbreath, New York City; ACK (cook assistant) Cecil G. Ellison, o San 'Antonio, Texas; ACK Edwar Johnson, Baltimore, Md.; ACK Danforth Hawkins, Augusta, Georgia and ACK Wesley Lowery, o Cedartown, Ga.

NAVY PERSONNEL IN DISPENSARY — Phm. Second Clas Lorenzo Watson, Phm. Third Clas William S. Moore, and Hosp. App 2/c Perry Baxter, all of New York City.

COMPANY CLERKS include: Cpl. Calvin Goins, Gallaton, Penna.; Pfc. Altha C. Harris, Springfield Mass.; and Pfc. Rufus Wright, of South Amboy, N. J.

Sparking the recreation program in the newly-constructed recreation hall built by the men in their spare time, is Pfc. Lawrence A. Jacobson, New York City, who is acting recreation sergeant, Jacobson is an unusually accomplished musician, plays the piano and cornet and other brasses, and is a former student of the Juillard Conservatory.

Morale was good among the enlisted men, the food was excellent and the non-coms were in a fever of excitement over the beginning of construction of a Non-commisisoned offers club they expect to "christen" within the next two weeks

Serving on Guam

Afro-American Baltimore Md. 9-22-45

LT. (j.g.) JAMES R. BROWN, first colored Navy chaplain in the Pacific, who arrived on Guam Aug. 14 and will serve Bluejackets at U.S. Naval Barracks 1. Chaplain Brown preached his first overseas sermon aboard the Navy transport that brought him to Guam, and reported an enthusiastic reception from white troops who were en route to Okinawa.

Mixed MPs On Guam B-29 Base Prove Inter-Racial Units Work

Chicago Defender Illinois

8-25-45

BY ENUC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

GUAM AIR DEPOT, HARMON FIELD, Guam—The mixed—Negro and white—military police force charged with the security of this gigantic air depot is often erroneously referred to as an experiment, Sgt. Albert Mills, of Pittsburgh, declared recently.

"An experiment," Mills pointed out, "implies a test, the results of which are uncertain. This is not that at all. What we have here "is the recognition and application of a fundamental principle, the validity of which intelligent people have long been aware."

Mills, as a city policeman in Pittsburgh, patrolled a neighborhood, largely Italian, in which few if any Negroes resided, for two years before coming into the army.

Here at Harmon Field, he's a desk sergeant, working out of the headquarters of Maj. Kenneth J. Peterson, white, Manti, Utah, provost marshall.

Dispatches MP's

On 12 hours at a stretch and off 36, Mills receives all calls and dispatches MP's scattered throughout the area with whom he is in constant radio and telephonic contact.

Only one third of the MP force here is made up of Negroes which means that most of the men whom he dispatches to investigate complaints and who report to him are white.

"Since I've been on the job," he said, "I havent' had one unpleasant experience, and neither have any of the other Negro MP's so far as I know, and the fellows here come from all sections of the country."

Former Cop 8-25-45

Mills originally planned to be a social worker and spent two years studying at the University of Pittsburgh. Running out of money, he took the civil service examination and became a police officer.

Though a policeman is not exactly a social worker, Mills feels that his education has been a definite asset.

Major Peterson was high in his praise of Mills and regards him as one of the most valuable members of the MP force at the field.

The MP company, of which Mills is a member, has been stationed here since March of this year. It is the only Negro aviation MP company in the service and was activated October of last year at Barksdale Field, La.

Commanded by Capt. Robert W. Fox, white, of Kalamazoo, Mich., the company after its arrival here, was informed that it wouldn't operate as a unit, as it had in the states, but would be thoroughly integrated into a force made up of two other companies.

Commanding Posts

Non-coms in the Negro company retain their ratings and authority, and take their turns along with others in commanding details.

Mills was originally with the traffic and gate section, but his work was so outstanding that he was made a desk sergeant.

Top man is S-Sgt. Thomas Ivory, of Detroit, provost sergeant, who is ranking non-com for one shift. Others are Sgt. Cyrus Gary, Richmond, Va., dismounted patrol; Sgt Richard Lacy, Washington, motorized section (jeeps and motorcycles), and Sgt. Richard C. Foulks, Keystone, W. Va., investigation.

Foulks, a native of Chicago, is a 1932 graduate of Bluefield State Teachers college, Bluefield, W. Va., and was teaching English and history at Northfork, W. Va., before coming into the service. His wife, the former Miss Amaza Harris, is a graduate of West Virginia State college and is teaching at Anawalt, W. Va.

8-25-45

Another whose work has been outstanding is Cpl. Charles Parker, of Washington, Texas, of the gate and traffic detail, who has received a commendation for efficiency from Major Peterson.

The same varied backgrounds found elsewhere in the army are present in this MP company.

Ex-Baseball Player

Pfc. Ernest Smith, of Alexandria, La., was a professional baseball player, serving as catcher for the Homestead Grays in 1936, the Kansas City Monarchs in 1940 and the Chicago American Giants in 1941.

Cpl. Ramon Williams, 717 East 37th street, Chicago, a graduate of Englewood high school, is a boogie woogie pianist and was filling an engagement at the Bandbox in Chicago when he was drafted.

Cpl. William H. Young of Brooklyn, was a boxer who reached the finals in the New York Golden Glove tourney of 1939 before turning professional.

Pfc. John E. Cornelius of Texarkana, Ark., was an inspector for the Universal Life Insurance company and Pfc. John M. Jameson, of Cleveland, operated a filling station; Cpl. Alfred M. Sinclair of Clifton, Tenn., was cook at a bus station and Pfc. Jackie M. Galloway, of Detroit, a truck driver.

The energies of the force are not confined to maintaining order, directing traffic and checking vehicles in and out of the depot. One of its most important functions is protecting the supplies, and equipment from sabotage.

With the passage of time, this becomes less and less of a problem, but less than a week ago a Japanese soldier, a remnant of the army which opposed the landing of the Americans last year, was killed by an MP who noticed him loitering around a B-29.

But ordinarily the life of an MP here is marked with monotonous routine, and arrests here are fewer than in a civilian community of similar size.

56n-1945

India Pacific

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD

Rest Camp Facilities Poor in India; GI's Shun Segregated Swimming Pool

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 11-3-45

11-3-45

NNPA War Correspondent

WASHINGTON

Dixie prejudice won a smashing victory in the India-Burma theater of operations as regards the availability and use of rest camp facilities for colored and white military personnel.

Although 65% of the troops working on the construction and operation of the Ledo Road in Burma were colored, there were originally seven camps for the white troops and only one for the colored GI's.

Later, several of the white camps were closed down, but no more were opened for colored soldiers.

Say GI's Picked Site

All but one of the white camps were located in pleasant cool mountain areas, while the lone colored camp was in the heat-stricken, disease-ridden Calcutta area at low sea level.

Correspondents were informed that a poll had been taken among the colored soldiers and that they had chosen the Calcutta site.

According to my figures, however, only some 5% actually participated in the poll, while no poll was taken of the white soldiers' wishes.

Near Prostitution Area

The original colored camp was at Howrah, a site which the Tan Yanks called the "GI's Devil's Island." It was situated near the "off-limits" prostitution area.

The buildings were of the native basha type, cheap bamboo construction, and infested with vermin. One soldier was bitten by a rat while sleeping.

No Mess Halls

With no mess hall available, like that found in the white camps, the colored "vacationists" were forced to stand up in the chow line as they did when on regular duty.

The advent of colored correspondents brought a little change to the picture. The old Dum-Dum orphanage, with a much better looking physical layout and in the same area, was renovated and put into use as a rest camp for colored personnel.

Concession to Officers

When queried on the segregation policy, Maj. Gen. Covell of Arkansas, commander of services of supply in the theater, promised that colored commissioned personnel, who were few in number, would be permitted to go to one of the white officer camps if they made such a request.

However, the nurses, under this arrangement, had to sleep in one of the larger hotels in the city because the camp lacked the necessary facilities for the housing of female personnel.

Rather than accept either arrangement, a few colored officers spent their leaves visiting other vacation spots in India at their own expense.

No Change for GI's

General Covell stated that it was impossible at that time to "make the necessary arrangements" for colored enlisted personnel at any of the white camps.

Lt. Col. J. F. Mimnaugh of New York, director of rest camps in the theater, did all within his power and jurisdiction to improve the lot of the colored service men, but his powers were limited by rank.

Jim-Crow Pool Opened

In July of this year, the Army scored its grand slam as regards its policy of segregation and discrimination when it completed construction of a jim-crow swimming pool in Calcutta.

The schedule called for colored soldiers being allowed to use the pool on Tuesdays and Thursdays and every third Sunday, and whites to use it the remainder of the time.

This schedule worked to the disadvantage of the colored soldiers because some of them might be working on one or maybe two of the segregated days.

It was rumored that the colored Red Cross Club suggested a boycott of the pool by the Tan Yanks in that area. Because of this segregated policy, several of the club's administrative personnel resigned and returned home.

When I left the theater, the charges against the club of having initiated the idea of a boycott had not been proved.

British Pool Open to All

On opening day, no colored soldiers used the pool. By July 5, 12 had been in. As of July 26, only 25 had used the pool, the Tan Yanks having been granted a period of 90 days for swimming.

In answer to this American jim-crow set-up, the colored troops went directly across the street from the segregated pool, and for about eight cents in American currency enjoyed the full privileges of the British pool.

There, they swam with fellow white Americans, British and Indian men and women, and West Africans.

No "Incidents"

When queried by the correspondents, British authorities stated that, to the best of their knowledge, there had been no "incidents."

The base section where the American pool is located is under the command of Maj. Gen. Robert (Bob) Neyland, former head coach at the University of Tennessee.

Brief Survey Report

On Treatment Of Negro Troops In Iran, India-Burma Theatres

The Informer Houston, Texas 11-3-45

(Second of a Series of Three)

PRO picture morgues were often found to be "lean" on pictures showing colored troops at work. Those which were available generally showed them in participation of their social activities "enjoyed" during recreational hours. However, the PROs were quite cooperative in trying to obtain any pictures which the correspondents requested. But from this correspondent's view point there should have been made already available such pictures and publicity data on the Negro soldiers as there was for the white troops.

Camp newspapers generally neglected to play up the deeds and accomplishments of the Negro troops until the matter was brought to the attention of the authorities concerned by the colored correspondents. The India-Burma theatre was not as delinquent on this score as the Iranian theatre.

White troops were generally given the praise, raves and publicity to the exclusion of colored troops in the theatres, and in some cases even when the colored troops were in the majority in certain areas and when they had been largely responsible for those accomplishments which the white troops were being given credit for. The Ledo Road project and attendant publicity is an example. Originally Negroes were not included in the first convoy which went over the Road. At first Signal Corps movies neglected their presence on the Road both during its construction and during the transportation of supplies over it to China. It was not until the colored correspondents made the complaint that the delinquency was partially reminded. Releases and pictures were prepared to satisfy the grievance. However, the damage had already been done to the moral of the colored troops and little if anything could be done to assuage it.

In most instances recreation was not administered fairly to the colored troops. War Department directives were not obeyed as regards "no discrimination or segregation." There were so many "dodges" effected that time and space will not permit enumerating all of them. Special Service and the Red Cross worked hand-in-hand to perpetuate the "Dixie caste system."

In Iran all of the Red Cross workers were white. Together with the Special Service units it contrived to keep Negro coldiers from enjoying all of the privileges of administered recreation. Dances were given for "white only," even though the majority of the native girls attending as hostesses for the white torrps expressed no resentment at socializing with the Negro troops. In the towns, cities, and villages the native girls definitely enjoyed the company of the colored GIs and acted frequently. It was only when the white GIs attempted to influence them against Negroes that the problem reached the proportions of unwarranted discrimination and segregation. This was often done under the threat of boycott and non-patronization of recreational facilities and establishments by both white officers and enlisted men. Colored troops were always told that a separate dance could be given for them "If enough girls could be found who would be willing to socialize with them." (Generally, enlisted personnel, both colored and white got along well together. Discriminatory polices were more often fostered and demaned by white commissioned personnel.)

Ex-Hamptonite Describes D-Day Landing on Luzon

Baltimore, Md.
afro-American
9-21-45

By K. ROBINSON

LUZON — Coming ashore on White Beach behind infantrymen in the D-Day landing here, a port battalion unit visited recently, worked 22 hours daily for five consecutive days unloading ammunition and food from ships.

The Japs a short distance away, dropped mortar shells in the area, while big guns, rockets and machine gun fire went off from both sides.

First Sgt. Harley J. Newsome, a former Hampton Institute student and athlete, in describing the landings, said, "At Cape Creek we were unloading 'ammo' from the ship of a colored amphibious duck unit.

Only Pure In Heart

"I saw a Jap bomb fall and ricochet off our ship. Two casualties were reported. Only the pure in heart could have stood those exciting moments of D-Day on Luzon."

The unit arrived from New Guinea where they had been cited for their record tonnage, unloading rations and ammunition. Although the work was tiring, movies and shows kept the men entertained.

The Four Smoothies, a unit quartet, worked for special service entertaining troops on the island.

"Four Smoothies"

Members of the quartet are Pvt. Lawrence Johnson, first tenor of Philadelphia; Pfc. Murt J. Tyson, second tenor of Steelton, Pa.; S/Sgt. Peter Courtrier, baritone of Charleston, S.C., and Sgt. Newsome, bass of Newport News, Va.

The company has been overseas for 19 months. Platoon leaders supervising the work are: S/Sgts. Houston E. Norman of Pittsburgh; Arthur McDonald of Houston, Tex., and William Sutton of Kentucky.

S/Sgt. Arthur Clark Jr., of Kentucky is supply sergeant, S/Sgt. Reuben Jones of Kentucky is mess sergeant, and T/5 Sydney F. Ricks is mail orderly.

56n-1945

Nansei Shoto Islands-- Pacific Foreign Service

Story Of Heroic Duckmen (Part 2):

Journal + Guide

447th Amphibious Company In Thick Of Fight Against Japs

Norfolk, Va

7-21-45

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

EDITORS' NOTE: This, the second of a series of stories covering the activity of the 477th Amphibious Trucking Company, relating the circumstances under which two of its members won the Bronze Star Award, gives a vivid picture of the hazards under which these specialized troops operate.

NANSEI SHOTO ISLANDS — T/Sgt. inston C. Carmichael of Atlanta, Ga., and New York City is no longer a member of the intrepid 477th Amphibious Trucking Company. He was recently evacuated, but wherever he is, he must know that his name is spoken with pride by the buddies he left behind him in the Nansei Shoto group.

Of the group of men who participated in this story of daring and disregard for personal safety, only Sgt. Carmichael was awarded the Bronze Star, but there is no resentment, because each freely admits that Carmichael's utter disregard for danger marked him the "bell cow" of the action.

Ammunition On Fire

The group was aboard an LST loaded with, among other impedimentia of war, a quantity of .75mm ammunition. For hours a stream of Ducks had been ploughing back and forth from beach to ship unloading its explosive cargo. Air raids were frequent in those days, and the sight of a hell-bent-for-suicide plane no novelty.

A Duck loaded with ammunition caught fire on the tank deck. The vehicle did not belong to Carmichael's company but he happened to be on the vehicle when its cargo exploded, and after a moment of shock began to fight the fire in an effort to prevent its spread to other vehicles.

Forsaking his own safety with the knowledge that six or seven amphibious trucks loaded with ammunition stood nearby, he fought the fire alone until joined in his efforts by T/Sgt. J. C. York, Memphis; T/4 Girad Nichols, Baltimore; T/4 James C. Johnson, Atlanta; T/4 Garnett Harris, Chicago; T/4 William Howell, New York City, T/5 Roy McCray, Houston; T/5 Anthony Walker, Augusta, Ga.; T/5 John C. Davis, Augusta, Ga.; and Cpl. Walter Johnson, New York City.

Flames Conquered

The men fought the fire, aiding its control until Carmichael, overcome by smoke and fumes, had to be dragged up on deck, but not before the flames had been conquered. His prompt action is credited with saving the ship and personnel aboard. As a result the ship and the vehicles aboard her at the time continued service in the battle for TINIAN, which in our hands is now a powerful base from which the gigantic B-29's hop off to spread destruction to Japan's industrial centers.

7-21-45

On the same day a Duck driven by Pfc. Henry Horton and Sgt. Crawford Brown, both of Little Rock, Ark., ran over an enemy land mine, miraculously escaping injury. They went right back to work in another vehicle.

Another Duck driven by Pvt. Melvin Shaw, Jacksonville, Fla., assisted by Pfc. William Cox, New York City, was hit in the side by a light artillery shell. Again death and injury were foiled.

On the following day, T/5 Jack Golden, Mariana, Fla., moved into the Bronze Star fraternity. He stood on the beach watching a Duck flounder helplessly in the raging surf, then overturn in the jagged coral off the shore of Tinian. Without hesitation he entered the water to determine steps necessary to right the vehicle.

He decided it could be righted and recovered by the use of chains, cables and winches, and left the water to procure them. He returned to the vehicle which was bouncing in a very rough surf, a constant menace to his safety, and with utter disregard of the danger, attached the chains and cables.

The vehicle was subsequently towed to shore and returned to the service of supplying ammunition to Marine light artillery units being employed against the enemy.

Pfc. John E. Carter, Chicago, Ill., assisted in this operation, as did a group of white Marines stationed on the beach.

7-21-45

"Gallery Of Heroes"

In the unofficial "Gallery of Heroes" kept by M/Sgt. Jason W. Brown, Atlanta, Ga., is found also the name of T/5 John C. King, 26, 130½ Ash street, Troy, Ohio, who in line of duty was severely burned while fighting the flames from an exploded acetylene tank in the company's bivouac area.

Given power I'd have distributed citations freely among the group participating in these actions, but of course, I'm dreadfully prejudiced in favor of these so-called "non-combatant" Tan Yanks.

56n-1945 93rd Bougainville

How 93rd Division Swung Into Action Against Japs on Northern Solomons

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland

9-29-45

GUADALCANAL—The cessation of hostilities in the Pacific permits the revelation of certain operations of the 93rd Negro Infantry Division which hitherto have been withheld for reasons of security.

Following is a chronological report of highlights of operations of the 93rd Division's 25th Combat Team which was ordered to proceed from Guadalcanal to Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, on March 21, 1944:

MARCH 21 (Guadalcanal)—Headquarters, 93rd Infantry Division is ordered by the Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to move the 25th Combat Team to Empress Augusta Bay Perimeter, Bougainville Island, with the least practicable delay. Composition of the Combat Team:

25th Infantry Regiment
593rd Field Artillery Battalion
596th Field Artillery Battalion
Company A, 318th Combat Engineer Battalion
Company A, 318th Medical Battalion
1 Platoon, Company D, 318th Medical Battalion
93rd Reconnaisance Troop,
Detachment, 93rd Signal Company
Detachment, 793rd Ordnance Company
Detachment, 93rd MP Platoon

MARCH 26 (Guadalcanal)—25th CT embarked and departed from Guadalcanal in convoy of five transports.

MARCH 28—Debarked at Empress Augusta Bay and attached to XIV Corps and on same date attached to American Division.

MARCH 29—Established bivouac area and prepared local security positions.

MARCH 30—Commenced intensive training in patrolling and jungle operations.

MARCH 31—593rd FA completed its gun positions and was ready to fire its first mission.

APRIL 16—Companies E and G were attacked by an enemy force but our troops were successful in repelling the assault which also was aimed at the Fiji battalion on Company G's right. Thirty-five Nips were killed by men of Company G. The 593rd Field Artillery fired 1,216 rounds.

APRIL 18—The 25th's 1st Battalion continued its operations with the 93rd Battalion, 132nd Infantry, in occupying and organizing Hills 165, 500 and 501.

APRIL 27—Company A moved to occupy Hill 150, encountered no opposition and left one platoon there as an outpost.

Heroic Medics With 93rd Played Part Too

Afro-American Baltimore, Md 9-29-45

Carrying no arms, these members of the medical battalion attached to the 93rd Division during the Bougainville operations suffered heavy casualties as they faced withering Japanese fire to rescue their wounded buddies. Litter-bearers make this wounded man comfortable as they carried him up Hill 250 to the nearest aid station.

Men Ask for Heavy Artillery Fire

Afro-American

APRIL 7—Company K contacted the enemy before an ambush could be established and in the fire fight that resulted one officer and seventeen men were killed and seven were wounded. Our forces withdrew about 100 yards and called for artillery fire. All bodies were recovered and interment made in the Bougainville cemetery. The 593rd fired 745 rounds in support of the Americal artillery. Baltimore, Md.

APRIL 11—A patrol from Company K sighted five Japs 2,000 yards north of Hill 250, along the west branch of the Torokina River ,and killed two of them. A patrol from Company I located a 70-mm Jap field piece and destroyed it. During the night the 25th CT was subjected to Jap artillery fire (15-cm) for the first time.

9-29-45

APRIL 14—A patrol from Company E, operating northeast of the East-West Trail, made contact with an estimated 15 Nips and killed three of them. The 593rd fired concentrations on enemy gun positions.

APRIL 15—Litterbearers were subjected to enemy fire during the night, and fought with as much vigor as the infantrymen. On one such occasion, T/5 Mose Wheeler of Company A, 318th Medical Battalion, became the first casualty of his unit. Detachments from the 793rd Ordnance, 93rd Quartermaster Company and 318 Medical Battalion were ordered to report to Bougainville from Guadalcanal.

Combat Team Assigned to Americal

Afro-American

APRIL 29—25th CT relieved from attachment to GIV Corps and placed under operational control of the commanding general, Americal Division. Brigadier Gen. Leonard R. Boyd assumed control of the Provisional Brigade, 93rd Infantry Division.

MAY 6—Company B moved out to Hill 150, with the mission of conducting a reconnaisance in force and around Hill 350, then to occupy Hill 350. The 93rd Reconnaisance Troop completed its happing mission of the Kuma Road; Engineer work routine, also Field Artillery. Balt. Md.

MAL 11—Company B on Hill 350 was relieved bya platoon of Company L. The platoon of Company I, operating east of Hill 150, returned to the Outpost Line of Resistance after destroying enemy ammunition. Another platoon of Company I moved east of the Saua River with the mission of reconnoitering the East-West Trail between the Saua River and the Reini River. Balt., Md.

MAY 15—Cannon Company, 25th Infantry, fired on two check points. Malarial control fuctioning in an excellent manner.

MAY 16—The 593rd Field Artillery scored direct hits on a Jap pill box. Men of 93rd Reconnaisance Troop, operating between the Saua and Reini Rivers, made contact with the enemy three times during the morning. The patrol withdrew and called for artillery fire. 9-29-45

MAY 17—The 93rd Recomnaisance Troop, in continuing or mission to Reini River, was ambushed in the morning by an unestimated number of Japs 600 yards west of the river, who used machine guns and mortars. Three men of the troop were killed and three were wounded. In addition, seven men and one officer were missing.

Go Out to Recover Slain Buddies

Afro-American

MAY 18—Company I moved out in the morning, with the mission of proceed to the area where the Reconnaisance Troop had made contact, clear out all Japs opposition west of the Reini River, also was relieved and ordered cover along the East-West Trail, to a staging area for movement, killed in action the bodies of those men to Green Island. Other units of and locate those men the 25th CT also were alerted for tion. Baltimore, Md. 9-29-45

MAY 19—Company I continued on its assigned mission. The 1st Platoon and Headquarters Detachment, 318th Combat Engineers alerted to move from Bougainville immediately. During its operation on Bougainville, Company A of the 318th completed 10.4 miles of road, constructed four bridges, 500 feet of the corduroy road, eight barrel culverts, four wooden culverts, in addition to two water-tank towers and shelter for the 318th Medical Battalion. The 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry, also was relieved and ordered to a staging area for movement, early shipment.

As 93rd Infantrymen Moved Up to Attack

The full story of how the 93rd Infantry Division swung into action against the Japanese on Bougainville is released for the first time this week by the War Department. Photo shows members of the combat team crossing the Laruma River over a newly constructed bridge. They carry ammunition and communication supplies as they move towards the front. The engineers were there first to construct the bridge.

WAR DIARY

The Richmond and Guide

Report of action of the 93rd Infantry Division in the Northern Solomons, March 21 to May 19, 1944.

Richmond, Virginia 9-29-45

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25th Infantry Regiment, 593rd Field Artillery Battalion; 596th Field Artillery Battalion; Company A, 318th Combat Engineer Battalion; Company A, 318th Medical Battalion; 1 Platoon, Company D, 318th Medical Battalion; 93rd Reconnaissance Troop; Detachment 93rd Signal Company; Detachment, 793rd Ordnance Company; Detachment, 93rd MP Platoon.

March 26—(Guadalcanal) — 25th CT embarked and departed from Guadalcanal in convoy of five transports.

March 28—Debarked at Empress Augusta Bay and attached to XIV Corps and on same date attached to Americal Division.

March 29—Established bivouac area and prepared local security positions.

March 31—593rd FA completed its gun positions and was ready to fire its first mission.

April 2—The 2nd Battalion of the CT was detached from Americal Division and passed to operational control of Commanding General, 37th Infantry Division, forming part of a composite force consisting of one battalion of the 148th Infantry, two Fiji Battalions, and the 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry.

During the next two days the 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry operated against the enemy along the Numa-Nume Trail, Blue Ridge, and and the Laruma River. At 2:30 p. m., April 2, Pfc. Isaac Moore, of Brooklyn, N. Y., pulled the lanyard on the No. 2 gun of Battery A, 593rd FA, which sent the first round fired by the 93rd Division into enemy positions.

April 4—The 2nd Battalion continued its operations along the Numa- Numa Trail. During this operation, the battalion closed with the enemy and killed approximately 25 Nips. Four men were lost by the A and P Platoon which it was returning from a supply mission to the Americal Division on Hill 500: Privates First Class Hugh Carrol, Oginal I. Ryan, William W. Ash, and Joseph C. Mallory. These were the first men of the 93rd to be killed in action in this war. The 593rd FA fired four concentrations and consumed 208 rounds of ammunitions. Engineers of 318th moved out fully equipped for combat road construction. The morale of all men was praiseworthy, and comments were made by members of the 37th Division that elements of the 25th CT committed to the push were the best "green" troops they had ever seen in action.

April 5—The 2nd Battalion withdrew from the Numa-Numa Trail and was released from assignment to the 38th Division. The 3rd Battalion occupied Hill 600 and 250. Men of the 593rd received a commendation from Brig. Gen. W. C. Dunckle, commanding Americal Division Artillery, for firing six excellent concentrations. Engineers continued combat road construction.

April 6—Company E left Hill 250 to establish an ambush along a Jap trail to the east. The 3rd Battalion conducted intensive patrolling to the north and east of Hill 250. Ordnancemen inspected first captured Jap equipment. About 11:30 p. m. a period of emergency began, which, before its termination, was to tax the skill and ability of the men and officers to the utmost. Throughout the night and all the next day the men worked diligently and untiringly. Eighteen surgical operations were performed, and officers and men, without regard for their personal safety, carried the wounded to ambulances over difficult and steep terrain at the base of Hill 250.

April 7—Company K contacted the enemy before an ambush could be established and in the fire fight that resulted one officer and 17 men were killed and seven were wounded. Our forces withdrew about 100 yards and called for artillery fire. All bodies were recovered and interment made in the Bougainville cemetery. The 593rd fired 745 rounds in support of the Americal Division Artillery.

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April 15 — Litterbearers were subjected to enemy fire during the night, and fought with as much vigor as the infantrymen. On one such occasion, T 5 Mose Wheeler of Company A, 318th Medical Battalion, became the first casualty of his unit. Detachments from the 793rd Ordnance, 93rd Quartermaster Company and 318th Medical Battalion were ordered to report to Bougainville from Guadalcanal.

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April 18—The 25th's 1st Battalion continued its operations with the 3rd Battalion, 132nd Infantry, in occupying and organizing Hills 165, 500 and 501.

April 27—Company A moved to occupy Hill 150, encountered no opposition and left one platoon there as an outpost.

April 29—25th CT relieved from attachment to XIV Corps and placed under operational control of the Commanding General, Americal Division. Brigadier General Leonard R. Boyd assumed command of the Provisional Brigade, 93rd Infantry Division.

May 6—Company B moved out to Hill 150, with the mission of conducting a reconnaissance in force and around Hill 350 then to occupy Hill 350. 93rd Reconnaissance Troop completed its mapping mission of the Kuma Road; Engineer work routine, also 593rd Field Artillery.

May 11—Company B on Hill 350 was relieved by a platoon of Company L. The platoon of Company I, operating east of Hill 150, returned to the Outpost Line of Resistance after destroying much enemy ammunition. Another platoon of Company I moved east of the Saua River with the mission of reconnoitering the East-West Trail between the Saua River and the Reini River.

May 15—Cannon Company, 25th Infantry, fired on two check points. Malarial control functioning in an excellent manner.

May 16—The 593rd Field Artillery scored direct hits on a Jap pill box. Men of 93rd Reconnaissance Troop, operating between the Saua and Reini Rivers, made contact with the enemy three times during the morning. The patrol withdrew and called for artillery fire.

May 17—The 93d Reconnaissance Troop, in continuing on mission to Reini River, was ambushed in the morning by an unestimated number of Japs 600 yards west of the river, who used machine guns and mortars. Three men of the troop were killed and three were wounded. In addition, seven men and one officer were missing.

May 18—Company I moved out in the morning, with the mission to proceed to the area where the Reconnaissance Troop had made contact, clear out all Jap opposition west of the Reini River along the East West Trail, recover the bodies of those men killed in action the preceding day, and locate those missing in action.

May 19—Company I continued on its assigned mission. The 1st platoon and Headquarters Detachment, 318th Combat Engineers alerted to move from Bougainville immediately. During its operation on Bougainville, Company A of the 318th completed 10.4 miles of road, constructed four bridges, 500 feet of corduroy road, eight barrel culverts, four wooden culverts, in addition to two water-tank towers and shelter for the 318th Medical Battalion.

Commander Arrives to Inspect Team

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

APRIL 1—Major Gen. Raymond G. Lehman, commanding general, 93rd Infantry Division, arrived on Bougainville to inspect all elements of the 25th CT, under command of Col. Everett M. Hon, and to observe its operation and progress.

APRIL 2—The 2nd Battalion of the 25th CT was detached from Americal Division and passed to operational control of Commanding General, 37th Infantry Division, forming part of a composite force consisting of one battalion of the 148th Infantry, two Fiji Battalions, and the 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry.

During the next two days the 2nd Battalion, 25th Infantry, operated against the enemy along the Numa-Numa Trail, Blue Ridge, and the Laruma River. At 2:30 P.M., April 12, Pfc. Isaac Moore, of Brooklyn, N.Y., pulled the lanyard on the No. 2 gun of Battery A, 593rd FA, which sent the first round fired by the 93rd Division into enemy positions.

APRIL 3—25th CT continued its operations against the enemy along the Numa-Numa Trail, Blue Ridge and Laruma River. The 2nd Battalion crossed the Laruma River in a flanking movement to the north bank and proceeded up the river. Jap snipers infested the immediate jungle terrain.

The Nip force, a rear guard protecting the withdrawal of the main body, was entrenched on the opposite side of the river. After laying down a terrific barrage and devastating mortar barrage, the Second Battalion crossed the Laruma River to the south bank and annihilated the enemy.

The 593rd fired 11 missions, including four concentrations, effect in all was reported good. Men of the 318th Combat Engineers completed plans for two new roads.

They Poured Hot Steel Into Jap Positions

These members of a coast artillery battery attached to the 93rd Division are shown loading a 155-mm Long Tom rifle with which they blasted entrenched Jap positions on Bougainville. They have been lauded for their accurate firing and untiring zeal in battle.

First Men Are Killed in Action

Afro-American

APRIL 4—The 2nd Battalion continued its operations along the Numa-Numa Trail. During this operation, the battalion closed with the enemy and killed approximately 25 Nips. Four men were lost by the A and P Platoon while it was returning from a supply mission to the Americal Division on Hill 500; Pfcs. Hugh Carrol, Oginal I. Ryan, William W. Ash, and Joseph C. Mallory. These were the first men of the 93rd to be killed in action in this war.

The 593rd FA fired four concentrations and consumed 208 rounds of ammunition. Engineers of 318th moved out fully equipped for combat road construction. The morale of all men was praiseworthy, and comments were made by members of the 37th Division that elements of the 25th CT committed to the push were the best "green" troops they had ever seen in action. Balt., Md. 9-29-45

APRIL 5—The 2nd Battalion withdrew from the Numa-Numa Trail and was released from assignment to the 37th Division. The 3rd Battalion occupied Hill 600 and 250. Men of the 593rd received commendation from Brigadier Gen. W. C. Dunckle, commanding Americal Division Artillery, for firing six excellent concentrations. Engineers continued combat road construction.

APRIL 6—Company E left Hill 250 to establish an ambush along a Jap trail to the east. The 3rd Battalion conducted intensive patrolling to the north and east of Hill 250. Ordnancemen inspected first captured Jap equipment.

This is the day that will never be forgotten by those men of the battalion who had set up the 25th CT Clearing Station at the Americal unit. It was about 11:30 P.M. that a period of emergency began, which, before its termination, was to tax the skill and ability of the men and officers to the utmost. 9-29-45

Throughout the night and all the next day the men worked diligently and untiringly. Eighteen surgical operations were performed, and officers and men, without regard for their personal safety, carried the wounded to ambulances over difficult and steep terrain at the base of Hill 250.

56n-1945

Northern Assam

HARTFORD, CONN.
TIMES
Cir. D. 82,213

JUL 17 1945

As of Today

Show Appeals to Whites To Understand Negro Aims

Effective Program Presented by Soldiers At Air Base in Northern Assam

By CECIL B. DICKSON

Northern Assam—"The Listening Skies."

That is the name of one of the best all-Negro shows I've ever seen. It was staged at this air base on the vast Brahmaputra River running in corkscrew streams out from behind the high Himalayas into the broad plains of Assam Valley, on which neat tea plantations stretch for hundreds of miles. The heat—116 degrees; the humidity—98.

Thirty-eight American Negro soldiers, nevertheless, sang above the voices of millions of mosquitoes—sang the plaint, the joy, the sorrow and the hope of the Negro race. Hundreds of bug-slapping officers and men sat for an hour and a half and listened to melodies of ages, to swing, "boogie-woogie" and Stephen Foster's jewels.

Marvelous Appeal

Under direction of Cpl. Charles Etcherson, 31, former Detroit social worker; authored by Sgt. Herbert C. Gilbert, 27, Cairo, Ill., and Pfc. Sullivan E. Wolfe, Paducah, Ky., and narrated by Sgt. Frederick H. Gaskins, 21, Philadelphia, the show was a marvelous appeal for the white man to understand the Negro's aims and ambitions. It took three months to whip the orchestra and chorus into line, because the men had their regular jobs to do under Capt. Sam A. Scalici, known as "Cap'n Sam from Alabam," a Southerner who played with Negroes on his Alabama plantation.

It is impossible to reproduce, of course, the singing. You will have to hear it, maybe after the war. But the narration, as uttered by the deep clear voice of Narrator Gaskins is produced here in part:

"Whence did man come? Whither is he going? These questions have been the enigma of the ages, and no one has yet found a satisfactory answer. Still, philosophers of every age are in unanimous agreement that mankind is being driven steadily forward by an indomitable human spirit, in image of and in harmony with the spirit of God.

Recognition by Man

"And in manifestation of this spirit, mankind has, from the beginning, made some token of recognition. And in the greatest and most universal of these gestures of reverence is song. Songs which have issued from anguished or joyful hearts down through the ages, telling a truer tale of the course of man's development than ideas by sword or formed by pen.

"But tonight we are interested chiefly in the songs of the Negro. First, because this is intended as a pageant of Negro songs and music. Second, because we sincerely believe that the songs of the Negro have added as much to the forward movement of the human spirit as any other songs recorded in the annals of history. We believe the Negro's songs are turbulent, poignant, sad, joyful and as moving as they tell. Hear them now."

Later—"Moving southward from the Nile center of civilization along the African corridor, the Negro settled in its jungles, and there amid the lushness of this tropical region began a life that was to go on uninterrupted for thousands of years."

56n-1945

Okinawa - Pacific

Colored Officers Led Men In Attack

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN THE OKINAWA AREA — (Delayed)—On June 24 during the first combat action involving an all-Negro group in the Southwest Pacific, elements of a Tenth Army battalion commanded by Lieut. Col. Wilmer F. Lucas and thirty-five Negro commissioned officers, met and repulsed Japanese troops during a day of blazing action.

8-11-45

When the smoke of battle cleared our forces had wrested from the Japanese an important hill position, counted twenty enemy dead and ten wounded, captured an enemy machine gun nest and ammunition supply, knocked out two pill boxes, destroyed an enemy kitchen, and captured an enemy grenade launcher.

PAY STIFF PRICE

The Japanese exacted a stiff price, for in the victorious action we lost a courageous young officer, First Lieut. Robert J. Peagler of Fort Hill, New Medford, Conn., and two enlisted men, Pfc. Larry J. Gainer, Atlantic City, N. J., and Corp. Henry A. Rogers, Bronx, N. Y., all killed in action; and nine enlisted men wounded.

In the overall Pacific war the action hardly merits a line in the communique of the day, but to us who have looked forward eagerly to the day when Negro troops under Negro officers matched their courage and training against the Japanese, it was a red-letter occasion.

All of the action of the fight was to gain an important ridge on which the Japanese were entrenched and from which they used to come down at night to rob the natives of food and women. One of our patrols had been ambushed in that sector a few days ago and barely got out alive.

OFFICER KILLED LEADING ATTACK

Two platoons of the company, one commanded by Lieutenant Peagler and the other Lieut. Lorenzo Thomas of Jacksonville, Fla., spearheaded the attack on the ridge. In spite of the murderous machine gun fire they faced, in spite of the hidden snipers, in spite of the steepness of the slope up which they had to attack, and in spite of the death of Lieutenant Peagler, the men advanced first to the top of the ridge and then to uncover and wipe out all the Japanese emplacements.

Before the fighting was over, platoons commanded by Lieut. Roslyn Henley, Washington, D. C.; Lieut. Arthur Thompkins, New York City, and Lieut. Clarence A. Carter, Vardkinville, N. C., the latter two of which had been held in reserve, entered the fight. The combined efforts of all the men soon ended the battle.

The following men were wounded in the battle: T/3 Robert George, Jamaica, L. I.; Pfc. Moses Chapman, New York City; Sgt. Leo Gurley, New York City; Corp. Armond Gurley, brother of Leo; Corp. Ivan Henry, New York City; Pfc. Elzie Dukes, Ellaville, Ga.

MANY HEROES EMERGE FROM BATTLE

8-11-45

The names of all the heroes of that fight and the deeds they did would make a story too long for publication, but these are a few of the men who distinguished themselves under fire, either by their skill in wiping enemy strong points off the map or their courage in rescuing their wounded brothers-in-arms:

S/Sgts. Danny Morgan, Harding, Leacock, Niles Smith, Pfc. Major Bass, Corp. Clinton Harris, Lieut. Charles H. Charity, Pfc. Robert Johnson, Corp. Benjamin F. Robinson, Pfc. Kenneth Wilcox, Corp. Samuel White, Corp. Cyrus Finney, Corp. John Davis, Corp. Jimmie Thomas, all of New York City; Maj. Edward Marshall, Brooklyn, N. Y.; T/5 Nipthell L. Young, Fairbanks, Pa.; Pfc. James Jones, Bronx, N. Y., and Corp. Henry Savage, Fairbuff, N. C.

The Japanese soon had enough. The ridge had been cleared of the Japanese. Two machine gun nests had been knocked out, six dead Japanese were counted in one pit and six in the other. All snipers in the vicinity had been killed. One mortar had been captured and four enemy dead left in the pit. The bodies of four snipers were found, and our machine guns had the hill covered.

COMMANDER PRAISES FINE TEAM-WORK

Colonel Lucas was high in his praise of the team-work and spirit of both officers and men, and is considering recommendations for citations for some of the men.

"No man can be singled out for praise," he said, "the success is due to the combined efforts and spirit of my officers and men. They do the fighting. I'm proud of the rapidity with which they have adjusted themselves to the unfamiliar techniques required in this assignment."

Of Lieutenant Peagler, he said, " Lieutenant Peagler is the first Negro officer to become an enemy casualty for this command. His courage, coupled with his capacity to assume the most hazardous work under the most unfavorable circumstances and his leadership in battle made him an inspiration to his fellow officers and to his men. He reflected great credit upon himself, his race, and the military establishment of his country."

I said, " Amen."

56n-1945

Negro Yanks Bring Music To Okinawa Wounded

Daily Worker

OKINAWA.—From 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., seven night a week, Negro servicemen in the 827th Amphibious Truck Company travel from ship to shore in their "ducks," bringing in cargo for the fighting forces. But despite the limits to their free time, these men volunteer after work hours to provide entertainment for wounded soldiers and marines in field hospitals on this battle-torn island.

7-23-45

Recruited by Monroe Sweetland, American Red Cross staff supervisor from Potrland, Oregon, the troupe includes four musicians, two vocalitsts and a master of ceremonies. They have given themselves the appropriate title of "Amphibianeers."

Rain or shine, the Amphibianeers travel miles in their "ducks" to bring music and laufhter to the thousands of men crowded into the field hospitals. They group themselves informally in the center of squad tents that serve as wards, and "give out" on their saxophones, trumphet and guitar. The patients gather around, sitting on cots, salvaged metal bombracks, overturned boxes, anything. This entertainment was doubly welcome in the early days of the invasion when the lack of radios, record players and even books made amusement of any sort a rare and precious thing.

The seven Amphibianeers boast a lot of talent—several of theme were successful musicians in civilian life.

T/5 Eric Miller, who organized and leads the group, as well as playing the tenor sax, has worked with such artists as Hazel Scott, Benny Carter, Lucky Millinder and Ovie Alston, in New York City. The other men are:

7-23-45

T/5 Curtis Robinson, sax virtuoso of Denver, Colo.; Pfc Tainey T. C. Hill, trumpeter, the Bronx; Mandozo Yates, guitarist, Washington, D. C., and Roosevelt Dickerson, baritone soloist and former concert singer, of Kansas City, Mo.

Quartermasters, Truckers Carry The Ammunition

Atlanta Daily World

7-21-45

Loeb Pictures Characters In Pacific Drama

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA WAR CORRESPONDENT

OKINAWA— First Army troops to enter the ravaged city of Naha, once-populous capital of Okinawa prefecture, were members of a Negro Quartermaster-Trucking Company which found itself cast in the role of Ammunition carriers for the scrapping 6th Marine Division during the fierce, final phases of the battle at the southern tip of the island.

In addition to is proud distinction of being the first Army outfit to enter the city, the company boasts quite a collection of Eastern Seaboarders who are "characters" in their own right. Most of them for one reason or another, had been able to postpone their inductions; and their initial baptism of fire has caused not a few to regret that they failed to get into the scrap earlier.

Perhaps you'd like to meet some of them. Maybe you know them.

First Sergeant John D. Walters, 2670 London St., Porstmouth, Va., is a strapping 200-pounder who is a former teacher in the public schools at Portsmouth. He has been in the service four years, and was eager to know the whereabouts of John "Rover" Jordan, Journal and Guide war correspondent, his brother-in-law.

7-21-45

S/Sgt. Lawrence Hamilton, Loveland, Ohio, is the most dignified man in the company, and one of the hardest workers.

S/Sgt. Fred Mitchell, Long Island N. Y., is the "biggest eater." S/Sgt. Lloyd Reddick, New York City is the "noisest." S/Sgt. Charles Vickers, Boston, Mass., is the "sleepingest," having won this title by failing to turn over in his bunk once during a three-hour air raid.

Okinawa

S/Sgt. Eddie White, Paducah, Ky. is mess Sergeant and operator of "White's Bar and Grill;" the high sounding title proclaimed by a gaudy red and white sign in front of the hastily- improvised mess hall in the company area. The day I offered my patronage I was served canned C-ration bacon and eggs, and warm fruit juices, but I was told that in the midst of the fighting White mysteriously produced fresh pork chops. Nobody asked questions.

LOST DRAFT BET

Sgt. Adrain Bristow, New York City, is distinguished only for having lost a sizeable bet that he would "bet the draft."

Sgt. Willis Brown, another New Yorker, is company barber. He has the largest collection of Okinawa Invasion currency of any man in the outfit. He's voted "the man most likely to return to civilian life with a pile of dough."

Sgt. Raphael O. Miflin, a former New York City attorney is the company's authority on oriental folk lore and plant life. The boys calim that his induction was due to a badly prepared brief. A native of the Virgin Islands, he is a graduate of Howard University Law School.

LITTLE SIGHT-SEEING

There is a little sight-seeing prospects. At Naha there is nothing but ruins. Before the war it was a flourishing community of about 66,000 people compressed into an area of about two square miles. It once boasted such industries as the tile weaving, the manufacture of "Panama" hats, pottery, lacquer and the production of liquor and alcohol. Parks, temples, a couple of christian churches, modern public buildings, a railroad station are now mangled masses of masonry.

The boys have been probing around the area that once housed some 4,000 girls-prostitutes, geishas and waitresses with results zero.

The once remainder of modern plumbing in the area is a sparkling white porcelain face bowl that now graces the tent of First Sgt. Walters and provides running water from an engenious pump arrangement hooked into a nearby well.

M/Sgt. James D. Williams, 1053 Hunter St. Atlanta, Ga., son of Mrs Margaret Williams, is Group Sergent Major. He was a successful cotton jobber in pre-war days, and plans to open a printing and publishing firm after the war.

Heroic Story Of Action In Okinawa Area

N. Y. N. Y. Amsterdam News

Japs Exact Stiff Price; Several GI's Killed and Wounded

8-11-45

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN THE OKINAWA AREA (Delayed) —On June 24 during the first combat action involving an all-Negro group in the Southwest Pacific, elements of a Tenth Army battalion commanded by Lt. Colonel Wilmer F. Lucas and 35 Negro commissioned officers, met and repulsed Jap troops during a day of blazing action.

When the smoke of battle cleared our forces had wrested from the Japs an important hill position, counted 20 enemy dead and 10 wounded, captured an enemy machine gun nest and ammunition supply, knocked out two pill boxes, destroyed an enemy kitchen, and captured an enemy grenade launcher.

The Japs exacted a stiff price, for in the victorious action we lost a courageous young officer, 1st. Lieutenant Robert J. Peagler of Ft. Hill, New Medford, Conn., and two enlisted men, Pfc., Larry J. Gainer, 122 N. Carolina Avenue, Atlantic City, N. J., and Cpl. Henry A. Rogers, 785 Home Street, Bronx, N. Y., all killed in the action and nine enlisted men wounded.

In the overall Pacific war the action merits a line in the communique of the day, but to us who have looked forward eagerly to the day when Negro troops under Negro officers matched their courage and training against the Japanese, it was a red-letter occasion.

6 Wounded Men Tell Story

The story of that day was told to me by six wounded men I talked to on a Hospital Ship lying in the harbor outside the little island, awaiting evacuation.

T/3 Robert B. George, 168-10 110th Ave., Jamaica, Long Island, N. Y., was favoring a machine gun wound through his knee as he accepted the cigarette I profferad, closed his eyes as if to recall the scene of the battle, and related:

"I was the platoon sergeant under Lt. Peagler. There were 30 EMS in our group which led the assault on Jap positions located about 50 yards up on a steep hill. Our platoon from "B" Battery was on the right flank, another led by Lt. Lorenzo Thomas of Jacksonville, Fla. and S/Sgt. Danny Morgan, New York City was on the left flank.

"Directly behind there two platoons was another commanded by Lt. Reslyn Henly, Washington, D. C., and S/Sgt. Harding of New York City.

New Yorkers Had Ammunition

In reserve as a support platoon was a group under Lt. Clarence A. Carter, Vardkinvile, N. C., and S/Sgt Niles Smith of New York was ready with ammunition, barbed wire, and other supplies with which we were to secure the position once we had taken it.

"All of us had been well briefed for the operation by Major Edward I. Marshall of Brooklyn, so we knew what it was all about and that it wasn't going to be any picnic.

"The Japs had been coming down from positions on that hill at night robbing the natives of food and sometimes taking their women to the hills to act as prositutes for the soldiers. A few days ago one of our patrols had been ambushed near this position, and barely got out alive.

"We knew that the Japs had knee mortars and some machine guns, but they were cleverly concealed, and our scouts had not been able to locate them. Anyway the Japs kept moving them from place to place. Prisoners had told us that the Japs were well armed and under good leadership. They had plenty of food.

90mm Barrage Laid Down

"Our scouts had located a few of the Japs position, and arrangements had been made by Col. Lucas, Major Marshall and a white major from another group to lay down a 90mm barrage on those positions.

"We were all in position at 5:30 a. m. but a red alert in the harbor caused the barrage to be called off and postponed until 7:30. All assault elements were supposed to move off at 8 a. m.

"Each platoon carried a portable field telephone which was hooked into an inter-platoon communication system with combat infantry wire on reels which were rolled out behind the advancing units so as to keep up continuous communications. Contact by wire was also maintained with the command post in the rear.

"Mortars on the beach were assigned to the support of each assault platoon.

"All of the platoons moved off at the same time. The one led by Lt. Peagler and myself went forward first because the path was too narrow for two platoons to move at the same time, and we had to clear out mines which had been previously laid in the area. Lt. Peagler was an expert at this business.

"The first 75 yards was steep and difficult, but good cover was afforded by the brush. By that time we had reached the top of a ridge and our Patrol and Lt. Thomas' were moving forward abreast.

Atlantan Figures In Sniper's Death

Atlanta Daily World

10-6-45

OKINAWA (Delayed) — Two Negro sailors, members of the seaman guard, recently killed a Japanese sniper as he tried to get into the camp area of the largest Navy receiving station on the island.

"We were in a foxhole with our backs together, when I heard a slight sound and saw the bushes sway," explained Charles Schanette seaman, second class, 2027 Benville avenue, New Orleans, La.

"I didn't see the bushes move, but I heard the sound," said Willlie L. Banks, seaman, second class, of 727 Nebail avenue, Atlanta, Ga. "I had no sooner heard the sound when I felt Schanette pushing his elbow in my back.

SHOT AT BUSHES

"We leveled our guns toward the moving bushes and waited until we were positive something was there," continued Banks. "But we held our fire. You see our commanding officer doesn't want us wasting bullets. Don't fire until you see something,' is what he tells us."

The men listened intently as they watched. They couldn't talk, whisper or smoke. And their vision was little more than 10 feet, the night was so black.

"The 15 minutes we waited seemed like a couple of hours," remarked Schanette "Our hands began to get clammy; beads of perspiration started running down our faces, but we waited and watched."

The men began to have doubts in their minds about what they had seen, when Banks noticed something crawling toward an old tomb. He opened up with his carbine, firing 10 shots.

"I think you got 'im, Banks," Schanette whispered. "It looks like he is trying to get away." So Schanette fired several rounds at the moving object.

Even though the men were sure that they shot a Japanese sniper, they did not dare venture from their foxhole. Other snipers might be lurking in the area, and unless they had killed what they believed was a sniper, there was a chance he might have a grenade on his person waiting to pull the pin as soon as one of the men came near.

10-16-45

The next morning, when the commanding officer went out to make a check of the area surrounding the foxholes, he found a dead Japanese on one knee at the entrance of the old tomb.

All Hell Breaks Loose

Then all hell broke loose! Snipers began to pop at us from hidden positions. Lt. Thomas cleaned out several snipers on the slope of the ridge to his left.

At almost the same time Peagler's platoon located a machine gun nest in a gulley, set to cover any approach over the ridge. In order to fire on the nest it was necessary to stand, and in doing so become a perfect target. Peagler called a bazooka team, Pfc. Major Bass, and Cpl Clinton Harris (NYC), and as the lieutenant raised up to point out the position of the gun nest he was shot in the temple by a sniper to his right. The bazooka men got the gun nest with the first two rockets.

"The next man to be hit was Pfc. Moses Chapman (NYC) who was hit in the shoe.

"I had been right behind Lt. Peagler before he was shot, but he had ordered me to go back where I could take charge of the men in the event he was hit. On my way back I saw Lt. Charles H. Charity (NY) and Pfc. Robert Johnson (NYC) both pinned down. Johnson was a radio man but I guess Lt. Charity had come along for the excitement. Both were lying so still, I though they were dead.

"I crawled up to Johnson and whispered his name.

"Get back you damn fool," he mumbled, "there's a machine gun right in front of us." As I backed away, a machine gun slug hit me in the knee. In about five minutes a medic, T/5 Nipthell L. Young (Fairbanks, Pa.) crawled up, grabbed me by the legs and pulled me away. He gave me some wound tablets.

Just then Pfc. Larry Gainer came up to the gulley where I had been dragged, picked me up in his arms and carried me back to the air station.

Sgt. Gurley Hit by Sniper

"I learned later that Gainer went back and got killed." The story was taken up at this point by Sgt. Leo L. Gurley (NYC), a member of Lt. Peagler's platoon. He was hit in the shoulder by a Jap sniper.

"When Lt. Peagler fell, all of us opened fire at the position from which the sniper seemed to be firing. I don't know whether we hit him, but he was silenced. Just about then, another machine gun opened up to the left of us. Then another opened up from the left where it had been concealed on the ridge. We were between two fires and had to take cover in a rain gulley that sloped off to the right of the crest of the ridge.

"Lt. Peagler's platoon, minus its leader and Sgt. George, was ordered to hold fast, and the support platoon under Lt. Henley (Washington, D. C.) was called forward to replace it. I crept up as near to the machine gun nest on the right as I could and tossed four grenades at it. I heard a scream and the gun stopped. I got to my knees to take a look, and saw two Nips creeping towards the gulley. I shot both of them with my M-1, and was about to drop to my stomach again when another Nip I hadn't seen winged me in the shoulder. I wheeled in the direction of the shot, fired eight rounds, and saw a Jap throw up his hands.

Lost a Lot of Blood

"Cpl. Benjamin F. Robinson (NYC) crawled up, gave me some wound tablets and water, and went back to get a medic. It seemed to me that I stayed there for an hour, but I guess it wasn't that long. I lost a lot of blood before they got me back to the aid station, and missed the rest of the fight."

Cpl. Armond Gurley, brother of Leo, and who entered the service with him six and one half years ago when both joined the New York National Guard, took up the story.

"By this time Lt. Thomas' platoon on the left, by taking advantage of a slope on the side of the ridge, moved forward and attacked the machine gun on the left front. He called for a ma[illegible] gun section and when the b[illegible] opened up on the Japs, proceeded to flank the position.

Wipe Out Mortar Position

"Two Nips who had been hiding near a cave darted into it and escaped. While Lt. Thomas' boys [illegible] silencing the machine gun [illegible] platoon under Lt. Henley moved forward over the right crest of the hill and using rifles and BAR's wiped out a Jap mortar position and killed four Japs.

"Jap fire seemed to spring up all around us, and we stayed pinned down for about 15 minutes before we were caught in a crossfire between ridges on left and right. As the fire lessened I crawled forward behind Lt. Thomas and we saw a body in a hole. Pfc. Kenneth Wilcox (NYC) who was with us said 'That's Lt. Peagler.'

"Cpl. Samuel White (NYC) who had taken Sgt. George's place as platoon sergeant, spotted a Jap position about 200 yards in front, and we crept towards it. Lt. Thomas ordered bazooka fire on the position, and we knocked it out with the first rocket.

"Lt. Carter and his men, by this time had came up in support. Just then the Nip machine guns opened up again. A burst knocked Lt. Carter's rifle out of his hand, knocked my canteen off my hip, and a moment later a slug hit me in the ankle. Lt. Thomas picked me up, put me on his shoulder and started back with me, slipped and fell, then picked me up again and carried me out of the line of fire with the help of Cpl. Cyruse Finney (NYC). As I passed out I heard Lt. Thomas call for a heavy machine gun.

Quartermasters Sought Action

Here Cpl. Ivan Henry, (NYC), a member of the QM platoon under Lt. Carter, who was hit in the leg by a machine gun slug, took up the story:

"Our platoon was supposed to act as a Quartermaster section, taking up ammunition, water, wire, etc. When the fighting got really hot, we were itching to get there and help our buddies. Pretty soon a runner came back with a message from Lt. Thompkins telling Lt. Carter to bring up his platoon. I was second in command of the squad led by Cpl. John Davis (NYC). Our squad wound up on the extreme right of the line. I heard somebody say 'I'm hit,' and thinking it was Sergeant in front of me, I crawled up to help him. The Nips must have spotted me, for I had hardly started to move when a machine gun slug hit me in the right leg, and a sniper's bullet got me in the arm. I would have got it in the head if I hadn't luckily had by arm stretched out in front of me.

"When the slugs hit me, both at aimost the same time, I hollered like hell, then remembered to play possum, keeping my trap shut and lying as still as death. When the fire let up about five minutes later, I took a gamble, and rolled down into a gulley about 25 yards down the hill.

"In the gulley was Col. Jimmie Thomas (NYC) who tore off his 'T' shirt and made a tourniquet for the leg. Pfc. James Jones (Bronx, NY) crawled over with some wound tablets and a canteen of water.

Fire Was Too Intense

"Lt. Carter could be heard calling the men up out of the gulley, but the fire was so intense that they couldn't stick their heads up. They stuck with me, and when fifteen minutes had passed, Jones said, 'Damn it, we can't leave him here, I'm going for a litter. He darted out of the gulley and in about 15 minutes he came back with Pfc. Logan and Pfc. O'Gorro (Bronx, N. Y.).

"The Japs opened up again, and the four men had to wait until the fire died down before they could get out of there on the litter. Finally, they lifted me out of the gulley and onto the litter. Two of them lay on their bellies in front and the other two in back, and foot by foot, dragged me along. When we came to some barbed wire, the men crawled under it, pulling the litter under, and got me to the first aid station.

While this was happening, Lt. Thomas, taking advantage of brush on the side slope of the hill, had moved around and located an enemy kitchen. He ordered a flame thrower turned on it, then returned to the ridge along with Lt. Henley, and the two made their way to the crest of the hill. On their way back they turned the flame thrower on a machine gun pit which had been knocked out by the bazooka, and retrieved a knee mortar and some ammunition from the pit.

Pfc. Elzie Dukes (Ellaville, Ga.) a member of Lt. Carter's QM squad, who was wounded in the hip, told how Pvt. Gainer and Cpl. Rogers met death.

"Gainer had gone back into the line after bringing Sgt. George to the aid station. When our squad got to the gulley we ran across Gainer. He had been badly hit. Cpl. Rogers and I stopped to help him. Gainer was lying on the rim of the gulley, and we pulled him down into the gulley, and out again towards our aid station. On the way we hit a clear space, and the Nips opened up on us. They hit Rogers in the right chest. I crawled over to him, loosened his pants, and Pvt. Edward Boyd crawled over to help. He gave Rogers some wound tablets.

"Gainer was groaning loudly. He had been hit in the stomach and the bullet had come out of his back. Then I got hit, and there were three of us there helpless.

Lived for Short Time.

"Cpl. Henry Savage (Fairbuff, N. C.) finally found us, and he went back for a litter to bring us in. Gainer was shot again as they carried him back of the litter, but lived until he was on his way to a hospital ship.

"By this time the Nips had had enough. The ridge had been cleared of the Japs. Two machine gun nests had been knocked out, six dead Japs were counted in one pit and six in the other. All snipers in the vicinity had been killed. One mortar had been captured and four enemy dead left in the pit. The bodies of four snipers were found, and our machine guns had the hill covered.

"Working quickly, barbed wire was strung at the crest of the hill, mines and trip flares were laid to prevent the enemy from again using the hill.

Col. Lucas was high in his praise of the team-work and spirit of both officers and men, and is considering recommendations for citations for some of the men.

"No man can be singled out for praise," he said, "the success is due to the combined efforts and spirit of my officers and men. They do the fighting. I'm proud of the rapidity with which they have adjusted themselves to the unfamiliar techniques required in this assignment."

Of Lt. Peagler, he said, "Lt. Peagler is the first Negro officer to become an enemy casualty for this command. His courage, coupled with his capacity to assume the most hazardous work under the most unfavorable circumstances and his leadership in battle made him an inspiration to his fellow officers and to his men. He has reflected great credit upon himself, his race, and the military establishment of his Country."

I said, "AMEN."

56n-1945 Pacific- Foreign Service

Four GIs First Ashore To Occupy Jap Naval Base

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Soldiers Accompany Marine General At Yokosuka

9-8-45

By ENOC P. WATERS
(Defender War Correspondent)

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A scene which occurred here 92 years ago was recalled last week when four Negroes from Chicago, Washington, St. Louis and Grenada, Miss., came ashore with Brig. Gen. Wm. T. Clement, commander of the Marine task force that took over this military installation for the U. S. navy.

The four Negroes were: Sgts. Riley Brassel, St. Louis; James E. Holliday, Grenada, Miss.; and Pfcs. Leroy Dumamas, Chicago, and Raymond E. Clark of Washington.

In 1853, Commodore Matthew O. Perry landed at Yedo, now Tokyo, flanked on either side by a tall, solidly built Negro, armed to the teeth—his personal bodyguards. The parallel isn't perfect, for Gen. Clement landed at this naval base some 40 miles south of Tokyo and the four Negroes were not his bodyguards but members of his mess staff.

Aside from these four, only two other Negroes are known to be among the occupation forces in this sector. They are HA 1-c Lowell L. Davis of Tuskegee, Ala., member of a naval epidemic unit attached to the Marine task force, and St 3-c Eugene L. Edwards, of Edna, Texas, personal steward to Commodore Womble.

Sailors Participate

No Negro units, marine or naval were included in the landing force which speedily took over the control of this base. Whether any individual Negroes or Negro outfits landed with Gen. MacArthur's forces at Tokyo is not known since movement of navy correspondents, during the first day, was limited to the area secured by their respective landing forces.

9-8-45

However, though only six Negroes are known to be among the landing forces occupying this important military establishment, several thousand Negro sailors had a part in the landing operations. Aboard almost every one of the several hundred naval vessels anchored several miles offshore in Tokyo Bay are Negro messmen whose only glimpse of Japan so far has been a hazy outline of the base on the horizon.

But 17 messmen of the cruiser, San Diego, tied up at Agama, got a closeup view of the base, though they were not allowed ashore except for the formality of a meeting between high-ranking Japanese and American military officials. The landing, which began at 9:30 a.m., was casual and unhurried. By 2 p.m., all elements of the landing force were ashore and service troops were bringing in heavy equipment such as bulldozers, water-purification machinery, trucks, etc.

Japs Unexcited

The presence of the few Negroes among the landing forces drew no excitement from the black-uniformed Jap gendarmes or the Nipponese soldiers, sailors or civilians in evidence. An English-speaking Japanese newspaperman said that Japs living in Tokyo were not unused to seeing Negroes. In addition to Negro merchant seamen and sailor residents of Tokyo and other large Jap cities, they have seen a number of colored theatrical groups touring the country.

The Jap newsman was probably too young to remember the Negro baseball team, made up of 24th Infantry members, which made a good-will tour of Japan prior to World War I. The 24th was stationed in the Philippines at the time.

9-8-45

The scribe was unable to say whether or not there had been any Negroes among the 600 Allied prisoners of war liberated from Amori Prison Camp before our arrival. The camp, located on the outskirts of Yokohama, is about 15 miles from here.

It is significant, since Negroes have played such an important role in the founding and growth of what is now the world's greatest republic, that their first known appearance in Japan coincided with the first visit of Americans to these shores and that they landed with the first American troops Thursday even though in small numbers.

Pile on Jeep

The Negroes who were in the landing party Thursday were just ordinary GI Joes with a yen to get back home. The manner in which I met Brassel, a 23-month marine who has been overseas 17 months, was something of a reflection on my ability for keen observation. Looking about for transportation to follow the general's car on one occasion during the busy morning, I saw a number of correspondents and photographers climbing on a jeep. I popped on too, making about the 16th passenger and discovered Brassel at the wheel when we had unloaded.

Clark, who has been with Gen. Clement for months, was a messenger in the Navy Department as a civilian. His brother, Cpl. James Clark, a member of a service outfit in Europe, was killed in Germany while volunteering as an infantryman. In the marines since April, 1943, he has been overseas more than a year and went through the Okinawa campaign as a cook for the officers' mess of the 29th Marine regiment. He has been with Clement's staff a shade over a month. Before entering the service, he was a civilian motor maintenance mechanic at Camp Shelby, Miss.

The Chicagoan lives in the vicinity of 35th street and Indiana avenue and was studying to be a machinist when he joined the marines in September 1943. Another brother, Herbert, is serving with a Seabee battalion at Guam.

9-8-45

Davis, who was a pre-medical student at Tuskegee Institute before joining the navy, has been doing field and laboratory work in epidemology and did meritorious work during the Okinawa campaign. His father, Rev. Jordan Davis, a former army chaplain, is now dean of theology at Selma university in Selma, Ala. A brother, Elbert, is serving with a tank-destroyer outfit in Europe while a sister, Elva, attends Tuskegee.

Edwards, 26 months at sea, was attending high school in Texas just before joining the navy.

The 17 Negro messmen aboard the USS San Diego included: Daniel Brown, Williamsport, Pa.; Irving Butler, Emporia, Kas.; Izior Sweet, Orange, Texas; Ralph Holland, Bluefield, W. Va.; Aaron Bronson, Horton, Kas.; Jasper Pruitt, Atlanta; Miller Butts, Far Rockaway, N. Y.; David Stokes, New Orleans; Henry Jefferson, Memphis; A. B. Berry, Laurel, Miss.; A. Bergan, Fayette, Miss.; William Belcher, Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Clifford Milton, Longbeach, Calif.

Tall Medic Among First in Japan

Afro American

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPP War Correspondent

WITH AMERICAN OCCUPATION FORCES IN JAPAN—Among the grim-faced, weary troops of the Fourth Marine Regiment, who swarmed ashore at the big Yokosuka Air Base, south of Tokyo, the 6 foot 2 inches, 200 pound figure of Hospital Apprentice first class Lowell L. Davis of Tuskegee, Ala., stood out like a sore thumb.

9-8-45

The strapping brown-skinned youth seemed quite at home among the sea of white faces around him. His easy smile and resonant voice dominated the small group of medics, who were supervising the unloading of supplies and medicine to care for our liberated prisoners.

No Colored Prisoners

To date there have been no colored war prisoners reported released. Davis had long ago become accustomed to being referred to as the only colored member of the fighting Fourth Marines.

A pre-medical student at Tuskegee Institute prior to his induction in the Navy, he was stationed for 11 months at the Naval Air Base, New Orleans, before coming overseas as a member of a malaria control unit.

The unit served with the Fourth Marines in the campaign for Guadalcanal and for Guam, the first occupied American territory retaken from the Japanese.

When as an integral part of the Sixth Marine Division, the Fourth Regiment participated in the conquest of Okinawa, Davis was in the thick of the bloody action as a member of a malaria control unit that saw service in the vicinity of Naha.

By the time the Fourth had helped clean out Sugar Loaf Hill and executed the capture of Naha Airfield, Davis was an accepted member of the scrapping leathernecks.

Consequently when Marines hour of triumph, the landing as conquering heroes on the soil of Japan, Davis shared with his buddies the honor of being among the first ashore.

9-8-45

Long Way From Tuskegee

It's a long way from Tuskegee, Ala., place of his birth, and from Selma, Ala., where his father, the Rev. Jordan Davis, recently discharged Army chaplain, is dean of the department of theology, Selma University.

It's a long way from Europe where his brother, Pfc. Elbert Davis, attached to a tank destroyer battalion awaits rotation. It's a long way from Tuskegee Institute where his sister, Alva is a junior.

But Davis seems quite satisfied and quite aware of the distinction he enjoys as a sort of unofficial representative of the 15,000,000 colored Americans, whose contributions helped make victory possible.

Hundreds to Land

Out there in the bay and on the the hundreds of ships that make up the vast armada bringing occupation troops to Japan, are hundreds of colored bluejackets, who eventually will tread the hitherto unconquered soil of Honshu kyushu, Shikoku and Hokkaido, but Davis was there with the first.

GI's Pessimistic as U.S. Flag Is Raised in Tokyo

The Afro Argus St. Louis Missouri

9-15-45

By CHARLES H. LOEB
AFRO War Correspondent

TOKYO — There was a mere handful of American combat troops in Tokyo the day the Supreme Allied Commander, General Douglas MacArthur, ordered the raising of Old Glory over the grounds of the American Embassy.

The mission was that of a task force whose objective was to storm and capture the small but strategically important French town of Climbach—five miles from the German border or the last town in France before approaching the Siegfried.

here to hear General MacArthur when, in ordering General Eichelberger to "have our country's flag unfurled in Tokyo's sun," he added:

"Let it wave in its full glory as a symbol of hope for the oppressed and as a harbinger of victory for the right."

The raising of that flag marked the end of the road for our victorious armies.

GI'S Look Toward Home

As it waved over an otherwise flagless city, some two thousand colored service troops, vanguard of those later to flow into the Tokyo area of occupation, began to look towards home and to demobilization.

At Yokohama, the day after the ceremony, these service troops were discussing the General's words and trying to fit them into the interrupted lives they will soon be taking back to America.

They saw oppression before their induction, encountered segregation while wearing the uniforms of their country and today in Yokohama are wondering why military police are displaying an order signaling out "colored troops" for special restriction to their bivouac areas.

These men would have loved to join America's mad victory celebrations, but perhaps that was the week they spent killing rats in the big Japanese warehouses near the docks.

Enthusiasm Lacking

Or they may even have been engaged in the more serious consideration of what America has in store for them when they return long after the first crop of conquering heroes.

That is what makes them the tempered unenthusiastic group I visited the day after the historic ceremony of the taking over of Tokyo.

9-15-45

In reporting that these men are pessimistic about post-war race relations, I am not giving the opinions of illiterate unlettered men but of ex-collegians, clerks, newspapermen, businessmen, barbers, bakers, cooks and laborers, who are about to return to civilian life.

They read the papers over here and get enough of them to know that we still tolerate the Bilbos and Rankins, that we couldn't muster support for the FEPC and that millions of those they left behind are still without the franchise.

They were hoping that V-J Day would also be FEPC Day and E-J (Equality Justice) Day.

They're a little disappointed.

N.Y., N.Y.

Negro GIs Routed Japanese on Jolo

Daily Worker

WITH THE 93RD DIVISION IN THE PHILIPPINES, Sept. 16.—In the closing phase of the war with the Japanese, Negro troops of the 93rd Infantry Division demonstrated their fighting ability when forward elements of the 368th Infantry Regiment climaxed a four-week drive on Jolo Island in the Sulu Archipelago with the killing of Major General Tetsuzo Suzuki. More than 750 Japanese were killed, wounded and captured.

Operating through the jungle, the infantrymen battled their way up the slopes of Mounts Tumantagis and Taran. 9-17-45

Overall commander of forces employed in the areas was Lieutenant Colonel Isaac C. Corns, of Harlingen, Tex.

The operation was preceded by reconnaissance patrols of American and guerrilla troops led by First Lieutenant Booker T. Williams of Baltimore, Md., Battalion Intelligence Officer.

Reports had been received in early July revealing that Japanese were raiding civilian farms in the foothills.

Reports also had reached headquarters that General Suzuki was in the hills organizing an attack on the city of Jolo.

Lieutenant Williams and his patrol combed suspected areas and returned with information concerning the probable Japanese pockets of resistance.

A few days later a company of seasoned infantrymen, under the command of Captain Alamanca C. Williams of Crawfordville, Ind., conducted a combat patrol.

On July 17, First Lieutenant Ricardo Santiago of New York and a small patrol of 37 jungle-hardened veterans added another chapter to the fighting record of Negro soldiers when they ran up against a heavily armed nest of more than 100 Japanese. Out-numbered almost three to one, Lieutenant Santiago and his men nevertheless disorganized and drove back the enemy, killing 21. 9-17-45

Staff Sergeant Leonard Dowden single-handedly rushed at a Japanese machine gun nest to destroy it with hand grenades and rifle fire. Although shot in the chest before he had taken a half-dozen steps, he did not swerve or falter in his advance. By painful efforts he struggled to within grenade throwing distance of the enemy emplacement. Shot in the throat, he fell mortally wounded as he raised his arm to hurl a hand grenade.

Within a month's time an entire island was cleared except for small, scattered pockets which were being rapidly eliminated as the war ended.

Four in 93rd Division Win Bronze Star Medal

The Afro American Baltimore Md. 10

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES—Four awards citing "outstanding leadership," "highest devotion and fidelity to duty," and "outstanding service in direct support of combat operations," earned a first lieutenant and three sergeants the Bronze Star Medal in the 93rd Infantry Division last week.

First Lt. John C. Robinson of Baltimore won his award for "outstanding leadership of patrols across extremely rough terrain and through defense jungle."

Led Men Through Jungle

His official citation from the commanding general of the 93rd Division, Major General Harry A. Johnson, read in part:

"First Lt. Robinson landed with a platoon and led his unit for eight miles across extremely rough terrain and through dense jungle to rendezvous with his company. By means of skillfully located trail blocks and patrols which he led personally, he secured important information of enemy activity in the area. 10-20-45

"During these operations, First Lt. Robinson's work was characterized by a vigorous personal leadership which evoked and maintained a high state of morale in his men, despite the rigors of terrain, weather and enemy action."

A battalion sergeant major for the past two years, the owner of two Battle Stars which he wears on his Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, and wearer of the Good Conduct Ribbon, T/Sgt. James W. Brown of Jamaica, N.Y., won his award for meritorious service in handling administrative details.

Supported Combat Team

The award credited Sergeant Brown with outstanding service in direct support of combat operations against the enemy at Los Negros, Admiralty Islands, and Morotai, Netherlands East Indies, from Oct. 4, 1944, to May 10, 1945.

The citation accompanying the award of the Bronze Star Medal to Sgt. Norton Hurd of Evergreen, Ala., states that "during the period Oct., 1944, to 23 June 1945, Sergeant Hurd showed enthusiasm, resourcefulness and fidelity to duty in carrying out the duties of his combat mission as Battalion Motor Sergeant of an Infantry Battalion."

The award which credited First Sgt. William S. Seals of New Kensington, Pa., with the "highest devotion and fidelity to duty," was made with a citation which stated in part:

"His excellent ability to control the personnel of his company and his attention to administrative details and high regard for orders of his superior officers were of inestimable value, thereby allowing the company commander to concentrate on combat plans and operations.

"The outstanding service of First Sergeant Seals was an inspiration to his men and reflects creditably on himself." 10-20-45

Lives in Baltimore

Lieutenant Robinson, who makes his home with his wife, Catherine, at 820 N. Fremont Ave., Baltimore, entered the Army in December, 1941, and trained at Fort Belvoir, Va. He was later assigned to the 93rd Infantry Division upon its activation in 1942. He has completed 18 months of service in the Pacific and is, at present, a company commander in the 369th Infantry Regiment.

T/Sgt. Brown is the son of Mrs. Dorothy Brown of Jamaica, N.Y. He held the position of clerk in the Marine Insurance Co., New York City, prior to induction into the Army and is a graduate of Boys' High School, Brooklyn, N.Y.

First Sgt. Seals enlisted in the Army in July, 1942, at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., receiving his basic training there. Upon activation of the 93rd Infantry Division, he was assigned as a cadre member of the 369th Infantry.

Sees Negro Soldiers In Action, The Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Manhattan.

Editor, Daily Worker: 10-23-4.

Thought you might be interested in this letter I received recently from a soldier in India:

"We are on the 20-mile mark on the Stilwell Road. This road was built by our boys. The majority of Engineer troops who built it were Negro. There are many crosses in India where heroic Negro troops died. It was so tough building the road. They had to build the road and fight the Japanese at the same time. They had machine guns mounted on their bulldozers. They died of typhus, malaria, pneumonia and Japanese bullets. They made the greatest sacrifice on earth. I hope with all my heart that it was not in vain. This is a hell-hole if ever a human's been in one. In fact no human ever did come to these parts, because it was all wild jungle until it was cleared by our troops. We live here in the hope that soon we will come home to our people in America. We are just about 12,000 miles from home. That is a long way. All we want when we come back is to have a true democracy. By that, I don't mean the phony kind we have now. If all minority people are treated as people, if discrimination ceases, if rats like Bilbo are thrown out of Washington, if Negro and white, Christians and Jews can live together without hatred, then perhaps it was worth the struggle. I say that as a soldier who has given up three years of his life. Will it be worth it? And I speak for the ones who will never come home, and those who come home crippled for life."

W. H.

Indonesians In Global Struggle

Chicago Defender, Ill.

BATAVIA, Java — Allied war aims were taking a beating this week, as American and British arms were put at the disposal of Dutch imperialist authorities to aid in suppressing Indonesian efforts at achieving independence.

With British forces acting to quell the independence movement gaining momentum throughout Java and threatening nationalists with the death penalty "for any form of violence," Dr. Soekarno, nationalist leader, protested to President Harry S. Truman the use of American munitions, trucks and uniforms by Dutch colonial troops. 10-27-45

In its message to the President, the Indonesian government revealed that Dutch forces "wearing American uniforms and equipped with American arms, munitions and trucks" terrorizing the population "by shooting at innocent passersby, kidnapping and maltreating—even killing — captives, and robbing private belongings."

The President was enjoined to "disallow infringement of American neutrality and order the immediate discontinuance of American disguise by the Dutch."

Amid internal strife the first independent Indonesian congress met last week to ask United Nations recognition of the new nationalist republic and condemn efforts of the Netherland Indies Civil Administration to provoke violence. Elections were scheduled for November and December with the government of President Soekarno and Vice-president Mohammed Hatta to serve in the interim.

Indonesians received unexpected moral aid from members of British parliament. Laborite Lt. L. J. Callaghan led a movement to demand a "hands-off" policy by Britain in the Dutch East Indies situation, and organized a "Hands-Off-Indo-China-and-Indonesia" committee. Pledged to fight the use of British forces "to impose old, unwanted regimes" upon colonial peoples, with particular reference to Indonesia, the committee urged that British troops be used only in evacuating Japanese prisoners and deporting Japanese garrisons. Prime Minister Attlee, in answer to charges from the younger Laborite elements, maintained that he has no desire to "interfere unnecessarily" in non-British territories. He declared, however, that the Allies had a moral obligation to aid the Dutch in restoring control. He promised that British forces will be withdrawn from the Netherland East Indies "as soon as circumstances will permit."

World-wide support of the Javanese nationalists was registered this week when dock workers in Singapore and Australia paralyzed all shipping by walking out in a sympathy strike against "British and Dutch imperialists."

Although British troops have seemed reluctant to fire upon Indonesian patriots, they have aided in setting back the independence movement by employing Japanese troops to restore "law and order."

Increasing objections from Parliament and a split in the Prime Minister's cabinet are making it more and more difficult for Attlee to order more direct action against Indonesian independence.

711th Medical Company Among Army's Finest

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.
2-17-45

WITH THE 711th MEDICAL SANITATION COMPANY, FRANCE —Virtually all American sick and wounded to be evacuated from the Continent to England are carried part of the way by the expert Medical Corps soldiers of this Negro unit. For months these carefully trained medical technicians have supervised moving of all patients from hospital trains to hospital ships at a giant port of liberated France. Only company of its kind on the Continent, its speed and efficiency have brought repeated praise from train and ship commanders. 2-17-45

FIFTY-FIVE IN COMPANY

The faster unloading is done here, the sooner battle casualties receive full hospitalization in England. Recently litter bearers stripped a train of 264 patients, and loaded them carefully aboard ship in 45 minutes. Only 55 strong, they once filled two hospital ships, each bearing between five and six hundred patients, in three hours.

"Moving the wounded is a precise and difficult art," stated the company commander, Capt. Louis L. Mollinary, 1316 East Nevada Street, El Paso, Tex., "but our men are past masters at it."

COMPANY ROSTER

ALABAMA—Alexander City, Pvt. James Wychoff; Birmingham, Pvt. Sterling Pennick Jr.; Pvt. James H. Tarver; Carrollton, Cpl. Jesse Watts; Forman, Sgt. James Askew; Mobile, T/5th Gr. Arthur Lewis; Phenix City, Pfc. Charles Alexander.

CALIFORNIA—Los Angeles, Pvt. Lee Coleman.

CONNECTICUT — Ansonia, T/4th Gr. William W. Parks; Ridgefield, Pfc. Clyde McCaslin; Stamford, Cpl. Oakley E. Gibbs.

DELAWARE—Georgetown, Pfc. Vernon M. Tunnell; Selbyville, Pvt. Oliver D. Williams.

FLORIDA—Fort Pierce, S/Sgt. Stephen Bacon; Tampa, Pvt. Willie J. Robinson.

GEORGIA—Atlanta, Pvt. Arbie Haney; Pvt. Clarence Holloway, Sgt. Dock L. Scott; Augusta, Pfc. Roger Green, Pfc. Jessie J. Parks; Brunswick, Pvt. Luther H. Harris; Columbus, Pfc. Willie Patrick; Crawfordville, Cpl. Joe Hill; Culloden, Pfc. Sargus Heuston; Elberton, Pvt. Olin Rucker; Macon, T/4th Gr. Thomas E. Goodwin; Savannah, Pvt. Henry Crawford Jr.; Statesboro, Pvt. Sam Andrews, Theodore R. Gillis. 2-17-45

ILLINOIS—Chicago, Pvt. James Burns.

KANSAS—Kansas City, Sgt. Robert H. Jordan.

KENTUCKY—Mount Sterling, Pvt. Sherman Garrett; Owensboro, 1st Lieut. Barrett H. Phillips; Paris, Pfc. William Brent Jr.; T/5th Gr. Asa Parrish; Mt. Sterling, Pvt. Eugene J. Morris.

LOUISIANA—Baker, Pvt. Henry King; Baton Rouge, T/4th Gr. Claude Humbles, Pfc. Joseph E. Jennings; Bossier City, Pvt. Henry Lilly; Boyce, Pfc. Lonzo Himes Jr.; Campti, Pvt. Anderson Kemp; Carville, Pvt. Nick Hall Jr.; New Orleans, Pfc. Oscar O. Dordain, Pfc. Herbert Holmes, Pfc. Benjamin Williams; Oakdale, Pvt. Curley L. Hollins; Shreveport, Pfc. Jim Louis; St. James, Pvt. Willie Hensley; Zachary, Pvt. Jose Horton Jr.

MASSACHUSETTS — Cambridge, Pfc. Samuel A. Weems; New Bedford, T/5th Gr. James Freeman.

MISSISSIPPI — Amory, Pvt. Augustus Dilworth; Coffeeville, Pvt. Fred H. Winters; Magnolia, Pvt. Joe D. Smith; Meridian, Pvt. Walker Hill; Potts Camp, Pfc. Lester Dean; Shuqulak, Pvt. Jim Allen; New Albany, Pvt Scott Starks.

NORTH CAROLINA — Burlington, Pvt. Robert Wilson; Charlotte, T/5th Gr. Walter Strong Jr.; Concord, Pfc. Willie Ross; Durham, Pvt. Joseph W. Amos, Sgt. Benjamin H. McClary; Elizabeth City, Pvt. Washington Stepney, Pfc. James W. Whitehurst; Enfield, Pvt. Frank Taylor Jr.; Henderson, Pvt. Gilbert A. Jones; Grifton, T/5th Gr. James C. Rountree; Kannapolis, Pvt. Henry J. Robinson; Leaksville, Pvt. James W. Thompson; Maxton, Cpl. William R. Thomas; Method, Pvt. Lonnie Rogers Jr.; Morven, Pfc. David Streater, Pfc. Henry Vaughan; Murfreesboro, Pfc. Joel W. Jenkins; Raleigh, Pfc. Enoch E. Scarborough; Roanoke Rapids, Pfc. Frank J. Underdue; Roxboro, T/5th Gr. Walter E. Yancey.

NEW JERSEY—Camden, Pfc. Elmer C. Wilson; Madison, Pvt. Earl C. Williams; Newark, Pvt. Joseph W. Lockhart.

NEW YORK—New York City, T/5th Gr. Eddie Jackson, 1st Lieut. Allan K. Dimon.

OHIO — Akron, T/5th Gr. Mathew M. Knott; Cookville, T/5th Gr. Frank O. Harvey; Columbus, Pfc. Wallace B. Parker; Cleveland, Pfc. Jesse Harvey; Cutler, Pfc. Conrad M. Hill; London, T/5th Gr. Robert R. Wilson; Steubenville, 1st Sgt. Eugene M. Bowman Jr.; Washington Court House, Pvt. Leonard C. Gray.

PENNSYLVANIA — Philadelphia, S/Sgt. William R. Bantom, Pvt. Alexander D. Burrell.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Great Falls, Pvt. Derry Allen Jr. 2-17-45

TENNESSEE—Chattanooga, Pvt. Robert Allen, T/5th Gr. Eddie Eubanks; Jefferson City, T/5th Gr. Shelby E. Wilkerson; Knoxville, T/5th Gr. Julius Williams; Mt. Pleasant, Pfc. Joe L. McGloffin; Nashville, T/4th Gr. Eugene Davis; T/5th Gr. Henry T. Eason, Pfc. Willie L. Thomas; Trezevant, Pvt. Cornelius T. Howard.

TEXAS—Dallas, S/Sgt. Jesse C. Butler, T/5th Gr. Leon Braswell Sr.; El Paso, Capt. Louis L. Mollinary.

WEST VIRGINIA — Martinsville, Pvt. Howard Dillard; Welch, S/Sgt. Milton H. Branch, Stanley L. Tucker.

318th Medical Bn. Awarded Meritorious Unit Plaque

The American, Baltimore, Maryland
11-3-45

318th MEDICAL BN.—30 pt. . . .

IN THE PACIFIC—The 318th Medical Battalion on Morotai island, first all-colored unit of its kind activated in World War II, and staffed entirely by a colored personnel, was recently awarded the Meritorious Unit Plaque by Maj. Gen. Harry Johnson.

The citation paid tribute to the "stamina, courage, and will to win" of the unit which carried out tactical missions in the far reaches of the Pacific wastes and in jungle heat, from Guadalcanal to the Philippines.

It commended the men for "superior performance and outstanding devotion to duty" from Nov. 15, 1944, to Sept. 20, 1945, in providing medical-dental care and treatment, and evacuation facilities for the 93rd Infantry Division's entire personnel.

High Standards Cited

Although under strength in personnel, and despite difficult and trying situations, the unit "maintained high standards of administration and continued improvements in medical service, housekeeping, sanitation, military courtesy, discipline, and exemplary appearance."

The unit's average on Ordnance inspections was among the highest in the 93rd Infantry Division, in spite of the fact that 90 per cent of their vehicles were of the Class II and Class III category.

Its "outstanding achievements" at all times, and its "high degree of morale and espirit de corps," won commendations from many visiting officials including the Surgeon General of the Army.

56n-1945

366th Infantry

366th Broken Up into Labor Units

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-28-45

Colored Officers in One Regiment, Others White

MEN DISILLUSIONED

Balt. Md.

Leadership Criticized by General Truscott

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 5TH ARMY IN ITALY—(By Cable)—The 366th Infantry Regiment which landed overseas a year ago under command of Col. Howard Queen, no longer exists as such.

The regiment was broken up here March 28, into two engineer regiments, with placed under some of the orginial officers and the other under the command of white officers. 4-28-45

Leadership Criticized

Maj. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Fifth Army commander, who advised the regiment of its fate, said simply that there is an urgent need here for more engineer units and that it was the War Department order that the axe should fall on this regiment.

General Truscott, however, had this to say to me recently concerning the change:

"There is a great need here for engineer units and the conversion of this infantry regiment into such to help full this gap was because it was felt that its loss as fighting unit would do us less harm. The 366th was never an effective fighting unit. Its leadership was not as good as it might have been."

Activated at Devens March 3, 1941, as an infantry regiment and shortly afterwards placed under the command of Col. Queen, who returned to the States three months ago, this conversion ends the four-year existence of the first all-colored infantry regiment to be shipped overseas as such and the first to see duty intact.

The duties of the two engineer regiments formed from this infantry group will be of a general service nature, such as building and repairing anything from latrines to roads and bailey type bridges. The two new engineer units are now undergoing training for this work.

Men DisIllusioned

I took a 30-mile jeep trip to a rear area today to talk to Lt. Col. Alonzo G. Ferguson of 2433 M Street, Northwest, Washington, who took over command of the infantry regiment when Col. Queen left for the States and wh[illegible] commands one of the new units with all-colored officers.

I found him and his staff of officers and men badly shocked and disillusioned as a result of the breakup of their regiment, but determined to make the best showing possible on their new job.

Lt. Col. Ferguson estimated that approximately 65 of his officers will be left out of 152 as a result of the conversion and that others, including a large percentage of enlisted personnel, will go to a replacement center here for possible assignment either to the 92nd Division or other units.

Many to Be Reassigned

The majority of these excess officers and men, including two officers with the regiment since its activation, have already been sent for reassignment.

While Lt. Col. Ferguson's new regiment contains his original staff officers and most of the old-timers, the new regiment under white officers has only a colored chaplain and three medical officers temporarily assigned pending their removal to a replacement depot.

Guarded Air Fields

Following guard duty on vital installations throughout the New England States, the infantry regiment was assigned to the Fifteenth Army Air Force fater arrival overseas last year for air base security work.

Col. Queen and his men received several commendations for superior performances of their duties guarding air fields throughout Italy. 4-28-45

Fought with 92nd

The regiment was transferred in late November to the Fifth Army and one battalion, under Lt. Col. James H. Robinson of Washington, went into line in the Serchio Valley sector in support of the 92nd Division after just four days of a scheduled intensified six-week training period.

It was this battalion which bore the brunt of the Germans' December 26 thrust in Serchio and one that remained in line from December 1 to February 26 when the tire regiment was withdrawn from supporting the 92nd.

It was another battalion of this regiment, under Major Willis D. Polk of Philadelphia, which bore the brunt of the fighting in the recent Clinqualle attack of the 92nd. Major Polk was killed in this action.

Casualties High

Military security prevented correspondents from designating this unit as supporting the 92nd during its attachment to that division.

The official estimate is that casualties suffered by this regiment during attachment to the 92nd were about one-third its total strength, with the usual percentage of deaths and wounded among the casualties.

Two-thirds of the regiment have combat infantry badges which they may continue to wear under their new assignment and many have won silver and bronze stars for outstanding heroic achievements.

366th Suffers Greatest Loss

The Afro American

Baltimore, Maryland

Total Includes 495 Killed in Action

8-25-45

23 PRISONERS

2,877 on List Due to Non-Battle Causes

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in Italy

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PISA, Italy — Here, perhaps for the first public appearance, are the complete casualty figures for the 92nd Division and its attached units from the time of arrival overseas a year ago for combat up to and including July 31 of this year:

Killed in action	495
Wounded in action	2280
Missing in action	77
*Died of wounds	66
Prisoners of war	23
**Non-battle casualties	2877
Total	5752

*Those dying of wounds are not to be calculated in compiling total 92nd casualties, for they are included among those wounded in action or among —

**Non-battle casualties which include those soldiers sick, injured or dead as result of sources other than actual combat.

366th Hardest Hit

Foremost among those of the 92nd's attached units bearing a large share of these casualties was the old 366th Infantry Regiment, which was broken into two general service engineer regiments (224th now in Pacific and 226th still in Italy) just prior to the final Allied drive in Italy.

Elements of this regiment, under Lt. Col. Alonzo C. Ferguson of Washington, bore the brunt of the German offensive in the Serchio Valley last December 26 and drew the hot spot in the Cinqualle Canal jump-off in early February, with the result its total casualties figured high above 30 per cent of its original strength.

FIRST NAVY NURSE

New York Age

AT long last, the United States Navy's last remaining barrier against Negroes has been cracked with the commissioning last week of Miss Phyllis Mae Daley, of this city, as the first Negro nurse as an Ensign in the Navy's Reserve Nurse Corps. 3-24-45

Under normal circumstances, the commissioning of a nurse should not be considered news of great importance. But in this case, the news is important because it marked the first time that a Negro woman has been given the opportunity of serving as a nurse in the Navy, and it marked the last branch of naval service to let down the restrictions against the use of Negroes. N. Y. Ages

It is a sad commentary on democracy when we have to exult and call special attention to such a story as the commissioning of Miss Daley, because in a democracy it is pre-supposed that there will be no barriers erected against anyone, by reason of race, creed or color, who desires to serve his or her country in time of war. In time of great national peril or emergency, everyone is expected to give his all for the preservation of the state under which he lives. N. Y., N. Y.

That Negroes have not been allowed to give freely of their talents, services, and yes, even their lives if need be, is one of the tragedies of the "democratic" way of life.

People's Voice 4-28-45 N.Y., N.Y.

Second Navy Nurse. Helen Fredericka Turner, who was sworn into the Navy last Friday at 33 Pine st, NYC. Born in Augusta, Ga., and raised in Hartford, Conn., the 27-year-old nurse is a graduate of the Lincoln School for Nurses, and Teachers College of Columbia University. (Stovall foto)

Phyllis Daley

Negro Nurse Joins Navy

P.M. - N.Y., N.Y. 3-8-45

PM Exclusive

The first Negro ever to be accepted by the U. S. Navy Nurse Corps will be commissioned an ensign today in a ceremony at 33 Pine St.

The commissioning of the nurse, Phyllis Daley, 25, of 167 W. 143d St., implements for the first time the Navy's decision, announced Jan. 25, that it would accept qualified Negroes for the Corps.

The Nurse Corps is the last division of the Navy to lift its ban against acceptance of Negroes for responsible positions. At the beginning of the war, Negroes were accepted only as mess boys and stewards. It wasn't until June, 1942, that Navy ranks were opened to Negro seamen. And it was not until October, 1944, that Negro women were accepted by the WAVES. 3-8-45

Miss Daley, who lives with her parents, has had almost two years of graduate-nurse experience; eight months at Lincoln Hospital in The Bronx and a year as a public health nurse for the New York City Dept. of Health.

During her first six months in the Navy Miss Daley will be on probation at a naval hospital nearest her home for training. After that, she will be transferred to the post where she is most needed.

First Navy Nurse Is Ensign

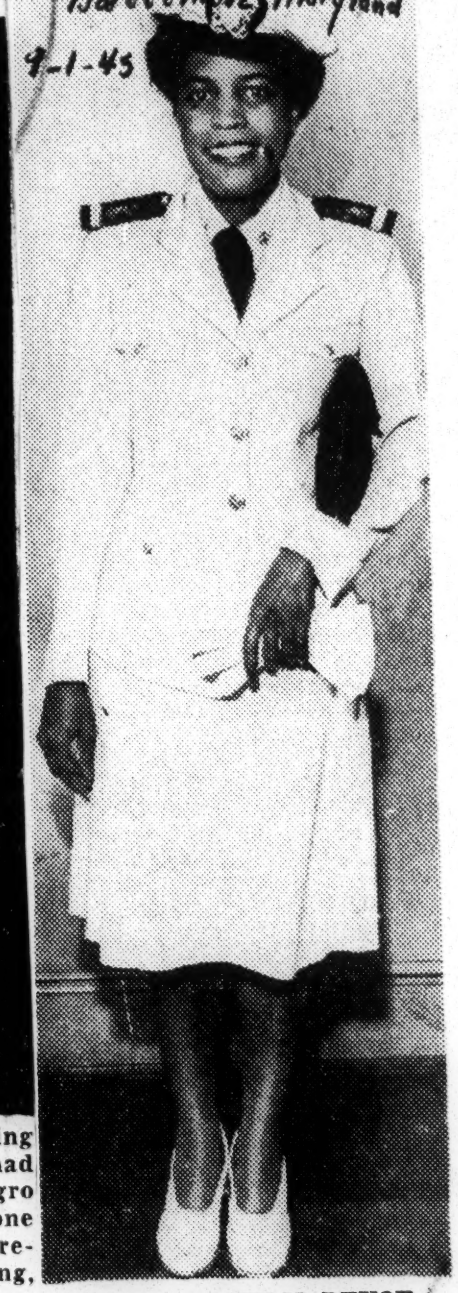
Journal & Guide - Va. - 3-17-45

Norfolk, Va.

Miss Phyllis Mae Daley, who poses with a poster showing the need for more nurses in the Navy Nurse Corps after she had been commissioned in the corps last week, is the first Negro woman to get this position in the corps. Miss Daley was one of five nurses commissioned in the Navy's speeded up nurse recruiting system. A graduate of Lincoln's School of Nursing, Ensign Daley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Septimus B. Daley, of New York City. 3-17-45

Visits Parents

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 9-1-45



ENSIGN EDITH M. DEVOE of the Navy Nurse Corps who flew to Washington from Boston Friday to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DeVoe, Mrs. Mazie Henderson and her sisters. A former D.C. Health Department employee, Ensign DeVoe finished her nursing training at Freedmen's Hospital in June 1942.—Riley Photo

Third Negro Appointed To Navy Nurse Corps

Philadelphia Tribune 5-19-45 Pa.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Miss Eula Loucille Stimley, 40, of 3312 east 91st street, here on May 3 became the the first Negro in the Midwest to enter the Navy Nurse Corps when she was sworn in at a ceremony held in the Office of Naval Office Procurement, Board of Trade Building, 141 west Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

A nurse with the Chicago Health Department, Miss Stimley was commissioned an ensign in the Nurse Corps. She will report for active duty in about three weeks.

She is the third Negro to be appointed to the Nurse Corps. She was preceded in the service by Phyllis Mae Daley, of New York, and Edith Mazie Devoe, 208 'H' street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Miss Stimley is a graduate of the Provident Hospital School of Nursing and served at the Chicago Lying-In Hospital and at Cook County Hospital before accepting her position with the Chicago Health Department.

Navy, Red Cross Pass Buck On Taking Negro Nurses

P.M. N.Y.C. 1-28-45

Admiral Denies Discrimination Policy or Quota, But —

By Shirley Katzander

Rear Admiral William J. C. Agnew, acting chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the Navy, confirming his announcement that Negro nurses will be accepted by the Navy Nurse Corps, yesterday blamed the American Red Cross for erroneously informing Negro applicants that they were not wanted in the Navy. He said:

"We found out this weekend that Negro applicants were told by the Red Cross that they cannot enlist in the Navy Nurse Corps. The Navy has no such policy, and no such discrimination." 1-28-45

In Washington, a spokesman for the Nurse Recruitment Center of the Red Cross, denied the organization had, on its own, barred Negro nurses from Navy service.

She said that the center "operates entirely on instructions from the Army and the Navy," and added:

"The Navy instructed us not to accept Negro applicants. We have heard that the Navy Nurse Corps is now open to Negroes, but we have not received official notification."

The spokesman added that there may have been some misunderstanding between Agnew and the Red Cross on instructions. Agnew said he had discovered the Jim Crow policy when he spoke in New York last week at an emergency nurse recruitment meeting.

Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, head of the National Assn. of Colored Graduate Nurses, said she was "happy to see this reversal of policy," but that she had previously believed Negro nurses were barred from the Navy Corps.

"In fact," Mrs. Staupers said, "two of our members on Jan. 15 received letters from the Red Cross asking if the nurses wished to join the Army Nurse Corps instead of the Navy. 1-28-45

"The letters stated that 'At the present time the Navy does not accept Negro nurses. Will you please let us know . . . if you desire to serve with the Army Nurse Corps?' The letters were signed by Mrs. Ruth B. Glucksman, director of the Nurse Recruitment Center."

The Navy, with 9000 nurses in the Corps now, must meet a quota of 13,000 by June 30, a Navy spokesman said. Currently, the Army is trying to recruit 10,000 nurses urgently needed here and overseas. Although some Negro nurses are accepted by the Army, there is still a quota on the number permitted to enlist.

Agnew told PM that the Navy "has no quota" on the number of Negro nurses. However, he added:

"We only require a certain number. You understand that the number is not unlimited. The number we can take has not yet been determined, but there is no quota."

Although Agnew insisted yesterday that the Navy does not discriminate, it was not until June, 1942, that Navy ranks were opened to Negro seamen. Before that time, Negroes were limited to mess duty. Until October, 1944, Negroes were not accepted in the WAVES.

Mrs. Staupers commenting on future acceptance of Negro nurses into the Corps, said: 1-28-45

"If Negro nurses are required to meet the same State standards as white nurses, there is no reason for them not to be able to meet Navy standards as white nurses do. If the Army and Navy would turn to the records of the Procurement and Assignment Service which lists all nurses eligible for service, it would help fill the bill in the present shortage when nurses are needed so urgently."

NAVY NURSE

1-19-45

ENSIGN HELEN TURNER (NC) USNR

Chicago Ill. 1-Ill.

Who was recently assigned to duty at Navy Pier Dispensary, her first post since entry into the Navy. Ensign Turner received her training at Lincoln School for Nurses, New York City; Medical College of Virginia, Richmond; and Teachers college, Columbia University, New York. She is the daughter of Mrs. Helen G. Turner, and the late Frederick D. Turner of Hartford, Conn. — Scott Tyler photo.

Visitor

Washington Tribune D.C.

Ensign Edith M. DeVoe, of the U.S. Naval Reserve Nurse Corps, who flew to Washington last week to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DeVoe, her sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Young and Miss Sadie DeVoe, and Mrs. Mazie Henderson. 10-23-45

Ensign DeVoe was sworn into the Navy Nurse Corps on April 18 and was assigned to active duty at the Boston Navy Yard Dispensary on June 13. She is a graduate of Dunbar High School, received her nursing training at Freedmen's Hospital and postgraduate training at the Medical College of Virginia.

Prior to entering the Navy she was employed by the D.C. Health Department and worked as a private nurse at Freedmen's Hospital. 10-23-45

Nurses

Present Jim Crow Policy Is Called "Damfoolishness"

AFRO-American - Balt., Md. 2-27-45

White Nurses Serve Colored Troops Now, While Our Nurses Wait on Prisoners of War

One of the items on which the AFRO's War Correspondent Elizabeth (B. M.) Phillips was asked to inquire was what white nurses overseas think of the exclusion of their colored colleagues from Army and Navy hospitals overseas.

This is the result of Mrs. Phillips's inside inquiries in three hospitals in England.

LONDON, England — For the past eight weeks I have lived intimately with courageous women who have served Uncle Sam on the fighting fronts in England, France, Belgium and Holland as members of the nurse corps and Wacs. 1-27-45

These nurses are some of the 1,000 whom President Roosevelt mentioned in his message to Congress as being ill from overwork. The Wacs too are among the ailing. Most of them have been overseas over six months, and several have served over two years.

They know all about the need for more ammunition at the front. Many of them bound for the States have definite ideas on what they will tell the folks at home about the need for everyone to put his shoulder to the wheels; to give us more guns and ammunition, and to abandon talk of reconversion.

Without Minds and Limbs

One Princeton, N.J. nurse, told me, "Everytime I hear someone talk about reconversion, I'm going to tell him how our men are dying on the front because of lack of ammunition; how they are coming back minus limbs and minds." 1-27-45

I know that this nurse is right because I have been a patient in at least three hospitals and have seen the casualties she speaks of.

As expected, most of them do not know that one of the reasons for the nurse shortage over here is the fact that the army has shunned the aid of tan nurses.

274 Colored Nurses

In the whole army there are only 274, according to War Department figures, and less than 100 of these are overseas. Those in this area are confined to nursing prisoners of war.

In the words of a Boston nurse who had served in this theatre over six months, this policy is "pure and simple damnfoolishness." That's the attitude of most of the women with whom I've discussed the problem, even those from the South. 1-27-45

Several recall that some of their friends in nursing schools were colored girls and the policy of excluding them when the need for nurses is so urgent, is deplorable.

Welcome Our Girls

The majority said that they would welcome colored nurses into their units and pointed out that since there is no segregation in army hospitals, there should be no segregation of nurses.

They attest to the fact that all Americans, regardless of race and creed, are doing a first-class job, and that there is no jim crow when enemy bullets hit.

Serve Our Soldiers

Lt. Francine Kelly, formerly of Boston City Hospital, who recalls that Hazelle Lomax is one of her fellow workers, says: "White nurses care for colored soldiers. I don't see why colored nurses can't care for white soldiers."

Lt. Kelly has been overseas two years, first in Egypt, then 14 months in France, Germany, and England. 1-27-45

The war is not yet won and we must use all our resources, these women are saying in no uncertain terms. In other words, on the battlefront, color doesn't matter.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
TIMES
Circ. D. 419,447 - S. 805,967

JUN 9 - 1945

Mahoney Medal for Negro Nurse

Capt. Susan Freeman, the first Negro nurse to enlist in the Army Nurse Corps, received the Mary Mahoney Medal for "outstanding contribution to the field of nursing among Negroes" at ceremonies yesterday at the Broadway Tabernacle.

Army Wants 9,000 Nurses

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

Appeal Goes Out to Colored Women

2-3-45

BIG PAY OFFERED

Novices Are Given Free Training.

By LULA JONES GARRETT

The Army needs 50,000 nurses. It has 41,500, only 308 of whom are colored. There are, according to the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, 9,000 colored nurses eligible for service in the Army.

The association, which has heretofore charged that segregation has kept colored nurses out of the Army Nurse Corps, urged this week that all available nurses sign up immediately for military services. 2-3-45

The plea went out following the statement of Major General Norman T. Kirk, surgeon-general, last week that all qualified nurses, regardless of race, will be taken into the Army.

Need Increasing

The need for nurses is constantlygrowing. Since May, patients requiring nursing care have increased from 260,000 to 450,000, but in the same period there has been an increase of only 2,000 nursese in the Army.

When the Army set up its standards in 1941, it called for 120 nurses and 500 enlisted men in each general military hospital of 1,000 beds. By 1942 the Army had had to reduce the number of nurses to 105 to 1,000 beds. Today, with casualties increasing, the standard has been reduced to 83 nurses.

Standards Lowered

In other words, instead of one nurse to eight beds, the Army has now come down to asking one nurse to twelve beds—and isn't getting even these. Compare this to one nurse to five patients as is the standard in civilian hospitals.

The decree to discontinue the bar against colored nurses in the Army, issued last week by Secretary of War Knox, is one of the ways in which the strain can be eased.

While the 90 colored nurses serving in England have not had an opportunity to prove it, there is little doubt that white and colored nurses can serve amicably and well together.

Would Welcome Them

Mrs. B. M. Phillips, AFRO war correspondent, who recently interviewed white nurses serving in London, pointed out that they would welcome colored nurses. They, according to Mrs. Phillips, pointed out that white nurses served colored soldiers, and that on the battlefront race or color doesn't matter.

Incidently, our nurses are no longer serving white prisoners of war.

Here's What You Can Do

An American woman who feels the responsibility of giving whatever succor she can to wounded men, there are several ways to serve.

Colored women may join the Army Nurse Corps if the yare under 45 years of age, physically fit as judged by Army standards, a graduate registered nurse and without children under 14 years of age. They are eligible to serve in the States or abroad.

Hospital Service

If a colored graduate registered nurse is past the age limit, or has a physical disability that still does not prevent her from working, she may serve as a civilian nurse in Army hospitals.

Any colored high school graduate between the ages of 18 and 35 who wishes to train for service in the Army may join the Cadet Nurse Corps, in which she will receive free training at the expense of the government.

Volunteers Needed

A civilian who wishes to give volunteer service may become a nurses aide. Instruction is given atstandard hospitals in most cities. The course requires 50 hours. A nurse's aide must serve an additional 90 hours before she is eligible to serve in an Army hospital.

Colored girls who meet the requirements for the Women's Army Corps may join the corps as a medical assistant and be trained for service in Army hospitals.

If you are a graduate registered nurse this applies to you:

You may be up to but not including 45 years of age; physically fit as determined by an Army medical board; and of good character and general suitability;

You may be single, widowed, married or divorced, but you must be a citizen of the United States or a citizen of a co-belligerent or friendly country. If married you must have no minor children under 14 years of age.. If divorced, a notarized copy of the divorce decree must be submitted.

As a regular nurse you will receive the rank of a second lieutenant; as a chief nurse, that of first lieutenant.

Base pay is $1800 per annum, plus quarters and subsistance allowance, with 10 per cent increase for overseas services; $250 is allowed for uniforms. Nurses now get the same insurance, etc. benefits as do service men.

MISS EFFIE CHANCE

If you are a high school graduate or a student nurse and wish to enter the Army Nurse Corps, this is what you will want to know:

You must be between the ages of 18 and 35 years, and a high school graduate;

As a U.S. Cadet Nurse you will receive uniforms, training in a standard school of nursing, and monthly stipends. These payments are $15 per month for the first 9 months; $20 for the next 15 to 21 months and 30 for the last 6 to 12 months. At the close of the training period you may serve in the Army here or abroad.

NEGROES ACCEPTABLE, ADMIRAL ANNOUNCES

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.
2-3-45

WASHINGTON—The increased need for nurses has introduced an "unofficial war" between the Army and Navy with much attention being focused on policy regarding the acceptance of Negro nurses. The Army has officially announced its abandonment of the pro-rata method and the Navy has stated it has "no policy prohibiting the appointment of Negro nurses."

These developments followed introduction on the House last week

Rear Admiral Agnew stated in Washington Saturday, that, "We have found out this weekend that Negro applicants were told by the Red Cross that they cannot enlist in the Navy Nurse Corps. The Navy has no such policy, and no such discrimination."

Commenting on the charge, a spokesman for the Nurse Recruiting Center, Red Cross, denied the organization, on its own, barred Negro nurses from Navy service. She said:

"The Navy instructed us not to accept Negro applicants. We have heard that the Navy Nurse Corps is now open to Negroes, but we have not received official notification." 2-3-45

of a bill providing for the drafting of nurses into the Armed Forces. The bill was introduced by Representative Edith Nourse Rogers (R., Mass.), and carries two prohibitions against race discrimination.

BILL PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION

Under the terms of the bill, every graduate nurse between the ages of 20 and 45 would be subject to the draft, provided and "regardless of race or color," she has been afforded an opportunity to volunteer for induction into the land or naval forces.

The bill also provides that "in the selection and induction of persons under this act and in the interpretation and execution of this act there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color." 2-3-45

Surgeon General Norman Kirk, of the Army, announced that the Army Medical Corps was accepting any nurses who qualify and placing them without regard to color. This represents a change from the old policy of accepting Negro nurses on a pro-rata basis according to the population and number of Negro soldiers in the service, and of assigning them to segregated Negro hospitals.

NO POLICY, NO PLAN

Rear Admiral William J. C. Agnew, acting chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Naval Medical Corps, issued the following statement last Saturday:

"There is no policy in the Navy prohibiting the appointment of Negro women in the Navy Nurse Corps or in the Navy Nurse Corps Reserve. Every application reaching the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for appointment in the Navy Nurse Corps or the Navy Nurse Corps Reserve is given full consideration, provided the applicant meets the physical, professional, military fitness and other requirements for appointment."

The Courier contacted Capt. Sue Dauser, superintendent, Navy Nurse Corps, regarding any plan for acceptance of Negro nurses. Captain Dauser refused to comment beyond the statement released by Admiral Agnew and was non-commital on the status of applications from Negro nurses previously filed with the bureau.

Congresswoman Francis P. Bolton (R., Ohio), praised the Army's new policy and assailed the Navy for holding to "the ancient method." Known as a champion of Negro nurses, the Congresswoman said "They (the Navy) are still finding it more of a problem than they have faced before. They are still holding to the ancient method."

Hospital In England Is Well Staffed

Memphis World

WITH THE 168th STATION HOSPITAL, Warrington, England—Lt. Colonel Harold O. Jirsa, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, commanding officer of this United States Army station hospital, this week praised the skill of the 53 Negro nurses who make up his [redacted] staff 7-13-45

"I am convinced that these nurses are in the service for the actual amount of medical care they can render,' he said. "They are kind, cooperative, willing workes, and they are doing an excellent job .There are certain specialists among them who are good as any you will find any place. I couldn't ask for a better group of nurses.

10th HOSPITAL

Memphis, Tenn.

These nurses arrived in England in August 1944 and were assigned to the 10th Station Hospital, where German prisoners of war being treated After completion of this duty, the entire group attended a three weeks' training course at the American School Center.

Early this year they were assigned to the 168th Station Hospital Several of them served in Africa with the 25th Station Hospital and after a brief period in the united States were sent to this theater of operations.

Since commencing duty at the 168th, these nurses have had as many as fifteen hundred patients at one time Captain Mary L. Petty of Cicago, Illinois, who before coming to England, served at Fort Huachuca, Arizona Fort Bragg North Caolina and Tuskegee, Alabama, is supervisor of the nurses.

VARIED TASKS

Two meinbers of this group, First Lt Pharfeania F. Jones, of Tampa, Florida, and First Lt Theresa V. James, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, have attended the Army Information and on Education Staff School. Others have attended short courses at various English universities and one is presently doing mess inspecting in Paris. 7-13-45

The physical therapist, Second Lt. Muriel Davis, of Evanston, Illinois, recently assigned to this goup has done outstanding work in the rehabilitation of soldiers who have suffered broken bones and other temporary disabilities. She has supervised the building of improvised equipment to supplement the regular apparatus.

Negro Nurses In England Commended

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

WARRINGTON, England — The 53 Negro nurses assigned to the 168th Station hospital were praised recently by Lieutenant Colonel Harold C. Jirsa, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., commanding officer of the hospital. 7-21-45

Said the commander:

"I am convinced that these nurses are in the service for the actual amount of medical care they can render," he said. "They are kind, co-operative, willing workers and they are doing an excellent job There are certain specialists among them who are as good as any you will find any place. I couldn't ask for a better group of nurses."

114 Negro Nurses Join Army, Navy

The Guide
N.Y., N.Y.

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—One hundred fourteen Negro nurses have been accepted into the armed forces since the nurse recruitment drive began early this year for an estimated 10,000 nurses. One hundred ten were employed by the Army and four were accepted by the Navy.

War department records reveal that 440 Negro nurses are now serving the Army as of May 1. That indicates an increase of 110 over the original figure of 330. No figures have as yet been received as of June 15. 7-21-45

444 Negro Nurses In Armed Services

Kansas City Call

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — One hundred fourteen Negro nurses have been accepted into the armed forces since the nurse recruitment drive began early this year for an estimated 10,000 nurses. One hundred ten were employed by the army and four were accepted by the navy.

War department records reveal that 440 Negro nurses are now serving the army as of May 1. That indicates an increase of 110 over the original figure of 330. No figures have as yet been received as of June 15.

The Navy has assigned two of its four Negro nurses to the Charleston Navy yard at Boston; one is at the Philidalphia Navy yard and the other, Miss Helen Turner, is reported to be stationed at navy pier in Chicago.

According to Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, Inc., New York City, there were 2,000 Negro nurse cadets enrolled in the army nurse corps as of last September. One thousand six hundred were in Negro schools, she said, and 400 were in 22 mixed schools. 8-3-45

There are now 36 mixed nursing schools in the country, she revealed, whereas in 1934 there were only 10. Active Negro graduate nurses in the nation number 8,000, she said. Based upon the fact that 18 percent of all active nurses are now in the army or navy, a report by Mrs. Staupers' organization showed that both branches of the service should now have 1,520 Negro nurses instead of a 444 total.

Negro Nurses Serve at German Prisoner of War Camp in England

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND (ANP correspondent – A blend of reactions varying from the tonic-like pride of race which accompanies new achievements to deep apprehension. preceded my informal visit to the camp in which Negro nurses were stationed, "somewhere in England." At the gate we were courteously directed to the nurses quarters by the sentry, white.

The camp site seemed to be in the traditionally well ordered condition which marks U. S. army locations. We had been previously informed that German prisoners of war were the sole patients at this hospital camp. Because of this we were anticipating a generous supply of features which would distinguish this camp from those at which American soldiers were hospitalized and under the care of white nurses. We were disappointed in our inability to distinguish even nominal differences.

The nurses' dining hall, lounge and club rooms were cheerfully immaculate and cosily warm, despite the wintry cold outside and the unit heating. The PX unit located in the large club room carried the usual toileteies carried the usua toiletries, sweets, fruit juices and personal items as well as corned beef and coca cola. The attendant, a white U. S. soldier, was courteous, respectful in his duties. A table at the end was filled with sliced ham, cheese, spiced meats, pickles, olives, bread, butter, etc.—"help yourself," was the invitation. A "radiogram"— combination record player and radio—was intermittently serviced by the attendant with "good old home music." The furnishings of the club included a pool table, ping pong tables, small games and comfortable lounge chairs.

While a lively discussion was in progress between the nurses and some Red Cross officers regarding plans for a party, we snagged three nurses to answer some of the questions which were burning our tongues.

"How were they being treated by their superiors' What was the attitude of the German patients toward them? How did they like their present assignment? Why was the first group of Negro nurses to arrive in England assigned to a prisoner of war hospital unit?"

One of the nurses qualified their possible reactions as being highly subjective at this early point in a new experience They were warmly welcomed both officially and informally on their arrival at a northern port. A brief stay at two station hospitals for orientation proved to be a friendly experience with the white staffs. The degree of adjustment to this operation varied individually but they felt their superiors were trying hard to help them in their adjustment. The German p. w.'s were as a whole exceedingly polite and differential. The nurses expressed an understandable distaste for the eager anticipation of the prisoners to get to prisoner of war camps in the United States.

As professionally trained nurses they administered the same care to German p. w.'s that they would to their own brother. Being faithful to their profession, they are placed in the difficult position of helping an enemy because of humanitarian considerations. They find the prisoners of war notoriously aware of their rights under provision of the Geneva treaty. A few of the p'w.'s were under peculiar illusions about the war and America generally. Many expressed their amazement at finding that Negro nurses were subjected to the same proscription all over America that Jews received in Germany.

There were frankly skeptical answers to the reason for the colored nurses' first assignment being with p. w.'s. They had looked forward to nursing their own boys and would be happiest when that opportunity comes. This attitude is the same as that so highly manifested in Negro soldiers preferring Negro officers. They raise the constant wail of when are Negro Waes coming over and why can't we get colored bands and USO shows? Foreign soil intensifies the hunger for faces and things associated with home.

As we watched the convalescing German p. w.'s at their work about the camp, their happy smiles made us wonder how our colored soldiers were faring in German camps of American p. w.'s. We wondered what effect the letters from the Germans in this camp were having on their families and among authorities in Germany when they exposed the fact that they were under the efficient care of Negro nurses whom they had been told belonged to a subhuman group.

The nurses told us that they looked upon their patients merely as suffering human beings entitled to all the skill, care and service which a nurse professionally must give a patient. The nurses, too, especially those who had advanced training before going into the service, are keenly aware that their performance is being watched and that as Congressman Frances P. Bolton of Ohio, mother of the cadet nurse program, told them when she visited them recently that they are the outposts of colored nurses and their work is most important to the cause of the professional progress of the women of the human race.

As we left the camp and tried to figure out the way of this situation, a lot of probable reasons for the army's placement of these nurses arose which superceded our rather patent belief that the army always moves to discredit the Negro in the interracial scene. Maybe it's popaganda of a sort which will help rather than hurt.

Negro Nurses Accepted By Public Majority

DENVER. —(ANP) —At a time when the acceptance of the army and navy of Negro nurses is much discussed, it is significant that a majority of civilians would accept Negro nurse care in hospitals, as revealed in a nation-wide survey conducted by the National Opionion Research Center, University of Denver.

NORC's personally trained interviewers questioned a national cross-section of white civilian adults—men and women, young and old, rich and poor—in cities ,towns, and rural areas throughout the United States. All were asked:

"If you were sick in a hospital, would it be all right with you if you had a Negro nurse ,or wouldn't you like it?"

All right	57%
Wouldn't like it ..	42%
Undecided	1%

The 57 per cent include 3 per cent who would accept Negro care but who express a preference for white nurses.

The more ducation a person has the more willing he is to have a Negro nurse take care of him. Seventy per cent of persons with a college background, but only 53 per cent of the high school educated and 45 per cent of those with no more than a grade school education answer "All right." Six out of ten (62 per cent) residents of the north and west, but only four out of ten (42 per cent) southerners, would be willing to receive care from a Negro nurse in a hospital.

Comments from individuals interviewed reveal that many white people think very highly of Negro nurses, and that some even prefer them to white nurses. A Palatine, Ill., storekeeper believes: "Negroes are more tender hearted than the white people." A New York City machinist says: "You probably get better care with a Negro nurse than with a white nurse." A Brooklyn lawyer states: "Why not? We have Negro waitresses and Negro mammies."

The wife of an engineer in Houston replies: "I'm a nurse myself, and colored nurses are very good. I know many." Others who speak from personal experience comment: "I was in the hospital and had Negro nurses who were wonderful to me . . . I had a Negro nurse who was the best I had. She was kinder and took more pains to please me . . . I would rather have Negro nurses. Whites are too independent."

Those who would not like a Negro nurse express either a general dislike for Negroes or a fear of them on grounds of cleanliness or health. Typical reactions are: "I don't like Negroes close to me—I just don't . . . I don't want no nigger messing around me . . . Negro nurses should work for other Negroes . . . I wouldn't want any nurse if a Negro was all I could get . . . Negroes don't seem clean to me . . . I'd never get well."

A Montana cattle rancher admits: "I woudln't like, but I believe a Negro nurse would take better care of me than a white nurse." The wife of an Oregon mill superintendent replies: "I don't think I'd like it. I'm that way about any other race. I suppose it's racial prejudice." A telephone repairman in Louisiana makes an interetsing distinction: "I wouldn't like a Negro nurse in a hospital. It's all right in a home. I was practically raised by a Negro nurse."

The most frequent comments made by persons who reply "Undecided" are: "I don't know. You simply can't generalize on that question . . . It depends on the person."

25 Huachuca Nurses Sent to W. Coast Camp

CAMP BEALE, Calif. (ANP)—A contingent of twenty-five nurses led by Captain Della Raney, chief nurse, arrived here Wednesday from Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., and will be assigned to the nursing of returned Pacific war veterans.

The comparatively small number of soldiers at Huachuca now has enabled the reduction in size of the hospital staff there.

Twenty Harlem Nurses Challenge Army Policy

Chicago Defender Ill. 1-27-45

(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK.—Twenty graduate nurses of Harlem hospital here this week challenged the U. S. Army policy of limiting the number of Negro nurses accepted for service while issuing urgent appeals for white enlistments.

The applications of Negro nurse volunteers are allowed to gather dust in army files, yet the army declares that a critical shortage of nurses exists. Ten thousand graduate nurses are needed immediatly, the army says, yet brown American nurses are being ignored.

Among scores of Harlem and Lincoln hospital nurses who've been rejected because of their color are Hilda Brooks Jackson, a graduate nurse with 20 years' experienc who volunteered in 1941; Edith Beatrice Jackson, who applied to the Red Cross more than a month ago, but has received no reply; Annie B. Robinson whose two years of psychiatric training meant nothing to the army which rejected her in July—no reason.

Major General Norman T. Kirk, surgeon general of the U. S. Army in a press statement last week revealed the unyielding discriminatory policy of the army. Speaking of Negro nurses he said, "We don't mix them—where we have Negro troops, we use them, but up till now we haven't used them for white troops. We don't house Negroes and whites together."

The army policy was challenged by Mrs. Mable K. Staupers, executive secretary of the Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, in an emergency meeting called at the Hotel Pierre by Mayor La Guardia last week to recruit nurses. At the meeting Major General Kirk declared there is an immediate need for 10,000 nurses. He suggested that conscription might be resorted to to fill the demand.

Mrs. Staupers rose from her seat in the small audience of nurses and people interested in nursing problems and asked, "If nurses are needed so desperately, why isn't the army using Negro nurses? Of 9000 registered Negro nurses, the army has taken 247. The navy takes none." 1-27-45

Reflects Civilian Trend

Major General Kirk somewhat flustered replied, "I believe that the average share of colored nurses in the army is equal to the total number of Negro troops."

The army is only a reflection of nation-wide policy in respect to Negro nurses. Recently Iva Wallace of Brooklyn was assigned to Buffalo General hospital after an emergency call during the infantile paralysis epidemic there. When she arrived she was told that Buffalo General Hospital would not hire Negro nurses despite the emergency. She was given her fare back to Brooklyn.

Betty Brown, of New York City passed a civil service examination for public health nurse with a high rating and was assigned to the Public Health Nursing staff of Plattsburg, N. Y. When she arrived in Plattsburg the health officials, astonished to find that they had employed a Negro, advised her to resign immediately as "there were no Negroes in the community" and she might be in danger personally!

Only 47 Schools Open

1-27-45

These examples are repeated with a greater or less degree of crudity all over the country. Young Negro women who aspire to nursing careers find that of the 1297 accredited schools of nursing in the United States, only 47 will accept them. Many of the schools due to the sub-standard conditions in the South are unable to give their students the finest training.

Again, when Negro nurses graduate they are subjected to salary inequalities. According to a recent survey of 27 public health agencies in the South, the median salary for white nurses was $1624 and for Negro nurses $1227. This means less chance for furthering their nursing education. 1-27-45

The knight in shining armor in the plight of Negro nurses has been the Association of Colored Graduate Nurses. Organized in 1908 it has a membership now of over 1500 and has put up a stiff and consistent fight for the recognition of Negro nurses.

Among its many important accomplishments, for not only its own members but Negro nurses throughout the nation, have been the opening up of better nursing schools to Negro students; the slow integration of Negro nurses into the American Nurses' Association through state associations, membership in which is in some instances a professional requirement; registration of Negro nurses in many states. All of which has meant increased opportunities for Negro nurses in various fields.

But it has been a long uphill climb for Negro nurses since the Civil War days when Harriet Tubman volunteered her services to sick and wounded soldiers on Southern battlefields. White women administering in the same way were financially rewarded by the government in the years after the war. But Tubman never received a cent.

Mary Mahoney, the first professional Negro nurse, deplored the fact in 1909 that good nursing schools were closed to Negroes. She graduated from Boston's New England Hospital for Women and Children in 1879. In 1944 it was listed as one of those hospitals not accepting Negro students.

First Lady Urges End Of Ban On Negro Nurses

Chicago Defender Ill.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON. — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt declared this week that much of the critical nurse shortage could be laid to the ban on Negro nurses. 1-20-45

The First Lady, while favoring an overall draft of nurses, blasted the Jim-Crow-quota of colored nurses and appealed for the free utilization of Negro nurses.

The mounting wave of protest which hit the Jim Crow nurse draft this week drew defensive reactions from Washington officials.

Denying that any discrimination existed in the use of colored nurses, Brig. Gen. George F. Lull, deputy surgeon and Col. Florence Blanchfield, superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, said that the army has taken in qualified Negro nurses without discrimination or segregation. 1-20-45

But the draft plan, as it now exists, continued to encounter a solid block of opposition from Negro organizations throughout the country.

The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses through its executive secretary, Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, placed full blame for the small number of Negro nurse recruits on the army and navy jim crow policy.

In a telegram to President Roosevelt, Jane Edna Hunter, head of the Ohio State Federation of Colored Women's clubs, went on record opposing the draft plan. Mrs. Hunter pointed out that there was some 10,000 Negro nurses in America with less than 500 permitted to enlist in the armed services.

"Respectfully urge that provision be made for fuller use of this large body of Negro nurses through enlistment and specific inducement by granting of commissions to all applicants without regard to color," the telegram stated. 1-20-45

"If the proposal to draft nurses must be resorted to, then we urge that all inductees be given consideration on basis of training and fitness and allowed to serve in all branches of the army and navy and not restricted to Negro soldiers alone."

Further discussing the controversial nurse draft, Mrs. Hunter said: "President Roosevelt should see to it that the army heads immediately remove all restrictions on the enlistment of Negro nurses. The President should order without delay the opening of the doors to Negro nurses that they may have the opportunity to serve our country in this crisis." 1-20-45

N.A.A.C.P. Enters Fight

Meanwhile the N.A.A.C.P. urged Chairman Andrew J. May of the Military Affairs Committee to include an anti-discrimination clause in the proposed legislation for the draft of nurses.

In his message to Congressman May, acting secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., Roy Wilkins, said:

"National Association for the Advancement of Colored People strongly urges that if nurses are drafted, the legislation contain a clause forbidding discrimination and segregation on account of race and color in the induction and service of nurses. We urge this because under voluntary enlistment program Negro nurses who were eager to serve their country have been discouraged from enlisting by a quota system and a policy of restricting them to nursing of Negro soldiers only. 1-20-45

"This failure to utilize trained and registered Negro nurses has contributed to the critical shortage which military authorities are now seeking to remedy by means of a draft. It should be pointed out that even if draft is ordered and present system of limited and discriminatory use of Negro nurses is continued, it is not like that more Negro nurses will be inducted.

"Our information from various camps is that tendencies exist to concentrate Negro nurses in prisoner of war camps. Several cases have been reported here that they have been doubly humiliated before German war prisoners by being forced to eat in separate dining rooms. 1-20-45

"Negro nurses like all other Negro Americans are anxious to serve their country but so far they have been given limited opportunity and have been insulted in the bargain. As a southerner you will instantly recognize how ridiculous is the assumption that trained nurses shall not be entrusted with ministering to wounded American soldiers who happen to be white."

In a letter to Dr. Norman T. Kirk, surgeon general of the U. S. Army, George Marshall, head of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, urged the armed forces to use all trained nurses on the basis of ability instead of race.

Need 8,000 Nurses

The letter pointed out that this would be a major step in meeting the critical need for 8,000 additional nurses and stated:

"There are only about 300 Negro nurses in the army. This means that while almost 15 per cent of the white nurses of the country are serving with the armed forces, only three per cent of the Negro nurses are with the armed forces. The limitation of the number of Negro nurses with the armed forces is largely the result of a policy of exclusion, as practiced by the navy, and a policy of discouragement, discrimination and segregation, as practiced by the army."

Colored Nurses Serving Abroad Receive Praise

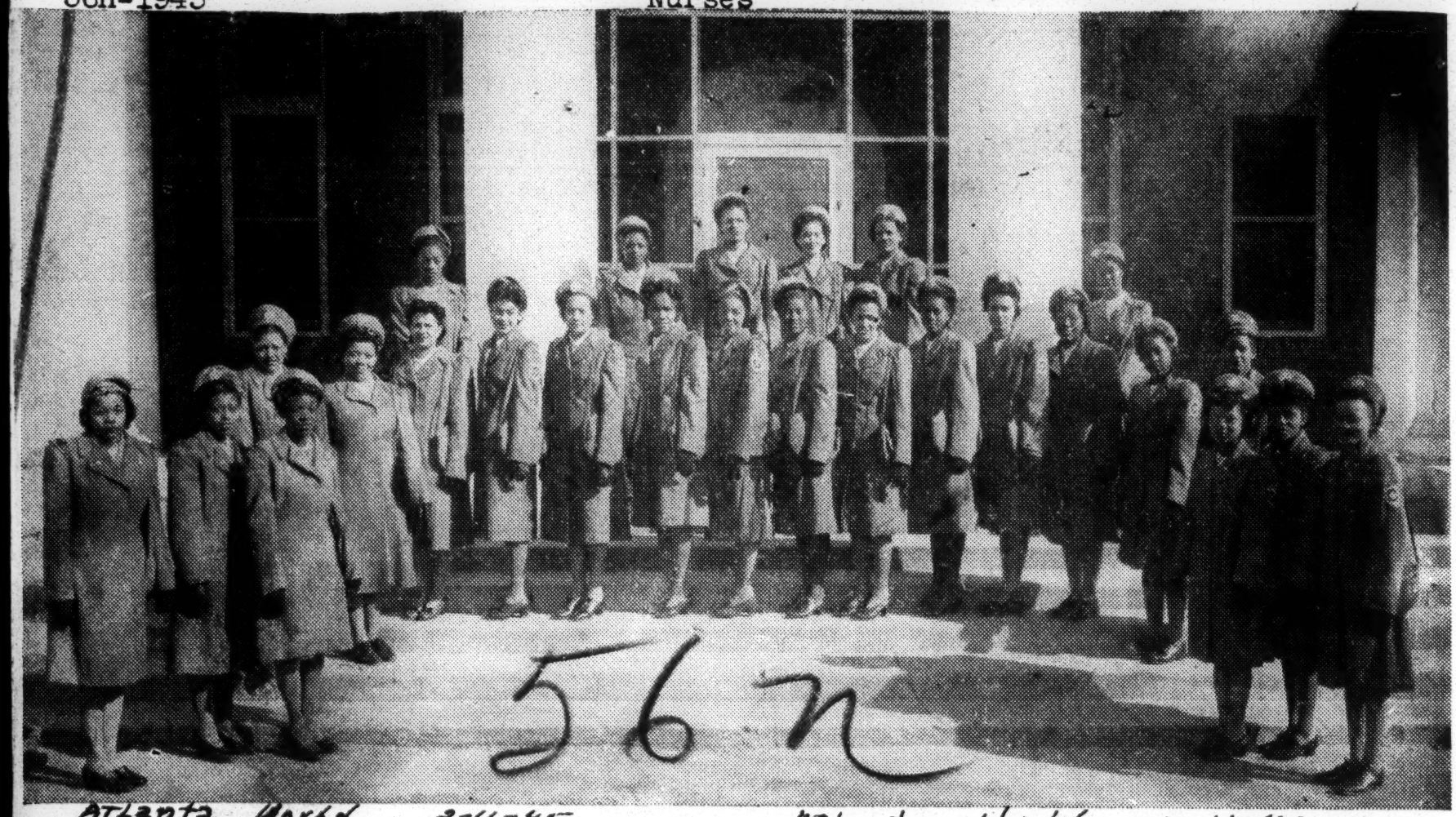
9-14-45 Philadelphia Tribune

WITH THE 168th STATION HOSPITAL, WARRINGTON, England— Lieutenant Colonel Harold I. Jirsa, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, commanding officer of the United States Army station hospital, this week praised the skill of the 83 Negro nurses who make up his entire nursing staff.

These nurses arrived in England in August, 1944, and were assigned to the 10th Station Hospital. Early this year they were assigned to the 168th Station Hospital. Several of them served in Africa with the 25th Station Hospital and after a brief period in the United States, were sent to this theatre of operations. 9-14-

Captain Mary L. Petty, of Chicago, Ill., who before coming to England served at Fort Huachuca, Arizona; Fort Bragg, N. C., and Tuskegee, Alabama is supervisor of the nurses.

56n-1945 Nurses



Atlanta World 2-11-45

Atlanta World 2-11-45

INTEREST IN NURSING among Negroes has greatly increased since press announcements that the ban against using Negroes has been lifted by the Navy Department. Enrollees in the Cadet Nurses Corps at Tuskegee are displaying eager interest in war service opportunities. This group is standing in front of the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital at Tuskegee. — (Photo by Polk)

Negro Nurses Attend U.S. Troops In United Kingdom

2-10-45 Pittsburgh Courier - Penn.

WITH U.S. TROOPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM—The sixty-three Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps, now attending United States troops in one of the oldest American hospitals in the United Kingdom, are serving with distinction, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, ranking Negro officer, informed the War Department this week. 2-10-45

Prisoners of war, formerly treated at the hospital, have been transferred to other installations, the General revealed. Captain Mary L. Petty has been assigned as Chief Nurse of this contingent.

Nurses Attend White Wounded In England

Chicago Defender - ILL.

3-3-45

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND—The 63 Negro nurses assigned to an army hospital here in Britain are now attending American wounded exclusively. The last wounded Nazi prisoner of war was removed in late December. Shortly after arriving in Britain in mid-August, the nurses replaced white nurses who were attending the German prisoners. 3-3-45

With the removal of the Germans, Capt. Mary L. Petty, Chicago, was made commanding officer of the company of nurses replacing the white commanding officer, Capt. Frances Crouch. 1st Lt. Louise Jacobs Manley, Tuskegee, Ala., is officer in charge of the operating room replacing Lt. Marjorie Truex, white.

White and Negro soldiers are speedily cleared through the hospital and while the percentage of Negro soldiers is small compared to the white patients, the two groups are always represented, said Captain Petty. Recently high ranking officers conducted through the hospital found all patients expressing satisfaction with the hospital's staff. 3-3-45

"We're kept very busy and we are all praying for the war's end so that the boys can get back home," said Lt. Alma Favors, Chicago, Ill., a Provident hospital graduate.

Negro Nurses in the Army

Richmond Times - Va. 1-26-45

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Mothers and fathers of America: It is your sons that may never return because of inadequate nursing. Thousands of Negro nurses are and have been available. Some parents may prefer dead sons to Negro nurses in the army, but do you? If not, speak out now and hope that, for your son, you have not spoken too late. Telegraph or write to your Senators and Representatives today.

ETHEL CLYDE.

New York, N. Y.

Camp McCoy's Latest Nurse Graduates

Afro-American 1-13-45

Baltimore, Md.

The latest class of nurses to complete their basic training at the Army Nurse Corps training center at Camp McCoy is shown at attention prepared for inspection. They are as follows, front row, left to right: Thelma Gallman, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Rosetta Austin, Savannah, Ga.; Gladys Brown, Camden, N.J.; Rachel Green, Charleston, S.C.; Mary Burton, Petersburg, Va.; Ada Mack, Greenville, S.C.; and Virginia Mobley, Haverhill, Mass. Second row, left to right: Lts. Mary Rogers, Savannah, Ga.; Mildred Stokes, New Orleans, La.; Lydia Wiles, New York; and Evelyn Decker, Washingtonville, New York.

Captain Della H. Raney Heads 25 Nurses at Station Hospital at Camp Beale, Transferred From Ft. Huachuca

Kansas City Call 4-20-45

CAMP BEALE, Cal. — Headed by Captain Della H. Raney, 25 Negro nurses now compose the entire nursing staff of the Station hospital at Camp Beale. Captain Raney's staff of one first lieutenant and 23 second lieutenants from many States in the South and east was transferred here from Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

"I have only highest praise for Captain Raney and this fine group of nurses," states Colonel C. W. Comfort Jr., Camp Beal post surgeon. "They are doing excellent work here in caring for our patients and shows results of thorough training." 4-20-45

Although Negroes are stationed at Camp Beale with the Army Service Forces Personnel Replacement Depot, work at the Station hospital is with all races. Only a small percentage of the hospital patients are Negro. 4-20-45

Captain Raney has the distinction of being the first Negro nurse to report for duty in the present war. When she joined the service she was serving as operating room supervisor in the Lincoln hospital, Durham, N. C.

She was commissioned a second lieutenant April 25, 1941, and saw her first duty in Fort Bragg, N. C. On March 9, 1942, she was promoted to first lieutenant and transferred to Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, as principal chief nurse. Advancing to her present rank in June, 1944, she went to Fort Huachuca on July 7, where she served as principal chief nurse until transferred to Camp Beale in January of this year to assume the same position.

Nurses in the group are: First Lieutenant Mary L. Williams, Fort Worth, Texas, and Second Lieutenants Rosetta Austin, Savannah, Georgia, Ada H. Bailey, New York City, Bernice E. Britton, Clover, Va., Gladys S. Brown, Camden, N. J., Mary P. Burton, Kalmarnock, Va., Vinnie L. Curry, Winston-Salem, N. C., Evelyn Dicker, Washingtonville, New York, Carolyn E. Dillon, New York City, Thelma A. Gallman, Winston-Salem, N. C., Louise E. Jenkins, York, Pa., Ada E. Mock, Greenville, S. C., Laverne F. Martin, Princess Ann, Md., Virginia Mobley, Haverhill, Mass., Mary J. Monroe, Philadelphia, Pa., Thelma N. Reynolds, Atlantic City, N. J., Mary M. Rogers, Savannah, Ga., Ethel M. Stanley, New Bern, N. C., Lydia C. Wiles, New York City, Clara E. Bridges, Atlanta, Ga., Patti D. Evans, Oklahoma City, Okla., Velma N. Brown, St. Louis, Mo., Paradine D. Alford, Jacksonville, Fla., and Hazel P. Reid, San Diego, Cal.

All nurses live in the completely equipped nurses' quarters at the hospital. A recreation hall is at their disposal during off duty hours. Week end trips to Sacramento and San Francisco, to the South, and to nearby Grass Valley and Nevada City in the California foothills are possible for the nurses.

6-16-45

Pittsburgh Courier Pa

PROMOTED—Among recent promotions at Tuskegee Army Air Field is First Lieut. Abbie Ross, widow of Capt. Mac Ross, member of the first class of cadets to be graduated from TAAF, and the first member of the Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron to make a parachute jump. A native of Alexandria, La., Lieutenant Ross attended Xavier University, where she was a pre-medical student. Her nurse training was received at Kansas City Geenral Hospital No. 2.—AAF Photo.

Army Lists 512 Nurses at General, Station Hospitals

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 10-6-45

By RICHARD R. DIER

NEW YORK — On active duty with the Army Nurse Corps are 512 colored nurse officers, according to the War Department.

The figures, given as of the end of July of this year, include nine holding the rank of captain, 115 first lieutenants, and the remaining 338, second lieutenants.

At 5 General Hospitals

The War Department says that colored Army nurses are assigned to a number of Army installations throughout the country, including five general hospitals, 11 station hospitals and three regional hospitals. 10-6-45

The general hospitals at which colored nurses are working are: Halloran, Staten Island, N.Y.; Lovell, Fort Devens, Mass.; Nichols, Louisville, Ky.; Winter, Topeka, Kan.; and U.S. Camp Butner, N.C.

At Station Hospitals

The station hospitals to which colored nurses have been assigned are those at Camp Beale, Calif.; Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.; San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Camp Callan, San Diego, Calif.; Fort Des Moines Iowa; Tuskegee AAFS, Tuskegee Ala.;

Camp Livingston, La.; Prisoner of War Camp, Florence, Ariz.; Prisoner of War Camp, Papago, Ariz.; Utah ASF Depot, Ogden, Utah; and Prisoner of War Camp, Rupert, Idaho.

The three regional hospitals named are those at Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort George G. Meade, Md.; and Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyo.

War Dept. Announces Army Nurse Corps Has 512 Negro Officers

The New York Age New York, N.Y. 10-6-45

On active duty with the Army Nurses Corps are 512 Negro nurse officers, the National Association of Colored Graduated Nurses has learned from the War Department in reply to a query from the Association. The figures, given as of the end of July of this year, include nine holding the rank of captain; 115 first lieutenants and the remaining 388 second lieutenants.

The War Department also informed the Association that Negro nurses are assigned to a number of army installations throughout the country, including five General Hospitals, eleven Station Hospitals and three Regional Hospitals.

The General Hospitals at which Negro nurses are working are Halloran, Staten Island, N. Y.; Lovell, Ft. Devens, Mass.; Nichols, Louisville, Ky.; Winter, Topeka, Kan.; and U. S. Camp Butner, N. C.

The Station Hospitals to which Negro nurses have been assigned are those at Camp Beale, Calif.; Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.; San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Camp Callan, San Diego, Calif.; Fort Des Moines, Iowa; Tuskegee AAFS, Tuskegee, Ala.; Camp Livingston, La.; Prisoner of War Camp, Florence, Ariz.; Prisoner of War Camp, Papago, Ariz.; Utah ASF Depot, Ogden, Utah, and Prisoner of War Camp, Rupert, Idaho. 10-6-45

Three Regional Hospitals named are those at Fort Bragg, N. C.; Fort George G. Meade, Md.; and Francis E. Warren, Wyoming.

56n-1945

Nurses

Capt'n Raney Commands 25-Nurse Staff In California

Atlanta World

Do Excellent Work Caring For Patients

4-27-45

CAMP BEALE, Calif. — Headed by Captain Della H. Raney, 25 Negro nurses now compose the entire nursing staff of the Station Hospital at Camp Beale. Captain Raney's staff of one first lieutenant and 23 second lieutenants from many States in the south and east was transferred here from Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

"I have only highest praise for Captain Rainey and this fine group of nurses," states Col. C. W. Comfort Jr, Camp Beale post surgeon. "They are doing excellent work here in caring for our patients and show results of thorough training." 4-27-45

WORK WITH ALL

Although Negroes are stationed at Camp Beale with the Army Service Forces Personnel Replacement Depot, work at the Station Hospital is with all races. Only a small percentage of the hospital patients are Negro. 4-27-45

Captain Raney has the distinction of being the first Negro nurse to report for duty in the present war. When she joined the service she was serving as operating room supervisor in the Lincoln Hospital Durham, N. C., from which she had graduated.

She was commissioned a second lieutenant April 25, 1941 and saw her first duty in Fort Bragg, N. C. On March 9, 1942, she was promoted to first lieutenant and transferred to Tuskegee Army Air Field Ala., as principal chief nurse. Advancing to her present rank in June 1944, she went to Fort Huachuca on July 7, where she served as principal chief nurse until transferred to Camp Beale in January of this year to assume the same position.

LIST NURSES

4-27-45

Nurses in the group are: First Lieut. Mary L. Williams, Ft Worth, Texas, and 2nd Lieutenants Rosetta Austin, Savannah, Ga., Ada H. Bailey, New York City, Bernice E. Britton, Clover, Virginia, Gladys S. Brown, Camden, N. J., Mary P. Burton, Kalmarnock, Virginia, Vinnie L. Curry, Winston-Salem, N. C., Evelyn Dicker, Washington-ville, New York, Carolyn E. Dillon,

4-27-45

FIRST TO REPORT FOR DUTY—Captain Della H. Raney, Army Nurse Corps, who now heads the nursing staff at the station hospital at Camp Beale, Calif., has the distinction of being the first Negro nurse to report for duty in the present war. She is a former operating room supervisor in the Lincoln Hospital, Durham, N. C. Only a small percentage of the Camp Beale patients are Negro (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.)

New York City, Thelma A. Gallman, Winston-Salem, N. S., Louise E. Jenkins, York, Penna., Ada E. Mock, Greenville, S. C. Lavern F. Martin, Princess Ann, Maryland Virginia Mobley, Taverhill, Mass. Mary J. Moncore, Philadelphia, Penna., Thelma N. Reynolds, Atlantic City, N. J. Mary M. Rogers, Savannah, Ga., Ethel M. Stanley, New Bern, N. C., Lydia C. Wiles, New York City, Clara E. Bridges, Atlanta, Ga., Patti D. Evans, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Velma N. Brown, St. Louis, Mo., Paradine D. Alford, Jacksonville, Fla., and Hazel P. Reid, San Diego, Calif.

All nurses live in the completely equipped nurses' quarters at the hospital. A recreation hall is at their disposal during off duty hours. Week end trips to Sacramento and San Francisco, to the south and to nearby Grass Valley and Nevada City in the California foothills are possible for the nurses.

Negro nurses assigned to Army hospital in Kentucky

LOUISVILLE — Twenty-five Negro nurses have been assigned to duty at the Nichols General hospital here, an Army installation.

GETS COMMISSION

Chicago Defender

GENEVIEVE E. WASHINGTON

Graduate nurse, who has been commissioned 2nd lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps and will report to Camp McCoy in Sparta, Wis., on March 15. Miss Washington is a graduate of Provident hospital and for the past four years been employed as a psychiatric nurse at Peoria State hospital. She did post graduate work in psychiatry at the Illinois State School of Psychiatric Nursing in Chicago. Miss Washington is the daughter of Mrs. Estella Stemley of 5818 LaFayette avenue, and Samuel Washington of 206 East 45th street.

STIMSON REFUTES SURGEON GENERAL

Pittsburgh Courier

Penn.

1-27-45

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Colored nurses are going to be used wherever and whenever they are available and needed, Secretary of War Henry Stimson stated at his press conference Thursday in apparent contradiction of the jim-crow dictum of Surgeon General Norman Kirk of the Army.

Stimson, recognizing that the Army is already using some Negro nurses on a non-segregated basis, took occasion to deny the position taken by the surgeon general represented Army policy.

This statement was made in reply to a question as to what extent restriction of colored nurses to service in Army hospitals where the personnel was all-colored represented War Department policy. Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, the surgeon general, was quoted as having told Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, that the Army did not mix white and colored nurses.

WILL UTILIZE ALL NURSES

Mr. Stimson said that colored nurses commissioned in the Army "must meet the same physical and professional requirements established for all nurses," and added that "all nurses appointed in the Army Nurse Corps are going to be utilized." 1-27-45

Meanwhile, the question of utilization of colored nurses by the Army and Navy came up last Wednesday on the floor of the House when Representative Samuel Dickstein (Dem., N. Y.) read a letter written to Walter Winchell, a New York newspaper columnist and radio commentator. The letter follows:

"Dear Mr. Winchell: As I listen each Sunday evening, I am more convinced you are honestly and conscientiously trying to help win the war and make possible the winning of the peace.

"You mentioned the desperate need for nurses for the Armed Forces. Can you, as an honest reporter, continue to make the plea for nurses without adding, 'the Army wants white nurses'? Of the 9,000 registered Negro nurses the Army has taken 247, while the Navy has taken not a one. Yet we are told that 10,000 nurses are needed at once and may be drafted.

POINTED QUESTION

"Apparently these nurses are registered and perfectly able and willing to do their part. Should we permit prejudice and intolerance to stay in the way of our fighting men's getting all the care to which they are entitled? Why not permit these young women to do their share for their country?"

Representative France P. Bolton (Rep., Ohio) said she thought the number of colored nurses given in the letter was too low, and that there now were nearly 400 colored nurses in the Army Nurses Corps.

She said the Army had established some years ago a quota for colored nurses. "It may interest the gentleman (Mr. Dickstein) to know," she stated, "that I have been working for some years to lift the ban on Negro nurses in the Army, and I am constantly working at it."

PRAISES NURSES

Mrs. Bolton said while she was visiting fighting fronts recently she spent a day with sixty-one colored nurses who were sent to England as a unit, and were just finishing their orientation course at the time of her visit.

"They were an exceedingly fine group of women," Mrs. Bolton added, "and the reports I have had of their work since then have been splendid. I am very much in accord with the gentleman's (Mr. Dickstein's) view that we could use more of them." 1-27-45

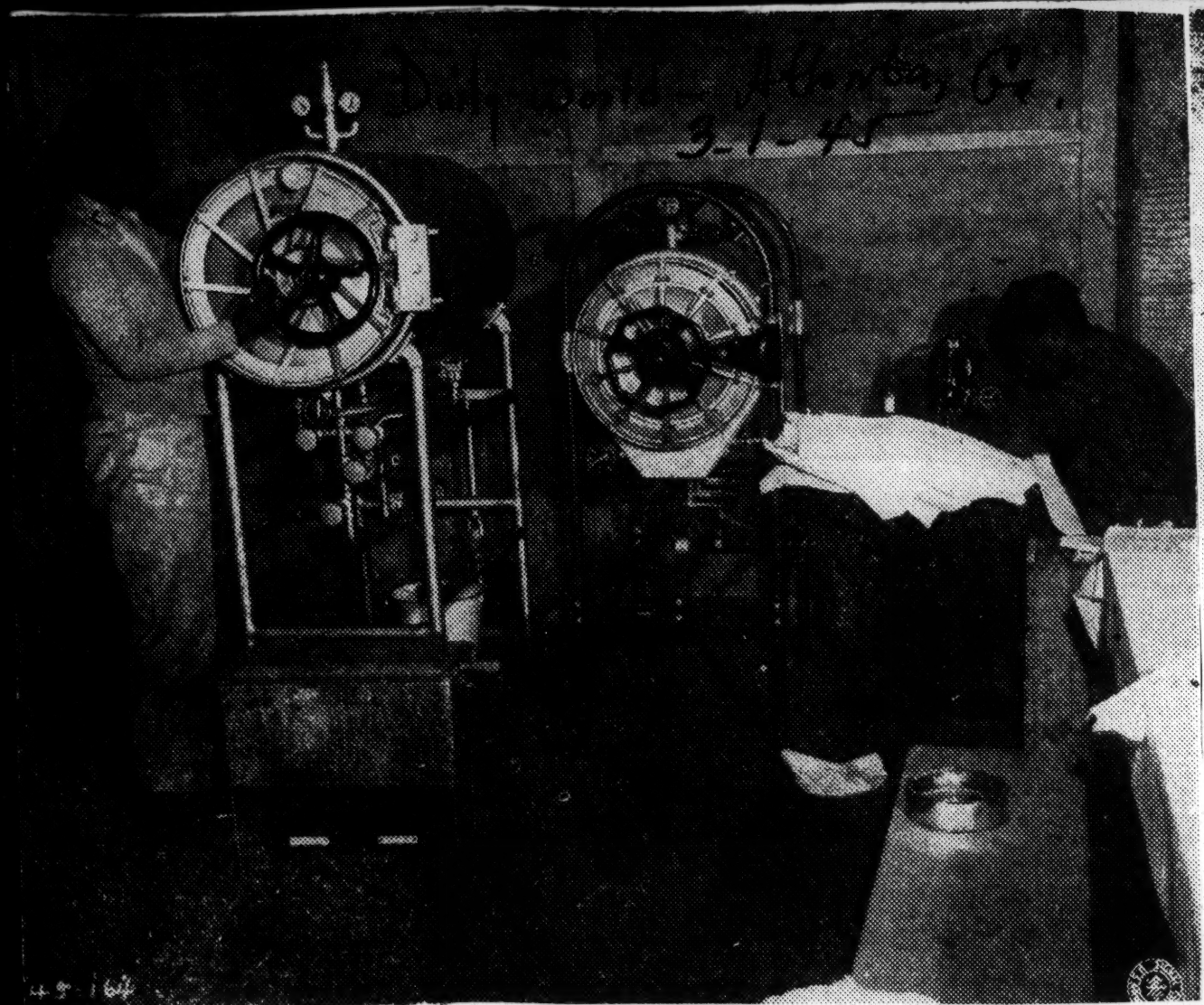
The American Civil Liberties Union last Friday asked Congress to include in any extension of draft legislation to nurses or 4-F's specific prohibitions against race segregation.

GEN. KIRK QUESTIONED

The House Military Affairs Committee last Friday heard Maj. Gen. Norman T. Kirk, surgeon general of the Army, strongly endorse the nurse draft bill as the most effective means of getting 20,000 new nurses needed to insure the best treatment for wounded soldiers.

General Kirk was questioned by committee members as to the policy on the acceptance of colored nurses. He replied that "we are accepting every Negro nurse who puts in an application and meets requirements." 1-27-45

The National Nursing Council for War Service revealed later that of the 9,000 graduate colored nurses there are approximately 308 in the Army Nurse Corps. The Navy has none, and as far as could be learned, it has no plan for the acceptance of colored nurses.



NURSES IN BURMA—American nurses at work in the completely Negro-Staff hospital in North Burma. Gowns, masks, sponges, and various articles are made by the nurses themselves. Here Lieutenant Daryle Foster works at the sewing machine while Lieutenant Doshia May Watkins places gowns in the sterilizer. (U. S. Signal Photo.)

FIRST U. S. NEGRO NURSES ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA — American Red Cross Club Director Harvey Shaw (622 Kirkpatrick St., Philadelphia, Pa.) pours coffee for U. S. Army nurses and officers serving in the Southwest Pacific. Left to right: 2nd Lt. Beulah Baldwin, 2211 East 33rd St., Cleveland, Ohio; 2nd. Robert L. Rimmer, 573 Chandler Street, Detroit, Mich., who just won his commission; 2nd Lt. Marjorie Mayers, 74 East 121st St., NYC; 2nd Lt. Prudence L. Burns, 306 1st St., Mounds, Ill.; Capt. Walton C. Johnson, 220 East 90th St., Cleveland, Ohio and 2nd Lt. Joan L. Hamilton, 1306 Euclid Avenue, Kansas City, Mo.

56n-1945

COLOR COMMUNIQUE

Nurses No Longer Attend Nazi Troops

Chicago Defender

2-10-45

ILL.

WITH U. S. TROOPS IN UNITED KINGDOM—The 63 Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps no longer are attending Nazi war prisoners here in Britain. Widespread protests against the assignment of the only contingent of Negro nurses overseas to watch over German "supermen" has resulted in transfer of the Nazis to other installations.

The nurse unit is now attending U. S. troops in one of the oldest American hospitals in the United Kingdom. They are serving with distinction, Brig.-Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the army and now an aide to General Eisenhower, has informed the War Department.

Head of the Negro nurse unit is Capt. Mary L. Petty of Chicago.

Negro Nurses

P.M.

Dear Editor: 2-9-45

Qualified Negro nurses are accepted by both the Army and the Navy! If you know any who wish to volunteer, tell them to write to the Army Nurse Corps or the Navy Nurse Corps, Washington, D. C., to avoid possible local opposition.

If discrimination is encountered, notify Mrs. Mabelle K. Staupers, president of the National Assn. of Colored Graduate Nurses, 1790 Broadway, New York City.

ETHEL CLYDE

Race Nurses Work In Great Britain

Memphis World

2-6-45 Tenn

WITH U. S. TROOPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM— (SNS) — The sixty-three Negro officers of the Army Nurse Corps, now attending United States troops in one of the oldest American hospitals in the United Kingdom, are serving with distinction, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, ranking Negro officer, informed the War Department today. 2-6-45

Prisoners of war, formerly treated at the hospital, have been transferred to other installations, the General revealed. Captain Mary L. Petty has been assigned as Chief Nurse of this contingent.

Hopes Others Will Become Navy Nurses

3-16-45

Kansas City Call

NEW YORK. — " I hope I am only the first of a large number of members of my race to join the Navy Nurse Corps," said Miss Phyllis Mae Daley, R.N., as she was commissioned an ensign, along with four other young women, Thursday morning, March 8, at the Office of Naval Officer Procurement, 33 Pine St., New York, N. Y., by Commander Thomas Gaylord, U.S.N. (retired), director of the office. She is the first Negro to become a member of the Navy Nurse Corps.

A pleasant-faced young woman 25 years of age, in a black crepe dress, Miss Daley bore the limelight modestly, but confessed she was "proud and excited."

6 Months' Training

She was born in New York and was graduated from the Lincoln Hospital School for Nurses in 1941. After her graduation, she worked at the Lincoln Hospital and Home, and at the New York Department of Health as a public health nurse. Immediately prior to her induction, she was taking a course in public health nursing at Teachers college, Columbia university. 3-16-45

The new ensigns will be assigned to duty within a few days at one of the two naval hospitals in the vicinity of New York—at St. Albans, Queens or the New York Navy Yard, Brooklyn. They will receive six months' training in Navy hospital procedure before assignment elsewhere.

Would Go Overseas

Miss Daley said, in answer to

Nurses

a question after the commissioning ceremony, that one did not ask for specific assignment in the Navy, but that she "would not mind" going overseas. 3-16-45

The Navy Nurse Corps is in urgent need of 2,500 additional nurses by June 30, Commander Gaylord announced. At present there are 9,000 Navy nurses. Arrangements have been made, the commander said, to speed up recruiting by receiving applications for commissions through the Pine Street office in New York instead of in Washington. Nurses have been assured they will be satisfied of the Navys decision approximate 30 days after final papers have been filed.

Navy Says Its Policy Does Not Keep Negro Nurses From Serving

New York Age

2-3-45

Speaking Thursday night at an emergency meting in the New York Times Hall, 240 West 44th street, Rear Admiral William J. C. Agnew, acting chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the Navy, said that the Navy planned to accept Negro nurses.

At the same time, Major-General George F. Lull, deputy surgeon-general of the Army, said that of the 9,000 Negro nurses in this country, only 2,000 are eligible for the Army Nurses Corps because of age, dependent minor children, and physical condition.

2-3-45

The meeting was held to encourage recruitment of nurses for both branches of the armed forces.

Amplifying his statement, Admiral Agnew on Saturday declared:

"There is no policy in the Navy prohibiting appointment of Negro women in the Navy Nurse Corps Reserve. Every application reaching the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for appointment in the Navy Nurse Corps or the Navy Nurse Corps Reserve is given full consideration, provided applicant meets the physical, profesional, military fitness and other requirements for appointment."

Nurses Serving On Front Lines

Atlanta World Ga.

2-4-45

NEW YORK, — (ANP) — Although little has been said about it, Negro nurses are working in a number of hospitals in this country. They work is general hospitals as regular army nurses doing general duty. Even Surgeon Gen. Kirk evidently did not know how far his army has progressed in this direction. When questioned at press conference two weeks ago, he indicated that Negro nurses were being used only to nurse Negro troops.

Nurses are stationed at Camp Livingston and Camp Claiborne in Louisiana at Camp Bragg in North Carolina and at Camp Beale in California. A group of 25 nurses was just transferred from Fort Huachuca to Camp Beale.

When the hue and cry regarding the use of Negro nurses to care for German prisoners of war went up shortly after the first contingent of Negro nurses to see overseas duty went to England, the nurses were transferred and it is known that they saw duty at Bastogne, Belgium. 2-4-45

Mrs. Mable Staupers of the National Association of Colored Graduate nurese has appealed for more volunteers especially now that nurses need not be on the availability list from which they were formerly selected.

It is the responsibility apparently of the NACGN and the National Nursing council in which Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle is is consultant to stimulate acceptance enough to meet the demand now that the bars are down but this evidently is proving to be a somewhat difficult job.

Group Writes Petition To General Kirk

Atlanta World

2-17-45 Ga.

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Fifty prominent women, representing stage, radio, civic, church, educational, writing and trade union fields in a statement last week, urged Surgean Gen. Norman T Kirk to utilize Negro nurses on a complete footing of equality.

Declaring their support to President Roosevelt's proposal for the full utilization of nurses to tend our wounded, the signees simultaneously hailed the newly announced navy policy to accept Negro nurse applicants and urged full application of that policy by the armed services.

WOULD SOLVE SHORTAGE

"We Feel," the signees declared, "while this new policy would not entirely solve the shortage of the nurses it would rapidly bring to the armed forces, a large number of additional qualified nurses."

Heading the list of signers were Margaret Halsey, author, "Some of My Best Friends Are Soldiers," Dr. Gene Weltfish, co-author "Races of Mankind," Benay Venuta, Hazel Scott, Betty Garrett, Elizabeth Bergner, Henrietta Buckmaster, Fennie Hurst, Nym Wales, Hilda Simms, Mrs. Terry R. Penman, women's auxiliary, National Maritime union, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Sono Osato, Dr. Annette Rubenstein, Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Dr. Adele Sicular, Mary Kingsbury Simkhovitch, Greenwich Settlement house, Myra Blakeslee, Good Will commission, New Jersey, Eleanor Fowler, secretary treasurer, CIO Women's auxiliaries, Rose Terlin, editor, Women's Press, Helen M. Currier, Brooklyn Council for Social Planning, Mrs. William J. Schefflin, Dorothy Height, National Board YWCA, Katherine Earnshaw, Greater New York council, CIO, Olivia Pearl Stokes, Baptist Young Peoples union, Mrs. Faye Stephenson. 2-17-45

The statement, circulated by the Sweethearts of Servicemen, affiliated with American Youth for Democracy took specific issue with the recent statement of Gen. Kirk who declared that "the army uses Negro nurses only where Negro troops are and that the army does not mix them."

WOMEN CONCERNED

"We are vitally concerned," the signees declared, "that our servicemen have the best equipment and supplies as well as the best possible medical care when wounded. Yet we are told by the President that there is undue strain on the exeting force' and that '11 army hospital units have been sent overseas without their complement of nurses' and that at army hospitals in the United States, there is only one nurse to 25 beds, instead of the recommended 1 to 15 beds.'

"As Sweethearts, wives and sisters of our brave fighting men we know we speak for our servicemen when we say: We askin the army," they can do.

ONLY 300 IN ARMY

The statement called attention to the fact that while "some 9,000 Negro graduate nurses are allies' for American democracy, today, only 300 are and, most immediate, denies the needed medical care being given

They emphasized that "the practice of segregation has likewise served needlessly to aggravate the acute shortage of nurses serving with the army. Such a practice undermines national morale, lowers the respect of our allies' for American democracy, and, most immediate, denies the needed medical care being given

2-17-45

to all members of our armed forces." 2-17-45

The statement disclosed that the present practice is "contrary to the experiences of many civilian and army hospitals today." During the last war Negro nurses "were integrated into the army nursing service, and creditably performed their duties, nursing white patients as well as colored," according to war department records. 2-17-45

"Nothing must be spared," they insisted, "to fulfill our high responsibilities to our wounded. We welcome the newly announced Navy policy to accept Negro nurse applicants as a sign of this recognition. We urge the full application of this policy in all of the armed services where Negro nurses are concerned."

Army Hospital Staffed by Negro Nurses Rated High in Efficiency and Neatness

The Call - Kansas City Mo

LANCASHIRE, Eng. — (ANP) —The 168th U. S. Military hospital here is rated highly. The hospital is manned by an all-Negro nurse staff under the command of Capt. Marry Petty. 3-23-45

"The experiment of staffing a military hospital with Negro nurses has proved a real success," said Patricia Strauss, a white daily newspaper correspondent. "I must record that I saw one of the operating rooms 45 minutes after the last operation of the day was finished. It was not just clean and tidy. It looked as if it had never been used. It might in fact have been an exhibition operating room in a window at Macy's." 3-23-45

The bulk of the operation is skin grafting. With the use of the modern dermatone, which cuts one-100th of an inch thin, no scars are left on the patient's face nor the donor's face. No stitches have to be removed anymore because the skin is pasted on with a paste made of plasma and leucocytic extract. 3-23-45

Fifty-four of the nurses have managed to survive the dampness of the English climate although Capt. Petty is reported to have been confined recently by pneumonia. Many of the girls are reported to have purchased bicycles and take rides around the English countryside.

Second Lt. Alice Ismael, New York City, is among those who hopes they will be able to spend leaves in Paris soon.

Miss Priestly On Staff Of 1st Negro Hospital Unit Assigned Overseas

Informer - Houston - Texas

2-27-45

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA —Miss Alma M. Priestly, formerly of New Orleans, La., is one among those who compose the Negro hospital unit which for the first time in the annals of the American Red Cross, has been assigned overseas.

The unit will be attached to the 268 Station Hospital commanded by Major Arthur H. Simmons, somewhere in New Guinea and Miss Priestly is assistant field director.

Miss Priestly who having been awarded the $1000 Julius Rosenwald Fellowship to study social work, was graduated from the Atlanta School of Social Work and Xavier University at New Orleans. She is a member of the American Association of Social Workers, the American Associaiton of Medical Social Workers and a Member of the Alpha Kappa Sorority.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Eugenia P. Priestly of Los Angeles and of the late Edward A. Priestly. She served as medical social worker in Flint Goodridge hospital at New Orleans and as Case Consultant and director for the New Orleans Housing Authority. Prior to ehr entering the field of Medical Social work with the Red Cross at Fort Huachuca, Miss Priestly was director of the National Catholic Community Service USO activities at Des Moines, Ia.

2-27-45

Others composing the unit are Miss Elizabeth P. Green, hospital recreation worker of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Miss Esther M. Baker of Champaign, Ill., secreatry.

J.C. Nurse Policy Banned in Vets' Administration

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

2-13-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON (N N P A) — Frank T. Hines, Veterans' Administration chief, said in an exclusive interview this week that he was advising his medical director to accept qualified nurses regardless of race, creed or color for use wherever the demand is greatest.

The Army has recently broadened its use of colored nurses, and the Navy has just announced it would accept them for the first time.

At the end of the week, however, the medical director in Washington, Dr. Charles M. Griffith, Oteen, N.C.

"Are they used in these places only to serve colored patients or to serve any and all patients?" I asked.

"The whole things depend on the number of patients we get," Dr. Griffith answered. "So far, we have used them only for colored patients, but I am due to have a conference with the general on the whole nurse question soon."

Housing Toughest Problem

General Hines, in announcing the new policy, said the housing of the nurses at veterans' institutions in some sections would be a problem, but he thought it could be solved.

He suggested the possibility of having the colored nurses live "off the post," which he said some of the white nurses are doing now in Washington because of crowded housing conditions at Walter Reed Hospital and Mt. Alto.

The general expressed a high regard for the ability of colored nurses, praised the calibre of work had not received the "advice" of the general and was still sticking to the present restrictive use of colored nurses. 2-13-45

Director Still Hesitant

In an interview, when Dr. Griffith was told of General Hines' statement, he said: We are taking both white and colored nurses now. I have vacancies now for 15 or 20 colored nurses."

Asked if the "vacancies for colored nurses" meant they would be used only at Tuskegee Veterans' Facility, he said they are being used at three other places—Hampton, Va., Waco, Tex., and

Women Leaders Hit Jimcrow of Negro Nurses

Worker - 2-4-45

TELL SURGEON GENERAL THOUSANDS ARE READY TO SERVE IN ARMY

Fifty prominent women yesterday called upon Surgeon General Norman T. Kirk to utilize fully the thousands of Negro nurses available for the armed services.

Representing stage, radio, civic, church, educational, writing and trade union fields, these women pointed out that only 300 of the 9,000 Negro nurses in this country are in the Army today. Full and equal utilization of this important womanpower would go a long way toward answering President Roosevelt's call for more women to tend the wounded, they said. At the same time they hailed the Navy's new policy of accepting Negro nurse applicants.

Signers of the call—which was sponsored by the Sweethearts of Servicemen, affiliates of the American Youth for Democracy—included: Margaret Halsey, author of Some of My Best Friends are Soldiers; Hazel Scot; Betty Garret; Dr. Gene Weltfish, co-author of Races of Mankind; Benay Venuta; Elisabeth Bergner; Henrietta Buckmaster; Fannie Hurst; Hilda Simms; Dr. Mary McCleod Bethune; Sono Osato; Dr. Annette Rubenstein; Evelyn Adler, director, National Social Service Division, UOPWA; Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown; Mary K. Simkhovitch, Greenwich Settlement House; Eleanor Fowler, CIO Women's Auxiliaries; Helen M. Currier, Brooklyn Council for Social Planning; Olivia Stokes, Baptist Young Peoples Union, and Myra Blakeslee, Good Will Commission, State of New Jersey.

Army and Navy Urged to Use More Colored Nurses

AFRO-AMERICAN, Balt. Md.

3-3-45

NEW YORK — Acceptance of more colored nurses by the army and navy as an immediate step toward meeting current shortages was urged in a joint statement issued last week by two nursing organizations.

Signers of the statement were Mrs. Elmira B. Wickenden and Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretaries of the National Nursing Council for War Service and the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, respectively.

While opposing any quota system, Mrs. Wickenden and Mrs. Staupers pointed out that the 330 nurses now in the Army Nurse Corps represent less than one-tenth the proportion of colored soldiers in the army.

2,000 Available

Rejections, and the fear of rejection, have kept down the number, they stated, although it is estimated that at least 2,000 out of the total of 8,000 or more colored graduate nurses now active in nursing may be eligible for military service. 3-3-45

Post-War Value Cited

1. It would demonstrate that as American men, regardless of race, are fighting for democracy, American women are being given the opportunity, equally without discrimination, to care for them when ill or wounded.

2. It would, if administered without segregation, carry over into military life the policy of integrating professional services, regardless of color, now being increasingly practiced in civilian life. 3-3-45

3. It would demonstrate to prospective nurses that opportunities to serve will not be denied them, thus paving the way for a greater contribution by colored nurses after the war to the health of the nation.

Colored, White Nurses Serve at Livingston

AFRO-AMERICAN Md.

3-3-45

CAMP LIVINGSTON, La. (ANP) — Neither physicians, nurses nor patients have found difficulty in working harmoniously together in the camp station hospital, here, where the color bar has been entirely erased.

Colored nurses have played an important role in the operation of the Camp Livingston Station Hospital almost from the activation of that highly important medical unit four years ago.

Currently the hospital roster shows the names of twenty-three colored nurses among the forty-seven nurses stationed here. They rank from captain down to second lieutenant and hold such responsible positions as night supervisor, assistant to the chief nurse, charge of operating pavilion, and chief nurse of the eye, ear, nose and throat clinic. 3-3-45

Capt. Freeman Assistant

Capt. Susan E. Freeman, a veteran nurse whose work in Liberia earned her a citation from that country recently, holds the same rank as the chief nurse, under whom she serves as assistant. Capt. Freeman is a native of Stamford, Conn., but had served for many years on the staff of Freedmen's Hospital, Washington.

Night supervisor is 1st Lt. Anne Philips Davis, of Ramseur, N.C. She came to Livingston Station hospital in August, 1941. Speaking of her experience here, she said:

Get Along Fine

"I am perfectly happy here and would be lost if I had to leave. We work side by side with white doctors and nurses and get along fine. We certainly receive fair treatment and equal opportunity. We have received as many promotions as the white nurses." 3-3-45

Lieutenant Davis said she has worked on wards the same as every other nurse—and it doesn't matter whether there are white or colored soldiers on the wards. Although a majority of enlisted ward attendants are white, Lieutenant Davis says she has always had excellent co-operation.

Virginian Speaks

First Lt. Carrie C. Marshall of Worsham, Va., who serves as nurse in charge of the operating pavilion, sums it up this way:

"Most important is an understanding commanding officer and chief nurse. We have both, and conditions couldn't be better."

Besides holding down nearly half of the nursing chores at the hospital, colored personnel contributes more. On the staff at present are seven physicians, one dental officer and sixty-two colored enlisted men.

During the four years Camp Livingston has been training troops, thousands of colored soldiers have been stationed here. The 46th Field Artillery brigade was one of the first outfits to move into camp and for more than two years remained the largest single colored organization on the post.

In addition, scores of quartermaster, ordnance, engineer and special troops of the third and fourth armies have done at least a part of their training at Livingston. 3-3-45

Infantry Replacements

Right now there are colored troops taking part in the infantry replacement training program to which the camp is devoting all its energies. As the course is short and extremely tough for all trainees, these men have not the time for all the recreational activities enjoyed by those who preceded them.

White And Negro Nurses Together

ATLANTA World Ga.

2-24-45

CAMP LIVINGSTON, La. (ANP) -Negro nurses have played an important role in the operation of the Camp Livingston Station hospital almost from the activation of that highly important medical unit four years ago.

Currently the hospital roster shows the names of 23 Negro nurses among the 47 nurses stationed here. They rank from captain down to second lieutenants and hold such responsible positions as night supervisor, assistant to the nose and throat clinic.

WON CITATION 2-24-45

Capt. Susan E. Freemen, a veteran nurse whose work in Liberia earned her a citation from that country recently, holds the same rank as the chief nurse under whom she serves as assistant.

Night superviser is 1st Lt. Anne Philips Davis, of Ramsuer, N. C. She came to Livingston Station hospital in August, 1941. Speaking of her experience here, she said: "I am perfectly happy here and would be lost if I had to leave. doctors and nurses and get along We work side by side with white fine. We certainly receive fair treatment and equal opportunity. We have received as many promotions as the white nurses."

HAD COOPERATION

Lt. Davis said she has worked on wards the same as every other nurse and it doesn't matter whether there are white or Negro soldiers in the wards. Although a majority of enlisted ward attendants are white, Lt. Davis says she has always had excellent coooperation.

First Lt. Carrie V. Marshall of Wersham, Va., who serves as nurse in charge of the operating pavillion, sums it up this way:

"Most inportant is an understanding commanding officer and chief nurse. We have both and conditions couldn't be better.

"One must like what one is doing and I most certainly like my job." 2-24-45

Besides holding down nearly half of the nursing chores at the hospital, Negro personnel contributes more. On the staff at present are seven physicians and one dental officer and Negro enlisted men number 62.

During the four years Camp Livingston has been training troops, thousands of Negro soldiers have been stationed here. The 46th Field Artillery brigode was one of the first outfits to move into camp and for more than two years remained the largest single Negro organization on the Post.

Majority of Public Willing to Accept Colored Nurses

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.

DENVER (Special)—At a time when the acceptance by the Army and Navy of colored nurses is much discussed, a nation-wide survey by the National Opinion Research Center here reveals that a majority of civilians would accept colored nurse care in hospitals.

NORC's personally trained interviewers questioned a national cross-section of white civilian adults—men and women, young and old, rich and poor—in cities, towns and rural areas throughout the United States. 2-24-45

All were asked: "If you were sick in a hospital, would it be all right with you if you had a colored nurse, or wouldn't you like it?"

57 Per Cent Favorable

Of them, 57 per cent said it would be all right; 42 per cent said they wouldn't like it, while 1 per cent was undecided. Three per cent of the first group expressed a preference for white nurses. 2-24-45

That education is a determining factor is evidenced by the fact that 70 per cent of persons with a college background expressed willingness to have colored nurses take care of them.

On the other hand, only 53 per cent of the high school educated and 45 per cent of those with no more than a grade school education answered "All right."

South's Opposition Greatest

Six out of ten (62 per cent) residents of the North and West, but only four out of ten (42 per cent) Southerners, would be willing to receive care from a colored nurse in a hospital.

Comments from individuals interviewed reveal that many white people think very highly of colored nurses, and that some even prefer them to white nurses.

A Palatine, Ill., storekeeper declared: "Colored people are more tender-hearted than the white people." 2-24-45

New Yorker's Reaction

A New York machinist said: "You probably get better care with a Negro nurse than a white nurse," while a Brooklyn lawyer stated: "Why not? We have Negro waitresses and Negro mammies."

The wife of an engineer in Houston said: "I'm a nurse myself, and colored nurses are very good. I know many." 2-24-45

Others who speak from personal experience commented:

"I was in the hospital and had Negro nurses who were wonderful to me . . . I had a Negro nurse who was the best I had. She was kinder and took more pains to please . . . I would rather have Negro nurses. Whites are too independent."

Dirt Myth Raised

Those who would not like a colored nurse express either a general dislike of colored people or a fear of them on grounds of cleanliness or health. 2-24-45

Typical reactions were:

"I don't like Negroes close to me—I just don't . . . I don't want no n——r messing around me . . . Negro nurses should work for other Negroes . . .

"I wouldn't want any nurse if a Negro was all I could get . . . Negroes don't seem clean to me . . . I'd never get well."

Prejudice over Logic

A Montana cattle rancher admitted: "I wouldn't like it, but I believe a Negro nurse would take better care of me than a white nurse."

The wife of an Oregon mill superintendent declared: "I don't think I'd like it. I'm that way about any other race. I suppose it's racial prejudice." 2-24-45

A telephone repairman in Louisiana made an interesting distinction: "I wouldn't like a Negro nurse in a hospital. It's all right in a home. I was practically raised by a Negro nurse."

"Can't Generalize"

The most frequent comments made by persons who replied, "Undecided, were: "I don't know. You simply can't generalize on that question. It depends on the nurse in a hospital. It's all right in a home. I was practically raised by a Negro nurse."

The NORC, an academic institution working under a grant from the Field Foundation and the University of Denver, used 2,523 confidential interviews, statiscally sufficient to be within 3 per cent correct 997 times in 1,000.

Army Nurse Captain To Receive Medal

Journal & Guide 6-2-45

NEW YORK—Selection of Captain Susan Freeman of the Army Nurse Corps to receive the Mary Mahoney Medal this year was announced this week by Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, executive secretary, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

Captain Freeman, first Negro nurse to command Negro Army nurses on overseas duty, will receive the medal during the board meeting of the NACGN scheduled for June 7, 8, and 9 in New York.

The Mary Mahoney Medal, awarded annually for outstanding contribution to the field of nursing among Negroes, derives its name from that of the first Negro graduate nurse of record in this country.

Prior to her overseas assignment Capt. Freeman served as chief nurse at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and also as assistant to the chief nurse at Camp Livingston, La.

NAACP Urges Discriminatory Ban In Army Nurse Draft Legislation

New York Age N.Y. 1-20-45

Inclusion of a clause to end discrimination and segregation in proposed legislation for the draft of nurses for military service, was urged by the NAACP in a wire to Chairman Andrew J. May of the Military Affairs Committee. In his message to Congressman May, whose bill is scheduled for hearings next week, Acting Secretary Roy Wilkins said:

"National Association for Advancement of Colored People strongly urges that if nurses are drafted, the legislation contain a clause forbidding discrimination and segregation on account of race and color in the induction and service of nurses. We urge this because under voluntary enlistment program, Negro nurses who were eager to serve their country have been discouraged from enlisting by a quota system and a policy of restricting them to nursing of Negro soldiers only. This failure to utilize trained and registered Negro nurses has contributed to the critical shortage which military authorities are now seeking to remedy by means of a draft. It should be pointed out that even if draft is ordered and present system of limited discriminatory use of Negro nurses is continued, it is not likely that more Negro nurses will be inducted. Our information from various camps is that tendencies exist to concentrate Negro nurses in prisoner of war camps. Several cases have been reported here that they have been doubly humiliatd before German war prisoners by being forced to eat in separate dining rooms. 1-20-45

"Negro nurses like all other Negro Americans are anxious to serve their country but so far they have been given limited opportunity and have been insulted in the bargain. As a southerner, you will instantly recognize how ridiculous is the assumption that trained Negro nurses shall not be entrusted with ministering to wounded American soldiers who happen to be white."

ANOTHER PROTEST

Utilization by the armed forces of all trained nurses on the basis of ability instead of race was also urged by George Marshall, chairman of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, in a letter to Dr. Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General of the U. S. Army.

The letter pointed out that "there are only about 300 Negro nurses in the Army. This means that while almost 15 per cent of the white nurses of the country are serving with the armed forces, only 3 per cent of the Negro nurses are with the armed forces. The limitation of the number of Negro nurses with the armed forces is largely the result of a policy of exclusion, as practiced by the Navy, and a policy of discouragement, discrimination and segregation, as practiced by the Army." 1-20-45

Attention was called to the parallel Army policy of segregating doctors which has also contributed to the shortage of Army medical personnel. Reference was made specifically to the 15 Negro doctors who recently completed their internship at Harlem Hospital in New York and who were repected by the Army, "not because the Army had a sufficient number of doctors, but because it was stated that the Army had all the Negro doctors it needed"

This policy of segregation and limited service by Negro doctors and nurses, Mr. Marshall stated, "prevents the best possible medical care being given to all members of our armed forces, undermines national morale and lowers the respect of our Allies for American democracy....It is not consistent with President Roosevel'ts statement in his recent message to Congress that the economic truths represented in the Second Bill of Rights can be established for all 'regardless of station, race or creed'."

Classmates Aroused Over Ouster of Va. Cadet Nurse

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

2-13-45

Staff Correspondence

HAMPTON, Va.—Expulsion last week of of Miss Alveda Whigham, a junior cadet nurse at the Dixie Hospital, because of her "attitude," has so stirred her classmates that they have requested transfer to another hospital to complete their training.

They have also requested:

Adequate recreation for other nurses who remain or who may later enroll;

A better qualified nursing arts instructor; 2-13-45

Lowering of the present passing grade requirement from 80 to 75 in keeping with other nursing schools of the nation;

An unbiased hospital superintendent and superintendent of nurses;

Discontinue of the practice of calling colored patients and graduate nurses by their first names.

5 Others Slated to Go

Shortly after Miss Whigham's dismissal, the class was told that five more of its members were slated to go. 2-13-45

Until recently, nurses were working twelve hour shifts (7 pm. to 7 a.m.) and attending several classes in the day. Unless they had an average of 80 in their classes, were failed.

G. B. Colonna, white, chairman of the board of trustess, visited the hospital last week in the role of conciliator and spoke to the nurses. There was no applause when he concluded.

Brought J.C. Policy

Considerable resentment has been expressed that C. W. Magrum white South Carolinian, the present superintendent, has substituted jim crow policies for those of the late Dr. Harry D. Howe.

"Colored" and "white" signs appeared son after Magrum's arrival but most of these have been taken down.

Private Rooms Dirty

The best private rooms for colored patients have dirty walls, drab draps and faded venetian blinds in contrast to the white patients' private rooms which are painted two or three times a year.

A colored patient, who several years ago had been given a room in the new wing of the Dixie, where there was running water, telephone service and good furniture, recently returned.

She requested similar quarters and was told that under the new management, colored patients were no longer admitted to this section. She then demanded and received a refund.

Complaint has also been made that the recently added pediatric ward for colored children has but one small window which permits little sunshine or fresh air, so vitally needed.

The Colored Graduate Nurses' Association on the peninsula last week sent a full report of alleged discriminatory practices to Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, national executive secretary, and to Mrs. Estelle M. Riddle, former national president, now in charge of the colored cadet nurses' program.

Cadet nurses serve in 51 nursing schools

Calif. Los Angeles Tribune 2-26-45

WASHINGTON — A report by Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the Public Health Service, before the House Committee on Military Affairs hearing testimony for and against the nurse draft, paid tribute to Negro nurse cadets.

On the contribution of Negro graduate nurses, Dr. Parran said, many are now serving with the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. One group is stationed in Australia; another group, recently returned from Liberia, is being reactivated for overseas duty. Other young Negro graduate nurses are serving in Army camps in Louisiana, North Carolina, Alabama, Arizona and Iowa. 2-26-45

Nursing care is being provided by Negro cadet nurses in some 51 schools of nursing in 17 States. Opportunities in these schools still await outstanding young women in spring classes now being formed. Those who are qualified and who are interested in enrolling are asked to write to their State Nursing Council or to the U.S. Public Health Service, Box 88, New York City 8, N.Y.

Cadet Nurses Capped At Tuskegee Ceremony

Chicago Defender Ill.

2-17-45

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—In impressive ceremonies held in the Institute Chapel recently, sixteen freshmen nurses were "capped" and inducted into the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps. Candidates were presented by Miss Viola Terrell, R.N., educational director and formal induction was conducted by Miss Lillian Holland, R.N., superintendent of nurses and director of the School of Nursing, who charged the young women that as they receive the cap to "regard it as a symbol of our faith and confidence in your ability."

In the absence of Dr. John W. Chenault, medical director, Colonel Eugene H. Dibble Jr., manager of the U.S. Veterans' hospital, in brief remarks, welcomed the candidates "into a profession of mercy and service."

The Cadet Nurses' Glee club sang "Angels of Mercy," with William L. Dawson, musical director, conducting. 2-17-45

Those inducted were: Doris Askey, San Antonio, Texas; Bessie Booker, Houston, Texas; Consuela Bolden, Cincinnati; Frances Campbell, Tallassee, Ala.; Octavia Christmas, San Antonio, Texas; Maudette Drayton, Georgetown, S. C.; Electa Johnson, Baltimore; Rosalie Little, Kansas City, Mo.; Lillie Mae Moore, Tucson, Ariz.; Ernestine Rice, Gaffey, S. C.; Edmonia Saunders, Tarrytown, N. Y.; Marlyn Shephard, Tucson, Ariz.; Jacquelin Simpson, Birmingham; Ruth Turner, Memphis; Iris Ruth Tynes, Miami, Fla., and Mildred Watkins, Carning, N. Y.

10 nurses in hospital's '45 class

Los Angeles Tribune 2-26-45 Calif.

Ten Negro nurses are in the 1945 graduating classes of the General Hospital, and of the number, seven are cadet nurses.

Graduated Feb. 1 and now enrolled at UCLA is Non-Cadet Nurse Marian E. Henderson. Tentatively scheduled to have graduated Saturday was Cadet Nurse Marion S. Starks. Nurse Starks is undecided as to whether she will enter the Army or not.

Planning to enlist in the Army Nurse Corps upon her graduation Mar. 29 is Nurse Cadet Birdella Taylor. Non-Cadet Ophelia Dixon, who will graduate Mar. 30, will work at the Children's Hospital.

Non-Cadet Mabel Renfroe, who will graduate July 19, will enter a university to do eight months' work which will complete qualifications for her Bachelor of Science degree.

Bias Against Cadet Nurses Ousted from Hampton Told

AFRO-American 4-21-45

PHILADELPHIA

Hitherto unpublished facts surrounding the ousting of ten junior class U.S. Cadet Corps nurses from the Dixie Hospital at Hampton, Va., recently, were disclosed this week. Balt., Md.

The ten juniors, who were told that they were being sent home because of their "attitude," all had good marks at the time and were well into the essentials of their course, it was said.

Charged Biased Practices

The alleged "attitude" was charged when the young women complained of certain discriminatory practices. Upon their original entry, the hospital school of nursing was a part of the Hampton Institute. 4-21-45

When this connection was severed, the passing mark was said to have been raised from 75 to 80 without their knowledge. To save the time, marks and expense, they were compelled to enroll in the cadet corps.

Ordered to Use Rear Door

The housing of a group of white technicians in the dormitory caused an order for the colored cadets to use the rear entrance. Complaints brought a suggestion from the head nurse that it would be "wise not to object."

Since the dismissal, several of the cadets have enrolled in other schools, while the rest await developments. 4-21-45

The transferring of marks looms as an obstacle in many instances. The ten juniors reside in States from Maryland to New York.

Tuskegee Cadet Nurses Enroll At Boston's Hospital

Memphis World 4-13-45 Tenn.

BOSTON — (ANP) — The largest group of colored cadet nurses to be sent to a northern institution arrived here last week when twelve nurses from the nurse training school of Tuskegee institute came to begin a period of study at Boston City hospital.

4-13-45

The girls who were accompanied by Miss Lillian M. Holland, director of nurses at Tuskegee, will spend 12 weeks in the city hospital as part of their regular course of training Formerly Tuskegee nurses used only the city hospital at Augusta, Ga., for their institutional training. The new cadets are enjoying the change in locale. They return to Tuskegee when they finish their 12 weeks here.

CLEVELAND, O.
PRESS
Cir. D. 227,908
JUN 12 1945

Halts Negro Cadet Dining Room Order

The order that 10 Negro cadet nurses must share the same dining room with the regular staff at Marine Hospital has been postponed by Surgeon Gen. Thomas A. Parran.

Dr. A. R. Sweeney, commanding officer at the hospital, has been instructed by the surgeon general to take no action pending further instructions. This order came after Dr. Parran had received a protest from 35 staff people at the hospital asking that the cadets not be permitted to share their dining room.

Lieut. Rosemary McCann, chief nurse at the hospital, left for Washington last night for a special training program. Dr. Sweeney has asked her to discuss the situation with Dr. Parran, who ordered the cadets be allowed to share dining facilities after an interviey with representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"I am sure we can work out a satisfactory solution in this controversy," Dr. Sweeney said. "If our nurses refuse to eat here they can eat in their homes, as they have said they would. They will not leave our hospital."

Dr. Sweeney was expected to interview today Mrs. Estelle Riddle, a consultant for the National Nursing Council for War Service, in the city this week to study the cadet nurse program here.

The letter of protest was signed not only by nurses, but by doctors, dietitians and aides at the hospital. Many feel that student nurses should not be allowed to share dining facilities with graduates, Dr. Sweeney said. There are several hospitals in Cleveland, however, which do have dining rooms shared by cadets and graduates. Marine Hospital is the only hospital in Cleveland, with the exception of City Hospital, which has Negro cadets.

CLEVELAND, O.
PRESS
Cir. D. 227,908
JUN 11 1945

Marine Hospital Nurses Protest Negro Cadet Order

Staff nurses at Marine Hospital, 12200 Fairhill road, are protesting an order by the surgeon general providing that 10 Negro cadet nurses be allowed to eat in the regular nurse dining room.

"We were ordered last Saturday to put tables for the cadets in the nurse dining room," Dr. A. R Sweeney, commanding officer, said today. "I probably will not take any action until the surgeon general has received the protest our nurses are sending him. I will, of course, do as ordered."

The 10 cadets, the only students at the hospital, have been eating in a separate dining room since their arrival two months ago. This arrangement was set up, according to Dr. Sweeney, because the regular dining room was crowded.

The change was ordered by Dr. Thomas A. Parran, surgeon general, after an interview with Dr. Nathan K. Christopher, president of the Cleveland branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Capt. Jesse O. Dedmon Jr., secretary of veterans' affairs of the national association. Dr. Christopher's group has been protesting dining and housing facilities provided for the cadets since they arrived.

The cadets live in their own quarters on the second floor of a house on the hospital grounds. Doctors and other staff members live on the first floor.

"We remodelled this building and provided a kitchenette and library. There are also private rooms for each girl," Dr. Sweeney pointed out. "The cadets are not living in the regular dormitory because there is no room but they have all the conveniences our graduate nurses have."

Dr. Sweeney maintains that this arrangements was not designed as discrimination against the cadets, but was the only way to make room for students. He points out that patients and orderlies eat together in the main dining room regardless of color or creed.

This is the only military hospital in this area with Negro cadets. Both the cadet nurse program and the Marine Hospitals are operated by the United States Public Health Service under Dr. Parran.

"I would never have agreed to take these students if I had known changes would be made in our original plan," Dr. Sweeney declared. "I feel the plan as it has been operating was satisfactory to everyone, and the cadets have been happy. I feel they have no basis for complaint and this situation has been jumped upon by certain groups who want to force an issue."

The N. A. A. C. P. committee interviewed Dr. Sweeney last month and asked that an adjustment of housing and dining facilities be made so that the cadets would not be segregated. He studied the situation for ten days, and told them no corrective action was needed. The N. A. A. C. P. then wired congressmen from this district, describing conditions and asking their cooperation. Last week Dr. Christopher went to Washington to protest to the surgeon general.

Dr. Parran promised an investigation and assured the group that the Public Health Service would not permit any segregation or discrimination at any of its facilities.

Balt. Md. Afro American

2,000 Students in Cadet Nurse Corps

7-14-45

WASHINGTON

Approximately 2,000 colored students enrolled in schools of nursing during the last 12 months, Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency, who administers the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, announced this week.

As of May 31 last, there was a total of 4,128 colored student nurses who were receiving free tuition under the Cadet Nurse Corps program. Of this number, 288 are now seniors in 25 schools of nursing admitting only colored, and 506 are seniors in 14 other schools.

Memphis World

CADET NURSE—Home for three weeks from her studies as a Cadet Nurse at Hampton Institute, Va., is petite and beautiful Catherine Lashley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lashley, of 231 North Dunlap. Miss Lashley, 1943 graduate of Manassas High School, is rounding out her second year of study at Hampton, and will enter the U. S. Army Cadet Nurse Corps upon completion of the course. 7-12-45

Remembered as one of the campus' lovelies of Manassas, Miss Lashley served as majorette for the school's Drum and Bugle Corps. She has two sisters and four brothers.

56n-1945 Cadet Nurses

Cadet Nurses Special Guests of Washington Church

The Rev. George Bullock welcomed members of the Cadet Nurse Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service to services held at the Third Baptist Church, Washington, Sunday. They included the above, first row, left to right, Thelma Martin, Akron, Ohio; Marion Foster, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Mildred Grant, Elizabeth, N.J.; the Rev. Mr. Bullock, Evelyn Burton, Washington; Joslyn Ferrell, Chestertown, Md.; Betty J. Tillis, Indianapolis, Ind.; Theresa Washington, Raleigh, N.C. Second row: Jean Sloane, Harrisburg, Pa.. Harrite Forrest, Birmingham, Ala.; Willie Mae Smith, Elizabeth, N.J.; Ada Bruce, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Beatrice Coleman, Washington.

Cadet Nurse Green Is Only Negro In Graduating Class

The Informer
Houston, Texas

Miss Hattie Pearl Green, 795 St. Nicholas avenue, the only Negro student in the large graduating class at Pilgrim State hospital, Brentwood, Long Island, has completed her course of training and will take the New York State Board examination for Nurses, October 27.

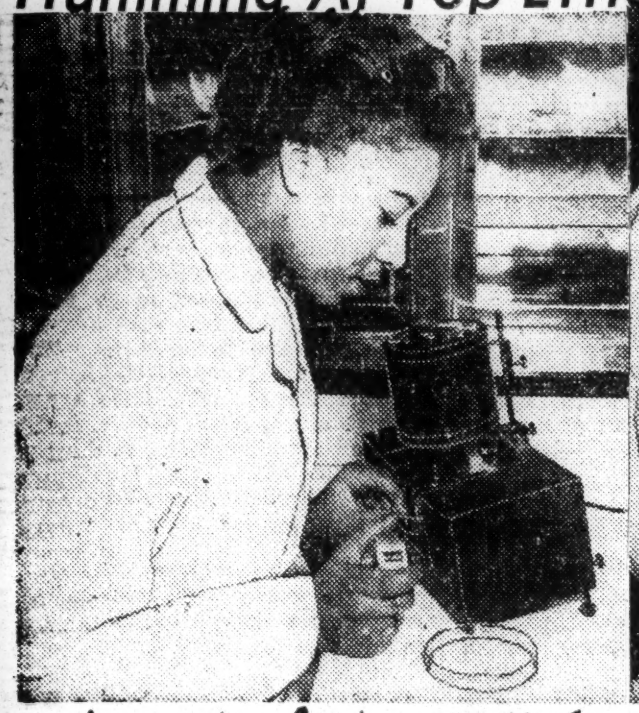
During her Senior Cadet period, which was spent at England General hospital, in Atlanta City, New Jersey, Miss Green assisted in the management of a large unit, where officers ranking from second lieutenants to three-star generals hospitalized. "All of them were wonderful to me, and showed me the greatest respect as a nurse."

Before entering Miss Green graduated from the Industrial High school, West Palm Beach, Fla., and studied at Spellman college, Atlanta, Georiga. She is now interested in becomnig a specialist in psychiatric nursing.

11-9-45

Miss Green was a member of the Glee club during her Senior Cadet period at England General hospital. She lives with her mother, Mrs. Hattie Pearl Green, and a sister, and has two brothers in the service.

WAC's At New York Port Of Embarkation Have Important Roles In Keeping Port Humming At Top Efficiency



Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

Taking a colony count in a water analysis laboratory is a long jump from dressmaking, but T/5 Grade Colon Robinson, Washington, D. C., is taking it in stride. She is not a bacteriologist yet but her assignment at an installation of the Transportation Corp's New York Port of Embarkation affords her every opportunity of becoming one. 1-20-45

DENTAL ASSISTANT — Private Alice Ford, Philadelphia, Pa., helps to speed the process of an operation that most patients approach with reluctance. Before enlisting in the WAC she was a dental hygienist, now her job in the dental clinic of an installation of the Transportation Corps' New York Port of Embarkation is to develop X-rays, mix fillings, assist at extractions, chart teeth and prepare impressions.

PERSONNEL OFFICER — First Lt. Glendora Moore, New York City, has had a variety of assignments. One of the first officer candidates to be graduated at Ft. Des Moines, she has been a company commander, physical training director, personnel officer and now, assigned to Fox Hills Cantonment, New York Port of Embarkation, she is in charge of the Personal Affairs office. 1-20-45

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va

1-20-45

UTILITIES CLERK — Pvt. Effie Dawson, Cincinnati, Ohio, can put her pencil on any installation at Fox Hills Contonment where she is a clerk in the Utilities office. When things need fixing, civilian plumbers, electricians and carpenters depend on her to supply the right direction.

WACs Released From Kentucky Camp Stockade

Philadelphia Tribune 1-27-45 Pa.

CAMP BRECKINRIDGE, Ky.—According to information received from a reliable source, the TRIBUNE was informed this week that one of the last orders issued by Col. Throckmorton, post commander was an order for the release of the seven colored WACs, who were recently imprisoned for refusing to obey the order of a lieutenant. 1-27-45

The WACs had been ordered to fix bed springs in a barracks which had been declared unfit because it had been drained and was unheated. They were released and sent back to their company area, but were confined again and five were held. 1-27-45

The post commander is reported to have told the girls that they "had a perfect right to complain about working under such circumstances," but said they had gone about it in the wrong way. 1-27-45

The five held were Privates First Class Eleanor Brown and Edith Young; and Privates Davetta Butler, Ruth Sanders and Geneva Pipkin.

1st Lt. Clayton Attending Purdue University

Atlanta Daily World

LAFAYETTE, IND.—1st. Lt. Ella Lucille Clayton of Miami, Florida, WAC Administration Officer at Ft. Benning, Georgia is a member of the fourth class of students assigned to the Women's Army Corps school for personnel administration at Purdue University. She will return to her command at the conclusion of the two and one-half week course.

Designed to improve the efficiency of women in the Army, the school is unique in the War Department's training program. The course consists largely of lectures on personnel management, Army organization, adult psychology, current history and the utilization of special services and educational facilities of the Army.

Lt. Clayton attended B. T. W. High School, Miami, Florida and Florida A. and M. She enlisted in the Women's Army Corps March 1943. Prior to her enlistment she was cashier-secretary at the Central Life Insurance Co. Miami, Florida.

Negro WAC Band Plays for Chicago Bond Drive Rally

Iowa By Skipper 5-17-45

5-17-45

The 404th ASF Band of First Women's Army Corps Training Center, Fort Des Moines, Ia., only all Negro women's military band in the United States, played in Chicago, Illinois, at an opening rally for the Seventh War Loan Drive, at 7:30 p. m., May 14, 1945, in the Savoy ballroom and at a number of other war bond rallies this week in Chicago.

The 404th ASF Band was organized at Fort Des Moines in August, 1943. Its commanding officer is 1st Lt. Ernestine L. Woods, of Stamford, Conn.

The band director is S/Sgt. Leonora J. Brown, of Jacksonville, Fla., a graduate of Fisk university, Nashville, Tenn., and Oberlin Conservatory Oberlin, Ohio.

The twenty members of the band come from fifteen states of the Union, the five New Yorkers being in the lead by states.

Personnel

5-17-45

The entire personnel is as follows: T/4 Nina M. Bethune, trombone, Birmingham, Ala.; T/4 Gloria Davis, trombone, New York; T/4 Evelyn Haley, baritone, Portsmouth; T/4 Constance Hurling, trumpet, Verona, N. J.; T/4 Eunice Van Horn, piccolo flutist Indianapolis, Ind.; T/4 Joan R. Williams, sousaphone, Pittsburgh, Pa.; T/5 Lillian F. Brown, clarinet, New York; T/5 Gurthalee Clark, clarinet, Vallejo, Calif.; T/5 Lenora L. Dial, sousaphone, Munford, Ala.; T/5 Clementine A. McConico, French horn Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Yvonne L. Payne, cornet, Richmond, Va.; T/5 Louise C. Sheppard, saxaphone, Colorado Springs, Colo.; T/5 Romaine A. Simmons, clarinet, Philadelphia, Pa.; T/5 Rachel Stewart, French horn, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Pvt. (f.c.) Harriet Braxton, clarinet, Columbus, Ohio; Pvt. (f.c.) Stella Gale, baritone, Philadelphia Pa.; Pvt. Jane R. Holloway, bass drum, Washington, D. C.; Pvt. (f.c.) Nellie C. Lattimore, drummer, Ft Wayne, Ind.; Pv. (f.c.) Violet O. Moore, trumpet, New York; Pvt. f.c.) Audrey E. Gross, saxaphone, Baltimore, Md.; Pvt. Delia C. Jackson, French horn, Jamaica, N. Y.; Pvts. Dorothy Johnson, trumpeter, and Amy Kelly, drummer, both of Cleveland; Pvt. Anna M. Sims, trumpeter, Milwaukee, Wis.

5-17-45

The 404th ASF Band is a popular organization which has toured the state of Iowa playing at war bond rallies and war plant recruiting meetings. In July, 1944, it was one of the features of the NAACP conference held in Chicago. The members were quartered at the International House on the University of Chicago campus. The band gives a program on alternate Thursday evenings at 7 p. m. in theatre No. 1 at Fort Des Moines to which the public is invited. Their next concert will be on Thursday, May 24.

4-9-45

Los Angeles Times 4-9-45

COMPANY COMMANDER—The 97 Negro Wacs comprising Co. F of the Women's Army Corps unit at Fort Lewis, ASF training center, are engaged in a widely diversified field of activity, with some performing highly specialized tasks. The list includes hematologists, truck drivers, typists, and warehouse clerks. Above is Captain Irma J. Wertz, of Chicago, company commander. She is former case supervisor and assistant director of Chicago's Parkway Community house. (U. S. Army Signal Corps photo from Bureau of Public Relations).

Medic Sues For Divorce From WAC Major

The Informer

MONROVIA, Liberia — (ANP) — Dr. Charles I. West, of Washington, D. C., now serving with the rank of major in the U. S. Public Health service mission here in Liberia, has filed suit for divorce against his wife, Major Harriet M. West, one of the ranking officers in the U. S. Woman's Army corps. The suit was entered in the civil law court of the sixth judicial district, Montserrado county, Liberia.

7-14-45

Dr. West, who before entering the U. S. army as a doctor practiced in Washington where he and his wife resided, charged Major West with desertion. His plea as filed, records the assertion that "on September 1, 1939, his wife, Harriet M. West, without the will and consent of the plaintiff, did willfuly abandon their home and has continued to desert their home and that the plaintiff has neglected the defendant for five years and six months up to the filing of the complaint."

Maj. Harriet West, one of the first colored women to join the ranks of the WACs, was trained at Fort Des Moines. She became one of the first colored members of the WACs to be commissioned, was the first to receive the rank of major, the highest any colored WAC has attained. She bears the reputation of being one of the most beautiful women to wear the uniform of the Woman's Army corps.

A native of Kansas City, Mo., she lived for some years in Chicago, where she was the wife of Dr. John Chenault, now head of the John Andrew hospital of Tuskegee. In Chicago she held an important position on the staff of Provident hospital in that city.

7-14-45

An interesting aspect of the suit is the report here that Maj. Harriet West still lives in the home of the mother of Dr. West, in Washington, where she and her husband resided during their married life. Maj. Harriet West is stationed at WAC headquarters in Washington.

Benning's New Executive

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore.

56n

LIEUT. PATRICIA G. GUNTER,

2-24-45

now executive officer of WAC Detachment, Section 2, at Fort Benning, Ga. Prior to her enlistment on December 3, 1942, she was a Dental hygienist for two and a half years at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, and taught Physical Education at the Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Fla., for a year. She holds the A.B. degree from Fisk and the D.H. degree from Meharry. She completed her basic military training at Ft. Des Moines, Ia., where she graduated from the Administration and the Officer Candidate schools. Lieut. Gunter has held her present post since September, 1943. She is married to Warrant Officer (j.g.) Marcus Gunter who has been assigned to Camp Ellis, Ill., since his return from overseas.

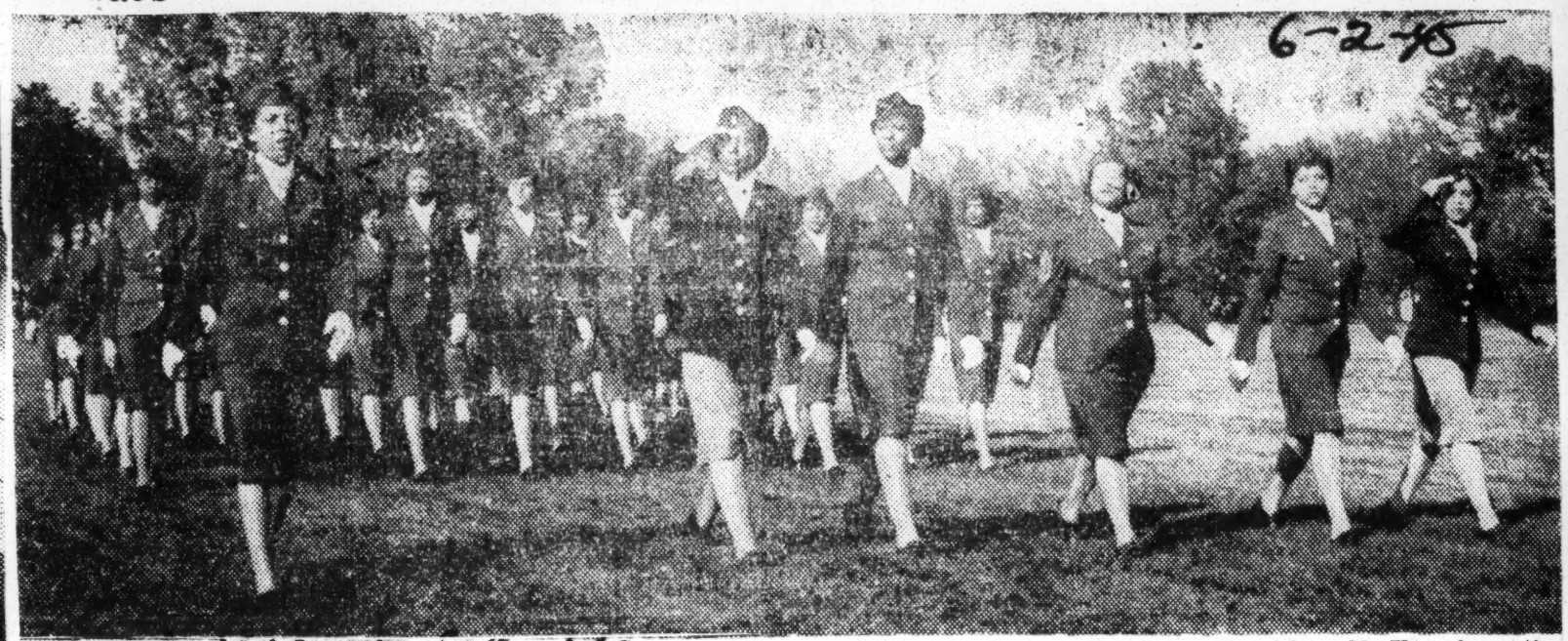
Washington WAC Ends Special Course in England

Washington Tribune

Pfc. Olive K. Dedeaux, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew H. Dedeaux, of 529 Gresham Pl., N.W., Washington, recently completed the instructors' training course in the information and education branch of the United Kingdom Special Service School, London, England. 5-26-45

This course is a new phase in the Army's educational program. Its purpose is to train qualified enlisted personnel to return to their respective units and teach various subjects. Since many soldiers will be left in the United Kingdom for quite sometime yet after the defeat of Germany, those who desire may enter these schools set up under the information and education program.

Private Dedeaux was a student at Miner Teachers' College, Washington, before entering the service. Prior to going to England, she had been stationed at Ft. Lewis, Wash., for 21 days, before which time she was assistant to the chief of personnel in reconditioning at Ft. Hauchuca, Ariz.



6-2-45

WACS PARADE—In perfect step, the WACS of the Fox Hills Terminal, of the Army's New York Port of Embarkation, march along in the parade which featured the organization's third anniversary celebration, May 14. Playing a prominent part in the festivities of all WAC detachments attached to the NYPE, the Fox Hills contingent enjoyed a banquet and were entertained by a bevy of stage and screen stars at Camp Hamilton, Brooklyn, N. Y., where the celebration was held. Pictured, from left to right, leading the detachment, are: S/Sgt. Addie Young, Washington, D. C.; Lt. Glendora Moore, New York City; Pvt. Ethel Underwood, Beaufort, S. C.; 1st/Sgt. Margaret Charity, of Richmond, Va.; Cpl. Ruth Jackson, Charleston, S. C.; and Lt. Lenora Claxton, Ossining, N. Y. 6-2-45

'All-Negro' Unit Trains For Duties

New York Amsterdam News 1-20-45

After Two-Year Wait Our WACS Get Chance For Overseas Service

WASHINGTON—(Special)—The War Department announced Monday that a Women's Army Corps unit, composed completely of Negro WACs, is being formed for overseas duty.

The unit, the War Department said, will be sent to a foreign theatre of war upon completion of field training. They will form a postal battalion. The group, composed entirely of volunteers, is now being assembled and will be the first group of Negro WACs trained for overseas service.

They will be sent overseas, it was said, under the command of Negro WAC officers. 1-20-45

Nearly two years ago, the first units of white WACS arrived in overseas ports to take up duties there, and they are at present serving on all continents where elements of our armies are to be found.

While the white WACc have been abroad for the last two years, Negro WACs have been retained for service in the territorial United States only, and in the camps and in headquarters in various cities.

The fact that a difference had been made in the assignments of Negro and white WACs to active duty caused a furore on the home front. Many organizations took up the fight for full recognition of Negro women as an integral part of our armed forces.

It was felt that pressure from the South played a large part in the decision of the War Department to retain Negro WACs on the home front only, and the resultant discussion and publicity given the matter had a lot to do with the falling off of enlistments of Negro women in the corps. 1-20-45

At press time, the War Department had still refused to reveal the names of the WACc who have volunteered for special training for overseas duty.

50 Negro WACs to Become Aids at Gardiner Hospital

Chicago Daily Tribune 6-7-45

Fifty Negro members of the WAC will arrive tomorrow at Gardiner General hospital, where they will serve as medical and surgical technicians, Maj. Gen. David McCoach Jr., commanding officer of the 6th service command, has announced.

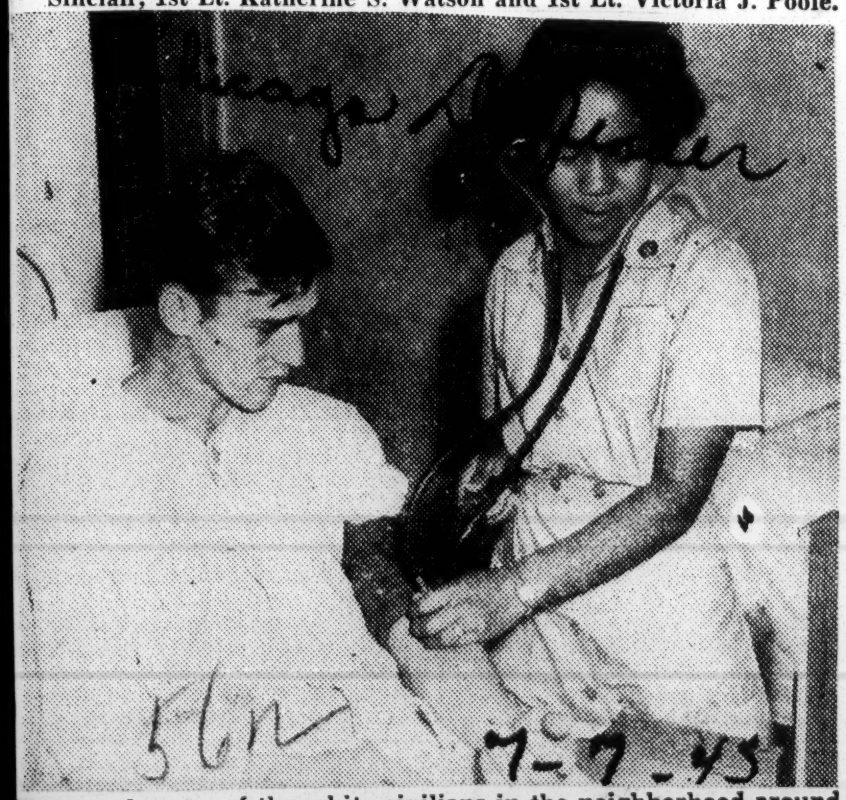
The WACs and another contingent of 40 which will arrive at the hospital June 15 will be housed in temporary barracks the army has erected in Burnham park between 47th and 48th sts. They were recruited in a recent campaign to enlist women in the WAC to serve in more than 70 general hospitals.

Gen. McCoach said the WACs would not replace any civilian employes now holding jobs at the hospital. The barracks in which they will be housed must be razed within a year after the end of the war under an agreement the army made with the park board for use of the land.

Studying Leadership at Purdue

Afro-American 6-2-45

Among ninety officers of the Women's Army Corps now taking additional training in the leadership of women at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., are the above, lft to right, Capt. Harriette B. White, Capt. Sarah E. Murphy, 2nd Lt. Evelyn F. Overton, 1st Lt. Connie Sinclair, 1st Lt. Katherine S. Watson and 1st Lt. Victoria J. Poole.

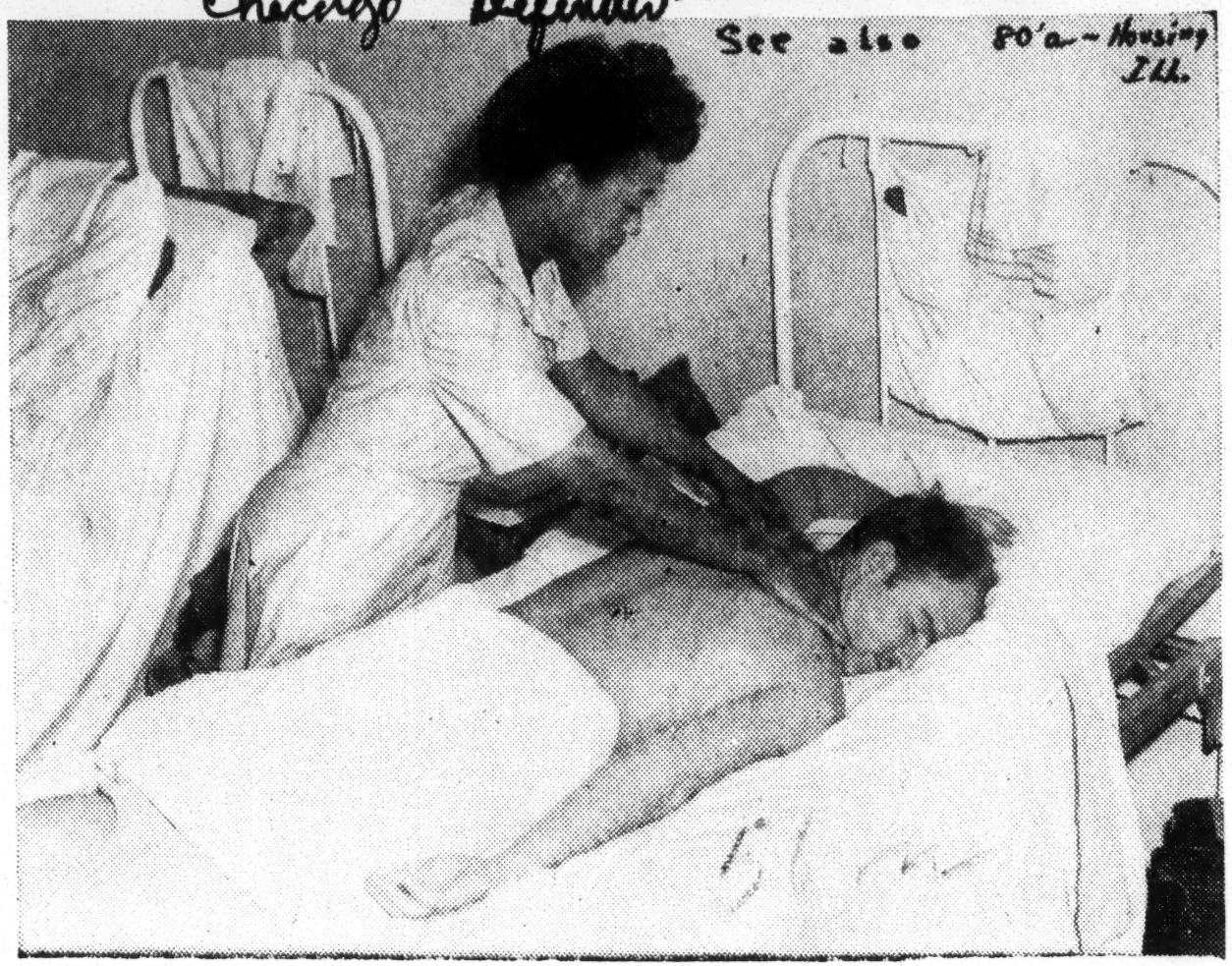


Although some of the white civilians in the neighborhood around Gardiner General hospital are up in arms over Negro WACs being stationed there, the white men who do the actual war chores don't seem to share their objections. Here, Pvt. Maxton Oliver of Woodsdale, N. C., watches as WAC Sgt. Werner K. Ertle of Chicago takes his blood pressure at the Hyde Park hospital.—Photos by Scott Tyler. 7-7-45

WACs PERFORM DUTIES DESPITE JIM-CROW FURORE

Chicago Defender

See also 80'a - Housing Ill.



In spite of the concentrated efforts of lily-white factions to have them stationed outside the Hyde Park district, WACs assigned to the Gardiner General hospital there, continue to go about their duties in a calm and efficient manner. Pvt. Edna Offord, 26-year-old WAC from Chillicothe, Ohio, gives S.-Sgt. George F. Sheer his daily back-rub during her tour of duty. Sgt. Sheer, who is 23, hails from El Paso, Ill. 7-7-45

WAC Gets Direct Nurse Commission

7-14-45

Atlanta Daily World

CAMP ATTERBURY, Indiana—In recognition of her outstanding service as an X-ray technician and nursing aide WAC Technician Fourth Grade Rubye Jamerson 66th St., Nicholas Place New York City has been given a direct commission as a second lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps She is now attending the nurses training school at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin

With nine years of nursing experience behind her at the River side Hospital in New York, she obtained a military leave in 1943 to join the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps. She received her basic training at Fort Denves Massachusetts Fort Des Moines, Iowa. 7-14

Lt Jamerson, then a private in the WAC, arrived at Wakeman in October of 1943 and was assigned to the X-ray section. Two months later she was placed on ward duty and with her graduate nurse experience performed an outstanding job as a Wac technician for a full year until October 1944 when she reassigned as Technician Fourth Grade Jamerson to the X-ray section. She performed duties in that section until she was commissioned. 7-11-45

Lt Jamerson is a graduate of Wadley High School, New York City; Fraternal Hospital Nurse School, Montgomery, Alabama; Harlem Hospital School of Nurses and East X-ray School for Physicians Aides in New York City

WAC Contingent Settling Down In English School

Atlanta World 4-4-45

General Lee Inspects Unit Headquarters

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

LONDON —(ANP)— Stimulated and inspired by their commander, Maj. Charity Adams, the colored WACs are settling down in their down in their new abode. Before the girls arrived, many areas were surveyed to find time most suitable place in which to garrison the battalion. The King Edward school in Birmingham turned out to be the most approprate place for this purpose.

Sixteen hundred troops were turned out to make room for the Wacs Colored soldiers installed three miles of electric wiring and 270 lights were added to the building. Four new small brick buildings were constructed for sanitary purposes. One redeeming feature is that the building has central heating. The girls therefore, would not have to work in a chain of drafty corridors which form such discomfort to Americans in an English winter. 4-4-45

They live and work under the same roof; and their kitchen is equipped with the most modern and up to date machinery for cooking.

The visit of Lt. Gen. John C. Lee when he inspected a review of the battalion was just as historic as the arrival of the girls in the United Kingdom. The general struck a dominat chord in his address to the battalion when he said that: 'This is a day we would never forget." Gen. Lee also stressed the necessity of their presence in the United Kingdom because of the paramount importance of their work in the ETO. These Wacs have already discovered that Gen. Lee is a strict disciplinarian with an inflexible adherence to principle.

As a result, when the general inspected their building, every part of it was beautifully clean.

Most of the Wacs previously were school teachers. Some were medical students. The PRO is 1st Lt. Margaret E. Barnes from Oberlin, O. She went to Howard University where she was studying journalism Before joining up she supervised the steam laundry business of her mother's. Lt. Barnes also edited a small paper which her mother published called "National Notes."

I had a long chat with 2nd Lt. Lillian D. Duncan from Talladega Ala. She studied at Talladega college majoring in English and history and was teaching in the public school system in Alabama. 4-4-45

Among the personnel of the battalion there are some good professional talent. For example, there is young Cpl. Jennie Moton whose father succeeded Booker T. Washington as head of Tuskegee Inst. She is an excellent pianist having studied under Hazel Harrison at the Chicago Musical college under Sols Dyson, Max Fischel, and Leon Samitini. In addition there are singers and dancers. With all of this talent, Capt. Davenport-Carter told me that she is going to use it to the fullest extent in order to enliven the morale of the Battalion. 4-4-45

I met two interesting sisters who were both teaching school before joining the WAC. They are T-5 Essie O'Bryant and Pfc. Tessie O'Brient from Augusta, Ga. Essie studied at Haynes Normal Industrial school and was a sub teacher in Augusta Public school at Wren, Ga.

NEGRO WACS GOING ON OVERSEAS DUTY

Times Picayune New Orleans

(The Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 15.—A Women's Army Corps unit composed of Negro WACs is being formed for overseas duty, the war department reported today. 1-16-45

The unit, which will form a postal battalion, will be commanded by Negro WAC officers. It will go abroad on completion of field training.

Negro Wac Unit to Get Postal Duties Overseas

Courier Journal 1-16-45 Louisville, Ky.

Washington, Jan. 15 (AP)—A Women's Army Corps unit composed of Negro Wacs is being formed for overseas duty, the War Department reported today. The unit, which will form a postal battalion, will be commanded by Negro Wac officers. It will go abroad on completion of field training. 1-16-45

Dr. Bethune Joins Fight To Save WACs

Informer Houston-Texas

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — The recent sentence of a year at hard labor to four Negro Wacs at Ft. Devens, Mass., has stirred the nation and now along with three New York representatives, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune is putting in her word against the sentence.

White House Interested 4-7-45

The White House itself has become interested in the case since the fate of four Wacs not only is involved but the situation places a smear on the contributions of the nation's entire 4,000 Negro WACs in general.

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women and lone Negro member of the national advisory committee of the Wacs, began work last week to have the sentence suspended, and according to comment, the chances of effecting the change are good. 4-7-45

In court, the girls charged Col. Crandall, commandant of the hospital, with saying he didn't want "black Wacs as medical technicians or in the motor pool," and that they "had to mop walls, scrub floors and do all the dirty work"

Although it is generally conceived that the girls violated a definite article of war in refusing to go back to work as Maj. Gen. Miles of the first service command, urged them, the following are some of the forces at work to reverse the verdict: Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune; the NAACP, Reps. Powell, Marcantenie and Celler, New York

If the war department alters the convictions, sympathizes in the case believe that public opinion itself will work to remove Col. Walter M. Crandall, central figure in the case. The papers are now in the hands of the judge advocate general. 4-7-45

The involved girls are Pvts. Alice Young, 23, of Washington; Johnny Murphy, 23, Rankin, Pa.; Mary E. Green, 21, of Conroe, Texas; and Anna C. Morrison, 20, of Richmond, Ky.

"Well Done," Says U. S. As WACs Are Released

Informer - Houston, Texas

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Last week's reversal of the four WAC's sentences indicated that the army and the navy are "becoming alive to the fact that the public always will react against injustice," New York Rep. Emanuel Celler declared as the girls were free to resume their duties at Lovell General hospital, Ft. Devens, Mass. 4-14-45

Army action on the part of the four WACs was a follow up of a similar attitude on the part of the navy which the day before reversed the charges given 14 Negro seabees originally ordered dishonorable discharged from that branch of the armed forces.

Such quick and effective results prove, Rep. Celler declared, that it is always worthwhile to be watchful and to protest loudly when intolerance, ineptitude and bungling appear in high places.

The four WACs convicted March 10 of violating the 64th article of war following a personal order by General Miles to return to work, struck along with 50 others at Lovell hospital because, they contended, they were discriminated against and forced to do the "dirty work" which white WACs were not required to do. 4-14-45

Although the general concensus of opinion was that the girls had been given a fair trial and that they actually violated the 64th article of war, public opinion reached a high point when the girls testified in court that the hospital commandant, Col. Walter H. Crandall, told them he wanted no "black" WACs in the hospital's motor pool or assisting as medical technicians.

The White House became apprized concerning the facts of the case, three New York representatives arose to action, the NAACP and the Council of Negro Women headed by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, eyed the treatment of the WACs as an insult to the several hundred Negro girls serving in the various branches of the service throughout the world. 4-14-45

Bethune Acts

Mrs. Bethune, president of the National Council and only Negro member of the National Advisory committee of the WACs, who had armed herself with all the power of her office in protest against treatment. Thursday she declared: "The outcome of the Fort Devens case has greatly stimulated the morale of our people all over the country, particularly of the women in the armed forces. We feel that the action shows a decided trend toward more definite attempts to correct unbalances which have been going on in the service in regard to Negro men and women."

The former school head and president of the National Federated Women's clubs is still unsatisfied, wondering if the army intends probing the disposition of Col. Crandall who wanted no "black" WACs in his hospital's motor pool or assisting as medical technicians.

Plain Talk

N.Y. Amsterdam News

They Represent the "New Negro", Who Is Ready To Fight and Pay the Price!

By DAN GARDNER

Four Negro WAC's, 50 Negro Seamen, 73 Negro Soldiers Courtmartialed for Mutiny, Seen As Martyrs To a Cause

At Fort Devens in Massachusetts four Negro WACs were court martialed and sentenced to one year in prison at hard labor and dishonorable discharge the other week.

In California 50 Negro seamen were sentenced to a total of 588 years in prison and at hard labor.

In the Hawaiian Islands, 73 soldiers were convicted and sentenced to terms ranging from eight to thirty years at hard labor. 4-7-45

All this adds up to one thing. The "New Negro" is making his appearance and taking his stand against the intolerance, prejudices, and racial abuses which the and his ancestors have been subjected to ever since the first boatload of African slaves was unloaded at Jamestown. 4-7-45

Where others have refused to stand up and face the

issue, the "New Negro", as found in the armed forces of the United States in this modern age, is asserting himself and showing that he is willing to pay the price, however heavy, to blazon the path we all must trod if we will be totally free.

The four Negro women involved in the WAC court martial were Pvts. Mary E. Green, Houston, Texas; Johnnie Murphy, Pittsburgh; Alice E. Young, Washington, and Anna C. Morrison, Richmond, Kentucky. They were penalized, were these intrepid Negro women, because of a refusal to obey a direct command under highly controversial circumstances.

The trial, conducted by a court composed of nine officers, including two Negro officers and two WAC officers, handed down its verdict in twenty minutes.

Testimony at the trial brought out the accusation by three of the women that Col. Walter H. Crandall, commander of the hospital at Fort Devens, had stated at one time that he "didn't want any black WAC's in the Fort black pool." The defendants testified that the remark was made following the request of one of the women for a transfer from an orderly's job to one in the pool.

4-7-45

Pvt. Alice Young was reported to have said that a "colonel" had found her teaching another WAC how to take temperatures and had asked what she was doing, to which her superior replied, after the WAC had informed him that she was a medical technician instructing another girl, "I don't want any black WAC's as medical technicians around this hospital. I want them to scrub and do the dirty work."

The women on trial, it was said, testified that they were required to do menial and dirty work which was not assigned to white WAC's at the hospital.

Comands Ft. Huachuca WACS

1-13-45

LT. CONSUELO BLAND IS NOW THE COMMANDING Officer of Fort Huachuca's WAC Section, SCU 1922. Lt. Bland's home is in Keokuk, Iowa. She succeeds Captain Irma J. Cayton, who was transferred to Fort Lewis, Washington.

Pittsburgh Courier 3-10-45

WACS ON PARADE...IN FAR-AWAY ENGLAND—Wacs on parade with their colors in England. They are the first of their group to go overseas, and are shown here as they were reviewed by Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general of the Communications Zone. The Wacs form the U. S. Army Postal Unit. Twenty-four Negro Wac officers and 677 enlisted colored women are with this unit.—British-Combine Photo.

56n-1945

Wacs

South Carolinian Commands First WACs To Reach Britain

Atlanta World Ga. 2-18-45

Major Charity E. Adams, Former Teacher, Greeted By Gen. Davis.

By RUDOLPH DUNBAR

LONDON— (ANP)— History was made in England when a battalion of Negro Wacs arrived at Birmingham, Eng. by special train recently. The unit consisted of 677 enlisted women and 26 officers under the command of Maj. Charity Edna Adams, former school teacher of Columbia, S. C. 2-18-45

The girls were greeted at the railroad station by the 10th Replacement band They displayed their vigorous young blood when they march energetically to waiting vehicles by the strains of 'Stars and Stripes' while laden with full field equipment.

Officials of the European theatre of operations were on hand to welcome them. Among them were Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, representing Gen. John C. Lee, Mary C. Weems, Dayton, Tenn., representnig the ETO Wac Staff director; Lt. Col. Ann W. Wilson, Study City, Cal.; Maj. Margaret L. Philpot, Portland, Me. Wac staff Maj. Kenneth Campbell, Chicago; director for UK bases and Chaplain Beverly M. Ward, Capital St. Presbyterian church, Harrisburg, Pa. 2-18-45

Every detail for the comfort of the girls had been considered in advance. They will return to America after a brief orientation and training period here. Major Adams, their commander, is a decided success. The daughter of the Rev. John Adams, a distinguished AME church official, she is the incarnation of clear common sense She has skilfully extricated herself from many awkward questions thrown at her with lightning rapidity from a battery of newsaper reporters.

Four Negro WACs were convicted by an army general court martial of violating the 64th article of war—refusal to obey orders of superior officers. They were immediately sentenced to serve one year at hard labor and to be dishonorably discharged.

The verdict was announced by the court after an hour and ten minutes deliberation.

The seven-officer court-martial board included two male Negro officers and two white WAC officers. 3-22-45

The four had contended that they were ordered to do menial work in Lovell General hospital "because of their color."

The sentence also ordered the four deprived of all pay allowances due and to become due.

They are Private Alice D. Young, 23 years old, of Washington, D. C.; Private Anna C. Morrison, of Richmond, Ky.; Private Johnnie Murphy, of Rankin, Pa., and Private Mary Green, of Conroe, Tex. 3-22-45

Private Young told the court martial that Colonel Walter M. Crandall, commanding officer of Lovell General hospital, had told her:

"They want no black WACS working at the motor pool."

She said the colonel made the declaration after she had asked him on March 9 to be transferred to the pool from the hospital.

Private Alberta Goss, 21, of Tuscumbia, Ala., a witness, supported Private Young's testimony. Both said the statement of Colonel Crandall was made at a meeting that followed a protest meeting of WACS at which Negro members complained of discrimination.

3-22-45

The two WACS testified that they felt there was discrimination against Negro WACS because white WACS were not forced to do the same type of work as Negro personnel and because, they said, Colonel Crandall asserted that Negro WACS were supposed to do "the dirty work."

Private Young, a former medical student at Howard university, said she entered the WACS believing she would do hospital technical work or nursing. She sought transfer to the motor pool, she said, after she was told she would not be given work in the hospital where she could "better educate herself." 3-22-45

She, Private Goss and some 52 other Negro WACS wept at the meeting when Colonel Crandall made his alleged statement they were not wanted at the motor pool, Private Young added.

Lieutenant Tenola Stoney, Negro officer, and Lieutenant Victoria Lawson, commandant of the WAC detachment at the Lovell hospital, were at the meeting and also cried, she said.

Private Young testified that the work and type of uniform were changed when Negro WACS arrived at the hospital. Medical technicians were given white uniforms, she said, and hospital orderlies, blue.

"All colored WACS were made hospital orderlies; some reduced from the rank of medical technicians," she added.

Lieutenant Lawson testified she had 99 girls in her Negro WAC detachment and 178 in the white contingent. 3-22-45

Prior to the arrival of the Negro group last November, she said, she used members of the white detachment to do hospital orderly duty, performing the same tasks to which the Negro WACS objected.

FOUR NEGRO WACS COURTMARTIALED

Times-Picayune

Convicted of Refusal to Obey Superior Officers

New Orleans - La.

(The Associated Press)

Fort Devens, Mass., March 21.—

Big Welcome In Britain for Negro WACs

P.M. New York 2-14-45

Bagpipes Play for Happy Women Whose Dreams Come True

By JOAN CAPREOL

Reuter Correspondent

BIRMINGHAM, England, Feb. 14.—When 686 tin-hatted members of the 1st Battalion of the American Women's Army Corps stepped off a train at a windswept flood-lit siding station near here last night, smiling faces showed their dreams had come true—they were overseas.

These girls, representing nearly every state with 85 per cent of them ex-school teachers and holders of college degrees, received a special welcome.

Brig. Gen. John A. C. Lee, commanding general of the communications zone, flew specially from Paris to greet them at their debarkation port, where a Scot band bagpiped them to the train for England. Buses were waiting for them, and an American band marched them in. 2-14-45

A Thrill

Chaplain Capt. Beverley Ward of Harrisburg, Pa., who flew to welcome the girls, said he got a thrill when he recognized 21-year-old Ruby Wilson, whom he had baptised in the Presbyterian church in his home town.

The girls, most of whom have husbands, brothers or sweethearts in the Army, unanimously declared that their arrival over here would mean a lot to the Negro troops.

Pfc. Mamie Lewis, 26, of New York, told me her fiance, Corp. Frederick Clay of Oklahoma, who is in France, didn't know that she was overseas. 2-14-45

"I just hope we can get leave together. I am going to see the chaplain about it," she said. Both are graduates of universities and met in the Army while training in Kentucky.

Edna Toolsie's husband in New York will be glad to hear of his wife's safe arrival.

"He was discharged from the Army for medical reasons. He never got here but I got here instead. I am a British subject, born in Port of Spain," Mrs. Toolsie said.

Grandmother

2-14-45

The oldest member of the battalion is a grandmother, Mrs. Arma Fifer, 51, of Chicago, who got in "just under the wire."

With two sons on active service, Mrs. Amy Fairweather, of New York, a youthful looking widow of 48, joined up to make it a solid family proposition. Her son, Lt. Elwyn Fairweather, 26, was South Pacific-bound when his mother left for England. Her other son, Arthur, 21, is a sergeant in the Marines who has been in the Pacific two years.

Evelyn Lozi, 22, of New York, was a riviter on plane wings before she joined up "to help the colored people."

An accomplished pianist was among the group. She was Cpl. Jennie Moton, daughter of the great Negro educator who succeeded Booker T. Washington as head of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Ask Wac Convictions Inquiry

New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 22 (U.P.) —Three New York members of Congress asked an investigation today into the reecnt court-martial of four Negro Women's Army Corps members. The Wacs staged a sit-down strike March 10 at the General Hospital at Fort Devens, Mass. They charged that Col. Walter M. Crandall, commanding officer, told them that they were "here to mop walls, scrub floors and do all the dirty work." Each of the four was ordered dishonorably discharged and sentenced to a year at hard labor.

WAC Swears Menial Duties Go to Negroes

P.M. New York 3-20-45

Court-Martial Hears Private Defend Refusal to Work

Special Correspondence

FORT DEVENS, Mass., Mar. 20.—A Negro WAC private assigned to the Lowell General Hospital testified before a general court-martial board here yesterday that she and other Negro WACs at Fort Devens were compelled to do heavy and menial work because of their color.

Pvt. Anna C. Morrison, Richmond, Ky., was the first of four Negro WACs to testify. They were charged with refusing to obey orders of a superior officer. The court-martial will resume today. 3-20-45

Pvt. Morrison told the court, composed of five white officers, two white WAC officers and two male Negro officers, that she would have "preferred to die" rather than continue doing work in the hospital which white WACS were not compelled to do.

She told of getting stomach trouble from having to scrub a concrete kitchen floor. Government witnesses denied that the defendants or any of the other Negro WACs in the hospital detachment were compelled to scrub floors.

The other defendants are Pvts. Johnnie Murphy, Ranking, Pa.; Alice Young, Washington, D. C., and Mary E. Green, Conroe, Tex.

Pvt. Morrison told the court she told her white WAC commanding officer that she couldn't go on doing heavy work. "If it will help my people I will take a court-martial," she said. 3-20-45

Civilian counsel for the women, Julian Rainey, Boston, declared that differentiation made in the assignments of work among members of the armed services resulted in a state of mind which he called monomania.

The effect of such discrimination, he said, resulted in a form of temporary insanity."

WASHINGTON — Negro authorities expected a representative American Negro to participate in the United Nations meeting at San Francisco of April 25 is Dr. Ralph Bunche, recently made acting associate director of the Dependent Areas division of the State Department. Dr. Bunche is a former Cali-

3-21-45

FORT DEVENS, MASS., March 20.—(AP)—Four negro Wacs today were convicted by an Army general court martial of violating the 64th article of war—refusal to obey orders of superior officers. They were immediately sentenced to serve one year at hard labor and to be dishonorably discharged. They are Pvt. Alice D. Young, of Washington, D. C.; Pvt. Anna C. Morrison, of Richmond, Ky.; Pvt. Johnnie Murphy, of Rankin, Penn.; and Pvt. Mary Green, of Conroe, Texas.

California Negro is Four Negro Wacs Court Martial Convicts

Montgomery Advertiser

State Dept. Official

fornian, a Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Los Angeles, and a former political science professor at Howard university.

Northampton's First

PVT. VERLINA JONES, daughter of Mrs. Ethel Jones of Birds Nest, Va., who was the first from Northampton County to join the WAC.

Probe of WAC Center Ordered

Secretary of War Stimson has notified Congressman Adam Clayton Powell of New York that he has ordered an investigation of the situation at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., WAC training center, from which reports came last week of unwarranted discriminatory treatment against Negro WACs, it was learned from Washington this week.

According to reports reaching here last week the number of Negro WACs at the training center, which is commanded by Colonel Howard Clark, has been reduced to a minimum; those remaining are assigned to duties of civilian employees who were discharged; the WACs work on 12-hour day and night shifts; white nurses' aides are assigned tasks which they formerly performed and Negro WACs have been ordered to obey orders of white civilians.

War Dept. Probe Asked Of Trial of 4 Negro WACs

Reps. Powell, Celler, Marcantonio Call Sentence Excessive

By J. S. Qualey

Three New York City Congressmen have asked investigations into the conviction of four Negro WACS at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass, for refusing to obey a direct order to return to work as hospital orderlies.

Reps. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Democrat, and Vito Marcatonio, American Labor, have written Secretary of War Stimson asking for an investigation of the case and transcript of the court-martial.

Rep. Emanuel Celler, Democrat, has asked Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles of the First Service Command to make an inquiry into the case.

The four WACs were sentenced to a year at hard labor and dishonorably discharged for refusing to perform their duties on the grounds that they were being discriminated against because of race and were forced to do labor not assigned to white WACs.

'Unbelievable'

"It is unbelievable," Powell and Marcantonio wrote Stimson, "that in times like these that the colonel in charge of the Lovell General Hospital refused to let Negro WACs assist in nursing back to health our soldiers by forbidding them to take temperatures and ordering them to do 'all the dirty work.'"

The Powell-Marcantonio letter not only requested an investigation of the case, but also of Col. Walter H. Crandall, Vinalhaven, Me., commandant at Lovell.

At the court-martial, one of the defendants, a former Treasury Dept. adding machine operator, testified that the colonel had discovered her showing another girl how to take temperatures and on being informed by the WACs' superior that the defendant was a medical technician, had remarked that "I don't want any black medical technicians at my hospital."

During the trial, all four of the WACs said that on Mar. 10 Col. Crandall had told one of the Negro WACs, who had requested a transfer to the hospital motor pool, that "I won't have any black WACs in the motor pool."

Severe Sentence

In his letter to Gen. Miles, who still has to review the court-martial and sentence, Celler said:

". . . It is unseeming and contrary to general orders for a colonel to make statements of the character indicated—if it is true. Furthermore, the sentence of dishonorable discharge and one year at hard labor is, in my humble opinion, extremely severe, especially, if there has been, as charged, discrimination because of race and color."

Previous to the court-martial, the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People had written Stimson, asking that Col. Crandall be transferred, and stating that an investigation by the NAACP had convinced the Association that Crandall was "unfit" to handle Negro troops.

Following the trial, Roy Wilkins, acting NAACP secretary, said his organization would fight the conviction all the way up to the President if necessary.

Marcantonio told PM that he would not be satisfied with anything less than an honorable discharge for the four girls. "If they try to give us the run-around," he added, "we'll take the case to the President."

Powell, who introduced a bill in the House Wednesday to abolish Jim Crow in the Army and the Navy six months after V-Day, said he could not understand the treatment allegedly given the WAC hospital orderlies at a time when the demand for Army nurses is so great.

Camp Atterbury Wac Technician Up from Private to Lieutenant

CAMP ATTERBURY, Indiana—In recognition of her outstanding service as an X-ray technician and nursing aide, Wac Technician Fourth Grade Rubye Jamerson, 66 St. Nicholas Place, New York City, has been given a direct commission as a second lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps. She is now attending the nurses' training school at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

With nine years of nursing experience behind her at the Riverside Hospital in New York, she obstained a military leave in 1943 to join the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps. She received her basic training at Fort Devens, Mass., and Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

Began as Private

Lieutenant Jamerson, then a private in the WAC, was assigned to the X-ray section. Two months later she placed on ward duty and with her graduate nurse experience performed an outstanding job as a Wac technician for a full year until October 1944 when she was reassigned as Technician Fourth Grade Jamerson to the X-ray section.

29 New Wac Nurses in First Contingent in Atlantic City

By CLAY CLAIBORNE

ATLANTIC CITY—The latest version of the Army's "sisters of mercy" is now in process at the Thomas M. England General Hospital here, where 29 members of the WAC have taken up duties as medical surgical technicians.

The 29 include three members of the administration department of the unit and are part of a total of 93 colored and white basic trainees who were graduated from the hospital's technicians course.

1ST. Lt. Hall in Charge

The detachment known as the "31st" is headed by 1st Lt. Ann G. Hall, of Chicago, and is the first unit to complete an apprenticeship course at the hospital. Members of the unit enlisted for the England General Hospital, and received 11 weeks of training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

They were later transferred to the hospital where the apprenticeship course was given and are now assigned to the permanent staff of the hospital. Upon completion of the course all were promoted to the rank of T/5.

Their duties consist of working with soldier-patients rendering much the same assistance that nurses would and to assist the regular members of the hospital's nursing staff.

Special Barracks

A special Wac barrack has been set-up in the fashionable Cedar Croat hotel where fifty rooms are available to house one hundred Wacs. The barrack is yet in the process of being furnished and when completed will offer recreation rooms, library, administration offices, supply rooms and a PX.

All of the facilities and recreational features of the hospital are made available to the unit.

Members of the unit are:

Pvt. Eleanor Anderson, Corporas, Pa.; T/5 Edna M. Barnes, Milledgeville, Ga.; T/5 Marie Bohannon, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Johnnie D. Brooks, Sharoe, Miss.;

T/5 Leola L. Bufort, South Bend, Ind.; T/4 Alma B. Childs, Philadelphia, Pa.; T/5 Katherine Curry, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Gloria Clingman, Detroit, Mich.; T/5 Dorothy V. Freeman, Washington, D.C.;

T/5 Rose Ferguson, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Helen M. Galloway, Detroit, Mich.; T/5 Bernice Graham, Lockland, Ohio; 1st Sgt. Ethel C. Jennings, Columbus, Ohio; T/5 Geneva Jones, Chicago, Ill.;

T/5 Emma Lutz, Cincinnati, Ohio; T/5 Lillian Lacye, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Fannie C. Lamb, New York City; T/5 Doris R. McKeller, Evanston, Ill.; T/Marie A. Powell, South Bend, Ind.; Pvt. Mildred B. Powers, Chicago, Ill.;

Sgt. Ora L. Premo, Lexington, Ky.; T/5 Burnelle M. Rogers, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Willie M. Slaughter, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Carroll Singer, Farmington, Ohio; T/5 Bette L. Stargel, Cincinnati, Ohio;

Pvt. Arnetta M. Taylor, Chicago, Ill.; T/5 Joanna M. Turner, Louisville, Ky.; T/5 Tina L. Wells, South Bend, Ind.; T/5 Dorothy Young, Leland, Miss.

3 Wacs Acquitted After Row At Elizabethtown

On charges of disorderly conduct, three Negro Wacs were found not guilty by a special court-martial at Fort Knox yesterday.

The three, Pfc. Helen H. Smith, 40, Syracuse, N. Y., Pfc. Georgia Boson, 25, Dallas, Tex., and Pfc. Tommie D. Smith, 73, Lexington, were accused of assault on an Elizabethtown policeman over their refusal to leave the white waiting room at the bus station, Fort Knox officials said.

Pfc. Helen Smith was arrested and turned over to military authorities. The other two reported back to Fort Knox, where all three have been stationed for more than two years as members of the 1550th Service Command Unit, W.A.C. Section II.

Technical Army Duties Assigned To Negro WAC's

Philadelphia Tribune 4-7-45

FORT LEWIS, Washington.—The 97 Negro women comprising Company F of the Women's Army Corps in the engineer section, Ft. Lewis Army Service Forces Training Center, are engaged in a widely-diversified field of activity, with some performing highly-specialized tasks. The list includes hemotologists, truck drivers, typists, and warehouse clerks. 4-7-45

Many have learned new skills since entering the service and some are utilizing knowledge acquired in civilian life, thereby adding invaluable experiences to their future capabilities.

The group includes a college-trained social worker, an artist, a dietician, and a graduate nurse. Thirty-three have soldier husbands, two are married to veterans. Some have degrees from universities.

Capt. Irma J. Wertz, 1506 Albany st., Brunswick, Ga., company commander, is the wife of Lt. William J. Wertz, executive officer in the reconditioning service at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. She earned a B. A. degree at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., then went to the Atlanta School of Social Work, Atlanta, Ga. She attended the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, and also completed a course in business administration at Bryant-Stratton business college in Chicago. Before the war, Capt. Wertz was active in social work as case supervisor and assistant director of Chicago's Parkway Community House

56 Wacs Speed Mail To GI's On Western Front

Philadelphia Tribune 4-7-45

UNITED KINGDOM BASE, England — Most people realize that mail is morale with fighting GIs, but few people do as much about it as WAC Sgt. Betty Jane Smith of 2054 Hallock street, Kansas City, Kans., and Privates First Class Winona and Jacquelyn Fuller, sisters of 135 north Campbell street, Chicago, Ill.

Sgt. Smith and the two sisters are members of the Postal Directory Section of the all-Negro WAC Postal Battalion in England which handles the mail for the entire European Theatre of Operations.

Under the supervision of Sgt. Smith 56 WACs are steadily engaged in redirecting mail to our fast moving soldiers on the Western Front.

The Fuller sisters in going overseas with the WACs, are merely keeping up a precedent already set by the men of their fighting family in this war.

Their father, Mr. Jake George Fuller discharged from the Navy last June, is a wearer of the Purple Heart and their two brothers, Seaman Second Class Donald Fuller and Private Ellison fuller, with the Navy and Army respectively, are both serving in the Southwest Pacific.

Sentences Voided For 4 Negro Wacs

Montgomery Advertiser 4-3-45

BOSTON, April 3.—(AP)—Court-martial proceedings against four negro Wacs who were sentenced to a year at hard labor after being convicted of refusing to obey superior officers at Fort Devens, were voided today by Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles, commanding general of the First Service Command. 4-3-45

The action followed receipt of an opinion from the judge advocate general, the Army Public Relations Office announced, adding that the Wacs would be restored to duty.

They were convicted, March 20, of violating the 64th Article of War.

Sergeant Slaps WAC Fined and "Busted"

Philadelphia Tribune 5-26-45

By CORRESPONDENT
(Special to The Philadelphia TRIBUNE)

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON, Fla.—A fine and a demotion in rank from Staff Sergeant to Private were imposed last week upon William Roundtree, of 1633 north 22nd street, Philadelphia, Pa., as a result of his slapping a white WAC, who allegedly called him a "n. . . r."

According to the soldier, the WAC had ignored an order to type and file some papers. During the discussion that followed, the WAC used the insulting term and the angered soldier slapped her twice.

Sgt. Roundtree has two brothers serving in a Quarter master Regiment in Germany: one a Corporal and the other a Sergeant.

Following his demotion, Pvt. Roundtree commented: "We've got the Japs to fight and a bigger fight right here in the United States ahead of us."

Colored WACS Act In Anglo-American Show

Philadelphia Tribune 5-26-45

6688TH CENTRAL POSTAL DIRECTORY, England—Thirty-six Negro Wacs of this unit, the first all-Negro Wac detachment to arrive overseas appeared in an Anglo-American show here recently.

They were presented to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham and 3,000 British and United States Army service men and women by Capitain Mildred Davenport Carter, of Boston, Massachusetts unit special service officer.

Opening with a choral group number, "Greetings Great Britain," an original composition by Corporal Jennie Dee Moton of Tuskegee, Alabama, the Wacs gave several vocal and instrumental solos.

Featured on the program was an interpretation of an African tribunal dance, complete with tom-toms, by Private Rebecca B. Ferguson, of 754 East 169th street, New York City. 5-26-45

British entertainers performed for the first half of the program which was sponsored by the Birmingham Hospitality Committee.

CITY AWES WACS FROM PUERTO RICO

New York Times 3-24-45

171 Assigned to Tasks Here Thrilled by Sights Viewed in Cruise in Harbor

Puerto Rico's first company in the Women's Army Corps, which will start work here next week, was treated yesterday to a cruise of New York's harbor, with sightseeing and rhumba music competing for the biggest "Ohs!" The tour was similar to several heretofore secret ones, arranged for new Port of Embarkation personnel.

Up the gangplank of the Sandy Hook, a former excursion ship now on Army duty, the 171 Wacs marched single file early in the afternoon. Their military bearing was no less correct two hours later—although a vigorous conga line had been disbanded as the steamer docked.

Recruited six months ago on their home island, the group trained at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., before being assigned to serve as mail processors at the Embarkation Post Office, 464 Lexington Avenue. Their sail yesterday was intended to acquaint them with other facilities making up the port's huge operation.

Swarm Onto Sunny Decks

3-24-45

On the outgoing part of the voyage the sunny decks swarmed with khaki-clad sightseers, each clutching her "sombrero" to protect it from the fresh breeze. An Army officer described points of interest through a loudspeaker in approved tourist style, but most of what he said civilians won't hear till the end of the war.

His announcement, though, that "This on my left, ladies, is Brooklyn" brought a big—and unrestricted—laugh.

The Puerto Rican Was, whose average age is 23, chattered freely in Spanish, but confined their English mainly to sighs of "So big" or "So beautiful." While all of the company are bilingual, one petite soldier explained: "When one does not speak English, it is only because she is bashful."

Twenty-five-year-old Diana Alvarez, who used to work as a stenographer in the Department of Health in San Juan, wasn't shy, though, when she saw the Statue of Liberty for the first time. With a rapt look, she said quietly, "I write home about this."

40 Per Cent are College Graduates

Most of the girls were teachers or office workers before they enlisted and 40 per cent of them are college graduates. Many have relatives in the Army, particularly in a Puerto Rican infantry regiment now on duty in France.

On the return trip entertainment by Special Services artists was the main attraction When the twelve-piece band led by T/4 Al Graham launched into, "Cachita," the response was such that he said afterward, "Now I know how Sinatra feels."

Besides the group of performers, whose regular job is to meet ships bringing in wounded men, the program also included a song by Pvt. Felcy Arrocho and some expert rhumba, congo and lindy hopping by the audience itself.

Following the cruise, the group returned in Army buses to its temporary barracks at the Broadway Central Hotel, 673 Broadway.

First Tan Wacs Now in London

Afro-American Mag. 2-3-45

LONDON — Headed by Major Charley E. Adams, Columbia, S.C., and Capt. A. Noel Campbell, Tuskegee, Ala., the first contingent of non-white Wacs arrived here Tuesday for assignment to a war zone.

Major Adams, a graduate of Wilberforce, enlisted July 18, 1942, and has held her rank since September, 1943. Capt. Campbell enlisted July 18, 1942, and has a brother with the 332nd Fighter Group and a sister in the Army Nurse Corps.

The Wacs are having trouble counting British money, but are enthusiastic about their new work. The first soldiers who saw them refused to believe their eyes and crowds on London streets turn to stare at them.

[EDITOR'S NOTE—Colored Wacs are reported to have been seen also in Stone, England, and in India.]

Wac Unit In France

Pittsburgh Courier 6-2-45

By THEODORE STANFORD

ROUEN, France—The first unit of Negro Wacs to be sent outside the continental limits of the United States arrived here early Wednesday morning from England.

The outfit, a Postal Director battalion composed of 817 enlisted women and thirty-one officers, is housed in the "Saserne Tallandier," a former French barracks. Under the command of Maj. Charity E. Adams of Columbia, S. C., the unit will soon wade into its task of redirecting "SNAFU" GI mail.

According to Public Relations Officer Lieut. Margaret E. Barnes, Oberlin, Ohio, the battalion maintained an average output of between sixty and seventy thousand letters and telegrams per day while in England. Among those seen taking the sun in the barracks' courtyard were:

Pfc. Julia Harris Webb, Augusta, Ga.; Sgt. Annette Batiste, New Orleans, La.; Corp. Theodora Bryant, New York City; Pfc. Elvira Jackson, Washington, D. C.; Corp. Grace Bryant, Wilmington, Del., and Pvt. Bettye Jean Richardson, Detroit, Mich.

3-4-45
Daily world — Atlanta, Ga.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE "OLD MAN"— 1st Lieut. Corrie Sherrard, Atlanta, Ga., (left) mess officer for the first contingent of Negro Wacs to arrive in the European Theatre of Operations, is congratulated by Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, Commanding General, Communications Zone, ETO, following his inspection of mess hall at WAC installation somewhere in England. At right is Major Charity E. Adams, Columbia, South Carolina, commanding officer of the WAC unit. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public Rlations.)

memphis World Tenn. 1-30-45

Lieutenant Ellsworth W. Fouche of the Chicago Quartermaster Depot, (Depot Control Division), studies, surveys and analyzes the work of the other divisions of the Depot; handles personnel matters of the Depot Control Division, is custodian of the Division's records, and supplies information requested by other divisions of the Depot; "briefs" reports from all divisions inward-bound to the Executive and Administrative Division of the Depot; and studies and analyzes directive from higher headquarters, determining their application to the Chicago Quartermaster Depot. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

FORM FIRST WAC BATTALION FOR OVERSEAS DUTY

Ill.

Chicago Defender

1-20-45

Negro Women Set For Post Office Work In Foreign Zone

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Now undergoing intensive field training, the first unit of Negro WAC's formed for overseas duty will be shipped to a foreign theater of war upon completion of their toughening up preparations for contact with the enemy.

The War Department announced this week that the women will form a postal battalion. The group, composed entirely of volunteers, is under the command of Negro WAC officers.

No information on the scene of the field training was released. Nor did the War Department reveal to which theater of war it plans to send the Negro WAC's, since this is considered military information.

The Negro WAC's, it is understood, will perform valuable service at post headquarters where they will speed the delivery of mail within the combat zone. Their sister WAC's still in America are being trained in administrative, technical and other positions at various army posts and the presumption is that as the war progresses some of these will be sent overseas to release men for front line duty.

Congressmen Ask Probe of Four Wacs' Sentences

AFRO-American 3-31-45

Balt., Md.

Julian D. Rainey, defense attorney, told reporters over the week end that because he has discovered some "material and sensational evidence," he shall ask that the court be reconvened that the evidence might be introduced and become part of the record. 3-31-45

FORT DEVENS, Mass. — Four Wacs, convicted on March 20 by a court-martial board of disobeying a superior officer, were sentenced to one year at hard labor and ordered dishonorably discharged from the service.

They were: Pvts. Alice Young, 23, of Washington; Johnnie Murphy, 23, Rankin, Pa.; Mary E. Green, 21, Conroe, Texas; and Anna C. Morrison, 20, Richmond, Ky., who collapsed when sentence was pronounced.

The decision, ordered by the board composed of two colored captains, two white Wacs and five other officers, is subject to review by Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles of the First Service Command, whose order they disregarded.

Meanwhile, a thorough investigation of the case has been requested of President Roosevelt and Secretaryof War Stimson by Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune and Reps. Adam C. Powell and Vito Marcantonio of New York.

A member of the advisory committee of the WAC, Mrs. Bethune told Mr. Stimson in a letter, "The issues involved are so serious and the implications so broad that we beseech you to make your own personal investigation."

World Race War Feared

Morris Milgram, national secretary of the Workers' Defense League, in a letter to the President, declared, "We face a world race war," just because of the jim-crow practices of the armed services. 3-31-45

Full pardons and reinstatements, he continued, would not solve the problem "which needs a purge of racism from the armed services and enforcement of the anti-discrimination section of the Selective Service Act.

The four were among the fifty-four Wacs who staged a strike two week ago in protest against alleged discrimination. However, after General Miles read the group the article of war regarding refusal to work, fifty-two returned.

Later the four convicted Wacs rejoined the two, Pvt. Inez L. Baham of New Orleans and T/5 Thelma Allen of Columbus, Ga., who were absolved of charges when General Miles became convinced they did not realize the seriousness of their actions.

During the two-day hearing, the Wacs contended that their refusal to scrub floors of Lowell General Hospital followed other instances of discrimination on the part of Col. Walter M. Crandall of Vinalhaven, Me., hospital commander.

They charged that he had said that he didn't want "black Wacs" as medical technicians or in the motor pool, adding, "They are here to mop walls, scrub floors and do all the dirty work."

Colored Officer Saw No Bias

Substantiation of the charge was made by Lt. Tenola Stoney, commander of the colored Wacs, who, however, declared that Colonel Crandall had attributed the remark to Capt. Barney Stewart.

Moreover, she added, she had seen the white Wacs doing the same type of work as the colored Wacs, who it was said had been brought to the hospital to replace a white contingent as orderlies.

Questioning of Lt. Virginia Lawson, white, commander of all Wacs at the hospital, revealed that of the 178 white Wacs only 15 were orderlies, whereas 60 of the 90 colored were so classified.

Although hospitalized in the same wards, she stated, there were no colored technicians and the six colored clerks handled only the contingent's own affairs.

ff offffsg7 ,tiona 3-31-45

The Wacs were defended by Julian D. Rainey of Boston, a civilian lawyer, who said, "It's a tough thing in this country to be a colored person and subject to discrimination in the face of what we claim to be."

In defense of the girls, he said further that although all they hear is "regardless of race, creed or color," they are told by the officers that they are not wanted for certain duties.

Earlier, however, the Boston NAACP president, Julian Steele, had issued a statement deploring the action of the Wacs. It was issued for both the NAACP and the Armstrong-Hemenway foundation. 3-31-45

It further stated that the Wacs were overly sensitive as a result of the overall policy of segregation in the army, which was termed an underlying but not immediate factor in their case.

National Body Fights

His statement, as well as another praising General Miles's personal fairness in handling the case, was used by a New York daily which in its headline stated NAACP approval of the sentences.

Acting Secretary Roy Wilkins, however, protested the newspaper's interpretation of the association's attitude, declaring that it not only emphatically opposed

Wacs

the sentences but also plans to offer every assistance in the appeal.

Although the GI's are not certain about what should be done, they agree that some strong voice should assure the responsible persons or organizations that the colored man's part in this war is no laughing matter.

I have seen thousands of colored people in my life, but I have never seen a single one with features similar to the one in the cartoon.

Fort Lewis WACs Are Specialists

8-10-45

Northwest Herald

FORT LEWIS—The 97 Negro women comprising Company F of the Women's Army Corps in the engineer section, Fort Lewis Army Service Forces Training Center, are engaged in a widely-diversified field of activity, with some performing highly-specialized tasks. The list includes hematologists, truck drivers, typists and warehouse clerks.

field training. 1-19-45

The Unit, which will form a postal battalion, will be commanded by Negro Wac officers. It will go abroad on completion of field training. The ten enlisted women pictured below are on their way to render more vital service to their country in foreign lands. Each of them was selected from the WAC section at Fort Huachuca because of her character and capability, and each volunteered for the over-seas assignment; they are, from left to right, front row: Pfc. Dorothy Reid of Penn; T 5 Lucia M. Pitts, Penn; Pfc. Marie Gillisslee, N. Y., Pvt. Charlotte Cartwright, Penn; T|5 Edna Burton, Fla; back row: Lt. Consuelo Bland commanding officer; T|4 Evelyn C. Martin, N. Y., T|4 Mildred Peterson, Texas; T|5 Alice Allison, Va., T|5 Fannie Talbert, N.Y., and Pfc. Mildred Gates, Ill.

NEGROES ACCEPTABLE, ADMIRAL ANNOUNCES

Pitts burgh Courier Pa.

WASHINGTON—The increased need for nurses has introduced an "unofficial war" between the Army and Navy with much attention being focused on policy regarding the acceptance of Negro nurses. The Army has officially announced its abandonment of the pro-rata method and the Navy has stated it has "no policy prohibiting the appointment of Negro nurses."

These developments followed introduction on the House last week of a bill providing for the drafting of nurses into the Armed Forces. The bill was introduced by Representative Edith Nourse Rogers (R., Mass.), and carries two prohibitions against race discrimination.

Rear Admiral Agnew stated in Washington Saturday, that, "We have found out this weekend that Negro applicants were told by the Red Cross that they cannot enlist in the Navy Nurse Corps. The Navy has no such policy, and no such discrimination."

Commenting on the charge, a spokesman for the Nurse Recruiting Center, Red Cross, denied the organization, on its own, barred Negro nurses from Navy service. She said:

"The Navy instructed us not to accept Negro applicants. We have heard that the Navy Nurse Corps is now open to Negroes, but we have not received official notification."

BILL PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION 2-3-45

Under the terms of the bill, every graduate nurse between the ages of 20 and 45 would be subject to the draft, provided and "regardless of race or color," she has been afforded an opportunity to volunteer for induction into the land or naval forces.

The bill also provides that "in the selection and induction of persons under this act and in the interpretation and execution of this act there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color."

Surgeon General Norman Kirk, of the Army, announced that the Army Medical Corps was accepting any nurses who qualify and placing them without regard to color. This represents a change from the old policy of accepting Negro nurses on a pro-rata basis according to the population and number of Negro soldiers in the service, and of assigning them to segregated Negro hospitals.

Rear Admiral William J. C. Agnew, acting chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Naval Medical Corps, issued the following statement last Saturday:

"There is no policy in the Navy prohibiting the appointment of Negro women in the Navy Nurse Corps or in the Navy Nurse Corps Reserve. Every application reaching the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for appointment in the Navy Nurse Corps or the Navy Nurse Corps Reserve is given full consideration, provided the applicant meets the physical, professional, military fitness and other requirements for appointment."

The Courier contacted Capt. Sue Dauser, superintendent, Navy Nurse Corps, regarding any plan for acceptance of Negro nurses. Captain Dauser refused to comment beyond the statement released by Admiral Agnew and was non-commital on the status of applications from Negro nurses previously filed with the bureau. 2-3-45

Congresswoman Francis P. Bolton (R., Ohio), praised the Army's new policy and assailed the Navy for holding to "the ancient method." Known as a champion of Negro nurses, the Congresswoman said "They (the Navy) are still finding it more of a problem than they have faced before. They are still holding to the ancient method."

Army Women Will Be Put On Postal Service

St. Louis Argus Mo. 1-19-45

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 15—The War Department announced today that a Women's Army Corps unit, composed of Negro Wacs, is being formed for overseas duty and will be sent to a foreign theater upon completion of

2 Negro WACs Face Courtmartial After 100 Strike In Mass.

N.Y. Age 3-17-45

FORT DEVENS, Mass. — Two Negro WACs face a courtmartial and three others were confined to quarters Monday following a brief sit down strike which 100 WACs had staged Saturday in protest against working conditions at the Lovell General Hospital here.

In a protest Friday, the Negro WACs charged discrimination and demanded that they receive the same treatment as white WACs. On Saturday, they refused to report for duty. After an officer read the Articles of War to the group, however, all but two went back to work. The two who refused now face court-martial. 3-17-45

One complaint of the WACs was that college-trained women, enlisted as medical technicians, were assigned to scrubbing floors and windows, while white WACs and civilian workers received preferential treatment.

Major General Sherman Miles has started an inquiry.

Army Court Convicts 4 Negro Wacs of Disobeying Superior

Washington Post D.C.

Fort Devens, Mass., March 20 (U.P.).—Four Negro Wacs were convicted tonight by a nine-member court-martial on charges of disobeying a superior officer. They were ordered dishonorably discharged from service, and sentenced to one year at hard labor. The decision of the court, comprised of two white Wacs, two Negroes. 3-21-45

When the decision was announced, Pvt. Anna C. Morrison, about one hour., broke down and had to be aided by her civilian lawyer called to aid in the room. The verdict was received calmly by her five other officers deliberated

gro captains and five other officers, is subject to review by Maj three codefendants—Pvts. Johnnie Gen. Sherman Miles of the First Murhpy, 20 of Rankin, Pa.; Alice Service Command, whose back-to-Young, 23, of Washington; and work order was disobeyed by the Mary E. Green, 21, of Conroe, Tex. 1-45

The Wacs' trial lasted two days,

case without precedent and said:

"These Wac girls enlisted, they weer not drafted. They are young and all they hear is 'regardless of race, creed or color' but then a colonel says in their presence that he doesn't want colored Wacs taking temperatures." 3-21-45

In the face of their sitdown strike

In defense of their sitdown strike at the Lovell General Hospital March 10 and defiance of the sixty-fourth Article of War read to them by Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles of the First Service Command, the quartet offered a series of instances of alleged discrimination.

They charged that Col. Walter H. Crandall of Vinalhaven, Me., commanding officer of the hospital where they were orderlies, told them that "they are here to mop walls, scrub floors and do all the dirty work." 3-21-45

[The Associated Press quoted Private Young as testifying that Crandall tol dher that "they want no black Wacs working at the motor pool." She said that he made the declaration after she asked to be transferred from the hospital.—Editor's note.)]

Chicago Sunday Tribune

4-8-45

British Combine

NEGRO WACs, of an American postal unit, parade in Britain.

Axe Hits 2 Champions of Fort Devens Wacs' Cause

Afro-American 4-14-45

BOSTON — Although the court-martial proceedings against the four Wacs at Fort Devens were voided and they were restored to duty, two officers felt the axe because of their work on behalf of the girls.

One was a Lieutenant Brown, a colored chaplain who had given much assistance to persons working in defense of the Wacs who had been charged with insubordination. He was transferred to San Francisco.

The other was a Lieutenant Gay, their commanding officer who, it was said, frequently transmitted their complaints about discrimination to Col. Walter Crandall, commander of Lowell General Hospital. She was discharged

Wrong Persons Contacted

It was revealed during the trial of the girls who were sentenced to a year at hard labor for refusing to work that Colonel Crandall had said that he wanted no "black Wacs" as medical technicians or in the motor pool.

According to reliable reports the sentences were voided after the Army review board decided that because Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles had presided at the trial and had been the original complainant the proceedings were not legal.

.... Exposure Threatened ....

It was also said that Mrs. Mary M. Bethune, a member of the WAC advisory board, armed with facts concerning conditions at the fort and at the hospital, had threatened a full exposure of the situation.

Commending the Wacs on their stand, Father Kenneth Hughes of St. Bartholomew Church in Cambridge, Mass., pointed that the Secretary of War's anti-discrimination order "is flouted openly every day by commanding officers.

Balt., Md

The defense counsel, Julian D. Rainey, said after the victory,

"The case brought out some inequities, practiced because of color, which have since been corrected. Let us, therefore, score it as a finished round in favor of progress."

Officers Themselves Divided

Thanking the public on behalf of the Boston NAACP, Julian D. Steele, president, stated that despite misinformation and false rumors the organization's fight for the girls was endangered at no time.

"We knew there were high ranking officers who did not share the prejudicial view of some others; we had condfience in these men, and I believe the results have justified our confidence," he added.

4-14-45

Silver Bars for Jeanne Webster

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-14-45

CHICAGO — Advancement of Jeanne C. Webster, Wac, of New York City, to the rank of first lieutenant, QMC, has been announced by Brigadier General J. E. Brazynski, Commanding General of the Chicago Quartermaster Depot.

Lt. Webster is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Webster. She attended Wadleigh High School, New York, and Howard University in Washington, D.C. Before entering military service she was in civilian life a clerk in the U.S. War Department, Washington, D.C.

Pfc. Georgia Singleton of Fort Huachuca Gives Vivid Description of Daily Life in Woman's Army Corp

Kansas City Call — Jan.

4-20-45

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE.—A general description of the daily life of the American WAC was explained to GI's in France in a recent letter from Pfc. Georgia Singleton, stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Pfc. Singleton was an instructor in the Harlem, Ga., school system prior to her enlistment in the armed services.

"Though we are now in the midst of actual combat," wrote Pfc. Singleton, "nevertheless we WAC's have a great deal of work to perform here on the home front which is indirectly a contribution to the winning of the war."

In outlining the daily activities of the WAC, she pointed out their work commence at 8:30 o'clock in the morning and terminates at 4:30 o'clock each evening, six days each week.

"We drill three days and attend orientation classes one hour each week. Sunday is a day of rest," she continued, "On this day we attend worship services at the post chapel and in the evening we attend movies, read books, and write letters. 4-20-45

Telling of WAC inspection, she asserted that their barracks are inspected daily. "On Saturdays we have a formal inspection of all clothing that have been issued to us," continued her letter.

According to her letter, the Saturday inspection consists of a full display of the following articles: one Tropical worsted suit and one extra skirt, three khaki shirts and one blouse, seven summer shirts, three O. D. shirts, two fatigue dresses, one bath robe, two O. D. Blouses, three O. D. skirts, two dress hats, four overseas caps, one winter off-duty dress and one off-duty summer trench coat with a detachable wool and silk lining, four pair pajamas, one pair field shoes, two pair of dress oxford shoes, one pair of rubbers, one pair leather dress gloves, one pair of wool gloves, winter scarf, two summer scarfs and ties. 4-20-45

"We buy our own powder, lipstick and etc," said Pfc. Singleton, who continued writing, "we have to put all of that in a very small space. We have one foot-locker and one wall locker. There is usually a space provided under our wall locker for our clothes."

"We live in two story barracks. There are ten beds along each side of the barrack—both up stairs and down stairs," she wrote.

In reply to a question in regard to the military duties of the WAC organization at Fort Huachuca, she said they are now engaged in essential military positions to free men for combat duty.

Among the many military duties performed by the WAC's of her unit, Pfc. Singleton listed postal service, cooking, special service, clerks, stenographers, telephone operators and drivers. 4-20-45

Pfc. Singleton concluded her letter saying, "We are in this Man's Army just as you fellows are—playing our part as good soldiers to bring an early termination to the present world conflict. Just as all of you, we too, look forward to the day when "Peace and Good Will Toward All Men" shall prevail throughout the world.

Only Tuscumbia Wac

Weekly Review

Bha Alabamers

PVT. ALBERTA L. DOSS, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. John A. Doss, who was home recently on furlough has returned to Fort Devens, Mass., where she is stationed working and going to Medical Technical School at Lovell General Hospital. Pvt. Doss is the only Colored WAC from Tuscumbia, Alabama and has been in service one year. 2-21-45

Atlanta World 4-26-45

STRATFORD-ON-AVON, England—Examining a carving at the base of William Shakespeare's statue in the City Park here are left to right) Pfc. Lillie Harrison, 330 New Hampshire Ave., N. E. Washington, D. C., Pfc. Alyce Dixon, 4001 Blaine Street, N. E., Washington, D. C., and Private Lila Burkett, 41 East Garfield Street, Chicago, Ill., who recently toured the playwright's home with other Negro Wacs. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public Relations).

Hobby Out; Wac 'New Deal' Seen

Chicago Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The resignation of Col. Oveta Culp Hobby as director of the Women's Army Corps is considered "good riddance" among Negroes in many quarters here.

Col. Hobby's persistent unwillingness to press for the complete integration of Negro WACs into all facilities and services of the corps on a completely unsegregated basis branded her as extremely conservative if not downright prejudiced.

On several occasions when committees of Negro women have conferred with Col. Hobby she has suavely refused to see segregation of Negro and white WACs as a basis for contention.

What the attitude of her successor, Col. Westray Battle Boyce, will be on this score still remains to be seen. Little is known here of her previous experience with Negro groups or what her record reveals. 7-21-43

Typical of the Hobby technique was a plan rumored to be in the making to set up an all-Negro WAC regiment which would have made way for the rise of one Negro to a top command position. When the plan was disclosed it was bitterly opposed by Negro women. Talking to a small group on the subject, Col. Hobby denied such an intention, but she blandly stated that she did not see why such a plan would be objectionable to Negroes.

Hit Negro Recruiters

At one stage of the game she completely withdrew Negro recruiting officers from the field complaining that the type of recruit they were bringing in was decidedly inferior.

When asked whether the caliber of Negro recruit improved under the selective process of white officers she quickly replied "yes." But when cornered by a question as to whether the qualifications for recruits had not been raised when the white officers had been charged with recruiting Negroes and therefore there was no basis for comparison, Col. Hobby plead another appointment and excused herself from the conference.

Negro WACs have been consistently denied the opportunity to participate in many of the Army Special Services schools ostensibly on the grounds that several were located in the South and Negroes would not be acceptable.

This policy as well as many others countenanced by Col. Hobby is in sharp contract to that followed by the Women's Corps of the navy where complete integration is practiced.

Started Badly

Col. Hobby got off to a bad start when the corps was established as an auxiliary to the army. At the first WAC trainng center at Des Moines, Iowa, Negroes were assigned to all Negro platoons and were billeted and fed as platoons. Although they shared the same dining facilities as whites, they ate at separate tables. For living, they were assigned by platoons to barracks.

In latter years Col. Hobby feebly clung to the excuse that "We are a part of the army and must abide by army regulations."

Col. Boyce was commissioned in the WAC in September, 1943. She served as company officer at the first WAC training center at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and for a time was public relations officer in the second service command with headquarters in New York City.

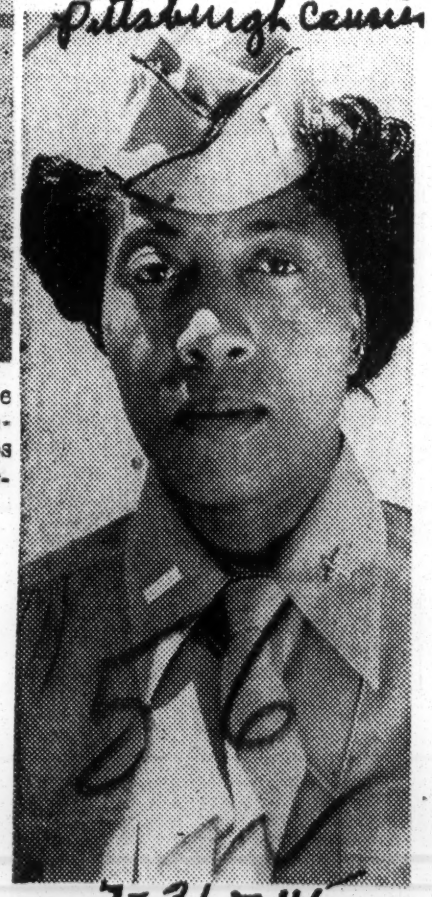
She was then assigned as WAC staff director of the fourth service command at Atlanta, Ga. Later she was sent to the North African theater as WAC staff director. She was named deputy director of the WAC last May.

Col. Boyce comes from North Carolina where she was formerly employed in an insurance company in Raleigh. Her home is in Rocky Mount. 7-21-45

Under Col. Hobby's administrations the corps was built up to a strength of nearly 100,000 of which better than 5,000 are Negroes.

Within recent months the first contingent of Negro WACs have been assigned to the European theater in the London area. They have done a highly creditable job in the handling of servicemen's mail.

Pittsburgh Courier



IN COMMAND—First Lieut. Evelyn F. Overton of Washington, D. C., is the commanding officer of the Wac Detachment at Douglas Army Air Field (Arizona) Twin-Engine Advanced Flying School. She was recently promoted to her present rank. She is a former Treasury Department employe.

7-21-45

Pittsburgh Courier

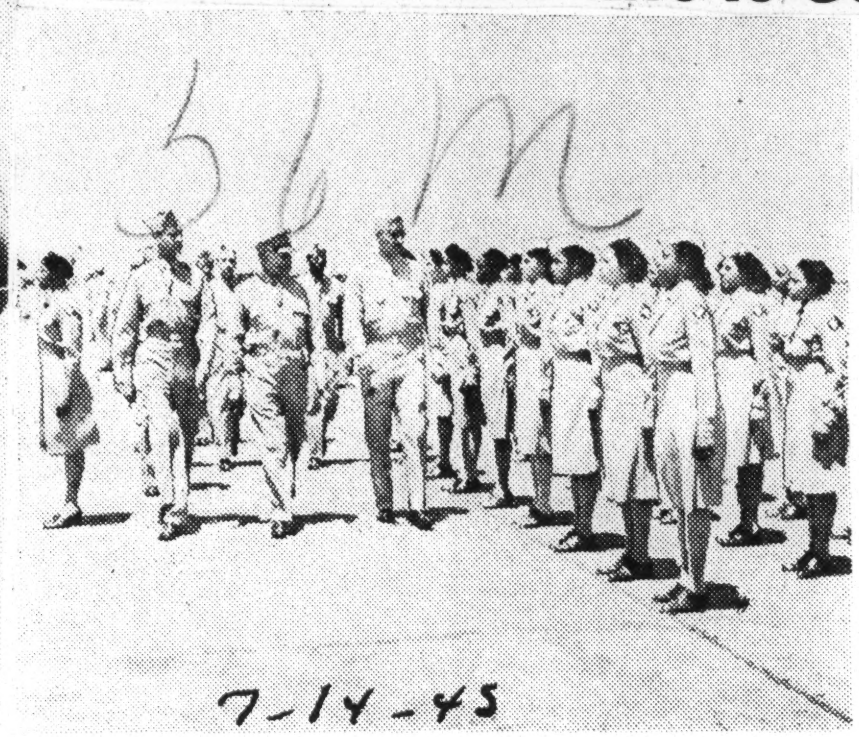
OVERSEAS — Pfc. Mary L. Ross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Moarin of Memphis, Tenn., is attached to the Central Postal Directory Battalion stationed in Rouen, France. She was among the first colored Wacs to arrive in the European Theatre of Operations. 7-21-45

Arrival of Detachment of Air Wac's Give New Life to Godman Field

Afro-American

7-14-45

Gen. B. O. Davis is shown here greeting his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Agatha Davis. Others, left to right, are Mrs. Elmer D. Jones, Washington, D.C.; Capt. Sarah E. Murphy, Fort Knox, Ky.; Mrs. Bascom F. Hodge, Godman Field; Mrs. Geraldine Stanton, Los Angeles; Miss Hortense Young, Louisville, and Col. B. O. Davis Jr.



7-14-45

General B. O. Davis reviewed the first contingent of air Wacs to arrive at Godman Field, Kentucky, Friday. The air Wacs are part of a detachment assigned to the 477th Composite Group. Accompanying the General were Col. B. O. Davis Jr., and Capt. George Knox, commander of troops at the review.

7-21-45

Shown here is Colonel B. O. Davis, commanding officer, Godman Field, Kentucky and the 477th Bombardment Group, greeting Captain Elizabeth C. Hampton, commanding officer of the newly arrived Air Wacs. Members of the new contingent will perform clerical jobs formerly held by civilian workers. Capt. Hampton is a Californian.

FOUGHT JIM CROW DUTIES AT HOSPITAL

Action Followed Protest Of Leaders, Groups, and General Negro Press

By Bernard K. Johnpoll

4-7-45

WASHINGTON — Major General Sherman Miles, Commander of the First Service Command, announced yesterday that he has set aside the court martial conviction of four Negro WACS for refusing to obey the orders of their officers.

New York Amsterdam News

The WACS had been sentenced to serve a year in jail (each) and were to have been dishonorably discharged from the service.

General Miles' action followed the receipt of a recommendation from the Judge Advocate General's office suggestion that the conviction be set aside and the WACS be allowed to return to duty.

Several liberal leaders, including Mrs. Roosevelt, many protest groups, and the entire Negro press, expressed grave concern over the plight of the WACS who were sentenced after they went on a sitdown strike at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass., protesting what they termed "Jim Crow duties". One testified that she was compelled to do heavy and menial work because of her color and "would rather die t than continue soing such work", especially so when white WACS at the pool were not compelled to do likewise.

2 Wacs Slugged by Kentucky Cop

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Pair Had Refused to Move in Bus Station

FACE COURT-MARTIAL

7-28-45

Officer Upheld by Fort Knox Commander

PHILADELPHIA

How she and another Wac were blackjacked in a Louisville, Ky., bus station by a civilian policeman was described by Pfc. Helen Smith, former Philadelphian, in a letter to her sister, Mrs. Catherine McCabe of 2201 Ellsworth St.

Stationed at Fort Knox, both Pfc. Smith, wife of a World War I veteran and mother of a son serving overseas in the Army, and her companion, Pvt. Georgia Bosum face court-martial proceedings as a result of the incident.

Originally charged with violating the State jim crow laws and assaulting a civilian officer, the two were later charged with violating the 93rd Article of War; i.e., being disorderly in uniform.

Kentucky does not have any law which requires segregation in train or bus stations.

According to the letter, the two Wacs were sitting in the section of the bus station reserved for whites when they were approached by the policeman and ordered to get out.

Told that the section reserved for colored was overcrowded and that they were simply waiting for a bus, the cop retorted, "When white people down here tell n - - - s to move they move," the letter said.

Threatening to place them under arrest, he continued to use offensive epithets and when Private Bosum protested he hit her over the head with his blackjack, Pfc. Smith wrote.

Left Bleeding

When she came to her companion's rescue, the cop slugged her severely with his weapon, leaving her battered and bloody, she continued.

7-21-45

When the pair were returned to camp, the post commander ignored their plight and lectured to them on obeying jim crow laws in the South, she informed her sister further. The NAACP has been asked to investigate the incident.

Democracy Works at Atlantic City Hospital

Pro-American Baltimore, Md.

7-28-45

Included among 29 members of the 31st WAC unit assigned as medical surgical technicians at the Army's Thomas M. England General Hospital in Atlantic City, N.J., are the above: Cpl. Emma Lutz, Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly a machinist at Wright Aero Corp.; Cpl. Carroll M. Singer, Farmington, Ohio, and Cpl. Bernice Graham, Lockland, Ohio.

Three Wacs Slugged By White Police In Kentucky

Chicago Defender

Chi. Ill.

ELIZABETHTOWN, Ky. — The South turned its guns against Negro WACs here this week. 7-28-45

Three WACs, beaten with clubs by white civilian policemen because they protested against Kentucky's Jim Crow, are being held here for a summary court martial.

The WACs walked into the "white only" section of the bus station here and were hacked over the head by white policemen because they "did not get out fast enough."

On leave from Fort Knox where they worked in the Regional hospital, the WACs were Pfc. Helen Smith of Syracuse, N. Y., Pfc. Georgia Boson and Pvt. Tommie Smith of Texas.

Pfc. Smith, mother of a son in service overseas and the most seriously beaten of the three, was dragged through Elizabethtown streets by two of the officers and jailed for six hours without medical attention.

For White Only

In a fantastic reign of race terror here which spread to the WAC camp itself, the WACs were reprimanded by their camp commander, Colonel Throckmorton, for "breaking the Jim Crow laws" and placed on court martial.

The WACs, who were later given medical treatment at Fort Knox, stated that they were accosted by a white policeman as soon as they entered the "white only" section of the bus station.

Smith said she explained to the policeman that the colored waiting room was crowded with men and that there were no lights.

"I sat on the end nearest the colored section," said Pfc. Smith. "The civilian cop came in and said, 'Get up and get out of here. This is not for niggers. This is for white people.'" 7-28-45

"When I did not move, he said: 'You heard me. When white people down here tell niggers to move, they move.'

"I told him we were doing no harm and that we were waiting for a bus."

Pfc. Smith stated that she told the policeman that if he wanted her arrested he could call a military policeman.

Hit With Blackjack

"He said he didn't need a M.P.," said Smith, "and said if we didn't move he would take care of the 'nigger wenches' himself."

"When he said that," continued Smith, "Pfc. Bosen jumped up. He hit her over the head with his blackjack and I asked the civilians to help us. They never moved. I told Pvt. Smith to go and get an MP, but she could find none."

During the ensuing attack, Pfc. Smith was struck repeatedly over the head and face with a blackjack. 7-28-45

Pfc. Smith stated that when they were called into the offices of their company commander after being released from jail they were lectured and reprimanded for violating the state Jim Crow laws.

She said that Colonel Throckmorton pointed to the ethics of the South and Civil War conditions and cited them for court martial on charges of violating the law and assaulting a policeman.

Pfc. Smith has served 26 months in the army, and has a perfect record.

Shower Heavenly After Baths in Helmet, Says Wac in Rouen

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By PFC. VASHTI MATTHEWS

ROUEN, France — Rouen is in ruins, but I am as happy as possible because for the first time in four months I can take a shower . . . with hot water.

The water is hard, but after bathing in a helmet for so long, it is still heavenly.

We arrived here in May. The Army has been able to find a decent place for us to live. The building we have here is much larger than the King Edward School in which we lived while stationed in Birmingham, England.. Though there are 26 girls in my room, we are not as crowded as before.

I was startled at the change in attitude of the English before we left. Prior to V-E Day, there was no end to the trouble they would go to to accommodate us. Their anxiety to please cooled off considerably when the enemy had been conquered.

Talking about "frantic." The French, men and women, are frantic beyond hope. The women even frowned upon our arrival because of the competition with the fellows they expected from us. So far I have seen very little socializing between our soldiers and French girls. In England one saw loads of colored babies, here I've seen only a few. It maybe because I am in a small town.

Can Use Appliances

One of the good things about France is that there are the same electrical appliances as in the States, so that we are able to use American irons and radios without any changes. Though most of the radio programs are in French, the Allied Expeditionary forces still carry English and American programs 24 hours a day. 7-21-45

In our lack of knowledge of French, the fellows have been a real help, and we should be able to find our way around in short order.

Costs Up

Everything is very high. Since the food shortage, we are not permitted to buy food, however, we can buy articles such as perfume. For a change, there is no KP. We have French KPs. They are terrible, but I would rather have them than do it myself.

Freddie Howard, a cousin of some distance, and who used to work at the AFRO, is stationed near here. He is a master sergeant. I have been fortunate enough to run into him several times. It is good just to talk over old times, even though we had never met before.

Five local Wacs stationed near Rouen, France

Los Angeles Calif. 7-23-45

NORMANDY BASE SECTION, France—Five local girls are among Wacs of the 6888th Central Postal Directory, stationed near Rouen, France, European headquarters said this week.

They include Pvt. Jessie Hall, 921 East Jefferson blvd. and Private Frances Anna Foster, 1308 Newton; Pfc. Polly S. Frazier 1373 E. 48th Pl.; Cpl. Viola E. Suarez 1593 W 36th st.; and Sgt. Mattie Moorehead, 1783 W. 35th st. Other Californians there are Pvt Mary L. Ellington, of San Jose, Pvt. Lillon M. Prince, if San Diego and Pvt Dorothy E. Daniels, of Stockton.

Demand Action Against WAC Assailant In Ky.

Int'n'l Labor Defense Enters Protest Case

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta Ga

NEW YORK— (ANP)— War department action against the policeman who on July 9 assaulted Pfc. Helen H. Smith, Negro WAC, at Elizabethtown, Ky., was urged by the International Labor defense Thursday in a telegram which simultaneously called for investigation of the commanding officer at Fort Knox for his attitude, and full protection of the rights of Pfc Smith, scheduled to be courtmartialed on Saturday.

"The case is an outrage," said Louis Colman, secretray of the ILD. "Our communication to Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio is only a first step."

The telegram to Ulio follows:

"The facts in the case of Pfc. Helen H. Smith, beaten by a civilian policeman on July at Elizabethtown, Kentucky and as a result now facing 96th Article of War charges at Fort Knox, as presented to us, on their face warrant full and immediate investigation by the adjutant general, both as to the brutal treatment accorded to a member of the armed forces and the apparent discriminatory and callous attitude of the commanding officer who cynically refers to violation of a non-existent Kentucky segregation law to excuse his indifference to the assault against a member of his command.

CHARGES 'INEXPLICABLE'

"The charges placed against Pfc. Smith are inexplicable on any theory. It is our understanding trial of Pfc. Smith has been set for this Saturday. Any reflection in this trial of the attitude attributed to the commanding officer would be disastrous to military and civilian morale. We urge you to take every possible step to prevent such an occurrence and for the fullest protection of the rights of Pfc. Smith, including institution of appropriate action against her assailant. 7-29-45

"That the Army of the United States should permit and its officers abet such assault upon its personel is unthinkable.'

Pfc. Smith was on her way back to Fort Knox from Memphis. The train was late and getting later becuase of being placed on sidings for troop trains. She decided to get off at some small town, take a bus, and try to get to camp on time inas much as she has a good conduct medal and has never been cited for any violation of regulations. She purchased her ticket at the bus station and since the 'colored' section was over-crowded she sat down on what she describes as the "nearest bench to the colored section." Several other colored WACs joined her there, and eventually a civilian policeman appeared, cursing and calling them 'niggers," and telling them they would have to move because that section was for white people. He said they would be arrested if they did not move.

ASKED FOR ME

Pfc. Smith told him that if they were going to be arrested he should call an' MP, whereupon he is alleged to have replied that he did not need any MP to tell him how to handle "n—wenches." At that point one of the other Wacs finally rebelled and said they had heard enough about "n——," and they would not stand for any more. He then took out his black-jack and started beating the Wac over the head. 7-24-45

Pfc. Smith tried to intervene and he attacked her, hitting her over the skull, in the jaw, and blackening both her eyes, also dragging her across the bus station floor, kicking her ankle, and skinning her elbow. She was not fully recovered from the effects of this assault on July 18, when she wrote a letter to her daughter, and she had had to have a tooth pulled which was loosened by the blow on her jaw.

The final insult was the indifference of her commander, who said that she had violated a Kentucky state law on separation of the races, and he was not much concerned.

Negro WAC Brutally Beaten By White Cop

At the request of The New York Age, the NAACP has requested its Louisville, Ky. branch, to investigate the brutal beating of a Negro WAC who made the mistake of sitting on a seat reserved for white bus patrons in a small Kentucky town while enroute to her post at Fort Knox, Ky., from Memphis, Tenn. 7-28-45

The attack was brought to light when Miss Grace Smith, of 552 West 160th street, visited The New York Age and produced a letter sent by her mother, WAC Pfc. Helen H. Smith, member of the WAC for two years, holder of the Good Conduct Medal and clerk in the ration board office at Fort Knox, Ky.

"The things that happened to me is like a horrible nightmare," Pfc. Smith wrote her daughter. "I shall try to tell you in a few short sentences what really happened to me. While enroute back to the post from Memphis, the train was running late due to being sided a couple of times to let troop trains pass, so I got off in this little one-horse town in order to get to the post quicker. Got a cab from the railroad station to the bus station, went in the place and purchased my ticket.

"The part they have for colored people was crowded with civilians, so I sat on a bench as near to the section for colored as I possibly could. Well, while sitting there, a couple of more WACs came in; naturally, they came and sat with me. Well, in came this civilian cop. He said:

"'Git up and git out of here. This place aint for niggers. This place is for white people.'

"I said, 'I beg you pardon. The other place is crowded. We are waiting for our bus and surely it is no horm done, since the bus will be here in a few minutes.' He continued with his 'nigger business' and said if we didn't move he would have us arrested ..... The other Wacs jumped up and said, 'that will do with that nigger business, we have heard just about enough of that'. N.Y. Age

"With that he got out his black-jack and started beating her over the head with it. I asked the civilians to help. They never moved. I sent the other girl out to look for an MP, then I went to the aid of he other WAC. Naturally, I got the worst of it. He said I was a smart nigger from the North and he would make an example of me and proceeded to do just that.

"I still have a big hickey on my head. My eyes were closed until last Friday. Both of my eyes are still black. My head aches continually like a toothache. My elbow is still sore where I was dragged across the bus station floor, and my ankle is still quite painful where one of them kicked me. And Saturday I had to have a tooth pulled that was loosened from a blow on the jaw.

"I was a pretty sick woman last week, and I don't feel too good this week. But, my dear, here is the payoff. The Post Commander is not worried about us. He is only concerned with the fact that we broke a Kentucky State law when we stood or sat in a white waiting room. I am also charged with assault and battery against the cop. Well, that is the last straw, but I am not taking it lying down. There is a lot more."

Before enlisting in the WACs Pfc. Smith was a resident of Syracuse, N. Y.

Beaten By Cop

PFC. HELEN SMITH

56n-1945

Three WACs Get Commissions

Des Moines Iowa Bystander

Fort Des Moines, Iowa—Three Negro women have been commissioned second lieutenants in the Army of the United States with the 58th class of Officer Candidate School at First WAC Training Center, Fort Des Moies, Iowa. They are Lts. Evelyn Seace, McDonough, Ga.; Annie Husbands, Brooklyn, N. Y. and Leader Hoskins, Fostoria, Texas. 7-26-43

Lieutenant Evelyn Cecelia Seace, daugher of Mr. and Mrs. John Alfred Seace, Sr., McDonough, Ga., enlisted in the Women's Army Corps in April, 1943. She was a classification specialist at Army Air Fields in Walla Walla, Wash., and Wendover Field, Utah, and also at the Army Air Base, Sioux City, Iowa, before she attended Officer Candidate School. A 1941 graduate of Spelman college in Atlanta she was employed as a teacher by the Henry County Board of Education in McDonough, Ga., before she enlisted in the WAC.

Lieutenant Annie Christine Husbands, daughter of Mrs. Arthalia Connolly, 389 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., enlisted in the Women's Army Corps in March, 1944. After basic training at Fort Des Moines, she was stationed at Midland Army Ai Field, Midland, Texas, where she worked in the personnel processing office. Des Moines, Iowa

Lieutenant Leader Hoskins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hoskins, Fostoria, Texas, enlisted in December 1942. She was stationed at Camp Atterbury, Ind., as a personnel clerk and became the chief administrative clerk in the personnel office there before she returned to Officer Candidate School in Fort Des Moines. She is a graduate of Phyllis Wheatley high school and attended Houston College in Houston, Texas.

Court Acquits Beaten WACs

Peoples Voice

PV ★ Peoples Victory

Army charges against Pfc. Helen Smith, and two other WACS, accused of violating the 93rd article of war, dealing with disorderly conduct while in uniform, were acquitted by an Army courmartial last Saturday, after a tremendous amount of public protest had been registered against the brutal beating of two of the women by a civilian policeman and their subsequent arrest. The Louisville branch of the NAACP which figured prominently in the case, is now preparing to sue the policeman who assaulted the women. 8-4-45

The verdict was given after a closed trial at Ft. Knox. Even before the trial, as general indignation rose over the obvious injustice of the case, charges against the WACS were reduced from violating a state law on segregation and assaulting an officer, to the simpler one of disorderly conduct.

At the trial, Pfc. Smith still bore visible marks of her encounter with the policeman who had beaten her and Pfc. Georgia Boson of Texas with a blackjack over the head and dragged her across the Elizabethton bus station when they objected to being called "nigger wenches." New York

The trouble started while the WACS were waiting for a bus to return to their post and had sat on a bench in the waiting room a little distance from the overcrowded "colored section." Even though Kentucky has no state law providing for segregation in bus and train stations, the policeman came up and threatened to arrest them if they did not move, and then assaulted them.

First Negro Wac Marries On Foreign Soil

Pittsburgh Courier

PARIS (ANP)—Pfc. Ophelia M. Ewings became the first Negro Wac to marry on foreign soil when she married Sgt. Christopher Redmon here on June 12. 9-11-45

The bride, the daughter of Clarence Ewings of Franklin Boro, Conemaugh, Pa., was formerly stationed at Camp Sibert, Ala. She is now attached to the 6888th Postal Directory Battalion here.

The groom hails from Cleveland.

Wacs

Dr. Bethune Pleased With Wac Housing, Service in Hospital

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By MARGARET L. CAUTION

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Warm praise was voiced over the democratic administration of Army general hospitals here by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, after an inspection tour, last week.

Mrs. Bethune made the tour as one of a delegation of four members of the WAC civilian advisory committee of which Mrs. Oswald B. Lord, white, of New York City is chairman.

Dr. Marion Kenworthy, professor of psychiatry at the New York School of Social Work, Columbia University, and Mrs. William F. Sharp of Alexandria, Va., Red Cross prisoner of war service consultant, are the other members of the advisory committee, who made the tour. 8-4-45

Marshall To Get Findings

Their findings at the 31st and 32nd WAC Companies at England General Hospital, will be presented to Gen. George Marshall, Army Chief of Staff.

Members of the party were luncheon guests of Col. L. S. Chappell, commander at the hospital where paying guests once made merry in luxury when it was Haddon-Hall Hotel.

Guests included Mrs. Chappell, Adjutant General James Bowers, who represented Governor Edge, Lt. Col. Cora Webb Bass, Second Service Command WAC director; Capt. Juanita Stryker, Capt. Seth N. Baker, public relations officer in charge of the inspection; Lt. Marie Rowley, Army Nurse Corps; and Lts. Ann Hall of Chicago and Georgina Brown of the WAC companies.

Meet Noncoms

In the 31st, which has headquarters in the old Cedarcroft, the inspection party met Supply Sgt. Ora Primo of Beaumont, Tex., First Sgt. Ethel Jennings of Columbus, O., former Wilberforce University student and school teacher.

The Wacs have cheery rooms, with color, attractive furnishings and cleanliness and neatness evident everywhere.

Mrs. Bethune said that she felt that training in such a n environment would inspire some girls who had lived in drab homes with meager facilities to transform their entire communities.

The WAC companies are housed separately.

Major Anna M. Grassmyer, Army Nursing Corps, said that colored girls are making enviable records and cited Cadet Nurse Hattie Green of New York City a outstanding in efficiency at the hospital.

Trainees Rate Higher

Capt. Marie Rowley said that colored trainees had slightly higher rating than white trainees.

While the party was on the way to the physiotherapy section, Pfc. Herman Brown of 2136 Howard St., Baltimore, came out in a wheel chair to shake the hand of Mrs. Bethune, whom he remembered as a national director of NYA training.

Rebuilding Men

Because England General is one of the Army's largest amputation centers, this section proved intriguing to the visitors, who saw men being taught to walk on artificial legs and use arms and muscles blasted and torn in battle or hardened by enforced inactivity.

Everywhere there were white and colored Wacs caring for soldiers without regard for race.

The party took particular notice of Pvt. Elizabeth Coleman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Coleman of 1527 Corcoran St., Washington, D.C., in the service record section.

Cpl. Rose Ferguson of Chicago and Cpl. Dorothy B. Freeman, daughter of Samuel Freeman, retired Washington government employee, are in surgical sections.

Pleased at Technical Jobs

Mrs. Bethune said she was pleased to observe that colored girls were not assigned to menial duties, but were serving as technicians or technical trainees.

She said that the teamwork and naturalness among the races at general hospitals have been the greatest inspiration to her, and she regarded them as important factors in making democracy work.

Court-Martialed Wacs Acquitted

8-11-45

Pittsburgh Courier (Pa.)

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Following acquittal of the three Negro Wacs accused of violating the Ninety-third Article of War for sitting on the "white" side of a bus waiting room in Elizabeth, Ky., the Louisville NAACP announced the possibility of taking specific action against the civilian policeman who brutally beat Pfc. Helen Smith and Pfc. Georgia Boson. Private Smith was beaten over the head with a blackjack and dragged across the bus station floor when the women object to being called "n—— wenches."

J. H. McKinney, president of the Louisville branch NAACP, has secured an affidavit from Private Smith which may form the basis for action against the policeman.

WAC Commander Eludes Questions On Negroes

What'll Happen To Our Wacs Under New Head Is 'A Safeguarded Secret'

New York Amsterdam News

By CONSTANCE H. CURTIS
— Amsterdam News Staff Writer —

WASHINGTON—(Special)—Sometimes the South is clothed in silk, sometimes in khaki.

Col. Westray Battle Boyce, newly appointed head of the Women's Army Corps, adds up to a combination of these two things, as a genteel Southern lady in the uniform of a soldier.

As the first Negro reporter to have the opportunity to interview Col. Boyce, there are many things still not clear which may become more definite in the future. After talking with her, and exchanging more "small talk" than gathering facts, there are still many things not clear. Col. Boyce is a difficulty lady to get around. Practically impossible to be "got".

8-4-45

Setback No. 1 came as the first of several surprises. After meeting the colonel, who is a soft-spoken, quite attractive woman of 43, I settled down to ask her the questions I had submitted prior to my interview. Before I could begin, an aide, who was present during the entire conversation, handed me two neatly typed sheets of paper. On them were note only the questions I had sent, but the carefully worded answers. My interview had been snatched out from under me!

8-4-45 N. Y.

It Hard To Get Something Solid.

I thanked Major Chance (the aide) and looked at the things Col. Boyce had written in answer to my questions. They were the sort of answers it was hard to "get your teeth into", but it wasn't to hard to gather that if there are to be any changes in the policy of the Corps towards its Negro members they won't be great.

As Col. Boyce said in answer to my question concerning the chance for more complete integration of Negroes into the entire corps, "In accordance with War Department policy, the Negro and white WACs are housed separately." There were additional comments, as to the fact that the Department had not policy of segregation "insofar as the jobs are concerned. All women accepted for the Corps," the statement said, "measure up to high physical and mental standards set by the War Department."

I looked up from the paper at the colonel, and decided to jump into talking with her, whether I had typed answers or not—and she was a real lady about it.

In answer to a question as to whether or not she had any personal friends or acquaintances among Negro WACs, she said no. But, the question reminded her of a past experience, with "a New York WAC", whose name slipped her at the moment.

"When I went back to Des Moines", Iowa, she said, "I met this WAC, and though she was from New York her mother was from Petersburg, Virginia, my home. I found that our mothers had known each other. You see, her mother had been a wonderful seamstress, and often her mother had mentioned my mother and aunt—". So the colonel and the other WAC officer had a really lovely talk, since their mothers had been friends.

Another General Answer. N.Y. Mirror

I was careful to put down her story, then went back to the typed interview. There was a question as to whether her office had taken any action on the case of the two WACs who were beaten on July 9 by a civilian policeman in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. The answer didn't say yes or no, it read, "The matter is being handled by the military authorities at Fort Knox."

8-4-45

The chances of Negro women being assigned to duty in the Pacific are questionable, according to Colonel Boyce. "I cannot answer that question directly", she said. ". . . There is a possibility that consideration will be given to sending Negro WACs to the Pacific."

Colonel Compliments All the WAC, Plus Negroes

The record of WACs, including Negro members, came in for compliments from the colonel, who said that she had, ". . . a high regard not only for Negro WACs as soldiers but as individuals who are using this means of expressing their patriotism to our country." There was also a compliment to the work of the postal unit, composed entirely of Negro WAC personnel which is serving in England.

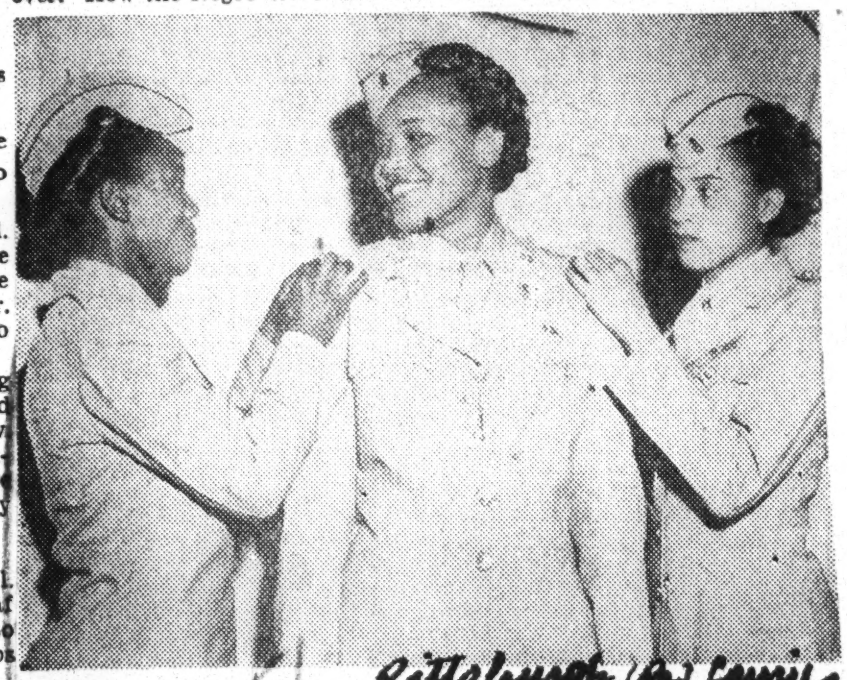
In all, my interview with Colonel Boyce lasted about 15 minutes. I had the written answers, and the impression gained in talking with her that she was well-bred, gracious, and cagey. We were, she, her aide and I, on mental tiptoes, in a lady-like sparring match.

As I was about to leave, I thanked her for having given me generously of her time, and said that although I had been taken a little "off base" by the written answers, I had at least had the opportunity to see . . . and hear her.

Good-Byes And Thanks Minus Answers.

The Colonel knew that I referred to her accent "Yes", she said with a smile. "I noticed that we sounded a great deal alike, you and I. We both have southern accents!" I took the light blow, and answered that I imagined that we had held to a little of the South too, in other ways than speech.

There were more "goodbyes", "thank you's" and the interview was over. How the Negro WAC will fare under Colonel Boyce I still can't say.



Pittsburgh (Pa) Courier

SECOND LIEUTENANTS—The three servicewomen above recently received their bars as second lieutenants at the First WAC Training Center, Fort Des Moines, Iowa. From left to right, they are Lieut. Leader Hoskins, Fostoria, Tex.; Annie Husbands, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Evelyn Seace, McDonough, Ga.—Official U. S. Photo. 8-4-45

Mrs. Bethune Finds WAC Integrated In Hospitals

Atlanta (Ga) Daily World

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— Negro WACs were found to be integrated into the general program of the several army hospitals visited by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune as a member of the National Civilian Advisory committee for the WACs she disclosed upon her return from a tour of installations. 8-3-45

She declared, however, the fact that Negro technicians and physicians were not numbered in the staffs. "This is a serious error," she said. "Negro citizens want to work with others more than they want to work for them." She brought the matter to the attention of the war department and asked for a change.

Mrs. Bethune was particularly impressed by the "real experiment in democracy" at the Dennis hotel in Atlantic City, a redistribution and resort for returned soldiers.

that they will be defended by Lt. W. Robert Ming, base legal officer at Godman Field, under Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

The furor caused by the Army's refusal to take action against the WACs' attackers mounted as Louis Colman, secretary of the ILD, termed the case an "outrage" and wired the following telegram to Maj. Gen. J. A. Ulio:

"The facts in the case of Pfc. Helen H. Smith, beaten by a civilian policeman on July 9 at Elizabethtown, Ky., and as a result now facing 96th Article of War charges at Fort Knox, as presented to us, on their face warrant full and immediate investigation by the adjutant general, both as to the brutal treatment accorded to a member of the armed forces and the apparent discriminatory and callous attitude of the commanding officer who cynically refers to violation of a non-existent Kentucky segregation law to excuse his indifference to the assault against a member of his command.

"The charges placed against Pfc. Smith are inexplicable on any theory. It is our understanding trial of Pfc. Smith has been set for this Saturday. Any reflection in this trial of the attitude attributed to the commanding officer would be disastrous to military and civilian morale. We urge you to take every possible step to prevent such an occurrence and for the fullest protection of the rights of Pfc. Smith, including institution of appropriate action against her assailant."

Pfc. Smith was on her way back to Fort Knox from Memphis, said the ILD. The train was late and getting later because of being placed on sidings for troop trains. She decided to get off at some small town, take a bus, and try to get to camp on time inasmuch as she has a good conduct medal and has never been cited for any violation of regulations.

ILD, who said that she had violated a Kentucky state law on separation of the races, and he was not much concerned.

The three WACs will be defended in their court-martial trial by Lt. W. Robert Ming, base legal officer at Godman Field, under Col. B. O. Davis Jr.

Demand Action Against Dixie Cops Who Slugged Wacs

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

8-4-45

NEW YORK — (ANP) — War Department action against the Dixie policemen who slugged three Negro Wacs recently was demanded this week by the International Labor Defense.

The three Negro WACs were beaten in Elizabethtown, Ky., by a civilian policeman because they sat in the "white only" section of the bus station.

The WACs, Pfc. Helen Smith, of Syracuse, N. Y.; Pfc. Georgia Boson, and Pvt. Tommie of Texas, are being held for Army court-martial charged with "disorderly conduct."

It was revealed here this week

She purchased her ticket at the bus station and since the "colored" section was over-crowded she sat down on what she describes as the "nearest bench to the colored section." Several other colored WACs joined her there, and eventually a civilian policeman appeared, cursing and calling them "niggers," and telling them they would have to move because that section was for white people. He said they would be arrested if they did not move. 8-4-45

Pfc. Smith told him that if they were going to be arrested he should call an MP, whereupon he is alleged to have replied that he did not need any MP to tell him how to handle "nigger wenches." At that point one of the other WACs finally rebelled and said they had heard enough about "nigger," and they would not stand for any more. He then took out his black-jack and started beating the WAC over the head.

When Smith tried to intervene she was hit over the skull, in the jaw, and both eyes blackened.

The final insult was the indifference of her commander, said the

56n-1945

Wacs

4 Negro WACs Get Year For Defying Orders

PM 3-21-45

NAACP Asks War Dept. for Action Against Commander

3-21-45

By J. S. QUALEY

Staff Correspondent

FORT DEVENS, Mass., Mar. 21.—Four Negro WACs working as orderlies at Lovell General Hospital were found guilty in a general court-martial at Fort Devens late yesterday of refusing to return to duty after a direct command. The court-martial panel was out only 20 minutes. Each was sentenced to a year at hard labor and dishonorably discharged. The sentences are subject to review by the commanding general of the First Service command.

In the windup of the two-day trial, three of the defendants testified that Col. Walter H. Crandall of Maine, commander of the hospital, had told them on Aug. 9, that he "didn't want any black WACs" in a Fort Devens truck pool. The remark came, the defendants said, after one of them had requested a transfer from her orderly job to the truck pool because she was forced to perform menial duties not alloted to white WACs.

Technician

3-21-45

The four WACs were convicted by a panel of nine officers, including two women and two Negroes. The charge said that they had defied a direct order personally made by Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles, of the First Service Command, on Mar. 10 after 54 WACs had refused to work because they said they were being discriminated against in type of work and opportunity for training.

One of the defendants, Pvt. Alice Young, said a "colonel" had found her showing another WAC, under orders, how to take temperatures. The colonel had asked, she said, what she was doing and her superior had informed him that she was a medical technician and was teaching another girl to take temperatures.

Pvt. Young quoted the colonel as saying: "I don't want any black WACs as medical technicians around this hospital. I want them to scrub and do the dirty work." Pvt. Young said she had thought she was a technician because she had been so informed by superiors.

The other defendants testified that they were given jobs as hospital orderlies at Lovell while white WACs were not.

Colonel on Leave

3-21-45

Lt. Tenola T. Stoney, herself a Negro and commander of the Negro WACs, testified, however, that she had seen white WACs at Lovell doing the same type of work as Negro WACs.

Lt. Stoney also said that she had heard Col. Crandall say that on Mar. 9 Negro WACs were not wanted in the motor pool, but she said the colonel attributed the remark to Capt. Barney Stewart.

Col. Crandall was reported by the post public relations office to be on a 30-day leave. Earlier, headquarters of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People in New York informed PM that the association had asked Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson to take action against Crandall.

Defendants on the stand yesterday were Pvt. Young, former Treasury Dept. adding machine operator at Washington; Pvt. Mary E. Green, Houston, Tex., and Pvt. Johnnie Murphy, Pittsburgh. The fourth defendant, Pvt. Anna C. Morrison, Richmond, Ky., testified during the first day of the court martial.

In addition to Lt. Stoney, Lt. Virginia Lawson, Tulsa, Okla., commander of all the WACs at the hospital, Negro and white, also took the stand.

All defendants testified that the Negro WACs were assigned different duties than their white sisters. Pvt. Young broke into sobs and a recess was called toward the end of the morning. The defendants all showed tension and it was difficult to catch their testimony, because of low, choked voices.

Replaced Orderlies

3-21-45

Lt. Lawson brought out that the Negro company had been brought to Fort Devens Lovell Hospital to replace an earlier contingent of white WACs working as orderlies.

Of the 178 white WACs now at Lovell, Lt. Lawson said only 15 were classified as orderlies, while 60 of the 99 Negro WACs were so classified. The orderly jobs consist of cleaning, fetching, dusting, etc., in hospital wards and kitchens. Lt. Lawson also said the white company classed 16 of its members as medical technicians and that 70 were listed as clerks. There were no Negro technicians, she explained, and six Negro clerks, and these were only used for work on the Negro company's affairs and not in the hospital proper.

She said that WACs, Negro or white, were hospitalized in the same wards and that white WACs had waited on ill Negro WACs.

The general court-martial allowed the trial to run along broad lines and there was no attempt to confine the questioning to the narrow terms of the cases. Julian D. Rainey of Boston, attorney for the defendants, was allowed to reach back in an effort to bring out extenuating circumstances. The panel of officers obviously was attempting to discover what was behind the hospital disturbance.

Praises Miles

3-21-45

Julian Steele, head of the Boston unit of the NAACP, who was present at the court-martial, praised the efforts of Gen. Miles to obtain justice for the four girls. Steele disclosed that two other WACs charged after the disturbance on Mar. 10 with refusing to return to duty, were absolved of charges when Miles was convinced that they did not understand the seriousness of not returning to duty after a direct order.

Rainey argued that two of the defendants, Pvts. Morrison and Murphy, were not guilty of violating any order and that Pvts. Green and Young simply did not know what they were doing, because they were confused over real and fancied racial discrimination.

Rainey thanked the general court-martial for its "liberality and attitude of fairness," and implied the entire trouble sprang out of the Army's general policy on Negroes.

Release of Four WACs Called Straw in Wind

P.M. 4-4-45

Liberals See New Era of Justice in Army and Navy

By J. S. QUALEY

The Army's quashing of the sentences of four Negro WACs, convicted at Fort Devens, Mass., of refusing to obey a direct order to return to work, is regarded by progressives and Negro leaders as further indication that the Army and the Navy are beginning to realize that all is not well with their policy on Negro service men and women.

Coming only one day after the Navy reversed itself and gave 14 Negro Seabees discharges "under honorable conditions" after earlier having ordered dishonorable discharges, it is regarded as particularly significant by liberal leaders. In recent months other similar incidents have indicated that the military is making a stronger effort to see that justice is done to Negroes in the services.

The four Fort Devens WACs were back at work in Lovell General Hospital today at their old duties, Lt. Col. Walter Brown, public relations officer for the First Service Command, told PM.

Indignation

4-4-45

Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles, chief of the First Service Command, yesterday voided the girls' court-martial sentence which would have interned them for a year and expelled them from the Army with dishonorable discharges. The action came after Miles conferred with the Army's Judge Advocate General at Washington.

The Fort Devens episode stirred widespread indignation. It was agreed generally that the four WACs had received a fair trial and that they were guilty of disobeying a direct order. But it was also felt that the matter went deeper and that the general attitude of the Army toward Negroes was basically at fault. 4-4-45

The National Assn. for Advancement of Colored People and the National Council of Negro Women demanded an immediate investigation, as did New York City's U. S. Reps. Emanuel Celler (D.), Vito Marcantonio (ALP) and Adam Clayton Powell (D.).

A leader in the protest was Dr. Mary MacLeod Bethune, president of the National Council and also the only Negro member of the National Advisory Committee of the WACs.

Watchfulness Pays

On learning of yesterday's decision, Dr. Bethune told PM that "the outcome of the Fort Devens case has greatly stimulated the morale of our people all over the country, particularly of the women in the armed forces."

"We feel," she went on "that the action shows a decided trend toward more definite attempts to correct unbalances which have been going on in the service in regard to Negro men and women."

The Negro woman leader said, however, that her organization still was concerned as to why Col. Walter H. Crandall, commandant of Lovell Hospital, at which the WACs worked. talked as he did to

Dr. Mary Bethune

the Negro WACs. She said the War Dept. has been asked to inquire into the attitude and fitness of Crandall. 4-4-45

At the trial it was brought out that Crandall had told the WACs that he wanted no "black" WACs in his hospital's motor pool or assisting as medical technicians. Crandall has been on leave since shortly after the trouble at Lovell. Col. Brown at Boston said that, as far as he knew, Crandall's status at Fort Devens was unchanged.

Rep. Celler, who was active in the campaign to obtain justice for the WACs, said the Army's action proved that it is always worthwhile to be watchful and to protest loudly when intolerance, ineptitude, and bungling appears in high places.

Celler said he thought the reversal of the Negro girls' sentences indicated that the Army and the Navy were "becoming alive to the fact that the public always will react against injustice."

The four WACs were convicted of violating the 64th Article of War following a personal order by Gen. Miles on Mar. 10 to return to work after 54 WACs at Lovell had struck because, they contended, they were discriminated against and forced to do "dirty work" not required of white WACs at the hospital.

Mrs. Bethune, Powell To Fight Convictions

The Kansas City Call Mo. 4-30-45

Public in Sympathy With Girls Although They Were Wrong in Defying Army Orders

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — While admitting disobedience of orders while in the Army is technically wrong, public sympathy is wholly on the side of the four Negro WACs at Fort Devens, Mass., who have become martyrs in the fight against discrimination in the armed forces of the United States.

Because of the courage of these four girls in defying threats even of death for the sake of democratic principles, their fight is being taken up by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Reps. Adam Powell and Vito Marcantonio of New York,

and the N.A.A.C.P. Appeals have been sent to President Roosevelt and to Secretary of War Stimson in their behalf.

Refused Dirty Work

3-30-45

The dramatic circumstances surrounding the "sit down" strike for which these four WACs were convicted have not been told in the daily press.

According to the story told to Mrs. Bethune by Julian Rainey, civilian attorney for the WACs at the courtmartial, 100 WACs refused to perform further the "dirty work" assigned exclusively to Negro members of the corps at Lovell General hospital.

Maj. General Sherman Miles of the First Service Command read the 64th Article of War—the bible of conduct for all members of the armed forces—to the 100 WACs. After the first reading, two more returned. The four girls who were courtmartialed sat stone-faced. They said they preferred death to slavery and discrimination in the army of their own country. (Shades of Patrick Henry.)

One From Texas

The four convicted WACs are Pvt. Anna C. Morrison of Richmond, Ky.; Pvt. Johnnie Murphy of Rankin, Pa.; Pvt. Mary Green of Monroe, Texas; and Pvt. Alice D. Young of Washington, D. C.

The court was comprised of two Negro captains, two white WACs, and five white officers.

Mrs. Bethune, in a letter to Secretary Stimson said "We do not attempt to prejudge the case, but the issues involved are so serious and the implications so broad that we beseech you to make your own personal investigation before confirming or permitting the sentence of courtmartial to be carried into effect." Mrs. Bethune is a member of the national advisory committee of the WACs.

Powell and Marcantonio jointly signed a letter to Stimson urging immediate investigation of the conviction, and requested a complete copy of the trial proceedings.

3-30-45

The two New York congressmen called for a complete investigation. They are asking other congressmen and the public to demand the War department look into the matter immediately.

Situation Unbelievable

"It is unbelievable that in times like these," the Congressmen said, "when the nursing shortage is so critical that the colonel in charge of the Lovell General hospital refused to let these WACs assist in nursing back to health American soldiers by forbidding them to take temperatures and ordering them to do 'all the dirty work.' In view of these circumstances, we ask for an investigation of Colonel Walter H. Crandall, the commanding officer."

Morris Milgram, national secretary of the Workers Defense League sent a message to President Roosevelt on the case. "We face a world race war," he said, "just because the jimcrow practices of the armed services prevent colored peoples the world over from believing it is possible that the United States will work with them on a basis of full equality." He said the four WACs, by refusing to accept Army discriminatory practices, are real patriots, for they acted in the best interests of their country and of the world.

3-30-45

Milgram told Roosevelt that the WACs, who were courtmartialed and sentenced for their act deserve full pardons and reinstatement, "but that was no solution to the problem, which needs a purge of racism from the armed services, and enforcement of the anti-discrimination section of the Selective Service Act."

Negro Wacs From State In First Overseas Unit

Birmingham News

Twenty-four Alabamians were in the first contingent of Negro Wacs to arrive overseas when 738 members of a unit RT-510, accompanied by Capt. Abbey Campbell, Tuskegee, as executive officer, arrived in England, according to a War Department announcement made this week.

2-21-45

The Wacs, commanded by Maj. Charity Adams, Columbia, S. C., arrived in Great Britain on Feb. 2. They are from 40 of the United States.

Members of the unit from Birmingham are Pfc. Willie Mae House, 1217 First Avenue, West; T-5 Christel Stocks, 313 Southwest First Street; Pfc. Dorothy Elizabeth Brown, 511 North First Street; Pvt. Mary Louise Walthall, 1812 South Center Street; Pvt. Eva Edwards, 2022 10th Way, Ensley; Pvt. Minnie Bell Quarles, 103 Eighth Avenue, West, and Pvt. Elecia LaVon Johnson, Route 2, Bessemer.

Fourteen other Alabamians in the unit are Pfc. Elizabeth Mary Davis, Pvt. Irene Robinson Green, Pvt. Willie Lee Coleman, T-4 Macelen Lettie Fairgood, Pvt. Delores Hall Smith, all of Mobile.

2-21-45

T-5 Jeanette Lucile Moorehead, Florence; Pvt. Lillian Irma Battle, Tuskegee; T-4 Addie Campbell, Dixiana; Pvt. Ophelia D. Thomas, Alexander City; Pfc. Susie Irma Middlebrook, Montevallo; Pfc. Tessie Mae Seymour, Decatur; Pfc. Margaret Lydia Young, Selma; Pfc. Irene Steele, Prairie; Pvt. Izona Brown, Muskogee; T-5 Mary Frances Smith, Montgomery, and Pfc. Mary Rose Munice, Montgomery.

Atlanta World Ga. 3-9-45

COMMANDS FIRST NEGRO UNIT— Major Charity E. Adams, Columbia South Carolina is commanding officer of the first contingent of Negro members of the Women's Army Corps assigned to overseas service. They are now in England preparing to go to the Continent where they handle the Army postal directory service for the entire European Theatre of Operations. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public Relations.)

ASSIGNED TO TAAF

Philadelphia Tribune

TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD, Ala.—CAPT. MARY L. LEWIS, of Philadelphia, Pa., recently was assigned to Tuskegee Army Air Field from Lincoln AAF, Nebraska. Receiving her commission at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, in August 1942, Lt. Lewis served there for 30 months before going to Lincoln where she commanded a WAC detachment for two months. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee Institute and is the second WAC to be assigned to TAAF.

11-7-45

NEGRO WACS IN PROTEST

New York Times

But End 'Strike' at Fort Devens After Five Are Disciplined

3-12-45

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

FORT DEVENS, Mass., March 11—The Negro Wac medical company stationed at Lovell General Hospital at this post refused to report for duty yesterday and five members disciplined, others returned to duty, it was announced today. The five were restricted to their quarters.

The Negro Wacs, in a protest Friday, charged discrimination and demanded that they receive the same treatment as white Wacs. Ninety-six joined in the protest. One complaint was that college-trained women, enlisted as medical technicians, were being assigned to scrubbing floors and windows.

May Sue Kentucky Policemen

Were Held for Sitting on White Side of Station

The Call

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The three WACs who were brutally beaten by city police of Elizabethtown, Ky., for sitting in the "white waiting room" of a bus station were found not guilty of disorderly conduct charges at a court martial here Saturday.

The three are: Pfc. Helen Smith of Syracuse, N. Y., Pfc. Tommie D. Smith of Lexington, Ky., and Pfc. Georgia Dosen of Dallas, Texas.

The girls were defended by Lt. W. Robert Ming, post legal officer at Godman Field which adjoins Ft. Knox where the WACs are stationed.

8-10-45

The three WACs went to trial still bearing the marks of the unmerciful beating given them by the civilian policeman.

Kansas City MO

Didn't Move Fast

The girls were charged with violating the 93rd article of War dealing with disorderly conduct.

The only defense reported as failure to "move fast enough" when ordered out of the white waiting room. They sought to explain that the "colored waiting room" was crowded with men and the lights in there were out. One witness reported that a policeman began beating the girls in uniform with his nightstick and yelling, "when we tell n——— to move we mean for them to git." During the melee, another white officer arrived and assisted in dragging one of the WACs to jail.

With the military charge dropped, the WACs are considering filing a civil suit against the policeman who beat them.

J. H. McKinney, president of the Louisville branch N.A.A.C.P., has secured an affidavit from Pfc. Smith which may form the basis for action against the policeman.

McKinney says that Elizabethtown is a hot bed of prejudice; that the Negroes there are intimidated and the situation is difficult, but that his branch plans to press the case to the limit.

Pfc. Smith was on her way back to Ft. Knox from Memphis when the incident occurred. Because the train was late and getting later because of being placed on sidings for troop trains, Pfc. Smith decided to get off at Elizabethtown, take a bus and try to get to camp on time in as much as she had never been cited for any violation or regulations and held a good conduct medal.

Called Them Na[illegible]

After purchasing her ticket at the bus station and finding the "colored" section overcrowded because that section was for white people only. She sat down on the "nearest" section. He threatened to arrest if they did not move. According to her explanation, it was not long before several other colored WACs joined her and eventually a civilian policeman appeared cursing and calling them "nigger wenches." At this point Pfc. Georgia Boson of Texas and said they had to move and "niggers" and heard enough about not stand for more. Pfc. The civilian policeman then whereupon he should call an took out his blackjack and started to the civilian po-ed beating the WAC over the head. When she attempted to intervene, Pfc. Smith was dragged across the bus station floor by the policeman who twisted her elbow and skinned her ankle. Before it was found that Kentucky has no provision for segregation.

56h-1945

Wacs

Fruits Of Jim Crow

Pittsburgh Courier

While The Pittsburgh Courier never condones disobedience of military orders, we cannot help but feel that there was some justification, however slight, for the action of the four Negro Wacs at Fort Devens, Mass., recently sentenced to a year's hard labor and dishonorable discharge for refusing to do what they were told to do.

Pittsburgh Pa. 3-31-45

They rightfully protested against the Army's jim-crow system, which relegated them to menial tasks while white girls in the same service were not required to perform similar duties.

They should have obeyed the orders given them, but all Americans can understand why, in their state of mind, they refused.

Like hundreds of thousands of other colored Americans in the Armed Services, they were prepared to do their bit for ultimate victory, but they saw no reason why they should be subjected to discrimination because of their color in the fulfillment of that duty.

It is all very well for some people to condemn these four Negro girls, but we feel that the Army should be equally condemned for compelling its colored members to serve at a disadvantage in a war professedly being fought to establish the principles of equality, justice and fair play.

3-31-45

Servicemen and women should obey orders, but it is a violation of the letter and spirit of service regulations, to say nothing of the Federal Constitution, for the Army and Navy to practice at home racial bias similar to that against which we are fighting abroad.

Negro Wacs at Ft. Devens

Richmond Times

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

American citizens as well as fighting men have been watching with much interest the trial of the four Negro Wacs at Fort Devens, Mass., that has terminated with sentences of one year confinement at hard labor and a dishonorable discharge for each of the defendants.

4-27-45

The writer does not disagree with the court in regard to whether the girls are guilty of disobeying an order of a superior officer, for if they were given a direct order and refused to obey it, then they are guilty of disobeying that order. But I am concerned with the reasons for disobeying that order.

Va.

The evidence revealed that these girls did have cause for refusing to return to work. Readers may say that they should have made complaints to higher authorities "through channels." If this country had no discrimination or segregation because of color in its armed forces, I would agree, but we do have such practices. Why would these girls make complaints that they know will be ignored?

The Wac commander, in her testimony, gave facts and figures that were proof of discriminatory practices. With only 99 Negro Wacs in the detachment, they were made to do 60 per cent of the dirty work as hospital orderlies; not any serve as medical technicians and on clerical jobs only 6 per cent are Negroes. Besides being denied these privileges their "superior" officer is quoted as saying that he didn't want black Wacs working in the motor pool or as medical technicians, and that they were there to "mop walls, scrub floors, and to do all the dirty work around the hospital." Any officer who would insult his soldiers in such a manner would not, I am sure, listen to complaints made by a group he is prejudiced against himself. There is no place for officers in our armed forces who are so narrow-minded and thoughtless that they would not respect the rights of soldiers serving under them.

As a fellow soldier, I voice the sentiment of many others when I offer a salute to these courageous girls for their fight for democracy in our army. Many of their race have just volunteered for combat service in Europe; many will die there and are dying on battlefields all over the world so that people of other countries and races can enjoy the rights that their people are denied here in the only country they know and love. To be given a dishonorable discharge from the service of this country you have enlisted to serve of your own free will is a bitter pill to swallow, but what good would an honorable one be when you are denied the right to use it?

RICHARD T. WAYMER.
Camp Lee.

Negro Wacs

Washington Post-D.C.

In voiding the court-martial conviction of four Wacs at Fort Devens, Mass., for refusal to obey a direct command, Maj. Gen. Sherman Miles, chief of the First Service Command, tempered justice, we think, with reason as well as with mercy. It happened that the four Wacs were Negroes. And their insubordination was directly related to this fact. They felt, and with some justification, that they had been made victims of racial discrimination. They had been assigned to menial work as hospital orderlies. A colonel, one of them testified, had refused to let them perform more advanced duties to which white Wacs were assigned because "I don't want any black Wacs as medical technicians in this hospital. I want them to scrub and do the dirty work." When, along with 50 other colored girls, they refused to carry on their duties, General Miles personally ordered them back to their jobs. It was for refusal to obey this order that the four girls brought before the court-martial were sentenced to a year at hard labor and dishonorable discharge from the Army.

4-12-45

Insubordination is, of course, a very serious offense in the Army. But the tradition of unquestioning obedience has not yet been developed among our women soldiers. And the disobedience in this instance stemmed from considerations involving the essential self-respect and human dignity of the four girls concerned. It seems to us, therefore, that they deserve the leniency which General Miles accorded them. Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, and the only Negro member of the National Advisory Committee of the Wacs, declared that "the outcome of the Fort Devens case has greatly stimulated the morale of our people all over the country, particularly of the women in the armed forces." We hope that this is so. Morale would be further strengthened, we have no doubt, by a thorough investigation of the charges made against the colonel in command of the hospital at which the four Wacs served. There is no room for racial discrimination among the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States.

DEVENS WACS STAGE SITDOWN

Chicago Defender

3-24-45 Ill.

By EUGENE C. ZACK
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

FORT DEVENS, Mass.—Charging racial discrimination, 100 Negro WACs at this post staged a brief sit-down strike Saturday.

As the result of the strike at Lovell General hospital, brought about when college-trained Negro WACs who had enlisted as medical technicians had been forced to scrub floors and wash windows, disciplinary action has been taken against five members of the company.

3-24-45

Lieut.-Col. Walter A. Brown, chief of public relations for the First Service Command, made the following official statement concerning the brief strike:

"The Negro WAC medical company stationed at Lovell General hospital refused to report for duty Saturday. Disciplinary action was taken against five members of the company, after which the balance returned to duty."

But behind this clipped statement, lay a demand by WACs that they be given treatment equal to that accorded white members of the WAC.

3-24-45

The disciplinary action took the form of pending court-martial against two WACs, and confinement to quarters for the remaining three.

First Negro Wac from Boston welcomed home by mayor

BOSTON Cal. Capt. Mildred Davenport-Carter, the first Negro girl to enlist in the Wacs from this city, was welcomed home by Mayor Kerrigan at City hall last week after serving in France for a year. She formerly worked in the city's welfare department.

WACs Enjoy Party In Rouen, France

Chicago Defender

4-11-45

PARIS, France—Members of the only colored Wacs Detachment serving overseas arrived in France recently to take up the job of assorting the huge stacks of mail that has piled up here in the last 11 months.

Chicago, Ill.

The 6888th Postal (Central) Directory Detachment is composed of more than 800 enlisted Wacs and 31 officers. They are stationed at Rouen, one of the leading port cities. A party was given last week in honor of the enlisted personnel by the members of the 89th QM. Bn. Mobile, stationed in Paris.

Court-Martialed At Fort Devens

CONROE GIRL PROUD OF BEING IN THE WAC

Pittsburgh Courier

4-7-45

Pittsburgh, Pa.

By O. J. CANSLER

CONROE, Texas—Mary Amerson Green, one of four Negro Wacs recently court-martialed in Fort Devens, Mass., was born in Tamina Community, just ten miles southwest of Conroe, in December, 1928. She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Amerson, and spent most of her formative years in the same community. Her elementary and high school work was done in the Booker T. Washington High School. She left school in her senior year and married—which probably explains her entrance into the Wacs at such a tender age.

In an interview with her principal, T. W. Humphrey, it was emphatically brought out that at no time did Mary show indication of insubordination. She was quiet, soft spoken and genteel and at no time during her entire school years was her conduct ever below 90.

Following an unsuccessful marriage, she entered the Wacs in June, 1943, and wrote glowing letters back about how she was trying to carry out the principals of democracy. She referred often to the promotions of her brother, Cornelius Leon, was receiving and promised her parents that she, too, would get something out of the Army and make her friends proud of her. She was proud to be a Wac!

The parents of Mary were contacted by the press and both of them talked freely, though often tears went unheeded in the mother's eyes. Mrs. Amerson, youthful and alert mentally, spoke freely and sanely about the matter. She said that if Mary had wantonly broken Army regulations that she would want her punished, but somehow, something kept telling her that her child had not strayed too far from the obedient

docile youngster she was—one who wanted life and wanted to serve others while seeing life at its most exciting angle.

The Rev. Mr. Amerson was a bit more vehement in his statement. He lamented the misfortune that had befallen them, but who would stand up for a principle if death itself was the proudest parent proud.

that he would admire anybody from the Navy Department as it would make any

that had befallen them, but had trouble rather Mary aftermath. The Amerson couple have one son in the Navy stationed at San Francisco, who has high rating of steward first class. The writer was invited to get that boy's record

ATLANTA WORLD — Ga. 4-18-45

SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR — Pfc. Vernese C. Hayes, Weldon, N. C., is one of the three switchboard operators at the Headquarters of the first battalion of Negro WACs to serve overseas. The battalion processes 80,000 letters, parcels, telegrams and flat envelopes daily at the Postal Directory of the U.S. Army First Base Postoffice in England. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo from Bureau of Public relations).

WAC Band Third in Record Contest

3-24-45

AFRI-AMERICAN

FORT DES MOINES, Iowa—In a national contest recently for recorded music made by Army personnel, the 404th ASF Band Chorus of the Women's Army Corps from Fort Des Moines won third place in the group singing category. Baltimore, Md.

It sang Fred Waring's arrangement of "Let My People Go."

After preliminary contests in the nine service commands, the winning recorded selections were forwarded to the Special Services Division, New York City, where judges selected the winners.

Philadelphian Soloist

Soloist was Cpl. Romaine A. Simmons of 240 N. Fifty-seventh Street, Philadelphia, Pa., formerly a member of the Drury Opera Company of Philadelphia.

Recordings selected by the judges will be included on a future release of V-discs for the entertainment of service men overseas.

No Jim Crow At WAC Post

Chicago Defender

I would like this short paragraph to enter the column for the good of our girls who would join the WACS if they weren't persuaded that they would meet with foul play:

4-21-45

To my friends who thought Georgia was going to give us colored girls a hard way to go, I am speaking for 100 colored basic trainees who are to become Medical Technicians. We have the best, considerate officers. We have met with no discrimination on the post whatsoever of Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. —Pvt. Wilma Long, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. Chicago, Ill.

WAC Band Wins Recording Contest

Iowa Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa
3-22-45

Fort Des Moines, Iowa—In a national contest recently, for recorded music made by army personnel, the 404th ASF Band Chorus of the Women's Army Corps from Fort Des Moines won third place in the Group Singing category. It sang Fred Waring's arrangement of "Let My People Go." 3-22-45

After preliminary contests in the nine service commands, the winning recorded selections were forwarded to the Special Services Division, New York City, where judges select the winners. Two of the nine judges were Deems Taylor and Benny Goodman.

Soloist was Cpl. Romaine A. Simmons of 240 North 57th street, Philadelphia, Penn., formerly a member of the Drury Opera Company of Philadelphia. 3-22-45

Recordings selected by the judges will be included on a future release of V-Discs for the entertainment of servicemen overseas.

The contest was initiated by Special Service Division of the Army to promote interest in soldier participation of music organization, via competition.

The band is composed entirely of colored women.

21 Wacs Sent to Camp Knight

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

OAKLAND, Calif. — A contingent of 21 Wacs started clerical work in the cargo and engineering branches of the overseas supply division, this week, at Camp John T. Knight. 8-11-45

Eighty-four more are expected to arrive from Camp Maxie, Tex.

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
1-23-45

PROMOTED — First Lieutenant Katherine Jackson Hunter just about the nicest New Year's surprise anyone could receive came in a small package to Lt. Katherine J. Hunter, on January 3, when she was notified of her promotion from second lieutenant to first lieutenant in the Woman's Army Corp.

Lt. Hunter is the daughter of Mrs. Edward H. Jackson of Tougaloo. She entered the service in 1942 as a private later to become the first commissioned Negro Wac Officer from Mississippi.

A few days prior to Christmas, Lt. Hunter was the guest of her father and brother, Mr. Leroy N. Jackson, manager of the Alamo and Booker T. Theatres. Lt. Hunter is stationed at Camp Sibert, Alabama.

Negro WACs Overseas Praised By General

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

FORT DES MOINES, Ia.—(ANP) —Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, deputy commander and chief of army service forces in the European Theater of Operations under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, paid tribute to the work of the Negro members of the Women's Army corps this week in a speech at the First WAC Training center.

Stopping at Des Moines to visit his 86-year-old aunt, the general reviewed a parade at the center. The 404th ASF band, the only WAC Negro band in the country, played for the event. 9-22-45

"No WAC in the ETO asked a GI to do her work," the general said. "The challenge was gloriously met by our women of the armed forces and their work has been perfectly splendid. Every position held was fully held. I saw many WAC detachments including the Negro battalion and they all set a fine standard of American womanhood of which every soldier is proud." 9-22-45

Inspecting companies from the overseas replacement depot whose departure for the Pacific was recently cancelled with a directive stating that there would be no more overseas shipments of WACs, the general expressed regret that the women could not be sent over as replacements for high point WACs now on duty in the ETO. He also said that he would like to see the Women's Army corps continued as a permanent part of the regular army.

1st Negro WAC Weds Sergeant Overseas

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois 9-22-45

ROUEN, France—(ANP) — Lt. Vashti B. Tenkins last week became the first WAC officer to wed overseas.

She was married to S-Sgt. Elwood Willis in a simple ceremony here which was attended by her fellow WAC officers. Battalion commander, Maj. Charity E. Adams, gave the bride away while S-Sgt. Robert Woods was best man. 9-22-45

The bride is a native of Ashland, Va., and a graduate of Hampton institute, but did graduate work in Chicago. She has served with the armed forces for three years, and prior to that time she was an instructor of high school English in Virginia.

Sgt. Willis, son of Mrs. Phoebe Willis of Philadelphia, is also a Hampton product. A resident of Chicago, he had been engaged to Lt. Tenkins for about 18 months. They met in Marseilles for the first time in three years.

Letter From A Jamaican Woman Serving in the Armed Forces

Public Opinion 5-21-45

Miss Alma Labadie Writes About Coloured American WACS. Who Received Tremendous Welcome By The British In The Midlands.

Somewhere in the Midlands the coloured American Women's Army Corp are stationed to take care of the postal services of the United States Troops in the European Theater of war. 5-21-45

On arrival at the Camp I was taken to meet Captain Carter who is their Special Service Officer and is responsible for their welfare both on and after duty hours. She is most determined that they should get the maximum of pleasure in their leisure hours and is determined in her efforts to secure for the WACS a balanced programme of healthy recreation, including visits to cultural and educational centres in the U.K. Captain Carter received me most graciously and was very pleased to know that I had come to the Midlands especially to visit the Station. She immediately took charge of me and made arrangements for my comfort during the remainder of the visit. Before joining the services Captain Carter was a famous dancer who as Mildred Davenport danced in many of the larger cities of the United States of America. 5-21-45

I had the honour of meeting the Cammanding Officer, Major Charity Adams who formerly taught mathematics in a College in South Carolina. She speaks with a gentle voice and has the ability to make one feel instantly at ease in her pres nce. She gave me the opportunity of meeting her officers, non-commissioned and other personnel, and later on invited me to a meal in the officers mess. The food was excellent and prepared under the expert supervision of Messing Lt. Sherrard. 5-21-45

The WACS are thoroughly enjoying themselves and are taking advantage of all the educational facilities this section of the country offers. They have been invited to a number of private homes and have received a number of official and civic welcomes. They undoubtedly represent a type of normal, healthy and intelligent American womanhood upon which the progress of any race depends.

The British people are very impressed with their smart appearance — Their uniforms are perfectly tailored, their hands are beautifully kept not a hair out of place. Their Unit is equipped with a modern and up to date beauty parlour capable of taking care of their needs. 5-21-45

They shewed an intelligent curiosity into the activities of coloured women in the West Indies, and I have promised them a lecture shortly. On discussion with various members of this Unit, I found that many of them were trained in civilian life to do more than one job, so that when work was scarce in one trade they could very easily fill another. Many of them also did a great deal to improve themselves in spare time, and also a great deal of social welfare work. They are very anxious that coloured beauty treatment and cosmetics should be available to all coloured peoples. A great many of them are accomplished musicians, and have already taken parts in a show at Birmingham.

They have an enormous recreation room, and I discovered with a lot of pleasure that there were a great many Jamaican members of the Royal Air Force visiting them We were all very well received and were very grateful for this opportunity of receiving American hospitality about which we had heard so much in the past. They have the ability of making you feel that they are so happy to have you with them. 5-21-45

In the enclosed photograph of International Women's day in Birmingham, representing, England, Russia, Norway France, Czechoslovakia and America — The girl (coloured) in uniform at the end is representing the United States. She is extremely smart and a Senior N.C.O. that any country could be proud of.

There are approximately 200 or more coloured wemen officers in the United States Army, and there are at least 2 Majors. This is a record of which coloured peoples all over the world can be very proud of. In addition Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis is the only coloured General in the world, and has recently been given one of America's highest Military awards.

The Wacs were met on arrival here by Brigadier General Davies. I also learnt that coloured Americans have their own Captain in U.S.A. Navy and coloured W.A.V.E.S. — equivalent of the British public relations Officer, Lieutenant Margaret Barnes for giving you this bit of news about our coloured friends over here. Lt. Barnes was a journalist and did a great deal of social service work prior to joining the Army; she is extremely smart in appearance and a brilliant conversationalist. 5-21-45

Coloured people in the United States form approximately a tenth of the population and is undoubtly the largest of the minority Groups in that country.

The responsible positions given to coloured Americans in this present war is a tribute to the determination of the American Negro to create for themselves their rightful place among other nations. 5-21-45

After my visit with these fine women, I am confident that there is nothing that people of colour cannot achieve once they are determined to stick together as a Group. Making the most of business hours, and a greater use of leisure hours in the service of our less fortunate people.

Major Adams And Her Wacs Arrive In Paris, France

Atlanta Daily World 6-13-45

BY FRANK D. GODDEN
Associated Negro Press Foreign Correspondent

ROVEN France—(ANP) — Maj. Charity Adams and her unit of WACs arrived here recently and are now redirecting the mail for soldiers who have returned to the states since V-E Day.

The Negro WACs, numbering 31 officers and 800 enlistees, make up the 6888th Central Postal directory and are the first colored members of America's Women Army corps to be seen here.

Maj. Adams, a former Columbia, S. C. mathematics teacher, and her outfit were welcomed by several of the army units here. Pfc. Geraldine Beaumont of Chicago met her husband, 1st Sgt. Paul Beaumont, here.

Stricken by excitement, all they could say was: 'Oh'!

FIVE WAC OFFICERS PROMOTED IN FRANCE

Pittsburgh Courier 11-10-45

ROUEN, France — Five second lieutenants of the 6888th Central Postal Directory, the only contingent of Negro WACs serving overseas, were recently promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. PW.

Those elevated were: First lieutenants, Hazel E. Craddock, Des Moines, Iowa; Gussye D. Stewart, Chicago, Ill.; Vivian N. Elzie, Chrisfield, Pa.; Julia A. Rich, Media, Pa., and Bertie M. Edwards of Danville, Va.

These officers were the second to receive promotions since their arrival overseas.

831 Wac's in France

Afro-American

ROVEN, France (ANP)—Maj. Charity Adams and her unit of WAC's arrived here recently and are now redirecting the mail for soldiers who have returned to the states since V-E day. 6-23-45

The WACs, numbering 31 officers and 800 enlistees, make up the 6888th Central Postal directory and are the first colored members of American's Women Army corps to be seen here.

Maj. Adams, a former Columbia, S.C., mathematics teacher, and her outfit were welcomed by several of the army units here. Pfc. Geraldine Beaumont of Chicago met her husband, 1st Sgt. Paul Beaumont, here. 6-23-45

Stewart Visits Afro-American Wacs in France

Baltimore, Md.

276 Get Good Conduct Medals at Ceremony

6-30-45

PRISONERS WATCH

20 Get Paris Pass Weekly; Few Homesick

By OLLIE STEWART
AFRO War Correspondent

ROUEN, France — Good Conduct Medals were presented 276 members of the 6888th WAC Postal Unit in a formal battalion ceremony here Friday by commanding officer, Maj. Charity Adams, of Columbia, S.C.

The first medal was pinned on S/Sgt. Fannie Little of Palatka, Fla., after which the others were handed medals by the major who lated congratulated the entire group.

Among the recipients were: Pfc. Vashti Matthews, Baltimore, daughter of Carl Murphy, president, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers; Cpl. Fayrine Murray, 1140 N. Gilmor St.; Pvt. Gloria Taylor, 509 Baker St.; and Pvt. Grace Whyte, 625 N. Carrollton Ave., all of Baltimore.

Eleven Washingtonians

Washingtonians given medals included: Pvt. Doris Ware, 1201 G St., N.E.; Pfc. Elivre Jackson, 1729 12th St., N.W.; Pfc. Margaret Simmons, 1459 S St., N.W.; Pvt. Deloris Ruddock, 1338 T St., N.W.; Pvt. Constance Wardell, 604 Howard St., N.W.; Cpl. Vergie Knox, 1340 Fourth St., N.W.; Pvt. Velma Lofty, 1418 W St., N.W.; Pfc. Annie Knight, 600 Harvard St.; Pfc. Hattie Lee, Pvt. Emma Johnson, 1106 Columbia Rd., N.W.; Pvt. Dona Primus, 524 Oklahoma Ave., N.E.;

Philadelphians honored were: Pfc. Hilda Wood, 5430 Summer St.; Pvt. Willia Jackson, 2339 Wehder St.; Pfc. Jennia Anderson, 385 N. Smedley St.; Pfc. Mary Artist, 2017 Titan St.; Pfc. Blanche Berks, 1810 W. Masters St.; Pvt. Mary Young, 1631 17th St.; T/Sgt. Marty Buster, 2344 W. Turner St.; Pvt. Florence Collins, 7209 Wissinoming St.; Cpl. Lena Bell, 1532 N. 18th St.; Cpl. Alma Philpot, 123 N. Conestoga St.; Pfc. Evelyn Lesuer, 3854 Falson St.; Pvt. Louisa Balls, 2713 N. Second St.; Pfc. Thelma Purdy, 218 N. 56th St.; Pvt. Naomi Stewart, 2556 W. Page St.; and Pvt. Eleanor Wilson, Centreville, Md.;

165 Promoted

The ceremony was also the occasion for announcing the promotions of 165 Wacs from private to private first class. Standing on the reviewing platform where Capt. Noel Campbell, Lt. Catherine Landry, Capt. Vera Harrison, Lts. Vashti Tonkins, Bernice Henderson, Ella Tatum, and Julia Rich.

Observing the ceremony with interest was a company of German prisoners, who work around WAC barracks. They were visibly impressed by the smart military manner of the girls. Also looking on were hundreds of GI's and French civilians.

Get Paris Passes

Major Adams declared: "The battalion is in good health and not too homesick. Our job is redirecting mail, and I have had fine co-operation from officers and enlisted personnel."

She also revealed that there are adequate recreational facilities. The girls ride horses, swim, play golf, go boat riding, and hike. Twenty of them get passes for Paris weekly, and 12 for Belgium.

Medical Officer Male

The lone male with the unit is Lt. Frank Johnson of Brooklyn, medical officer, who admitted that the girls keep him busy on sick calls, but his work is made easier by having two assistants with nurse training plus a dental technician.

The unit's weekly paper is run by Lt. Margaret Barnes, Oberlin, Ohio, public relations officer, assisted by Cpl. Ernestine Hughes, Dallas, Texas. Cpl. Jennie Moton works in special service.

Dated by Soldiers

The best part of the day is after supper when the nearby soldiers are allowed in the battalion area for a few hours. It is like boarding school as the boys ask in the orderly room for the girls of their choice who, after being telephoned, come out to chat or go into town to the Red Cross Club.

Talking with the girls, I found them most anxious to return home for various reasons, though they are not particularly homesick. Some said frankly that the high IQ of the outfit qualified them for more important or responsible work.

Everybody was impressed by their military bearing and good conduct, from Major Adams to the lowliest private.

Army Rebuffs Tories on Negro WACs in Hospital

New York, N.Y. Daily Worker

CHICAGO, July 2.—Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy has rejected protests by reactionary organizations in the Hyde Park lakefront district against assigning Negro WACS to the Gardiner General Hospital here. 7-3-45

The Hyde Park Community Planning Association, the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Neighborhood Associations, the Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners' Association, and other reactionary groups had protested the housing of Negro WACS in that "exclusive" "white" neighborhood.

"The Army's decision to use Negro WACS in the Gardiner General Hospital was based on the needs at that installation, where wounded American soldiers of all races and creeds are treated," McCloy said in a letter to spokesmen of the reactionary group.

Pointing out that the area in which the WACS will be housed is within streetcar distance of the large South Side Negro community, McCloy added: 7-3-45

"In view of these circumstances, and particularly since the fact that Negro WACS will be stationed at Gardiner General Hospital is well known throughout Chicago, I regret that the Army's decision in this matter cannot be changed."

Returned From European Theater

The Afro American Baltimore, Maryland 9-1-45

Above are shown the four Wacs who arrived from the European theater along with 37 white Wacs last week. Veterans of service in England and France with the WAC postal unit, they are, left to right, Pfc. Adele B. Ricketts, Louisville, Ky.; T/4 Lucia M. Pitts, Chicago; Pfc. Eloise B. McNeely, Boston, and Pfc. Bernice E. Huggar, Minneapolis.

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va.

WITH THE WAC AT ROUEN, France—From left, Lieutenant Colonel Anna Wilson, WAC staff director in the European Theater; Major Charity Adams, 217 Lacy street, Columbus, S. C., commanding officer of the 6888th Central Postal Directory; Captain Mary F. Kearney, 400 Newfield, Bridgeport, Conn., chief of directory service and Sergeant Mattie Garrett, 392 Jefferson avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., section non-com, hold a lively discussion as Private Dollie E. Jackson, 414 Johnson avenue, Larned, Kans., locates a GI's missing address. (U. S. Army Signal Corps)

Hits Army's Whitewash Of Brutality on Negro WACs

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 9-6-45

Special to the Daily Worker

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 5—Hosea Hudson, member of the Southern Negro Youth Congress and president of Local 2815, United Steelworkers of America, CIO, today denounced a War Department whitewash of police brutality against three Negro WACs.

The whitewash was done by Truman Gibson, Negro civilian aide to the Secretary of War, in reply to a letter by Esther V. Cooper, executive secretary of the SNYC, asking for complete investigation of police beating of the WACs at Elizabethtown, Ky., July 9, and punishment of the guilty.

A group of 258 white overseas veterans at the Baxter General Hospital, Spokane, Wash., last week asked the Secretary of War to investigate the charges that Elizabethtown, Ky., policemen had beaten Pfcs. Tommie Smith, Helen H. Smith and Georgia Boson. They allegedly had been sitting on a "white" bench in the bus terminal waiting room.

Gibson wrote Miss Cooper:

"The patrolman alleged that Private [Helen] Smith became indignant and abusive towards him and refused to comply with his orders. He placed her under arrest, whereupon, he claimed, all three of the WACs attacked him, calling upon the Negro men and soldiers in the station to assist them. The patrolman, according to his statement, fearing a serious disturbance and to protect himself, struck Private Smith and one of the other WACs."

Mr. Hudson, who has himself been a victim of police brutality, called upon Mr. Gibson to use his office in the War Department to protect Negro servicemen and women who are coming back to the United States every day to face attacks from lynch-minded policemen and civilians.

Hudson ended his letter:

"This attack, moreover points out the need for the passage of the GI Assault Bill which would make it a federal offense to attack or kill a member of the armed forces."

She's A 2nd Looie

The AfroAmerican Baltimore, Maryland

2ND LT. GRACE M. GITTENS daughter of Mrs. Winifred Gittens of Alston St., Cambridge, Mass., who was recently home on leave. She was commissioned a second Lieutenant in the 50th class to be graduated from the First Service Command basic training center for nurses. Lieutenant Gittens is now stationed at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass.

9-29-45

Four Texas WACs Get Promotions In Rouen, France

The Informer Houston, Texas 10-20-45

ROUEN, France — Four Texans were among the one hundred and one members of the 6888th Central Postal Directory, only Negro WAC battalion serving overseas, recently promoted to ranks beginning Staff Sergeant through Master Sergeant.

M-Sgt. Juanita Goodlow, 1621 South Fourth street, Waco, Texas, who is a section chief in the postal directory and was promoted to her present grade from SS-Sgt. T-Sgt. Lucille Lewis, 1520 E. 19th street, Fort Worth, Texas, section sergeant, was promoted from Sergeant.

Staff Sergeant Ruby L. McClung, 607 Roosevelt street, Wichita Falls, Texas, who is assistant section sergeant in the postal directory, was promoted to her present grade from sergeant and Technical Sgt. Flordia E. Robey, 3420 Delano st., Houston, Texas, who is motor sergeant of the motor pool, was promoted to her present grade from Cpl.

WAC Major

Washington Tribune Washington D.C. 10-16-45

Maj. Harriet West, now stationed in France as commanding offier of Negro WACs has contributed immeasurably to this war effort in boosting the morale of our boys and training our girls to do an efficient job in taking over the jobs of soldiers in order that they may be released for more important tasks. She and her girls have done a wonderful job and deserve a place with the immortals of this War.

War Dep't Told Of WAC Beatings

Chicago Def. Defender 10-27-45

Beatings inflicted upon three Negro WACs by policemen in Elizabethtown, Ky., have been reported to the Department of Justice, it was revealed by Col. Harrison A. Gerhardt, executive to the Assistant Secretary of War.

The action was taken after the Veterans' Committee for Equal Rights had protested the assaults to the War Department.

Arrested while waiting for a bus on a "white" bench, the servicewomen were cleared of charges of breaking the law or disturbing the peace at a summary court-martial.

Bare Jim Crow Of WACs In N.J.

The Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

'YW' Denies Negroes Recreation Facilities

11-3-45

ATLANTIC CITY—Jim Crow of 103 Negro WACs assigned to the Thomas M. England General hospital at the YWCA and other recreational centers was revealed here this week.

These WACs, housed in the Cedar Croft hotel, have virtually no facilities for recreation beyond a pool table, which was brought to the barracks when other army installations closed. Appeals were sent to the white YWCA, the only one in this city with recreational facilities for women, but the colored WACs were told that the Y was not in a position to cater to them.

The colored branch has no recreation facilities. It consists of 1 bed rooms, and two meeting rooms, an office, a kitchen and dining room.

Mrs. Mildred Brand, white, secretary of the YWCA, said that the WACs had some recreation facilities but were denied opportunity to participate in the Y program. She asserted that the present program is so full that no additional group can be allowed to use the facilities, and added that the swimming pool was not in use.

Of the two bowling alleys in Atlantic City, none can afford the WACs opportunity to use their facilities.

Total of 176 Wacs Come Home Aboard Queen Mary

The Afro-American—Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—A total of 176 Wacs arrived in New York early Friday morning aboard the giant Queen Mary. 11-9-45

Completing her eighth westward crossing since V-E Day, the gaily decorated Cunard trooper steamed up the Narrows, past the Statue of Liberty and the Battery to the tune of hundreds of harbor boat whistles and the music of the WAC Band aboard the Army's Welcome Home Boat, "Miss America." 11-19-45

The huge vessel made an impressive picture as she docked at Pier 90, North River, opposite the battleship Missouri. In addition to the Wacs, there were more than 400 Tan Yanks aboard.

Sent to Camp Shanks

Debarkation began almost immediately, and the Wacs were whisked off to Camp Shanks for 24-hour orientation and processing. From there, they are scheduled to go to Fort Dix and various other separation centers. All are eligible for discharge from the service.

Among the arrivals were several Wacs from Philadelphia, Newark, and Richmond.

All are members of the 6888th Central Postal Directory which was stationed overseas in Birmingham, England, and Rouen, France, for a period of 9 months. Their job was taking care of mail coming to and leaving the continent.

M/Sgt. Norene Harris of Tribbey, Ky., was the highest non-commissioned officer in charge of the unit. "The girls liked England and France very much and hated to leave," she told the AFRO. "Some of the girls were in Paris on VJ-Day and had a swell time.

Paraded in Rouen

"All of us were given two days off to celebrate, and we took advantage of it by holding a big parade in Rouen. The girls liked Paris, which is similar to New York, but not quite as cosmopolitan." 11-19-45

T/Sgt. Catherine King, 1350 S. Bouvier St., Philadelphia, said she had a very good time overseas and traveled quite a bit. "I got around to various parts of France, Belgium, and Switzerland.

"These countries are more agricultural than the U.S. The scenery in Switzerland is wonderful, and their mountains really have snow tops. It took me 45 minutes to get up to the top of a peak.

"I saw my brother, M/Sgt. Kenneth R. King, in Rheims and hope he comes home soon. I really am very happy to be back, and want to call my mother as soon as I get the chance."

Marian Anderson's Cousin

T/Sgt. King is a second cousin of Marian Anderson, noted singer, and she told the AFRO she was overjoyed to be back in time to hear Miss Anderson sing a Carnegie Hall in December. "That's one thing I didn't want to miss," she declared.

Pvt. Dora Ferguson, 1328 S. Lambert St., Philadelphia, said America was still her favorite country.

T/Sgt. Rhoda Daniel Pearson, 201 N. 10th St., Darby, Penn., was married overseas just two weeks ago.

Among others seen by the AFRO were S/Sgt. Beulah Robinson, 89 Bergen St., Newark; T/5 Georgiana Morton, 44 Somerset St., Newark; S/Sgt. Daisy Dinkins, 100 New St., Newbridge, N.J.; T/5 Mary Moody, Jamaica, L.I., N.Y.; S/Sgt. Willene Jobinson, NYC. and T/Sgt. Marcell Wilson, 1905 Parkwood Ave., Richmond, Va. 11-17-45

Other passengers aboard the Queen Mary included James C. Dunn, Under Secretary of State; Congresswoman Mary Norton of New Jersey, and several Army generals.

List 173 Wacs Home from ETO

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION.—"It was great to be over there, but its greater to be back," and Staff Sergeant Jerrell Lawrence, Caldwell, Tex., who was among the 173 Wacs debarking at Pier 90, last week, beamed as she moved down the gangplank and touched native ground.

The Wacs were among 10,000 troops returned home from the European Theater on the Queen Mary which arrived at the New York pier, Friday, Nov. 9. They had been overseas nine months, in England and France, with the 6888th Central Postal Directory. All have 36 points or more and were returned to the States for discharge. Also aboard were 30 nurses returning from service in England and France.

The Wacs were taken to Camp Shanks, New York Port installation in New Jersey, and in 24 hours were on their way by train, bus and plane to Separation Centers closest to their homes from where they will be discharged.

Get Official Greeting

On hand from Washington to greet the Wac contingent were Lt. Col. Katherine Goodwin, white, staff director, ASF, WAC, and Maj. Alice Brown, white, staff director, Transportation Corps, WAC. Lt. Col. Raymond E. Conte, special assistant to the chief of staff, New York Port of Embarkation, was also on hand, as was Mrs. Audley Moore, representing the National Council of Negro Women. 11-24-45

Among those returning on the Queen Mary were:

CONNECTICUT: Bloomfield—Pfc. Marion S. Jackson, 19 Gilbert Ave.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Washington—T/5 Isabella P. Owens, 2130 G St., N.W.; S/Sgt. Irma L. Campbell, 2011 Benning Rd., N.E.; Sgt. Gertrude V Hall, 1.7 E. St., S.E.; Cpl. Susan V. Crabtree, 502 24th St., N.E.; Pfc. Olive K. Debeauy, 529 Gresham Pl., N.W.; Pfc. Sarah B. Gary, 2301 H St., N.W.

MASSACHUSETTS: Pittsfield—T/5 Mary E. Moody, Graylock Rd; Springfield—Pfc. Cora L. Hurston, 715 Union St.

NEW JERSEY: Newark—T/5 Georgianna Morton, 44 Somerset St.; Paterson—S/Sgt. Willene Johnson, 19 Godwin Ave.; Plainfield—Pvt. Johnita A. Johnson, 640 W. Third St.; Woodbridge—S/Sgt. Daisy B. Dinkins, 100 New St.

NEW YORK: Brooklyn—Pvt. Bernice A. Auustine, 122 Macon St.; Buffalo—S/Sgt. Evelyn C. Martin, 125 Woodlawn Ave.; New York—Cpl. Callie Katrina Smith, 2 Verona Pl., Bronx; Pvt. Edith J. Armstead, 109-01 169th Pl., Jamaica; Pfc. Margie L. Amis, 50 W. 120th St.;

Pfc. Virginia A. Blake, 1851 Seventh Ave.; Pfc. Helen M. Wood, 522-A MacDonough St., Bronx; Pfc. Rose Stone, 300 Manhattan Ave.; Pfc. Marie B. Gillisslee, 595 E. 167th St.; Pfc. Evangeline G. Jeffery, 15 W. 123rd St.; T/4 Ethel C. Leving, 92 Morningside Ave.;

T/5 Geneva McRae, 270 W. 115th St.; S/Sgt. Beulah E. Robinson, 859 Home St.; T/5 Myrtle A. Rhoden, 1370 Boston Rd.; Yonkers—Pfc. Gladys S. Carter, 38 Dunbar St.

NORTH CAROLINA: Durham—S/Sgt. Maggie A. Latta, 304 E. Piedmont Ave.; Elkin—Pfc. Elizabeth B. Barker; New Bern—Pfc. Emma L. M. Jenkins, 38 End St.; Waldon—Pfc. Vemise C. Hayes, Box 188.

PENNSYLVANIA: Belle Vernon—Pfc. Bebe C. Johnson, 513 Bluff St.; Danby—T/Sgt. Rhoda A. Daniel, 210 N. 10th St.; Philadelphia—Cpl. Love P. Anderson, 2307 N. 23rd St.; T/Sgt. Catherine A. King, 1350 S. Bouvier St.; T/Sgt. Lillian V. Jones, 2330 Catherine St.; Willow Grove—T/5 Elaine V. Jones, 230 Glendale Ave.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Trenton—Pfc. Nouvella E. Jackson, Rte. 1, Box 117½.

VIRGINIA: Alexandria—Pvt. Gertrude Sessoms, 619 N. Henry St.; S/Sgt. Catherine D. Brown, 2028 N. Edison St.; Victoria—Cpl. Hazel C Jennings, Rte. 1, Box 22.

WEST VIRGINA: Bluefield—S/Sgt Myke A. Smith, 413 N. Powell St.

Three WAC Officers Promoted in France

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

ROUEN, France — Three WAC second lieutenants of the 6888th Central Postal Directory received timely Christmas gifts in the form of promotions to the rank of first lieutenant. 12-29-45

Promoted to the new rank were: First Lieutenant Hazel E. Craddock, 1263 E. 17th St., Des Moines, Ia., Post Utilities officer with the battalion; First Lieutenant Gussye D. Steward, 5490 South Parkway, Chicago, Ill., Battalion executive officer; and First Lieutenant Bertie M. Edwards, 43 Robert St., Danville, Va., commanding officer of Company "B."

Amsterdam News — New York, N. Y.
3-24-45

THESE ARE THE FACES OF OUR WOMEN IN UNIFORM, and they are only a small proportion of the thousands who are serving here, overseas or within their own communities, to help end the war successfully. At top, left, members of the American Women's Voluntary Services in their blue, grey uniforms. Center, top, three WAVES pose for the camera. Immediately below them are three WACs, dressed in summer uniforms, and to extreme right, are two Red Cross workers. Bottom, Left, in overseas dress, part of the first contingent of Negro WACs in overseas service, pose in the snow. Center, cadet nurses, and at extreme right, their older sisters, members of the Army Nurse Corps.

3-24-45

3-30-45

Each With Her Heart And Skill Fights For Victory

Review of Our Women In Service

N.Y. Amsterdam News 3-24-45

Future Looks Bright; Practically All Bars Have Been Eliminated

By CONSTANCE CURTIS

Thinge are bright for Negro women in the services today After more than three years of struggle against racial prejudice which denied in too many instances the right to serve their country, the bars are nearly all down. They along with Negro servicemen, are at last being given some chance to take a stake in democracy.

The list of women's services is impressive, and there are Negro women in all of those to be named here. They are in Navy blue both in the WAVES and SPARS, both of which services fought long and in a softly bitter manner to exclude them from these "most exclusive" of services.

At the present time, since the bars have fallen, there has been little cause for complaint among Negro women who have donned the uniform. There have been only few rumors that even hinted of the least difference in treatment, and they disproved.

Nurses in uniform have marched continually forward, especially in the schools for white women in the Navy, and our few Negro officers have lodged no complaint against their treatment is with them, as with the use of service-men, for prejudice has been nearly done away with completely. Negro women are being trained in the same

3-24-45

to membership in its ranks. Two weeks ago a first Negro nurse took the oath of office for this service, and after her there will no doubt be many others.

In the WAC's, first of the women to be admitted to the first contingent of Negro services to admit Negroes, WAC's was sent to the European Theatre of war to serve as a postal unit there. They are no doubt the first of many to follow in war jim crow system in Navy for the first time admit them to the Corps. Though the Army jim crow system lifted from them, and the Corps, the Army Nurse Corps, and at the end of last year her there will no doubt serve in ranks going as high as major, and at the end of last year

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women to replace men grows each day. 3-24-45

Overseas in Large Numbers

Overseas in large numbers are women in the uniform of the American Red Cross, who have the entertainment of the servicemen as their main objective. In all of the theatres of war, they have set up canteens, acted as hostesses to lonely, weary and homesick soldiers, taken American food and American humor up within sight of the front lines. In their ranks are many women who have had experience as physio-therapists, to aid in bringing men back to health of body, and as social workers, to release their minds from the horrors of war.

Among the younger women who are serving in uniform, are the cadet nurses, in most instances high school graduates, or girls with one or more years of college training. They, under the supervision of the government, are training to become registered nurses. Many Negro women have taken advantage of the opportunity to be prepared for a profession by enlisting in this service. Though under no obligation, many of them are urged at graduation to become members of the Nurses Corps. They are working in the hospitals in this country, do much to lighten the heavy responsibilities of overworked nurses in understaffed hospitals. 3-24-45

On the Home Front

On the home front, best known of the women's services is the American Women's Voluntary Services, in which Negro women have played an active part since the beginning. They spend long hours within each week as motor corps and salvage workers, lifting the burdens from the armed forces.

Marching Towards Victory

In these uniformed branches of service Negro women have fought against prejudice when it occurred, and have proved as the lines were broken that they were deserving. As the days of the war draw on toward their end, Negro women, along with men, have written a record of which they can be proud. Their services during these trying days will be yet another foundation stone in the new building of democracy. They, along with the rest of the Allies, are marching forward toward victory.

COURT-MARTIAL REVERSED

New York Age 4-14-45

ONE of the most encouraging signs of democracy was evidenced last week when Major General Sherman Miles, commanding general of the First Service Command, reversed the court-martial convictions of four Negro WAC privates and ordered them restored to duty immediately.

This was democracy at work because there were mitigating circumstances surrounding the whole case. There is no denying the fact that the four WACs who were convicted, were guilty of disobeying the orders of a superior officer. They admitted to the court-martial that they had refused even after the Articles of War were read to them. But in refusing to obey the order, the four WACs did something else other than leave themselves liable to dishonorable discharge from the Army and jail sentences. They brought out into the open an intolerable situation and the resultant publicity did the rest — effected the cure.

Were one to judge the case merely on the bare facts — the four WACs were among several score who participated in a sit-down strike at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Mass., and refused to work one day until the Commanding General of the area was forced o come in and read the Articles of War to them citing the dangers of continued refusal to work and follow orders — then the decision of the court-martial, finding the four WACs guilty was justified. 4-14-45

Were one to judge the sentence on the basis of the court-martial finding — dishonorable discharge from the Army and service of a year in jail at hard labor — then the penalty was justified.

BUT, there were mitigating circumstances in the case. After all, these four Negro women had enlisted in the WACs and they took an oath of allegiance to the country and agreed to follow orders when they donned the uniform of the WACs.

It is one thing to agree to follow orders, but it is another thing to have to follow orders that are discriminatory and unjust. The orders were discriminatory and unjust because the colonel in command of the hospital was discriminatory and unjust. He was quoted as saying that he didn't want "black WACs in the motor pool or as medical technicians." This same commanding officer, Col. Walter M. Crandall was also quoted by the WACs as saying that they "are here to mop walls, scrub floors and do all the dirty work."

Now there is nothing in the table of organization of the War Department that says that all the dirty work to be done in the Army must be done by Negroes — men or women. Too often that has been the case, however, and the Negro has gotten all the menial, all the lowly jobs to do. In the case of the four WACs, the colonel in command had discriminated against the Negro WAC contingent and assigned all the dirty work to the Negro WACs — work which even white civilians (unskilled laborers) were not required to do. 4-14-45

It was this attitude on the part of the colonel that the WACs protested. It was why the WACs were willing to be court-martialed, because they knew that the spotlight of publicity in the case would better the conditions for their sister WACs at the hospital.

One of the leading people to take up their case was Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women and only Negro member of the National Advisory Committee of the WACs. With her wide contacts in Washington, Mrs. Bethune was able to reach people who normally cannot be seen without previous appointments and going through a lot of red tape. Secretary of War Stimson, himself, was interested in the case and a complete and full investigation of the case was demanded.

In announcing the fact that the court-martial verdict had been vacated, a War Department statement said it was "in the interest of the strictest justice toward the accused." The court-martial was also declared to have been improperly convened. We are willing for the War Department to rationalize all it wants for vacating the verdict as long as the four WACs are restored to full duty without penalties of any sort and the condition of work at the hospital is changed for the better.

Some times we must fight the hard way to get justice. But this case shows conclusively that when a fight is intelligently waged and fought, it brings desired results.

560-1945

Rising Sun Sets, World War Two Ends; General MacArthur To Boss Japs

New Orleans 18-22-

Louisiana Weekly

Washington, D. C. (Special).—At 7 p. m., EWT, Tuesday, President Harry S. Truman announced the news the whole civilized world had been anxiously waiting to hear, "Japanese acceptance of the Potsdam ultimatum."

The surrender terms of the Japs will be accepted by General Douglas MacArthur as soon as arrangements can be completed.

8-18-45

In the formal message read by Mr. Truman, relayed from Emperor Hirohito through the Swiss government, the Japanese ruler pledged the surrender on the terms laid down by the Big Three Conference at Potsdam.

Following is the statement made by President Truman:

"I have received this afternoon a message from the Japanese government in reply to the message forwarded to that government by the Secretary of State on August 11.

"I deem this reply a full acceptance of the Potsdam declaration which specifies the unconditional surrender of Japan.

"In this reply there is no qualification.

"Arrangements are now being made for the formal signing of surrender terms at the earliest possible moment.

"General Douglas MacArthur has been appointed the supreme Allied commander to receive the Japanese surrender.

"Great Britain, Russia and China will be represented by high ranking officers.

"Meantime, the Allied armed forces have been ordered to suspend offensive action.

"The proclamation of V-J Day must wait upon the formal signing of the surrender terms by Japan."

Simultaneously, Mr. Truman disclosed that selective service is taking immediate steps to slash inductions from 80,000 to 50,000 a month.

8-18-45

Henceforth, Mr. Truman said, only those men under 26 will be drafted for the reducer quotas.

The White House made public the Japanese government's message accepting that ended the war which started December 7, 1941.

Demobilization of a vast military establishment and the reconversion to peace-time pursuits of an industrial plant expanded beyond original belief are, in a broad sense, the major problems confronting America today with the ending of World War II.

Never in all history has the world found itself faced with such utter chaos and wide-spread destruction as it does today. And while America managed to escape the physical devastation that had hit Europe and the Far East, it nevertheless felt the impact of these blows throughout its economic, political and social structure. No segment of its populace went untouched by the events of the war years.

8-18-45

Like other Americans, Negroes must now go about the task of reconstruction — among themselves and in concert with other Americans. In some instances the problems will be identical; in others, peculiar. In either case they will involve the return of servicemen to civilian life, the development of an up-to-date agency to deal with their problems for years to come, the struggle for jobs by all, and finally, the release of war-incurred tension.

8-18-45

A large army of occupation is going to be maintained both in Europe and in Japan, with Gen. MacArthur in command, the war department disclosed. But as quickly as it can, the department intends to release men from the service and return them to their homes. This they expect to be able to do at the rate of 500,000 men a month, using present redeployment centers in addition to the separation centers now in use.

The job of bringing men back from overseas will tax shipping but the job, the department says, will be done expeditiously. It is to be expected, however, that service troops may be delayed a bit longer than others since they will probably be required to dismantle and load equipment that is to be brought back here. Of course, certain types of equipment will be useable abroad and so disposed of there.

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The Veterans administration, with Gen. Omar Bradley taking over direction this week, is shaping up into a model agency. The insistence of Negroes that a Negro special assistant be appointed is likely to meet with a warm reception. The idea has already been advanced in administration circles and is understood to be looked upon favorably.

The realization of this objective will give some assurance to Negro veterans that they will have some protection for their rights under the GI Bill of Rights. Apart from Gen. Bradley is regarded as a "square-shooter", certainly superior to his predecessor, Gen. Frank T. Hines, who continually maintained that there is no problem.

Growing like a spectre now is the prospect of unemployment. Even before President Truman had transmitted the reply of the allies to the Japanese government, the war department had announced a cutback in material requirements of some $4 billion. This was on Saturday.

Reports of the labor department and from the FEPC all along have pointed out that the Negro's greatest gains have been in war industries — munitions and shipbuilding. A perusal of cutback announcements would easily show that the weight of these changes will fall heavily upon the war industries, thereby throwing millions of Negroes out of work in high-paying jobs.

8-18-45

The chances of re-employment, either in their skills or at comparable wages in other pursuits, will be seriously impaired by the return of servicemen who also will be seeking jobs. The speed with which industry is able to reconvert will determine the intensity of the problem and the length of its duration.

Finally, attention is beginning to focus upon threats of outbreaks. Sociologists and other observers in recent years have been viewing with unguarded alarm the possibility that racial incidents will develop with increasing frequency when the war emergency is behind us. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has been and is on the alert for signs of domestic unrest, and steps are being taken to check any such incidents.

Four Newsmen See Signing

Afro-American 9-8-45

60 Stewards Present Aboard the Missouri

ANXIOUS TO RETURN

Baltimore, Md.

Intend to Fight for Peace on Home Front

By CHARLES H. LOEB
NNPA War Correspondent

ABOARD THE USS MISSOURI IN TOKYO BAY (By Cable) — A second-class nation of regimented people whose first-class fighting men were no match for the enormous resources and aroused fighting spirit of free men signed away Japan's ill-conceived dream of world conquest at 9:15 a.m., Sept. 2, Tokyo time.

The surrender took place on "the piece of American soil" that is the deck of the USS Missouri, flagship of the Third Fleet anchored at Yokosuka Harbor, south of Tokyo. 9-8-45

As far as the fighting men in the Pacific were concerned, it was V-J Day when the Sphinx-faced Japanese delegation leader, wooden-legged Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu, stepped up to sign the treaty before representatives of the United Nations and the crew of the Missouri.

60 Stewards, 3 Newsmen Present

Correspondents and cameramen of the world's press captured the scene for history.

The colored people and the colored press were well represented, the people by the 60-man contingent of stewards who stood on deck at stiff attention and the press by there other reporters and your correspondent.

20 Saw Launching

One-third of the stewards were on the Missouri's maiden voyage following her launching Jan. 29, 1944.

They are among the elite group of enlisted men who will in the years to come regale their friends and relatives with descriptions of the historic scene. Each will bring home a specially designed cards authenticating claims.

They are:

Charles Davis, Paterson, N.J.; Ned Sellers, Detroit; Willie R. Moseley, Richmond; James J. Scott Jr., Springfield, Ill.; Harold G. Osorio, New York City; Mar J. Johnson, Eagle Lake, Texas;

Samuel E. Heading, Dothan, Ala.; Ernest J. Hinton, Raleigh, N.C.; Cleon C. Harrison, Sulphur Springs, Texas; Thomas Ruiz, Brooklyn; Willie J. Davis, Houston; Samuel D. Linscomb, New York City; P

J. F. Journee, New Orleans; A. Roger Adams, Philadelphia; Franklin Robinson Jr., Beaufort, S.C.; Edward D. Mahoney, Ft. Myers, Fla.; Thomas Ray, Vicksburg, Miss.; Jonathan Gay, Bryan, Texas;

John T. Ingram, Memphis; Rufus Shepard, Fort Pierce, Fla.; Elihue Simon, Miami; Nathaniel Short, Louisville, Ky.

Osorio, steward third class, in charge of the group brought to Japan from Guam by the destroyer, spoke for his men and then gave me a statement signed by them. It read:

"As we were fighting and working in the Navy, we have been listening all this time to statements about the rights of minorities, the Four Freedoms, etc.

Look for Fulfillment

"These are principles the Allies were fighting for. Now that the great war is over, we of the colored group are expecting that these standards of human liberties and justice will be given us;

"We have been asked frequently 'What are we fighting for?'

"Well, we are fighting for a chance to fight on. We have just fought with weapons of war to make this world a better place for humanity.

To Use Weapons of Peace

"Now we must fight again with the weapons of peace, education, unity of race, and our franchise, to make this greatest nation of the world a better home for the colored race."

Dlf&h sink haor hoar oa oa

Many of these men were manning .20- and .40-milimeter guns when the Missouri shot down the first Jap plane on March 1, 1944, off Iwo Jima. They were aboard when the Missouri returned to the Tokyo area with Task Force 58, with Okinawa the target.

Helped at Okinawa

They were thrilled and shuddered on March 24 when the Missouri unlimbered its main battery for the first time, hurling tons of explosives into Okinawa fortifications.

They were aboard when the Kamakaze crashed into the starboard quarter, inflicting only superficial damages.

They were at the guns when the Missouri bombarded Japanese steel works at Muroran on Southern Hokkaido and saw the shores of Japan from seven miles out on July 17 during shelling of Hitachi area on Honshu.

Anxious to Return

Now they are champing at the bit to get back home to wives, relatives and a newer and brighter life.

Steward First Class Willie W. Booth Jr., Baltimore, speaking for group polled for V-J Day reactions, said:

"I am sure I speak for all of us when I say that none intend to re-enlist. We've lots of time to make up.

"All of us, of course, are hoping that our service to our country will be rewarded by better chances to live in our various communities as first-class citizens.

Seek Only Their Rights

"We are not too interested in bonuses, special service men's concessions or in anything special.

"We only want a chance to work where we show ability for the job, to continue our education in schools of our choice, to have a vote in whatever community to which we return.

"That is what we've fought for and will continue to fight for when we go back home."

Knew of Event Beforehand

Stewards aboard the USS Ancon, communications ship, which housed correspondents with the Navy, were among the best informed service men in the world.

They regarded V-J Day as anticlimatic, however, for their V-J Day occurred two weeks ago when they were alerted to proceed to Yokosuka Naval Base for the signing proceedings.

From vantage points on the deck of the Ancon, they watched the signing ceremony on the Missourri "just across the street a few hundred yards."

Hope for Full Partnership

Colonies Place Faith In New Administration

Pittsburgh Courier
Pa
8-11-45

By GEORGE PADMORE, Courier London Correspondent

LONDON—(By Cable)—Thanks to Britain's "bloodless revolution," the Socialist Party now has the greatest opportunity since the Bolshevik revolution to bring about liquidation of the worlds' greatest empire by transforming India, Africa, West Indies and other Colonial territories into full partnership with Great Britain on a basis of absolute political, economic, social, and racial equality with white dominions.

TRADE MEN IN POWER

Whether Socialists will grasp the opportunity of transforming the Colonial system by rapidly advancing the native races along the road of self-determination as pledged in the Socialist Party election program awaits to be seen. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Attlee has selected two ex-trade union officials to take over control of the Colonial Office, replacing two aristocratic Tory Colonial secretaries, Oliver Stanley, son of Lord Derby, and Stanley's brother-in-law, the Duke of Devonshire.

RAPID PROGRESS

The new plebian rulers of King George's far-flung Colonial empire are George Henry Hall, ex-coal miner, and Arthur Creech Jones, ex-railway clerk. Hall is a Welshman who, after working in coal mines since boyhood, later became a trade union organizer. When the Socialists joined Churchill's coalition government in 1940, Churchill appointed Hall Under-Secretary of the Colonies. In 1942, Churchill reorganized the coalition cabinet, promoting Hall to Financial Secretary to the Admiralty. From 1943 until the breakup of Churchill's administration, Hall served as Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs under aristocratic Anthony Eden.

Now that the political pendulum has swung violently leftwards, throwing the right wing Tory reactionaries overboard and bringing proletarian leaders to the forefront, Colonial peoples are expecting a big instalment of reforms from their British Socialist comrades. Unless this is granted, the colored races will conclude that, however much Socialists and Tories may differ over domestic issues, both are the same on imperial problems affecting Indians and Africans and other subject Empire peoples.

Realizing that the eyes of the world's colored races will be closely watching labor's Colonial administration, Prime Minister Attlee has made Creech Jones, leading Socialist Colonial expert, first assistant to Hall. During Churchill's administration, Jones was the foremost critic of the Tory Colonial policy. Now he will have an opportunity of applying the theories and policies he has been advocating.

JONES IS 54

Jones entered Parliament in 1935, and is now 54 years old. Before becoming a professional politician Jones held the position of national secretary to the Transport and General Workers' Union, the largest union in Britain, which was organized by Ernest Bevin, Eden's successor.

Thanks to Bevins' patronage, Jones advanced rapidly in the Socialist hierarchy, and when Churchill appointed Bevin Minister of Manpower Control, Bevin in turn appointed Jones his parliamentary secretary. It was a case of "I scratch your back; you scratch mine." 8-11-45

GROWS AS LEADER

Now Bevin is boss of the Foreign Office, and friend Jones also has advanced as second in command of the Colonial Office, and is responsible for the destiny of over sixty million dark-skinned citizens of the empire.

While Jones was serving his parliamentary apprenticeship, he began to devote his spare time to Colonial affairs and gradually became recognized as a leading Socialist expert on foreign affairs. In order to arouse interest in Colonial affairs within the Labor Party and trade unions, Jones organized the Fabian Colonial Bureau in 1940 and served as chairman. Soon the bureau became the spearhead for Colonial propaganda and the mouthpiece for native demands in leftist parliamentary circles, thereby focusing attention of the Colonial Office on native injustices.

During this period, Jones and leftist members of Parliament became such thorns inside the Tories that Oliver Stanley resorted to the age-old tradition of quieting critics by appointing Jones to serve on the Colonial Office Commission on Higher Education of West Africa. In this capacity, Jones visited West Africa in 1944, under the leadership of Col. Walter Elliott, Tory member of Parliament who suffered defeat in the last elections.

VISITED AMERICA

Stanley also sent Jones to America to help Lord Hailey explain the British imperial policy to American critics at a conference organized by the Institute of Pacific Relations in 1943.

While visiting in New York, Jones explained the Socialist Colonial policy to a conference of Aframerican intellectuals at a Harlem public library, promising that when Socialists replaced Churchill's government, the Colonials would receive a new deal. Now that he is in, Jones is expected to implement his party's promise.

560-1945

Collaborator

Grand Zombie

Time

Alioune Mamadou Kane came to Paris from his native Senegal in the early '30s. A spear-tall (6 ft. 8 in.), mission-trained blackamoor, he made a living by driving a taxi and hawking West African gewgaws. Then, at the 1937 Paris International Exposition, he performed as a fakir. It became a habit.

Chicago, Ill.

He decked himself in flowing blue robes, green-&-gold skullcap, ram's-horn necklace and a resounding title: Batoula, the Great Marabout and Prince of Zombie. As prince of an African voodoo cult, he spoke flamboyantly of 2,000,000 followers. In 1939 he made a trip to New York. Harlem gave him a lavish reception, and many a dusky laundress dreamed of becoming his Princess.

12-24-45

When the war broke out, Mamadou Kane became an officer of French Senegalese troops. After the defeat of 1940, he donned his royal robes again. The Germans were impressed. They gave him an office in the Hotel Scribe, winked when the Prince of Zombie became a prince of black marketeers.

This month Mamadou Kane, accused of collaboration with the enemy, stood before a Paris court of justice. For two hours he wept, beat his breast, gestured royally, proclaimed his innocence like a prophet.

Chicago, Ill.

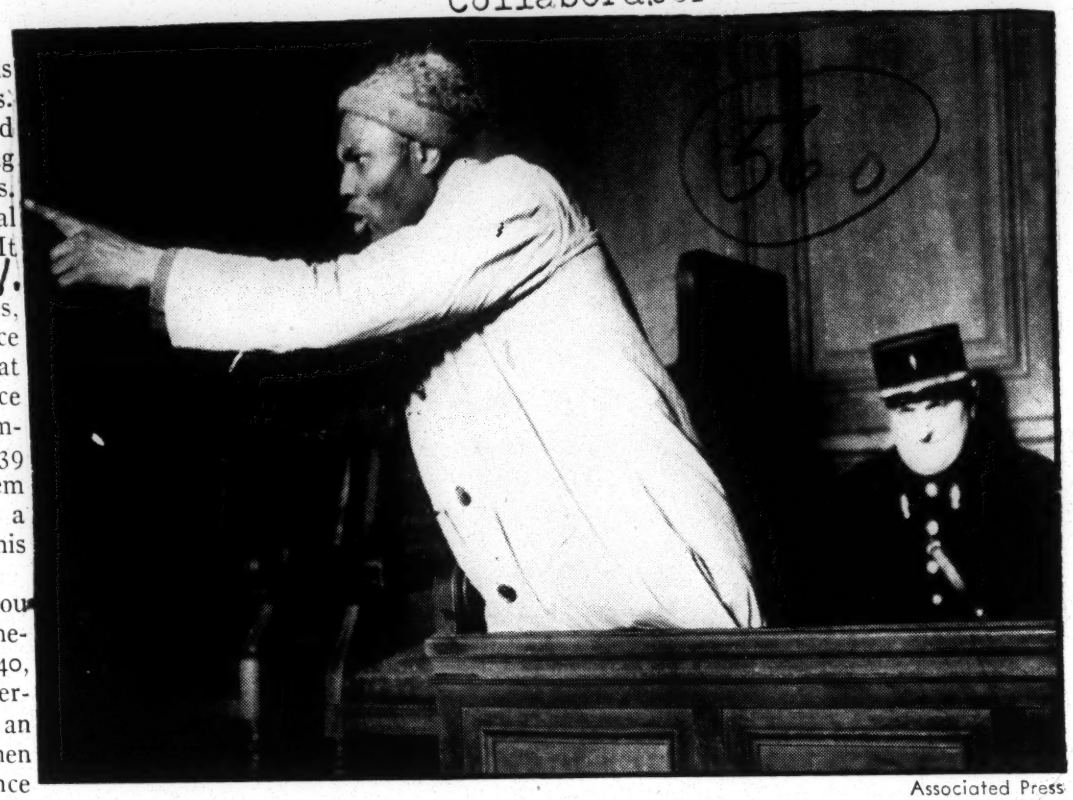
The Court asked: "Is it true that during the occupation you owned a car and employed a chauffeur?"

The Prince of Zombie replied: "I had four cars—two Packards, one Buick, one Mercury!"

"And where did you get all the money?"

"I had my faithful flock, just like the Pope."

The Court was unimpressed. Last week Kane began five years hard labor.



Associated Press

PRINCE OF ZOMBIE

He had his faithful flock—and four cars.

560-1945

General

WAR: Victory In Midst Of Promise of More Democratic Army Plans

The Journal and Guide — Norfolk, Va.

January 1-19-45

JANUARY 6—92nd Infantry Division sees action with U. S. 5th Army in Italy. Buffaloes retake Bargo and hold the Jerries in the coastal sector near Tyrrhenian Sea. U. S. Third Army attacks north of Bastogne against Germans' Belgium salient. In france, the Germans atacked U. S. Seventh. Tan Yanks welcomed opportunity to see front line combat. Two Negro girls, Harriet I. Pickens and Frances E. Wills complete WAVE officer training at Smith College.

JANUARY 13—92nd makes raid behind Nazi lines; commando tactics used in spectacular attack along Riviera coast. Seven pilots, including four squadron leaders of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy awarded the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross. In Belgium, German bulge compressed by new Allied gains. Col. Chauncey M. Hooper, former commanding officer of New York's 369th Coast Artillery (AA) Regiment, report for duty as a member of the Secretary of War's discharge review board.

JANUARY 20—A unit of 92nd Division soldiers, led by 2nd Lt. Wilbur P. Ledbetter of Washington, capture Nazi patrol, including the first German officer, a lieutenant, to be taken alive by the 92nd. In the Pacific theater, Seabees pile up an enviable list of feats, both working and fighting.

JANUARY 27— Two Negro engineer units participate in D-Day operations on Luzon, Philippine Islands. Quartermaster truck drivers among the first to roll over the Ledo Road into China. In European theater of operations, Negro engineers show gallantry and daring as they mop up behind advancing battle armies. Major George Spencer Roberts awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in Italy and named honorary colonel by West Virginia governor.

February 1-19-45

FEBRUARY 3—In France with the American 7th Army, small units of the 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion, tankmen, and armored infantry of the 14th Armored Division assisted a crack American infantry to halt Field Marshal Karl von Rundsted's offensive at Hatten and Rittershofen for 11 days. Two 92nd Division officers in Italy, Lts. Graham H. Jenkins, Philadelphia, and John R. Fox, Cincinnati, give their lives to halt Nazis in gallant Serchio defense. Willie James Jackson, Navy cook, awarded Silver Star for saving lives of many comrades aboard LST 357 during amphibious invasion at Salerno, Italy. Two Silver Stars and 14 Bronze Stars awarded to 92nd heroes. A 155-mm howitzer outfit, while German mortars fell on them "like rain," bravely stick to their guns, firing around the compass in defense of encircled Bastogne, France. Assurance given in Dutch, New Guinea, that the 93rd Division to fight again as battle unit.

FEBRUARY 10—During the bloody battle around Cherbourg, France, a Martinique Negro with French forces, Antoinne Montburn, kills, wounds, and captures five hundred Nazis. Negro troops, led by Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, builder of the vital Ledo Road, deliver the goods in China. Pvt. Jake McInnis, Mt. Olive, Miss., attached to 92nd Division, Fifth Army, halts Germans for seven hours, sending 20 to death on the Gothic Line. Quartermaster company with supply forces in Belgium, heroic when attacked by the Germans. Manila falls to U. S. Forces.

FEBRUARY 17—In spite of heavy casualties during three days of blazing action, the 92nd Infantry Division makes spectacular advance in the coastal sector of the Gothic Line. Wounded of the division sent to states receive medical care.

FEBRUARY 24—First contingent of Negro Wacs, a postal unit, numbering 738, arrive in England. 3103rd Quartermaster Company supports the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions in the invasion of Holland. For heroic action in personally accounting for 14 Nazis when the Germans attacked the 92nd Division lines in Italy, T/5 Jefferson H. Hilliard, Brooklyn, N. Y. awarded the Silver Star. For bravery in action on Siegfried Line in France, Capt. Charles I. Thomas, Detroit, Mich., tank destroyer commanding officer, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Dec. 1944.

March 1-19-45

MARCH 3—Weather clears, permitting 332nd Fighter Group pilots, under command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., to resume blitzing of the Nazi homeland. Italian partisans credited with giving aid to 92nd Division in the Gothic Line battle. Awards and promotions go to 93rd Infantry Division for gallantry during encounters with Japs in the Pacific theatre of operations. Pfc. James Robinson, Atlantic City, N. J., in Italy with the 92nd Division, awarded the Silver Star Feb. 19, 1944, for a daring feat in going to aid of wounded comrade. Twenty other Buffalo Division members awarded Bronze Stars.

MARCH 10—92nd Infantry Division in Italy ignores flood of German propaganda. Torpedo boat stewards fight with McArthur's forces in the recapture of Corregidor. Negro troops in Burma, India win praise of Chinese First Army General Sun Li-jen. Ensign Joseph Banks Williams, first colored Seabee officer, arrived at an advanced base in the Pacific for duty. Germany's fourth largest city, Cologne, falls to U. S. First Army. Miss Phyllis Mae Daley, New York, first Negro Navy nurse, commissioned an ensign on March 8.

MARCH 17—Judge Cantrell Jr., Navy cook second class, Knoxville, Tenn., awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism in a Pacific rescue. Colored 784th Tank Battalion, with the 35th Infantry Division in Germany, staged a miniature "Bastogne" in the battle of Sevelen. On Iwo Jima, amphib drivers braved Jap bullets and mortar shells on D-Day to bring ashore the first big howitzers for the Fifth Marine Division. With advance U. S. Forces in Holland, All-Negro officered chemical warfare unit paved way for combat troops.

MARCH 24— At Rome (Italy) press conference, Truman K. Gibson Jr., civilian aide to the Secretary of War, requested that the 92nd Infantry Division be given a break, said that the Division was "fighting two battles," one against prejudice. On the Rhine, in the ETO, Negro and white infantry fought shoulder to shoulder. 1st Lt. William S. Price, of Topeka Kansas, a member of the 332nd Fighter Group, stationed at an advanced base in Italy, downed the first Nazi plane of '45. Four men of the 818th Amphibian Truck Co., with U. S. Forces in France, awarded Bronze Stars for courageous action in saving comrades in a burning gasoline dump. Members of the Eighth Marine Ammunition Company praised for fearless action on Iwo Jima. Promotions, DFCs and efficiency prizes go to members of the 332nd Fighter Group, in Italy, for excellent service.

MARCH 24—Japanese resistance on Iwo Jima ends after the bloodiest battle of Marine Corps history.

MARCH 31 — 332nd Fighter Group pilots, in Italy, bag their first jet planes, knocking down three in a spectacular mission to Berlin, March 25, '45. Clare Luce, congresswoman from Connecticut, talked with battle veterans of the 92nd Division in Italy. In Holland-ia, Dutch, New Guinea, General Douglas McArthur said to Walter White: "Race is no factor in fighting ability." Back in the states, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr., now dead, said: "I don't give a damn what color you are as long as you get out there and kill those son of . . . in the green suits." The Presidential Citation awarded to the 969th Field Artillery Battalion in France.

April 1-19-45

APRIL 7—From an advanced air base in Italy, the 332nd Fighter Group pilots downed 25 Nazi planes in two days of battling over Austria. Report from Paris, France, reveals that two Negro field artillery battalions, 333rd and 578th, suffered heavy casualties in Karl von Runstedt's Ardennes offensive in December, 1944. 426th Engineers praised for keeping supplies rolling to the front in the ETO. Negro sentinels from 3226th Quartermaster Service Company guard Nazi prisoners in England.

APRIL 14—92nd Division faces stiff resistance in battle for La Spezia in Italy. A veteran unit of the Buffalo Division transferred to engineer duty. Truman K. Gibson Jr., defends the 92nd in Washington press conference; states that the division "has not failed in combat." A total of 7,000 men of the 92nd won battle honors; among the number were 1,377 Purple Heart wearers. General George C. Marshall visited the Buffalo Division in Italy. The 709th Medical Sanitary Company, serving in Belgium, praised for excellent round-the-clock action while under attack. 3424th Trucking Company in France, in daring feats, delivers supplies to the Seventh Army when all other transportation bogged down. Liberty Ship SS Robert L. Vann, originally skippered by Negro Captain John Godfrey, reported sunk. In Manila, Philippine Islands, death of Lt. Col. Walter Howard Loving confirmed.

APRIL 28—In Italy, as the Allies break mountain lines and enter the Po Valley, the 92nd Division cleans up in the Apennines. In the states, mixed Coast Guard crew experiment initiated by Lt. Carlton Skinner, former secretary of the Washington Newspaper Guild, called success. Nuremberg, Nazi "shrine" city, taken by U. S. Seventh Army and mixed U. S. units attacked.

1-19-45

APRIL 21—92nd Division big guns paved way for Allied infantry in advance on Massa, Italy. Buffalo Division mourns death of late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. For the first time in the history of the United States Marine Corps, three Negroes began training for commissions. They were: former Sgt. Maj Charles F. Anderson, Birmingham, Ala.; 1st Sgt. Charles W. Simmons, Centralia, Ill.; and 1st. Sgt. George F. Ellis, of Brooklyn, N. Y. (They were not commissioned later, however.) Reports from U. S. Forces in France reveal that port companies manned machine guns when Field Marshal Karl Von Runstedt smashed into the American lines.

May

MAY 5—Announcement made of U. S., Russia, and Britain backing the Yalta decision. 332nd Fighter Group pilots have field day smashing Germans in Northern Italy. Mussolini's tragic end stirs GIs in Italy. United Nations' World Security Conference gets down to business in San Francisco. Report of Nazi surrender proves false. Four Nazi flyers over Prague downed by a trio of new 332nd Fighter Group pilots. Tan GIs win praise from Gen. Joseph Stilwell for excellent job done helping to build the Ledo Road in China Burma theatre.

MAY 12—Unconditional surrender of Germany formally ratified in Berlin, ending the war in the ETO. Nazi surrender finds troops calm. 332nd Fighter Group pilots relieved of operational assignments as combat in theatre is terminated. 92nd Infantry Division, with the 15th Army Group in Italy, awaits new orders. Colored GIs who fought in mixed units praised by Maj Gen. Roderick R. Allen, 12th Armored Division commander.

MAY 19—Marine Private First Class Luther Woodard, Lucy, Tenn., awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement against the Japs in the Pacific. China and Russia denounce the colonial system at the San Francisco Security Conference. 1871st Engineer Aviation Battalion busy building 4,000-bed hospital near Manila. 92nd Division troops rest in Italy.

MAY 26 — Seventy-five Tan Yanks among the first 2,500 soldiers discharged under the point system. Major Gen. Hugh J. Casey, chief engineer, general headquarters, Southwest Pacific, lauds engineer troops, without regard to race, for doing a good job from Port Moresby to the Philippines. Major Gen. Edward M. Allmond, 92nd Division commander, issues a statement of sincere admiration for the outfit's splendid performance in accomplishing the swiftest and most spectacular results in the last crucial campaign.

June 1-19-45

JUNE 2—92nd Division slated to return to Fort Huachuca, Ariz. The 366th Company of the Buffalo Division bore brunt in the Serchio attack in Italy, it was announced.

JUNE 9—Many Congressmen endorse mixed Army unit policy. Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Fifth Army chief, lauded all colored units of the 92nd Division, except the Infantry. Acting Secretary Robert P. Patterson revealed at a press conference in Washington that the 24th Infantry Regiment, which saw action on Saipan and Bougainville in the Pacific, and the 761st Tank Battalion, which fought in Europe, had won high praise for combat service.

JUNE 16—Bronze Service Stars were awarded to 417 members of port companies for work in northern France campaign. First Negroes assigned to Army judge advocate general's department in European theatre—Capts. James A. McLendon, Chicago, and Williard B. Ransom, Indianapolis, Ind.

JUNE 23 — In France General Dwight D. Eisenhower lauds Tan Yanks. "Performance equal to any," he said. Paid tribute to 2,600 Negro soldiers who volunteered for combat duty. In a ceremony held deep in conquered Germany, ten Negro doughboys, who served with the 104th Timberwolf Division, were decorated for bravery against the Nazis. Navy Department discloses that there were 81 Negroes aboard the ill-fated aircraft carrier USS Franklin, sunk 60 miles off the Jap mainland by Nip dive bomber attack.

JUNE 30—Col. B. O. Davis Jr., assumes command of the 447th Composite Bomber Group at Godman Field, Ky., replacing Col. Robert W. Selway, who was blamed for racial friction at the base. Tan Yank units took part in victory campaign and that four Negroes were decorated for bravery. Tan Yank units took part in victory campaign and that four Negroes were decorated for bravery. Navy Department discloses that there were 81 Negroes aboard the ill-fated aircraft carrier USS Franklin, sunk 60 miles off the Jap mainland by Nip dive bomber attack.

JULY 7—Mississippi's minority-that "Negro soldier has been an utter and abysmal failure." Jacob L. Devers, 6th Army Commander in refuting Eastland's blasphemy of Tan Yanks. Senator Eastland's slimeaer did "not represent the viewpoint of the War Department" according to Under Secretary of War Robert Patterson.

Steward Mates First Class Herbert J. Crawford, Washington, D. C.; Willie Brown, Bell City, La.; and Claymon T. Holmes, Salerno, Fla., for citations as a result of their courageous action in fighting flames aboard the USS Bunker Hill in the Pacific.

July

JULY 14—A battalion composed of officers and men from the disbanded 369th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment credited with being the only all-Negro combat group that participated in the Ryukus campaign, helping wrest Okinawa and other strategically important islands from the Japs. Navy eases color bar by assigning all recruit trainees to training stations irrespective of race, on similar basis. 93rd Infantry Division moved into the Philippines, after having battled the Japs at Bougainville early in 1944 92nd Division, in Italy, still standing by to return to the states. In England, Lt. Col. Harold C. Jirsa, commanding officer of the 168th Army Station Hospital, said in landing colored nurses in ETO: "they are skilled, kind, and cooperative workers."

JULY 21—Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, praised the Navy's racial integration plan after an official three week inspection tour of naval installations in this country. White Marines and Negro sailors riot on Guam on Christmas, 1944, as a result of unprovoked Leatherneck attacks. Forty-five sailors imprisoned. 92nd Division officer, Lt. V. J. Baker, Cheyenne, Wyo., awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action on April 6, 1945, near Viareggio, Italy. John "Rover" Jordan, Journal and Guide war correspondent, wins special commendation for his excellent war coverage of the 92nd Division in Italy. The 3243 Quartermaster Service Company, with U. S. Forces on Guadalcanal, awarded Meritorious Service Unit Plague for outstanding performance of duty. Six islands in the Marianas chain captured by two platoons of Negro infantrymen from Saipan.

JULY 28—Twenty-four GIs of 92nd Infantry Division killed and 48 injured as a mine blows up the American Red Cross enlisted men's club in Viareggio, Italy. The 8th Marine Ammunition Company attached to the 8th Field Depot, credited with outstanding performance of duty on bloody Iow Jima. Tempo of returning overseas veterans stepped up as 50,000 men a month reach the states.

August

AUGUST 4—For the first time in war, the atomic bomb, a new devastating engine of destruction, is used. Fifty thousand Japs killed as four square miles of Hiroshima is leveled. Underway is a new era in warfare. Six volunteers awarded Bronze Stars for courageous action aboard the USS Intrepid. The steward manned anti-aircraft guns, fighting off Jap suicide planes, until one crashed among them. Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, Richmond, Va., first Negro Navy officer to serve aboard a warship, assigned to duty on the USS PC-1264.

AUGUST 11—On Morotai Island in the South Pacific, a patrol of the 93rd Infantry Division captured a high ranking Japanese officer, Col. Muison Ouchi. Russia declared war on Japan. Second atomic bomb dropped on Japan's Nagasaki. This bomb, more powerful than the first released on the Nips, razed one-third of the city, killing 10,000 Japs.

AUGUST 18—War ends as Japan accepts unconditional surrender terms. President Truman announces capitulation at 7 p. m., August 14, 1945. For heroic defense on Nazi-beseiged Bastogne, the 969th Negro Field Artillery Battalion and white units who fought in the encircled, blazing city, received the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation.

AUGUST 25—Rioting broke out in Viareggio, Italy, when a white lieutenant struck a Negro officer who was escorting a fair USO show girl. **War Department releases report on the 92nd Infantry Division: casualties suffered, attached units included—5,752; killed in action—495; wounded in action—2,280; missing in action—77; taken prisoners of war—23; non-battle casualties—2,877.** Fifty-eight (58) per cent of quartermaster troops in ETO were Negroes. Of 133,354 in the theatre in March, 1945, 77,348 were Negroes.

September

SEPTEMBER 1 — Col. Julian Horne and member of his 24th Regiment, Negro outfit, received the surrender of 240 Japanese suicide troops on Aka Island. Bronze Stars numbered 44 awarded to men of sanitary platoon, attached to U. S. Army Medical Corps on Guam.

SEPTEMBER 2 — Japanese surrender terms officially signed aboard U. S. S. Missouri in Tokyo Bay. "For outstanding performance of duty" in escorting bombers over Berlin on March 24, 1945, the 332nd Fighter Group was awarded the Army's Distinguished Unit Citation. 92nd Division lauded in citation and Major Gen. Edward M. Allmond, its commanding officer, was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. **Fifteen members of the 93rd Division awarded Bronze Stars for meritorious service in direct support of military operations on Bougainville Island, New Guinea, and the Netherland East Indies.** 1-19-45

SEPTEMBER 15 — American troops pour into Jap capital, Tokyo, in preparation of ruling the Nips. Deactivated and slated to be shipped to the Pacific was the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion, which was commanded by heroic Capt. Charles L. Thomas, Detroit, Mich, who spearheaded an attack on the Siegfried Line. The Meritorious Service Unit Plaque was awarded to the 666th Quartermaster Truck Company, European theatre of operations, "in recognition of superior rating and outstanding devotion to duty . . . "Gen. MacArthur by order, dissolves the Japanese imperial staff. **War Department releases war casualty figures: Total Army dead since Dec. 7, 1941, all theatres, 203,379; Navy, 53,617. Army wounded, 571,589; Navy, 79,672.**

SEPTEMBER 22 — Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, on leave, heads group to survey the status of Navy Negro personnel in the Pacific. For meritorious service during the "Battle of the Bulge" in France, last winter, the 3991st Quartermaster Truck Company was awarded the Distinguished Unit Badge. The 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion fights forest fires in Oregon.

SEPTEMBER 29—S/Sgt. Joseph Louis Barrow, world heavyweight boxing champion, "for exceptional, Meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services," awarded the Legion of Merit Medal at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. Hideki Tojo, former Jap premier, attempts suicide by shooting, but fails and is saved by U. S. medical aid. **Conference of "Big Five" opens in London, as foreign ministers of the U.S., Britain, Russia, France, and China meet to seek solution of peace problems.** 1-19-45

October

OCTOBER 6—Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, informs the Army that he is withdrawing a suggestion, previously made, that reserve aviation units composed of Negro fliers be based at the Army Air Field located near Tuskegee. Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, discharged from the Army at Camp Shanks, N. Y. Tan Yanks, veterans of campaigns in Germany, France, and Belgium, attend the American (Army) University at Shrivingham, England. War Department celemency board begin reviewing cases of Army prisoners.

OCTOBER 13 — Admiral Chester W. Nimitz puts his stamp of approval on the integrated use of Negroes in the American Navy. Gen. George S. Patton Jr., removed as military governor of Bavaria for comments which aroused resentment in this country.

OCTOBER 20 — At Eniwetok, Marshall Islands, the crack 51st Marine Defense Battalion, all Negroes except commissioned officers, in conference with Lester B. Granger, inspecting installations in the Pacific, complained of Naval policy. Authoritative government source discloses that the peacetime Negro Air Forces tactical units will not be based at Tuskegee. Colored auxiliary ship crews credited with doing a good job during the war.

OCTOBER 27—A special Army committee, appointed by Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, and headed by Lt. Gen. Alvin C. Gillem Jr., weighs new Army policy on Negro. A poll conducted among white officers and sergeants who fought with Negroes reveals that mixed units are favored. The War Department finally releases a report which showed that Tan GIs in mixed units performed "very well in combat" under Gen. Eisenhower. Convicted of mutiny in Hawaii, and then restored to duty with original sentences suspended, were 52 of 73 members of Co. E, 1320th Engineers Service Regiment. The 318th Medical Battalion attached to the 93rd Infantry Battalion was awarded the Meritorious Service Plaque "for superior performance and outstanding devotion to duty . . ." 1-19-45

November

NOVEMBER 3 — Lester B. Granger, on inspection tour for the Navy, finds that the Seabees, who helped to win the bloody battle of Peleliu, live like "galley slaves." Two thousand GIs on Guam victims of Red Cross race discrimination.

NOVEMBER 19 — The Navy wipes out discrimination against Negroes at the Anacostia (D. C.) Naval Receiving Station. 103 Wacs assigned to the Thomas M. England General Hospital, Atlantic City, N. J., denied recreational facilities.

NOVEMBER 24 — Frederick C. Branch, Charlotte, N. C., the first Negro Marine officer, was commissioned a second lieutenant on the 170th anniversary of the corps then placed on inactive duty. The Navy Department announced that Negroes with ratings and commissions are in the service for keeps. Twenty per cent of the total casualties and injuries as a result of the disastrous typhoon that struck Tokyo were colored servicemen. Resignation of Cilivian Aide Truman K. Gibson Jr., accepted by Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson. Pfc. Jack Thomas, Albany, Ga., awarded the Distinguished Service Cross at Kunzeslau, Germany, "for extraordinary heroism."

December

DECEMBER 1 — Advanced elements of the 92nd Infantry Division arrived in the states. The 969th Field Artillery Battalion stationed in Weissenburg, Germany, slated to perform security guard duty at the trial of war criminals in Nuremberg.

DECEMBER 8—Admiral William F. (Bull) Halsey, famous task force commander, while in Norfolk, Va., describes Negro marines and sailors as "fighting fools." Twelve thousand and ninety-six decorations were made to officers and enlisted men of the famed 92nd Infantry Division. The division itself won 205 commendations and to the division colors the Italian government added the Military Cross of Merit in War. Seasoned veterans of the 92nd Division returned to the states; 21 Tidewater Virginia GIs among the number.

DECEMBER 15—The removal of 123 Negro soldiers, eligible for redeployment, from the USS Croatan, aircraft carrier, in France, draws a storm of protests. Colored soldiers, when discharged, and Asiatics barred from Australia, according to information given to U. S. Army officials by the Australian government. War Department reveals that 12,006 awards went to officers and enlisted men during World War II.

DECEMBER 22 — Secretary of the Navy issues a warning to all naval officers and personnel that no discrimination is to be practiced against Negro members of the armed forces returning to the states aboard ships, or against those in the Navy, after Negro press organizations protest USS Croatan raw deal. 1-19-45

DECEMBER 29—Gen. Omar N. Bradley, veterans' administrator, in conference with colored leaders of a national organization, says that he didn't believe "any blanket directive" would halt racial bias in the Vets' Administration, but stated that the appointment of an assistant to advise on Negro problems was "under consideration." War Department refuses to enlist more Negroes for aircraft training. Local and national government take steps to secure adequate housing for veterans.

560-1945

THE CONGRESS

Negative Test

Time Mag

Before the end of the Potsdam meeting, Harry Truman hoped to be able to tell Stalin and Churchill: the U.S. has kept faith, here is the signed pledge of our participation in world affairs.

Then a sudden switch was made in Senate signals. For Senate action this week, the Bretton Woods monetary plan and international bank was put ahead of the World Charter. Administration leaders hoped it would be approved before the week was out. Then, they hoped, would come quick action on the Charter. Last week it passed its first Senate examination —by the Foreign Relations Committee.

To the two-storied, mahogany-and-marble walled caucus room on the Senate Office Building's third floor came representatives of scores of national organizations, leaders of church, education and women's groups, leaders of the vanishing fringe of die-hard nationalists, many a listening Congressman, many a service man. They heard no rousing debates, no sharp claps of oratorical thunder. They heard very little that was substantial said against the Charter.

7-23-45

Foreknowledge. The Senate opposition —what little there was—knew that they had been beaten before they started. They had no apparent strategy for concerted attack. But the Charter's proponents did. That strategy was: accentuate the negative. What the Charter would not do, rather than what it might hopefully accomplish, was their theme. Carefully and objectively, white-suited Chairman Tom Connally and Senator Arthur Vandenberg explained the Charter would not abridge U.S. sovereignty; it would not put war-won Pacific islands under international trusteeship; it would not impose some postwar schemes of disarmament upon the U.S. without U.S. approval; it would not, by itself, take away from Congress the right to declare war.

7-23-45

Acme

ELY CULBERTSON
He developed "Communist Eurasia."

These were the chief points on which the opposition had trained its sights. But no heavy barrage was fired. Only one Senator took careful aim. Pointing a long, tobacco-stained finger, Colorado's big (200 lb.), bald Republican Eugene Donald Millikin lined up his target: the use of U.S. armed forces under the Charter. He asked: what control would the U.S. retain over its share of an international armed force? Could the U.S. reserve to itself decision over where and how to use its forces? Senator Millikin's close questioning of John Foster Dulles, the Committee's G.O.P. adviser on international affairs and the Charter, developed a point of surprise to several Senators, who had assumed that military agreements under the pact would be subject only to majority votes in the House and Senate.

Able Lawyer Dulles gave his opinion on the point: no, such agreements would have to be treaties, would thus be subject to a two-thirds Senate vote.

Millikin seemed satisfied.

"I'm No Crackpot." The hearings set off some fireworks, but even these sputtered and fizzled. They came mostly in one day, from some dozen witnesses who saw international bogeymen lurking under the Charter bed.

The noisiest: Mrs. Agnes Waters ("National Blue Star Mothers of America"). Her line: the Charter would "set up a world government for the Soviets . . . make of this nation a feeding trough for the have-nots."

Tom Connally was not amused when she yelled: "The real war criminals are sitting right in this room. . . . I name Mr. Stettinius, the former international banker." Finally, two guards escorted garrulous Mrs. Waters from the E-shaped hearing table. Cried she: "I'm not afraid of all the devils in hell. What this country needs is a good old-fashioned American revolution."

The witness who claimed to represent most territory was tall, lean David Darrin: he announced himself as representing "The United Nations of the Earth Association." This, it developed, was no more than a letterhead and David Darrin. He offered a charter of his own: "The Tentative Constitution of the United Nations of the Earth." It was not examined. The World Security Charter he dismissed as "godless . . . a monstrous crime against American liberties."

Among the other opponents:

¶ Bridge Expert Ely Culbertson ("Fight for Total Peace Inc."). His plea for charter changes: "We are facing within the next five or six years a preventive war by the capitalistic world to eliminate the threat of the rising Russian giant state. And if this war does not take place, then we are facing in 15 or 20 years a war for the control of the world by Communist Eurasia, led by Russia." Ely Culbertson offered amendments for disarmament, a United Nations armed force.

¶ Buxom Mrs. Helen Virginia Somers, whose theory was that the Charter implements a plot to make the Duke of Windsor "king of the world." Qualified Mrs. Somers: "I know whereof I speak; I'm no crackpot."

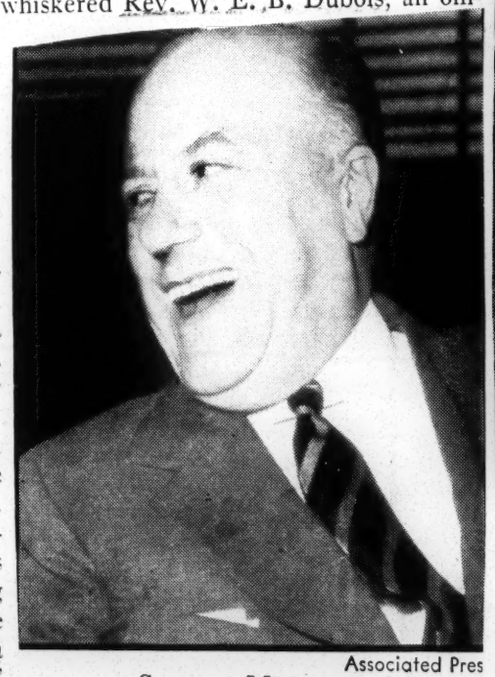
¶ A mother of nine, Mrs. Grace Keefe ("Women's League for Political Education"). To her the Charter was "an instrument insuring our perpetual involvement in all future wars."

¶ Mrs. Elsie F. Johnson. Snapped she: "This country is in the grip of a gigantic conspiracy."

¶ Mrs. Cecil Norton Broy ("Americans United Inc."; membership: 25). To her the pact "provides for dirty Big Five domination."

7-23-45

Skimmed Milk. One to whom the Committee listened intently was chin-whiskered Rev. W. E. B. Dubois, an official of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He suggested amendments to clarify racial equality and treatment of colonies.



Associated Pres

SENATOR MILLIKIN
He developed a surprise.

If these and a few others represented the cream of the nation's organized opposition, it was thin indeed. Many potent U.S. organizations went on the Committee's record in support of the Charter.

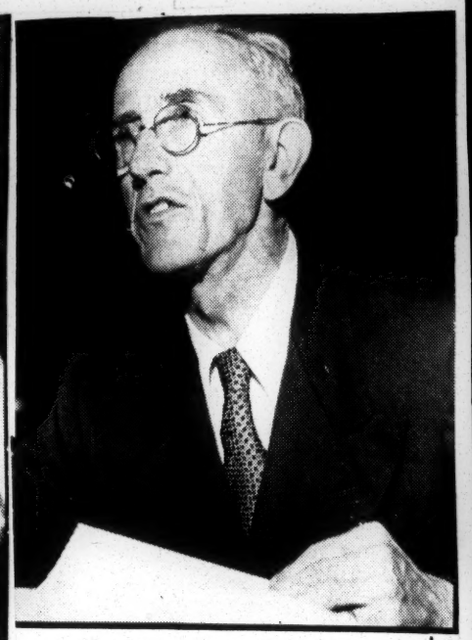
After five days Chairman Connally called a halt on the hearings, called for a vote. Result: 21 to 1 for approval (California's Hiram Johnson was the lone dissenter; Minnesota's Henrik Shipstead did not vote).

Effects on Negro and Race Relations

The cream of organized opposition was thin indeed.

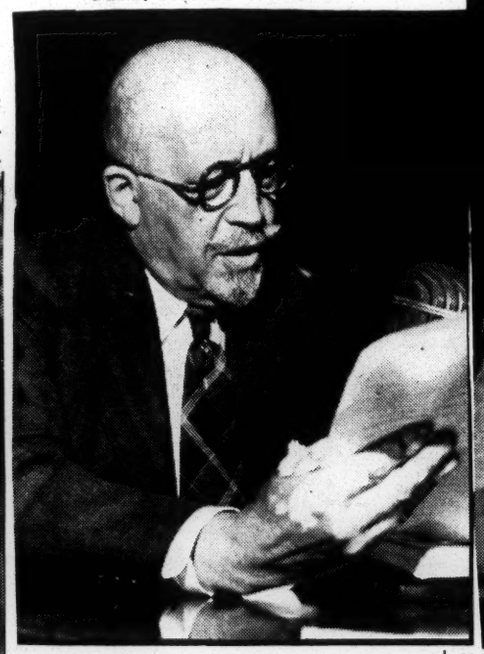
Internationa

MRS. AGNES WATERS



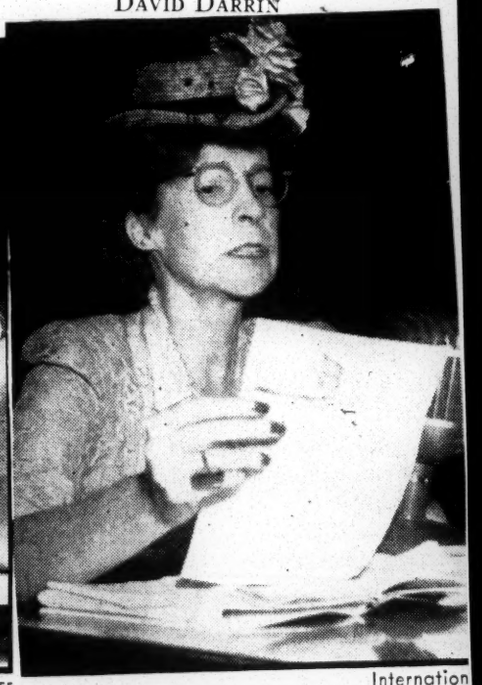
LIFE

DAVID DARRIN



LIFE

REV. W. E. B. DUBOIS



Internation

MRS. ELSIE F. JOHNSON

Some wanted amendments, some saw international bogeymen.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
P M
Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912
SEP 3 - 1945

By Albert Deutsch

Negro Labor Hit Hardest By Reconversion Cutbacks

Peacetime reconversion marks a critical period for the five and a half million Negro workers in the U. S. A. They stand to be hit hardest by any mass-scale unemployment. Their hard-won wartime gains in industry may be largely or wholly wiped out if full employment goals are not achieved. They were the last to be hired, in war as in peace, and lack of seniority plus lingering race prejudice stack the cards against them when dismissal slips are handed out.

What makes the outlook particularly bleak for Negroes is the fact that most of their wartime job gains were made in war-industry plants now feeling the full force of cutbacks in government contracts. Mass firing isn't the only economic problem faced by Negro workers. Many of those upgraded into skilled and semi-skilled jobs because of the acute manpower shortage face the immediate prospect of downgrading to their former status in unskilled categories with consequent disuse and waste of their acquired skills.

The threat to the Negro's job security reaches beyond warplant gates into non-essential pursuits. The manpower shortage forced many civilian lily-white trades and firms to hire Negro help for the first time. Other firms which had hitherto employed Negroes only in menial occupation accepted them for higher-paying jobs.

These wartime gains may now be lost before they can be consolidated. Preliminary reports from the Detroit area, hardest hit by war-production cutbacks, indicates that a disproportionate number of Negroes have been thrown into the ranks of the unemployed. Besides the competition of their white fellow-workers, Negroes face the added competition of veterans now returning to civilian life en masse.

Employment of Negroes in civilian jobs, according to the U. S. Labor Statistics Bureau, increased by nearly one million between April, 1940 and April, 1944. The outstanding change in Negro employment during this period, according to the same source, was a marked movement from the farms to the factories.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics points out that, during the four-year period, the number of Negroes employed as skilled craftsmen and foremen doubled, as did the number engaged in semi-skilled factory operations—from 500,000 in 1940 to about one million in 1944.

In spite of these modest wartime gains, there are still great industrial areas in American life where gross inequalities in job opportunities still prevail. These inequalities will hound more than 800,000 Negro servicemen when they return.

It will be hard enough for Negro workers, during the reconversion crisis, to hold their own against the general job threats which affect all workers. They face the added burden of race prejudice which deprives them of equal opportunity to jobs and advancement on the basis of ability.

To protect that right, we need, now more than ever, a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee. Citizens who believe in fair play should help pressure Congress into voting favorably and promptly on the permanent FEPC bill.

GLEN RIDGE, N. J.
PAPER
Circ. W. 1,974
AUG 24 1945

Problem Of Negro In Reconversion Is Studied By CIO

Committee Sees Negro As Integral Part Of Industry

The aftermath of the V-J Day holiday led to the creation of the Committee on Negro Problems in reconversion, at the August 17th meeting of Local 416, UER&MWA -CIO. When the organization voted to continue itself after the lay-off of the members of Eastern Aircraft the problems of the Negro members received the committee's attention in Bloomfield.

Henry Booth, Executive Board member and leader of Local 416 for the last two and one half years, outlined the purposes of the committee as follows:

"Labor, and Local 416 of the U. E. in particular, see in the closing of Eastern Aircraft Bloomfield and Ampere plants a threat to the post war security of the negro people. The full employment of the war years saw the emergence of the Negro as an integral part of industry, working with his fellow workers to achieve the greatest production job in world history. The negro is determined to keep the place he has won for himself in industry. A place which can be one by uniting with his white brothers in the labor movement to fight for "Jobs for All"—60,000,000 jobs in an all out peace production economy.

"The closing of war plants with no reconversion plans in view as expendable "war babies" will lead only to unemployment and the strife engendered by it. Labor is determined that this war's end will not see a repetition of the last one."

The committee of 15 members have been conferring with Negro and white leaders in this area and will announce their plans as they mature.

NUTLEY, N. J.
SUN
Cir. W. 4,100
AUG 24 1945

LETTERS

Calls For True Democracy in Post-war Adjustment Period

From S. Dorothy Peterson
58 Harrison Street

To the Editor of The Nutley Sun:

Within the past two weeks three major events have taken place which have made history long to be remembered and should cause every American to be proud of the capabilities of her people.

First, the success of the atomic bomb. Second, the end of the war with Japan brought about by the use of this weapon. Then, last but by no means least, the distinction made for themselves by that gallant and fearless group of Negro soldiers of the 93rd Division who, being given instructions to bring back a Japanese Colonel alive, did so in five days time. This was the highest ranking Japanese officer reported captured during the Pacific campaign.

Once more the Negro has proven himself worthy and capable of executing any task or duty assigned to him. Whether it has been on the battlefront or the front here at home, he has proven himself to be a loyal and true American in the recent conflict.

Now let us think of the post-war adjustment period and wonder if these same boys come home to face conditions as they were when they went away — discrimination, race hatred, Jim Crowism, economic insecurity and the morale breaking condition of knowing one is only tolerated by the country and people for whom they have given so much.

Let us keep faith and hope the American people will realize that before the eyes of all nations they represent that symbol for which we have suffered, bled and died — the symbol of true democracy.

Negro Veterans Scan America For Freedom They Fought to Save

By EUGENE GORDON

"What's your feeling," I asked Negro servicemen on 125 St. last Wednesday afternoon, "about the war you've just helped to win and about the way the future looks to you?"

Steve Wilson, a youngster in a merchant marine cap, interrupted his talk with a soldier friend to say that he had not been in the "shooting war" but that it had been plenty hot where he was. There he intended to stay—"for the time being, anyhow," he added, "because I belong to the NMU and I like the merchant marine."

His soldier friend, Pvt. Willie Johnson, of an engineering outfit, said he had worked in a Pittsburgh steel mill before the war and that the future, for him, personally, looked pretty good.

"My job's waiting for me," Johnson said, observing that he'd have to thank the union for that.

Corp. Lester Ballard of New York City thought "some good" had come to the Negro people out of this war. He felt that it would "take time for things to readjust themselves to normal," but that, as a result of the war, "there are many important changes in favor of the ambitious colored boy or girl."

He couldn't see much hope for true democracy in the United States, are driven from public life." Sure, he'd do his part to drive the Bilbos out.

Corp. Ira Montgomery of the 3137 Quartermaster Truck Co., said that after coming back from Europe, it is "disheartening" to find race hatred "as strong as ever" here, "in the country which supposedly fought to do away with it and which is supposed to be setting up democracy in Germany right now."

Corp. Montgomery has a little restaurant business he intends to go back to, but wishes the future looked as hopeful to some of his buddies as it does to him.

'As far as I can see, the thing we fought for—democracy for everybody—hasn't been won for the Negro in America," Sgt. C. D. Brown, one of Corp. Montgomery's buddies, declared. "One thing about the United States is it has the habit of preaching democracy but seldom practicing it."

GRAIN OF SALT

As to his future, he said, "Uncle Sam has told the American Negro soldier, along with the white soldier, that he can look for prosperous and happy times," but, he laughed, "I'm not taking Uncle at his word—meaning that if I don't get a suitable job I'm disappointed but not surprised."

Sgt. Allen Boston, presently unattached, was on a 30-day furlough from a 3½-year stay in the Aleutians. He hadn't been back long enough, he said, "to see how our boys are being taken care of," so he had no opinion on what gains had come from the war. Nor had he any inkling of when he'd be a civilian again. He only hoped things would be better than when he was inducted.

I came across a tall young fellow, in complete uniform except for his new civilian shoes, looking in a 125th St. leather-goods shop window. He had under his arm a bundle wrapped in green paper. He said he was a technical sergeant, late of the 77th Coast Artillery.

NOT SURE

"Only being out of the Army four days and celebrating my return to civilian life," he said, "I haven't had enough time to look around and see whether things are as good as or better than when I went away 3½ years ago."

He was hoping that he would find "a little more democracy at home" than he'd been led to believe existed here while he was in the South Pacific. He had been a radio mechanic in the Army and hoped to continue as a civilian.

Corp. Elbert L. Lee, still a member of the 392nd Engineer Regiment and not knowing when he'd be free, said his prospects for the future were, personally, "very hopeful." He expected to open "a small garage" and had been saving money for it. He doubted that the democracy for which we fought had been attained.

"The only way the Negro people as a whole can win the democracy we fought for is to keep up the fight here at home," Corp. Lee said.

Future Status Of The Colonies Occupies Major Attention Of The Great Powers

West African Pilot

Subject Features San Francisco Talks

West African Pilot 6-18-45

By GEORGE PADMORE, Our London Correspondent

LONDON.—It is the considered opinion of the best informed diplomatic observers here that apart from the solution of peace in Europe the problem which is occupying the major attention of the great powers is the question of what shall be the status of colonial dependencies.

This opinion is confirmed by the fact that, apart from the international security organisation, the subject which was mostly under discussion at San Francisco was a suitable arrangement between the powers concerned of this issue.

The Times, in an editorial summing up and analysing the projects put forward and the results of the discussions at San Francisco, says that "One of the 12 committees into which the San Francisco conference has resolved itself for its detailed work is considering the colonial section of the prospective United Nations Charter.

ANNEXATION OPPOSED

"The committee's aim is to revise and enlarge the mandatory conception established by the League covenant.

"Its concern is with principles, not with their application, so that when the Prime Minister of South Africa (Field Marshal Smuts) proposed that the mandate for South-West Africa should be terminated and the territory incorporated in the Union, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, who is the committee's chairman, ruled the proposal out of order.

"The committee's discussions have revealed interesting differences of view.

"Under the original British scheme, the projected trustee council would take cognizance of three kinds of territories — existing mandates, dependent territories taken from the defeated Axis powers, and territories voluntarily brought under the scheme by their present governors.

AUSTRALIA DISAGREES

"Australia would amend this last provision by empowering the assembly to place a badly administered territory under trusteeship.

"Her proposal gives clear expression to one of the ideas underlying the whole project, that of the responsibility of every colonial power to the general opinion of the civilised world.

"The rejection of this amendment would not imply any disavowal of the motive which inspired it, but only a wise caution against overburdening the assembly before it has developed its strength.

"The League's experience gives its warning here 6-18-45

STRATEGIC AREAS

"To the triple classification proposed by Britain the Americans would add a fourth territory, the strategic area, the oversight of which would be entrusted to the security council instead of to the trustee council.

"The difference of view which has arisen here has its origin in the differing circumstances of the two powers.

'The United States feels itself to be the principal custodian of future peace in the Pacific and, therefore, holds that the administration of thinly populated atolls of high strategic value should be judged primarily from the standpoint of security.

"Britain, as the greatest colonial power with direct responsibility for the welfare of scores of millions of dependent peoples, is equally concerned that her administration should be estimated by its contribution to human progress.

'POPULATED" AREAS

"Commander Harold Stassen (American spokesman) has prepared a draft which fuses the two proposals.

"It authorises the security council to distinguish between 'strategic' and 'populated' areas and itself to accept the oversight of areas which, at the request of the administering power, it classifies as 'strategic.'

"But the draft recognises that the distinction is not absolute.

"An area classified as strategic may also be populated.

"The draft, therefore, proposes that the security council may, at its discretion, charge the trustee council with the responsibility for the general welfare of such areas."

According to the Times Special Correspondent at San Francisco, the British delegation would prefer to have this permissive arrangement made mandatory.

The Soviet government, too, has put forward amendments to the draft, the most important of the declaring trusteeship to be a preparation for independence.

CONFLICT OF VIEWS

"An international conference is the right agency to reconcile divergent attitudes towards colonial responsibility.

"These divergences, which are perhaps in the main differences of emphasis rather than of principle, arise from variations both of local circumstances and of national ways of thought.

"The British view is likely to be coloured by an imperial tradition which has found its most novel and noteworthy expression in a process of gradual evolution from dependent status to freedom.

"The American view is likely to reflect not only an ancient tradition of liberation for dependent peoples, but also those more recent strategic preoccupations of which Pearl Harbour is a dramatic symbol.

SOVIET TRADITION

"The Russian desire to proclaim full national independence as the ultimate goal equally accords with a tradition of self-determination for subject nations which was a capital item of the Bolshevist programme even before 1917.

"This tradition has been consistently followed to the extent of recognising the formal right of secession even of constituent republics of the Soviet Union

"It is in this sense that Britain has made full self government the goal of her colonial policy, and her stand point is recognised in the form of words which would make either self-government or independence the final objective of trusteeship.

TRUSTEESHIP & COLONIAL RULE

"It is appropriate that the charter of the United Nations should seek to define the proper relation between advanced and dependent peoples and thus give binding force to a new widely recognised principle.

"But though trusteeship will be making its first appearance in international law as the basis of colonial rule, the idea itself is not new.

"It arose out of the humanitarian sentiments which gained ground so rapidly in Britain towards the close of the eighteenth century and found their first dramatic expression in the abolition of slavery.

"It was as trustees for peoples previously regarded as chattels that British colonial governors set themselves to establish internal peace and impartial justice in the territories which they administered, and it is primarily because of the success with which the greatest colonial power developed and applied the doctrine of trusteeship that it can now be given world wide scope.

"As a principle, trusteeship is not limited to mandated territories nor does it carry with it any suggestion of international government

"On the contrary, the position of the established government must be fully maintained if it is to carry out its legal obligations as a signatory o the charter.

"But the doctrine of trusteeship imposes on the exercise of sovereignty a responsibility to the conscience of mankind.

"It is a responsibility which this country, which has been quick to expose abuses of colonial rule and has done much to set up administrative standards, has properly taken a leading part in establishing and will itself continue faithfully to discharge."

Dr. Dean Writes On Post-War Outlook For Negroes

St. Croix Avis
Saint Croix Virgin Islands
U.S.A.

Dr. William H. Dean, former Price Executive of the OPA for the Virgin Islands, has contributed an article on Post-War Outlook For Negroes. (The article appears in the September issue of Interracial Review, A Journal For Christian Democracy, a Catholic organ published in New York. 11-14-45

In his article, Dr. Dean points to the possibilities, and starts by saying that there is hope, but that this hope is "blended with apprehension.

The article treats such phases of the problem as leadership, the trend in urban populations, employment and security, housing, and the problems that returning veterans will present, and which the GI Bill of Rights and the Veterans Administration will have to face. Finally, Dr. Dean points to the need for interracial cooperation as an essential for progress.

Dr. Dean, a Harvard Ph. D. and is presently project director for the National Urban League in New York.

The Post-War Outlook For Negroes

St. Croix Avis
Saint Croix, Virgin Island

by WILLIAM H. DEAN

The post-war outlook for Negroes in the United States is blended of hope and apprehension. There is hope because of the strength of the progressive and unifying forces in America. The elements of a realistic program for constructive social action, taking full regard of the racial aspects of reconversion and social reconstruction, are well defined, and a forward-looking sector of our national and community leadership is insistent upon a march toward democratic goals. There is apprehension because of the power of the obstructionist forces, the pronounced lag in planning for human and racial phases of reconversion and reconstruction, the loss of some of the unifying influence of the war effort, and the many signs of inertia and reaction. Many of the wartime gains made by Negroes may be swept away in a return to laissez-faire. 11-15-45

The abrupt end of the war against Japan has ushered in a critical period in race relations. Inevitable structural changes in our economy, transitional and perhaps permanent unemployment, migratory shifts of population, the return of battle-hardened veterans, the tendency to revert to "normalcy" and to relax wartime minority safeguards, the resurgence of "hate" movements and Bilbo-ism, and pressures on civil liberties create an atmosphere in which race tensions can mount dangerously. A number of people have predicted a wave of post-war race riots, similar to those after World War I. The hurricane flag has been hoisted.

The war has made it impossible to return to "discrimination-as-usual," without serious consequences, for the thinking of Negroes regarding their share in American life has been sharpened. The man-on-the street is more sensative to the frustrations and inequalities of the race-caste system. He has been indoctrinated with the ideals of the nation as a by-product of wartime propaganda. He has demonstrated industrial capacity and exploded the myth of industrial inferiority. At home Negroes have participated to a larger extent than ever before in the economic life of the nation; they have also contributed heavily to the victory of progressive political forces. Abroad, they have fought and died for democratic ideals and have learned that the race-caste system is not universal. The principle of fair employment practices has sunk deep into their minds. Negroes know that polices of national scope, carefully administered at community levels, can produce desirable results. The implications of this frame of mind to national and local leadership are obvious. 11-15-45

African Pot Simmers

The Pittsburgh Courier

Colonial 'Spectres' Haunt London Peace Conference

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

By RAYFORD LOGAN

Courier Foreign Affairs Adviser

9-22-45

WASHINGTON—The real "peace conference" is being held in London, and the ghosts of old world diplomacy are parading their century-old spectres through the bomb-racked shell of London. Almost every name that students twenty-five years ago came to know as the graveyards of plans for peace once more shuttles across the stage.

Moreover, if usually reliable reports may be believed, another familiar genie, power politics, seems to possess an amazing vitality. The idealism of the Atlantic Charter is even more ignored than were Wilson's Fourteen Points in Paris in 1919. What is being done to some of the principles of the San Francisco Charter makes our pessimism two months ago seem wan and pallid.

U. S. Proposes to Strip Italy of Colonies

LONDON—As a stunning surprise, the United States has proposed to the Council of Foreign Ministers now meeting in London that Italy be stripped of all her pre-war colonies, including Libya, Eritrea, and Italian Somaliland, and that those colonies be placed under international trusteeship. It had been widely believed previously that the United States favored letting Italy retain the colonies under trustee supervision.

ITALIAN COLONIES

For example, two of the long-familiar names are the Dodecanese Islands and the Italian colonies of Libya (including Tripoli and Cyrenaica), Eritrea and Italian Somaliland. Although the Dodecanese Islands are inhabited overwhelmingly by Greeks, full possession of them was given to Italy during World War I as a part of the price for her joining the Allies against the Central Powers. Italy promised to cede these islands "eventually" to Greece, but like many other similar promises the date of delivery was constantly postponed. Greece is demanding now the restoration of these islands, but Greece apparently is not going to be permitted to press her claims in person. Somewhat like native peoples in dependent areas, she seemingly is to have only the right of written petition.

560-1945

Along The Interracial Front

New York Age

By GEORGE EDMUND HAYNES

The "Big Three" have met in conference. Prior to the meeting, Prime Minister Churhill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden spent days and nights discussing how Britain can deal with the issues that must be decided.

After two hours of debate recently, about 480 church leaders at the National Study Conferenc of the churches on a Just and Durable Peace at Cleveland, Ohio, adopted an eight-point resolution approving the Dumbarton Oaks Plan, but setting up seven specific changes which Protestants desire. One of these changes asserts that "a special agency or commission should be established wherein the progress of colonial and dependent areas to autonomy, and the inherent problems relative thereto, will become an interntaional responsibility."

This crucial question must be faced by the "Big Three" and all the white nations if the Dumbarton Oaks Plan is to prevent World War III. Thoughtful Americans, white, black and brown, as well as colored peoples elsewhere, are asking themselves: "What are we fighting for? What will become of Burma, Indo-China, Syria, Ethiopia and all the other black and brown peoples in Africa and on the islands of the Pacific?"

The current issue of the National Geographic Magazine has a beautifully illustrated article about the Gilbert Islands which have been liberated from the Japanese by American blood and guts. One of the illustrations shows, however, the returning British Resident Commissioner. Will the brown people on these and other Pacific islands have any guarantee under the Dumbarton Oaks Plan such as that called for by the resolution of the churchmen? Many other dependent and colonial areas, formerly under French, Dutch, Belgian and British rule, raise similar questions.

Nearly all of the dependent and colonial areas are inhabited by colored peoples. The ruling nations after this war will be white. This question then has probably become another phase of world race relations. One of the major weaknesses of the League of Nations was the fact that Ethiopia was admitted under conditions imposed by Italy and other Western white nattions. Under these conditions, Ethiopia could not secure modern military instruction and equipment. When Italy attacked, Ethiopia was not prepared to defend herself. Mussolini made a race issue out of the whole matter to rationalize his rape of the African kingdom. Leading Indians point to the racial exclusion policies of Australia and South Africa as one of the obstacles to their dominion status in the British Empire.

Racial parity in the coming world peace, therefore, and the problem of races in the present war, like Banquo's ghost, will not down. Japan asked that the racial equality principle be included in the agreements following World War I. The request was rejected. Who knows what its adoption might have saved in blood and tears?

On both the domestic and the foreign front, many American leaders have been most anxious that the demand made by the churchmen be made a part of the Dumbarton Oaks Peace Plan. It must be answered in the affrmative or we cannot have "a just and durable peace."

No Clashes Expected, Says Mayor

Pittsburgh Courier

2-24-45

By JOHN H. YOUNG III

JACKSON—Mayor Leland Speed said in an interview here, "I expect to do more for the colored man than has been done in the past."

Mr. Speed had only been in office two weeks and could not give definite plans for the program of his administration.

When asked if there was a planning committee, appointed by the city, which was interracial in nature, Mayor Speed said that there was not, but that the Chamber of Commerce had such a committee and that he anticipated considering its suggestions.

* * *

I asked Mayor Speed if he believed that there would be any clashes between returning Negro and white veterans. He said that he didn't believe so.

Mayor Speed jokingly referred in his reply to an individual who expressed the opinion that Negroes in Jackson may resort to violence. He said that he told this individual that Negroes were pulling for him and that he did not believe that they would do anything without seeing him to get their troubles straightened out on the side of law and order.

* * *

When asked for a statement on Negro veterans, Mayor Speed said: "Negro soldiers have been doing their part. There have been a few isolated cases of Northern soldiers creating disturbances. I believe that everything is going to be all right in the post-war period."

Catholics Ask Race Hate Ban

P.M. 2-9-45

The Committee of Catholics for Human Rights today disclosed that it had sent a message to Prime Minister Churchill, Marshal Stalin and President Roosevelt urging that in their present conference they discuss a worldwide ban on racial discrimination.

The Committee is headed by Sen. James E. Murray (D., Mont.) and is made up of nationally known Catholic leaders in political, labor, intellectual and business fields.

The message said: "That there can be true peace upon the earth, in all nations, discrimination must be condemned as the destroyer of international security."

'Gate Open For Another War,' Warns Dr. DuBois

Chicago Defender - Ills.

"The gate has been left open for another war," warned Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, noted author and educator, in a critical analysis of the colonial problem delivered at a meeting this week sponsored by the Men's club of Arnett Chapel AME church.

Dr. DuBois, Chicago Defender columnist and director of research for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, blasted the Dumbarton Oaks conference for kicking out China's resolution on racial equality for the Security Council.

"This leaves 750 million colonials without representation," he stated. Dr. DuBois compared the Security Council with the Mandates Commission set up after World War I to govern Germany's colonies. "But the mandated colonies became part of the empires of France, Italy, England and Japan," he said, "and the plan fell through."

"World War I was a war of jealousy and envy to see who would rule the colonies," said Dr. DuBois, and again in World War II it was a cause, although not the only one, of another war.

Dr. DuBois traced the history of colonies from the early Greek and Roman empires to World War I, when great empires were built and maintained by exploiting colonial peoples and resources. While the great empires displayed to the world their power and grandeur, the colonies from which they obtained their wealth were like the slums in the cities of these empires, he continued.

Dr. DuBois explained that with colonies, the empires of the world are determined to realize a profit on their investment. "In some cases as high as 25 per cent."

In his revealing presentation of modern history, Dr. DuBois told how "the carving up of China was postponed by Europe before World War I because Japan wanted a hand in it."

"I doubt if there is any question as important to you as the fate of the colonies," he told the audience, and emphasized the close relationship between the colored peoples of the world. "The progress of the Negro in America has had repercussions in colonies all over the world.

"With 750 million colonials and 500 million semi-colonial people, half the world's population is in a colonial state," Dr. DuBois added.

Also on the program were Eston B. Tubbs, principal of Morgan Park high school, Leon Kirkpatrick, pianist, and the Senior and Gospel choirs of Arnett Chapel. Rev. W. N. Reid is pastor of the church.

Dr. DuBois Raises Crucial Postwar Question

Daily Worker N.Y.

By JAMES W. FORD

Dr. W. E. B. DuBois has written a significant article on Imperialism, United Nations, Colonial People. He argues that to set up a new international order with half the world enslaved is to court disaster; that as long as there are colonies there will be renewed international rivalries for colonies; there will be colonial revolts and wars. DuBois has raised here one of the most crucial questions of the postwar world, questions arousing the greatest general interests. It is evident that the old imperialist solution will not guarantee postwar peace and prosperity.

Earl Browder as spokesman of the Communists has made brilliant contributions on this question. He has said that unless the United Nations solve this question in the interest of democracy and freedom for the colonial peoples, there will be disaster not only for colonial peoples but also for the major nations of the world. If there is not a joint Anglo-American political and economic program for the peoples of Asia and Africa, underwritten and participated in by the Soviet Union, with such a program guaranteeing the colonial peoples freedom and democracy and preparing them for large-scale industrialization, there will be no postwar peace.

These facts were not fully taken into consideration by Max Gordon in his column in the Daily Worker of Jan. 5. The manner and content of Gordon's column fell far short of a fundamental and constructive critique of the points raised by Dr. DuBois' proposal for the international security organization to open the possibilities for colonial countries to share in world peace on the basis of equality in the right direction. The assumption in DuBois' argument is that peace will be kept, but in such a way that it their understanding of the war. These advances of the Negro people have placed them in a position to contribute to the solution of the problems of colored peoples throughout the world. Dr. DuBois is eminently qualified by experience and understanding as well as being a recognized spokesman of colored peoples in contributing to the solution of this world problem. He is correctly concerned with the fate of colonial peoples.

Dr. DuBois is the dean of the modern Negro liberation movement. He is an outstanding American scholar and student of social problems. He was one of the principal founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and was, from its inception until 1932, the spiritual and political leader of the organization. He left the Association in 1932 because it "stepped decidedly toward the right." After ten years he returns to the NAACP in charge of special research which is apparently concerned with the new world problems of colored people. Today the NAACP is making significant historical progress which is in line with the advances of the Negro people in

will exclude a billion people from equal and direct share in keeping it. To this he objects. Here a careful distinction must be made made between two things, (a) his objection to unequal status and lack of democratic rights of a billion people, and (b) his objection to collaboration with four or five major powers, without which lasting peace is impossible. In other words, it would be dangerous to conclude that we cannot support the United Nations coalition because it would bar a billion people from democratic rights. True, it raises the question: does lasting peace have to be bought at the price of imperialist enslavement. N.Y.

Actually that is not the way life is posing the question. On the contrary, only to the extent that the major powers collaborate on a program of economic stability and democratic progress will peace be assured. To the extent that collaboration of the great powers is effective, to that extent will progress be made towards overcoming imperialist domination. You can be assured that failure to secure that collaboration will mean unrestricted imperialist domination. 1-12-45

The question really is: how to organize and assure lasting peace by collaboration and concerted action of all peace-loving nations under the leadership of the main powers who are in possession of the effective economic and military might which alone can prevent future aggression? 1-12-45

One major shortcoming of Dr. DuBois' article is that he fails to estimate the role and influence of the Soviet Union in the solution of this question. It is also particularly unfortunate that he discusses this question in the New Leader whose policy is bitterly anti-United Nation, and which provides a false background and lends overtones that do not belong to Dr. DuBois' position.

GROPPERGRAMS

Tanner no longer makes the headlines. Reporters don't care to get their facts on Finland straight from the Nazi catspaw's mouth.

If Gropper can use your original gag you will receive $1. Address Groppergrams, care Daily Worker, 50 E. 13 St.

U. S. A. to Map Economic Plan for Latin America

P.M. N.Y. 2-26-45

By Uni

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 26.—The U. S. A. is ready to present to the Inter-American Conference resolutions for coping with postwar economic problems of Latin America.

The U. S. delegation will present its economic resolutions to the steering committee and tomorrow Assistant Secretary of State William H. Clayton will address a joint meeting of the economic commissions, explaining U. S. policy.

The basic desire of delegates here is to formulate a program of "hemispheric economic solidarity" which will be a step toward fulfillment of the pledge of freedom from want and fear. 2-26-45

All discussions of economic questions here, however, are dominated by two basic fears—the fear in the U. S. A. that it will have to support the whole world after the war; the fear in Latin America that wartime contracts will be terminated rapidly, that peacetime buying will be delayed, and that shortage of ships will prevent Latin American access to U. S. markets.

The U. S. economic program is expected to be based primarily upon the thesis that the fears of Latin America are not as serious as they believe. At the same time, there will be an attitude of candor in explaining the limitations of U. S. help.

U. S. delegates, for example, believe that U. S. buying in Latin America will continue longer than some think. They also point out a clause in the export-import bank law which allows its funds to be used for orderly marketing of surpluses and in helping maintain economic stability of Latin American republics. Such authority could be used in the transition period.

The long term economic problems involve the following:

¶ Diversification of economies of Latin countries, many of which before the war were totally dependent upon one crop or mineral.

¶ Increasing production of each worker to broaden purchasing power. 2-26-45

¶ Modernization of agricultural practices.

¶ Increased industrialization on a peacetime basis rather than some of the high-cost wartime industrial developments.

Walter White People, Politics And Places

III.

Because columns of Walter White, now in the Pacific theatre of war, have been delayed, his regular space is taken this week with an excerpt from his new book, "A Rising Wind" published by Doubleday, Doran & Co.

Chicago Defender 3-3-45

Kinship of Colored Peoples

WORLD WAR II has given to the Negro a sense of kinship with other colored—and also oppressed—peoples of the world. Where he has not thought through or informed himself on the racial angles of colonial peoples and master-race theories, he senses that the struggle of the Negro in the United States is part and parcel of the struggle against imperialism and exploitation in India, China, Burma, Africa, the Philippines, Malaya, the West Indies and South Americas.

The Negro soldier is convinced that as time proceeds that identification of interests will spread even among brown and yellow peoples who today refuse to see the connection between their exploitation by white nations and discrimination against the Negro in the United States.

If the consequences of race prejudice were confined solely to American Negroes, they would constitute no serious problem for the United States which could not be handled after a fashion by repressive legislation and physical force against a troublesome minority. But it may well be proved that the effect upon the American Negro will be one of the most minor results.

British Attitudes 3-3-45

IT HAS ALREADY been seen how the British government made concessions in its official attitude towards the racial practices of some white American soldiers. In making such concessions, however, England has not improved its standing with many of its colored colonials. London correspondents of Indian, South African, West Indian and other newspapers published in the British colonies have manifested a very considerable interest in the handling of the new racial problems created in England by Americans. 3-3-45

British public opinion has not been untouched either. The results have been a marked increase in skepticism even among British people regarding the official government attitude on the race question.

The soldiers of Canada, New Zealand, and strangely enough—in light of her laws forbidding admission to that island of any but whites——Australia will take home with them from European and other battlefronts greatly augmented suspicion and mistrust against the United States because of her treatment of Negro soldiers.

Finally the evil effect of misbehavior by a minority and the timorousness of the American government in meeting such misbehavior will cost America and other nations dearly so far as colored peoples, consisting two thirds of the earth's population, are concerned. Winston Churchill's recent statement that, as the war nears its end, ideology is being forgotten increasingly means to colored peoples that idealism is being conveniently shelved. Colored peoples, particularly in the Pacific, believed, whether correctly or not, that in its later stages the war was being fought to restore empire to Great Britain, France, Holland and Portugal.

Threat Of World War III 3-3-45

IS JAPAN right in what she says to Asia and the Pacific? Every lynching, every race riot is played up by the Japanese over and over again.

What will America's answer be? If already planned race riots and lynching of returning Negro soldiers "to teach them their place" are consumated, if Negro war workers are first fired, World War III will be in the making before the last gun is fired in World War II.

The United States, Great Britain, France and other Allied Nations must choose without delay one of two courses—to revolutionize their racial concepts and practices, to abolish imperialism and grant full equality to all of its people, or else prepare for World War III.

560-1945

Peace Plans and Darker Races

What Stake Have the Darker Nations in the Coming Peace?

AFRO-AMERICAN

1-6-45

New Book Edited by Ex-Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles Gives Insight into World Problems

560

Baltimore, Md.

HAILE SELASSIE

W. V. S. TUBMAN

ELIE LESCOT

On the shoulders of these three statesmen rest the future of the three colored independent nations, Ethiopia, Haiti and Liberia. What will they do?

By RALPH MATTHEWS

WASHINGTON

What stake do the darker nations of the world have in the peace? AFRO-AMERICAN

Some controversial answers to this question are to be found in the new "Guide to the Peace," an elaborate analysis of the world situation prepared under the directorship of former Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles and published by the Dryden Press, Inc.

1-6-45

The book gives a timely and exhaustive study of all of the nations of the world, their colonies and territories, their history and socio-economic workings.

Haiti Over-Populated

Liberia, Ethiopia, Haiti, Puerto Rico, India and various European divisions of Africa are put under the political and economic microscope to see what makes them tick and what adjustments will be necessary for them to function successfully in the post-war world.

Haiti's major problem is overpopulation, a fact which was brought out all too tragically in the massacres and border incidents which flared up several years ago between Haitians and their Dominican neighbors on their tiny island.

Ethiopia's Needs

Ethiopia is in dire need of new agricultural developments and irrigation which will add to her self-sufficiency.

The Dominican Republic, on the other hand, while under-populated and land rich, has allowed its government to degenerate into a virtual military dictatorship because of a fear of mass migration of Haitians, which they say will alter the composition of their country.

In maintaining a strong military establishment to guard against this influx, they have permitted the military machine to become a Frankenstein monster which has in turn practically enslaved the very people it was created to protect.

The Dominicans, then, must solve their own island problem or open their gates for European immigration.

Liberia Lags Behind

1-6-45

Liberia, because of her discouragement of foreign investments due to fear of European domination, lags far behind the nearby colonies in economic development.

In the post-war world she has but two courses open. The Americo-Liberians who control the government must either welcome foreign investments or must turn vigorously to the internal development of the hinterland by spreading education, industrialization and methods of communication.

A far step in this latter direction has already been taken by the American military forces which have been billeted in the country since the outbreak of the war.

Roads and airfields have been built, but whether further development along this line will be extended, now that the Nazi threat to the western hemisphere has been reduced, is problematical. Liberia, then, must capitalize on these developments and carry on from there.

The editors express grave doubts that the Liberians, with their one-party system, will promote the development and education of the native population due to the threat that such education will hold for their continued domination.

1-6-45

Financial Status

Financially, Liberia is better off than either Haiti or Ethiopia on the world trade market. The Liberian dollar is worth 84 cents, while the Ethiopian thaler is stabilized at only 39 cents and the Haitian gourde is worth approximately 20 cents.

Since the outbreak of the war, Liberian exports skyrocketed from $570,000 annually to $7,300,000, due largely to the rubber demand.

Ethiopian exports are placed around $900,000, mostly to England. Haiti's foreign trade has been crippled during the war because 40 per cent of her trade was with France and only 12 per cent with America.

The liberation of France and the curtailing of the submarine menace may restore a portion of this trade, but no improvement is expected until after the war.

Three Men

The future of these three remaining independent nations rests on the shoulders of three men.

Emperor Haile Selassie has been restored to his throne with the aid of British arms and is already making some progress in bringing unity and progress to his nation.

He has just negotiated a new treaty with Great Britain which gives him some security against military aggression, but puts him on the spot to guard against British economic domination. How he manages this will determine the future of Ethiopia for the next generation.

W. V. S. Tubman, president of Liberia, is in a similar position. Can he guide the course of his country so that the economic advantages brought on by the development of the natural resources of the country will accrue to the good of the whole nation, or will he permit the foreign money interests to further enslave his people?

1-6-45

Elie Lescot, president of Haiti, is faced with a situation whereby the annual cash income of most of his citizens is only $20 a year. One company alone, the Haitian-American Development Corporation, employs 75,000. This octopus is growing and spreading, leading toward unrest and revolution.

The vision, courage and honesty of these three men will determine the future of the remaining independent colored nations in the post-war world.

Colonial Representatives Insist Upon Freedom Now

Norfolk Journal & Guide

4-21-45

NEW YORK—Representatives of more than a half million colonial people met for discussion of problems and the shaping of new policies relative to their future status, at the NAACP Colonial Conference, presided over by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, NAACP director of special research, April 6 in the 135th Street Branch of the New York Public Library.

Evident in all discussions during the all-day meet, was the fact that native colonial peoples have no intention of relinquishing their demands and plans for complete independence at the end of World War II.

4-21-45

Members of the committee drafting resolutions to be presented at the San Francisco Conference were: Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, chairman; John R. Andu, Netherlands East Indies; Julio Pinto Gandia, Puerto Rico; Kumar Goshal, India; W. A. Hunton, U. S. A., National Baptist Convention; Francis Nwis-Kofi Nkrumah, Gold Coast, British West Africa; Akiki Nyabongo, Uganda, East Africa; Charles A. Petioni, British West Indians; L. D. Reddick, U. S. A., Schomburg Collection; and Maung Saw Tun, Burma.

Resolutions adopted follow:

1. Colonialism must go, for the reason that it has caused poverty, illiteracy and disease which affects not only the colonies, but also the world and therefore, world peace.

2. There should be an international body established to oversee the transition of peoples from colonial status to such autonomy as colonial peoples themselves may desire.

3. That on such an international body the colonial peoples themselves shall have effective representation.

4. That the prime object of this international body shall be to improve the economic and social condition of the colonial peoples.

4-21-45

Among the representatives were delegates from: Puerto Rico, Jamaica, British Guiana, Barbados, Nigeria, India, Burma, Uganda, East Africa, Indonesia, Netherlands East Indies, W. A. Indies.

Job Color Line Must End In Post-War U.S.—McNutt

When Peace Comes...What?

By Paul V. McNutt

(Third of a Series)

1-13-45

War production records have been smashed, not by any labor elite but by an all-American team of workers, a team powered by white manpower **and** black manpower.

American manpower in war has included the manpower of all minorities. It includes the power of the handicapped, the power of the over-aged workers, it includes womanpower. American manpower is America. 1-13-45

PAUL V. McNUTT as chairman of the War Manpower Commission is one of President Roosevelt's key men in spurring American war productions to new heights.

The war has shaken many non - democratic traditions. The expansion of production schedules cracked industry's former practice of dividing workers into "white man's jobs" and "black man's jobs." Even before the famous Executive Order 9346 had been issued, some industrial corporations had voluntarily broken away from peacetime hiring practices. Executive Order 9346 made it clear that all employers were expected to meet their labor needs without regard to race, color, creed or national origin.

Executive Order 9346 proved that the United States were engaged in an anti-fascist war—that we were pitting not only our armies against Germany and Japan but also our democratic soldiers of production. 1-13-45

Early in the national emergency the government recognized the necessity for adequate training programs. Vocational schools and pre-employment courses were established by the National Youth Administration. Out of these beginnings, a network of Federal training programs originated, programs that converted raw, unskilled labor into the skilled and semi-skilled war workers. Negroes in large numbers were trained as metal workers, shipfitters, welders. 1-13-45

Negroes have demonstrated their know-how in all the war industries. Their wartime skills are potentially convertible into the pay envelopes of peace.

All Americans know that the impact of war production schedules, the existence of labor stringencies, the formulation of positive Federal policies have multiplied the presence of Negroes in America's plants and factories. But we also know that there are areas, communities, groups that have opposed the Negro's right to enter the war labor market or to advance to high-skill and better-pay jobs. 1-13-45

Hate-strikes against Negroes have thrown a national spotlight on those resistant Americans who are either racist in their philosophies or confused or indifferent to the practices of economic democracy.

Who are the "Americans?" Has any man a "right" to a prejudice, or to a confusion or to an indifference that will impede the flow of war goods to the fighting Americans overseas? None of us has that right. This opposition to Negro manpower in time of war foreshadows a greater opposition in time of peace—unless we lay down policies **now** to protect Negro manpower and all other minority manpower when the cutbacks and other production adjustments reduce jobs. 1-13-45

Need For Total Approach

Will such democratic policies be evolved in time? Prejudice cannot be swept away by fiat, by wishful thinking, by rhetoric. The industrial progress the Negro has made in the war years can only be guaranteed by an America in which there will be jobs for all Americans who want jobs.

Today seventy per cent of the Negroes in war production are in such emergency mushroom industries as shipbuilding, aircraft production, munitions. The majority of these Negro war workers have acquired skilled and semi-skilled ratings and pay. When military victory reduces our war production requirements, the Negroes will be among the munitions workers who face job dislocation. What will happen to these thousands of workers when the war ends?

Jobs for displaced Negro war workers cannot be put in one compartment and jobs for displaced white war workers in another compartment. The job approach must be a total approach.

The Federal and State governments, the country's ablest industrialists and economists, and many community organizations are planning now on the problem of creating jobs to replace those which peace will terminate. Jobs for all, a "60,000,000-job-America" — this is a capsule way of saying that our approach to peace and reconversion must indeed be **total**, all-inclusive, all-American. 1-13-45

Will we succeed? The outlook is hopeful. The war has proven American genius to organize production **and** employment. This genius and know-how can operate the two-way street of war and peace.

American industry has been producing battleships, planes, tanks and all the other instruments of war. American industry can also build roads and hydro-electric power dams, clear slums, create new public housing. 1-13-45

The scientific and industrial brains which have blueprinted the miracles of war production can chart a peace-time America that will bring to harvest three hundred years of labor in the western world.

Is this the American dream? Let us admit it is. But the American dream is not a fantasy. The American dream can be the reality of tomorrow. Our giant war industry, our giant army of war workers can team up to make the American dream an American fact.

The innumerable problems of peace are as solvable as those of war. Jobs and retraining can be provided, both for the demobilized servicemen and for the employees of demobilized local war industries, newcomers to war communities absorbed, workers no longer needed in war industries helped to migrate to other communities or to rural areas, and so on, problem by problem down the entire agenda of a democratic reconversion.

Test of Mature America

1-13-45

The Negro war worker, and the demobilized Negro soldier who in many cases will bring home with him a skill acquired in service, will be the testing points of this new mature America, all sincere Americans are hoping for.

Today, considerable numbers of Negro veterans and Negro war workers have already come to the United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission for job help. We in the USES and the WMC are committed to making job rerferrals, without discrimination as to race, color or creed. It is the recognized responsibility of every public employment office to refer job applicants to employers **solely** on the worker's ability to meet the employer's occupational qualifications test and to perform the job satisfactorily.

The job-placing apparatus exists. The War Manpower Commission, through the USES, today in **all** communiities, provides effective employment service facilities such as placement, counseling, and employment information. The employment needs of the Negro worker have been and are today of great concern to the WMC Bureau of Placement. Yes, the job-placing apparatus exists for all Americans, including Negroes. But America's USES offices only can be deeply meaningful in an America where there are jobs for all. This point cannot be repeated too often.

Key Role of Labor

The Administration's plans for a "60,000,000-job-America" are shared by most in the ranks of industry and labor. The Negro's industrial future is tied up with labor organizations. 1-13-45

At the time of World War I the bulk of the labor unions were organized on a craft basis—the most important exception being the United Mine Workers—an industrial union with a long history of Negro participation. The majority of Negro workers were concentrated in the heavy industries where only a skilled handful of workers were organized. Few Negroes were occupationally eligible to join the organizations which then dominated the union field.

The rise of industrial unionism profoundly altered the status of Negro labor. Negroes were included and formed important segments of membership in many organizations, such as the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, the Packing Workers Organizing Committee and the National Maritime Union. The war hastened the trend towards industrial organization in the A.F.L. The A.F.L. Machinists Union, in the aircraft plants for example, accepted **all** workers. These are facts very pertinent to the future of Negro manpower.

Urges No Job Lines

1-13-45

The new maturity of organized labor, both in the A.F.L. and C.I.O. combined to facilitate the hiring and upgrading of Negroes in war production. If these new attitudes towards Negro unions are projected into the post-war, all workers will benefit, not only the Negro workers.

Post-war America cannot be divided. Jobs for whites cannot be separated from jobs for blacks or jobs for women separated from jobs for men.

No separate job lines can be drawn if we are to have a prosperous democratic America. The color line in industry is a line against democracy. Let us remember that the only lines that counted in making a ship, a plane, a jeep a rifle were the lines on the blueprints.

560-1945

Peace Plans- World Trade Union Conference

COLONIAL CHARTER TO OUTLINE PEACE AIMS

Pittsburgh Courier 3-3-45 Pa.

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Courier's London Correspondent)

3-3-45

LONDON — (By Cable) — Colonial delegates to the World Trade Union Conference and representatives of all colored labor organizations in Great Britain have agreed on a provisional committee appointed for the purpose of calling a Pan-African Congress to draw up a charter for colored peoples to present to the peace conference.

During the week-end, labor delegates from Africa, West India and British Guiana traveled to Manchester where they held a preliminary conference with executive members of the International African Service Bureau, Negro Welfare Centre, Negro Association and other colored leaders.

SUCCESSFUL MEETINGS

A series of successful meetings were held at which Colonial delegates reported decisions of the World Trade Union Conference and told of problems affecting native workers in various parts of Africa, the Caribbean and other colored lands.

Reports were made by Wallace Johnson, general secretary of the West Africa Youth League and delegate to the International Trade Conference from the Sierra Leone Trade Union Congress; Ken Hill, third vice president of the People's National Party, Jamaica, and delegate to the trade conference from the Trade Union Council, and Hubert Crichlow, president of the British Guiana Trade Union Council.

3-3-45

MANY REPRESENTATIVES

Other speakers included Learie Constantine, welfare officer, British Ministry of Labor.

Kenya, East Africa, was represented at the preliminary conference by Jomo Kenyatta, general secretary of the Kukuyu African Association; James Taylor, former president of the Gold Coast Negro Welfare Centre; Dr. Peter Milliard, former president of the Negro Association, Panama Republic; Tomoso Makonnen, executive secretary of the International African Service Bureau, and many other representatives of African nationalist organizations.

Fraternal delegates to welcome African and West Indian labor delegates were sent to the closing session of the preliminary conference by colored personnel attached to the American Red Cross in Great Britain. American Negro nurses and British colonials serving with the Royal Air Force and British army also had a hand in this. The visitors later were entertained by Red Cross officials, headed by Chester Gray, director of the club at Manchester.

3-3-45

It was agreed that an all-American United Front Committee be set up to join with African, West Indian and other movements to work out plans for the Pan-African Congress scheduled to take place in Paris next September.

560-1945

Peacetime Draft Discussion

Peace Draft Plan Is Assailed On Racial, Educational Basis

Richmond Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—(AP)—Peacetime draft proposals were assailed on moral, racial and educational grounds today as opponents opened their fight before the House Postwar Military Policy Committee.

6-7-45

In the first of three days allotted to the opposition after two days of proponents' testimony spokesmen for a large segment of the nation's educators urged defeat or postponement of consideration of universal training legislation until after the war.

The American Council on Education, through A. J. Brumbaugh, vice-president, saw in the plan to build up a large reserve army through peacetime inductions a threat of "regimentation of the mind."

"It is impossible," he told the Woodrum committee, "to give only military training—the body cannot be regimented without comparable regimentation of the mind."

6-7-45

Enactment of draft legislation, he contended, would be an admission "that we have no faith in collective security and international action."

A similar view was taken by the Rev. Dr. William J. Miller, president of the University of Detroit, who contends the legislation would "create suspicion, mistrust and fear among our allies" and would "stimulate a universal armaments race."

As an alternative, he called for "universal health and character education." Father Miller spoke for the Michigan council to oppose peacetime military conscription.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through William H. Hastie, of Washingtin, assailed the proposal on the ground it would "permit the continuation of present racial segregation and discrimination in the armed forces."

Postponement of action until the end of the war was recommended by Dr. Gould Wickey, of Washington, executive secretary of the National Commission on Christian Higher Education of the Association of American Colleges.

In the meantime, Dr. Wickey urged, Congress should set up a commission representing the armed forces, education, religion and industry "to study the best ways in which national security can be achieved without injury to democratic ideals."

Dr. J. L. Davis' Stand

Dr. John L. Davis, of Indianapolis, executive secretary of the board of higher education of the Disciples of Christ, told the committee that only military necessity "should compel us to embark on such a course."

"Where is that necessity in the immediate postwar years?" he asked. "Are we getting ready to throw the Russians out of China? Do we fear Britain's postwar plans?"

Speaking for the People's Lobby, of which he is executive secretary, Benjamin C. Marsh, of Washington, declared peacetime conscription "won't help America because we can't scare anybody by it."

"Russia doesn't and won't want to fight us even when much stronger," March claimed, "because she knows that within five to 10 years we will adopt a socialized economy or have chaos and probably civil war."

The proposed legislation would "tend to imperil the mutual trust of the members of the United Nations," the committee was told by Dr. William Heard Kilpatrick, of New York, representing the Liberal party of New York State.

Hastie Opposes Peacetime Draft

The Afro American

Baltimore Md.

ST. LOUIS.—(ANP)—Compulsory peacetime military training was condemned by Dr. William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard University Law School, at a Public Affairs Forum meeting at the YMCA here Dec. 2.

Dean Hastie said, "One year in a federally sponsored system of segregation would have a large and serious effect on our youth and the principles of racial equality toward which we have been working.

12-15-45

"No one can be so well prepared as to win another war. The next war, if any, will result in the destruction of civilization."

He based his opposition to peacetime conscription upon his experience with the un-American policies of the government setup while serving as civilian aide to the Secretary of War and judge of the Court of Virgin Islands.

'Mental Regimentation' Seen By Educators In Draft Plan

Montgomery Advertiser

Ala.

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PEACETIME U. S. DRAFT ASSAILED

Ala.

Birmingham Age

'Regimentation Of Mind' Charged By Educator In House Hearing

6-7-45

MORAL OBJECTION IS ALSO EXPLAINED

Racial Opposition Given By Group, Pointing To Discrimination Fear

BY WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST

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Suspicion Is Feared

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6-7-45

Questions Posed

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Military Training May Help Bias

Balt., Md.

Afro-American

6-23-45

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

WASHINGTON

Persons who assume to speak for colored people oppose the bill to provide universal military training in peacetime because of race discrimination and segregation in the armed forces.

Such an argument is plausible but weak. Defeat of the bill will not promote the abolition of race discrimination or segregation in the armed forces.

Its enactment, giving youth from all sections of the country and all walks of life a year of training in the Army or Navy, ought to contribute to better understanding and greater tolerance.

May Mean Retrogression

Defeat may mean retrogression to the situation which existed prior to 1940, when the only colored units in the Regular Army were two skeletonized regiments of infantry and cavalry each and a few units of quartermaster troops and medical detachments, and the only colored personnel in the Navy were messmen.

Opponents of the bill have advanced no plan for the utilization of colored personnel in the armed forces in the post-war period. They evidently favor the maintenance of a body of professional soldiers in the from of the Regular Army.

Any plan which would end segregation in a professional army would be more effective in a system of universal military training because of the difference in the caliber of men who would volunteer for service in a professional army and those who would be required to undergo a year of training under a system of universal military training.

Cites May Bill

The bill introduced by Representative Andrew J. May, of Ky., chairman, House Military Affairs Committee, would provide military or naval training for all male citizens or resident aliens who attain the age of 18 years.

It contains three declarations by Congress:

1. That the reservoir of trained manpower built up at an enormous expense during World War II should not be permitted to become empty again as after World War I, but should be perpetuated for the peace and security of future generations.

2. That this end can be assured only through a system of military training for all able-bodied male citizens in their early manhood, based upon the democratic principle that all citizens of a free State should be trained to defend their country.

3. That the training system should be inaugurated as soon as practicable after the cessation of hostiliites in order to utilize material resources and training experience which will otherwise soon be dissipated.

Would Be in Reserves

Under regulations prescribed by the President, every male citizen and resident alien, within four years after he becomes 18 years of age, would be given a year's training in the Army or Navy. Upon completion of his training, he would be enrolled as a reservist in the land or naval forces for a period of six years, but would not be subject to compulsory military service except in an emergency declared by Congress.

A better approach to the question of universal military training than the negative one taken by the NAACP would be to support the bill and after its passage petition the President to include in the regulations he is authorized to prescribe a prohibition against race discrimination and segregation in the Army and Navy.

Traditional Policy

The policy of the War Department of not intermingling colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organization was proclaimed by President Roosevelt from the White House on Oct. 9, 1940.

The reason given for sticking to that policy was that it had proved satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense.

Under the stress of war, however, Army policy has proved flexible. Before the collapse of Germany, colored infantrymen were fighting side by side with white infantrymen of the First, Second, Ninth, 78th, 99th and 104th Divisions of the First Army, and when the war in Italy ended, the 92nd Infantry Division had assigned to it a white and a Japanese-American regiment.

Stimson Testifies

Testifying in favor of universal Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson last Friday told the House Committee on Post-War Military Policy that a year's military training for the defense of the country would have valuable "incidental advantages," implying that it would lessen race and religious prejudice and teach democratic principles. On this point he said:

"Again, a system of universal military training would draw together into close association, acquaintance, and friendship our youth from the plains and the mountains and our youth from the cities and industrial areas.

"In the universal sharing of common facilities and common tasks these boys would rub smooth the sharp edges of prejudice, sectionalism, and lack of understanding between groups in different parts of our land. Their democracy would take on new breadth and strength.

"The best way to teach a man to love his country is to let him know his fellow countrymen. In that way America ceases to be an abstraction and becomes a fact in each man's individual knowledge."

General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower also urged members of Congress to adopt compulsory military training. His views were expressed in a letter to the House Select Committee on Post-War Military Policy.

Hastie Says Peacetime Military Conscription Is 'Unsound' in Principle

Iowa Bystander 6-14-45

Des Moines, Iowa

Washington, D. C.—Appearing before the Post-War Military Policy Committee, Judge William H. Hastie, on behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. expressed strong opposition to peacetime military cnscription "both because it is generally unsound in principle and because the present bill would permit the continuation of racial segregation and discrimination in the armed forces."

Taking sharp issue with the promise of the bill that peacetime conscription will promote peace and security of future generations, Judge Hastie stated that in launching a program of universal peacetime training and preparation for war, it can be reasonably anticipated that all great nations will attempt to equal or surpass our military program.

"International competition to see what nations can be best prepared for war is the most certain path to war," Hastie declared. "The nations best prepared for war rattle the sabre at the less prepared. If the less prepared nations sullenly bow to the threat of force, it is only to gain time in which to make ready to match that force and ultimately to become strong enough for the rattling of their own sabres. The history of mankind is the story of the futility of this process as insurance against war."

"The Negro citizen," Judge Hastie said, "is unalterably opposed to giving the military blanket authority without any safeguards whatever to protect them against segregaion, discrimination and other abuse.

Deeply Resentful

6-14-45

"It is no secret," he continued, "that the Negro today is deeply resentful over much of the treatment he has received at the hands of the Army and Navy. In peacetime, and even until this war was well advanced, the Navy excluded Negroes from naval services, except as messmen. Even the partial relaxation of this rule in the exigencies of this war leaves large numbers of technical specialties closed to the Negro seaman. Entire areas of naval service, for example naval aviation, are still completely closed to Negroes. We have no reason to believe that the Navy contemplates the use of Negroes in any capacity other than as messmen when it returns to a peacetime basis

In pointing out that the same limitations upon the use of Negro personnel obtain in the Army, he said, "Except for attached units, Negro enlisted men in the Medical Corps have been restricted to 'Sanitary Companies.' The work of these units may be common labor in and about hospitals; it may be drainage for mosquito control; it may be the digging of latrines in the theatre of war or any other labor service required for sanitation. All of this is necessary work. Much of it is particularly unpleasant work. Certainly the Negro should do his share of it. But so far as I know, there is not a single white Sanitary Company in the Army."

6-14-45

He also pointed to the fact that while the Army was trying desperately to recruit 10,000 young men with scientific training for meterologists and weather observers, all qualified Negroes were rejected because "the Army took the position that it had seven (7) Negroes in this field and that was enough. Negroes are excluded entirely from other such sought after types of training and service. For example," Hastie said, "even today the Air Force will not accept a Negro pilot in the Air Transport Command."

Blames Army's Policy

Hastie blamed the Army's policy of racial segregation for much of the discrimination against Negroes in training and service opportunities. Declaring that it is no more possible to provide opportunities in the segregated 10 percent of the Army equal to those in the remaining 90 percent than it is possible to duplicate in a Jim-Crow coach the many facilities of a deluxe passenger train, he stated that "the exigencies of the policy of racial segregation rather than considerations of military advantage come to be the controlling factor in building ten percent of the Army. All of this is too high a price to pay for the maintenance of a segregated pattern which serves no useful purpose."

6-14-45

"One of the most ridiculous and extreme manifestations of this practice of segregation is to be found in Puerto Rico. Here the Army has introduced a system of separate colored and white Puerton Rican units. I do not know what test of racial identity applied or can be applied, but the mere matter of practical difficulty does not deter those who make a fetish of racial segregation."

Speaking of the responsibility of the Federal Government, Hastie said "Whatever private individuals may do. or even the States within their exclusive sphere, it is a basic concept that our Federal Government shall not make racial distinctions in the administration of the national business. This should be especially true of the military establishment whose very mission is the safeuarding of the institutions of a democracy. We gain little if now and in the future the military protects us from Hitler's brand of racism, yet, itself exemplifies and by its own organiaztion impresses upon the minds of our young men a domestic brand of racism equally at variance with democratic ideas."

6-14-45

In conclusion, Hastie declared, "The responsibility of Congress to require in uniequivocal language that in the Army and Navy the selection of individuals for training, the determination of the type of training which an individual shall receive asd the organization of units both for training and for service shall be accomplished without regard to or distinction on account of race."

Ban On Discrimination Approved

New York Age
N.Y. N.Y.

MEXICO CITY — The abolition of racial discrimination, immigration measures against undesirable aliens and the participation of women in inter-American activities were among the resolutions approved March 6th by the Inter-American Organization Committee of the Chapultepec Conference. 3-17-45

The resolution on racial discrimination, submitted by Haiti and modified by the U. S., Colombian and Brazilian delegations, recommended in its final form the reaffirmation of the "principles recognized by all the American Governments of equality of rights and opportunities for all men regardless of race and religion." 3-17-45

It urged that the Governments of the nations represented at the conference "present with all the means in their power all that may provoke discrimination among individuals because of racial and religious reasons.

Fears 'Big 3' Won't Insure Peace For All

N.Y. Amsterdam News 4-7-45

N.Y., N.Y.

Profound Article States Discouraging Days Ahead—Unless the Tide Changes

By A. M. WENDELL MALLIET

We have been trying our best to find some reason to justify a reasonable man's faith in the efforts of the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union to re-organize the world on a basis of permanent peace and security as outlined in the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms, but although we are within a month's time of the meeting of the San Francisco Conference, the outlook is not only dark and confusing, but discouraging. 4-7-45

We write with a consciousness of the grave and heavy responsibility of the press. Sometimes conclusions are reached without all the information which would have made for more sober judgments. At other times, the interest of a small minority is allowed to overweigh the interest of the majority or that of the people of the world as a whole. As we have fought to achieve complete victory over our enemies, so should we fight to bring peace, security and prosperity to the people and the nations of the earth.

How War Started

But as there is such a thing as the spirit of laws, there is also the spirit of national or international policies. Our global war started out as a sort of local affair and later developed into an international conflict, affecting all races, colors, creeds and nationalities. When the going was dangerously tough and the outcome of the struggle in serious and reasonable doubt, the leaders of the embattled nations shouted some of the most lofty pretensions that certainly did not agree with their policies and attitudes on those questions before the conflict arose. 4-7-45

To say that Dumbarton Oaks failed in its purpose in laying any adequate foundation for world peace and security for all peoples is to put the truth of the matter mildly. At Bretton Woods the magic of money came into play and only God knows where it will land the so-called common people. It looks to us like the jailer coming with his ball and chain. At Yalta the big boys who played with power politics won and lost, each in his turn. And now, San Francisco!

Objectives and Policies

In all their efforts, plans, objectives and policies, the unchallenged power which is now possessed by Britain, Russia and America seems to have created a degree of insanity and swollen pride. Other than lip service, no one hears a word about the rights and responsibilities of small nations, the necessity of banning all forms of discrimination and racism within the borders of every single member of the United Nations; the problem of slave and forced labor in the colonies of imperial nations, and the admission that these evils exist and should be eliminated as a condition precedent to anything like world peace and security. 4-7-45

Fascist elements in the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union have already violated the spirit and letter of the Atlantic Charter. Of course, the Atlantic Charter is said to be no part of Russian war policy. Most of us, however, are closer to the United States and Great Britain than to Russia. When these three nations opened the door to Italy and exchanged diplomatic representatives, they broke the back of the war aims of the small nations, and betrayed Ethiopia, Greece, Albania, and France, not to mention Great Britain, who bore the brunt of the war while other nations "fiddled."

Rise of Fascism 4-7-45

It is said that Count Dino Grandi, former fascist ambassador to Britain, is well liked and respected in that country. A high-ranking English official recently declared that Grandi was not among the war criminals. The United States has become the battleground of Italian propaganda to make good its turn-coat policy. In two wars, one before fascism arose in that country, Italy found herself in the German camp, as a member of the Triple Alliance, and later as a member of the Berlin-Rome-Tokio Axis, as a fascist nation. In both instances, she betrayed and stabbed friend and foe in the back.

Although less than a month as Italian ambassador in the United States, Alberto Tarchiani has already become a nuisance. Hopping on trains between Washington and New York, he is working overtime to do the dirty work of his countrymen. Now comes the influential and scholarly Benedetto Croce, philosopher, who writing in the Free World for April, says among other things:

"The hidden but essential point of all Italy's relations with international life today, the point which non-Italians fail to see, which many of us even dare not formulate clearly, is that Italy, formally defeated according to laws of war and peace, does not feel defeated. She cannot adapt herself to being considered among the defeated nations, but affirms her right to be considered among the victorious." 4-7-45

Brazen Insolence

Seldom has such brazen insolence come from the spokesman of a criminal nation, which of its own free will violated all the rules of international law and human decency, and made open warfare upon its so-called friends, as in the case of Ethiopia and Great Britain, and its neighbors, France, Greece, and Albania and Yugoslavia.

Croce is a philosopher and was, at one time if not all the time, a friend of that other Italian philosopher, Giovanni Gentile, who as fascist minister of education, reorganized Italian education and made it an additional force in the life of Mussolini's Italy. He also formulated the philosophical bases and principles which served as the foundation of fascism.

False Prophets?

What we are now witnessing is that peculiar but diabolical use of the intellect and philosophy to bring Italy back to the ways of democracy which a false prophet, Gentile, had wooed and won to the bed chamber of fascism. Tarchiani, Mayor La Guardia, Luigi Antonini, Justice Ferdinand Pecora and others should be watched very closely. Some of these names, well known to Negro New Yorkers, were much in the limelight on the side of Il Duce when his black shirted troops were pouring into Ethiopia and raining gas and fire bombs from the skies upon old, young and defenseless people in that unhappy country. The band is gathering strength again. 4-7-45

The Negro who is alert and worth his salt should get busy and do every conceivable thing that is right and proper to defeat the deliberate machinations of the Italians in connection with the San Francisco Conference or any other policy making conference of the United Nations. Italian representation at any of these conferences, excepting the peace conference which will whittle down the defeated—and Italy is a defeated nation—will be against the peace, order and security of the world for which our sons are fighting and dying.

Memo To 'Big Three'

The demand for the handing over of the Italian colonies of Eritrea and Somaliland to Ethiopia should be so insistent that not even the power-swollen "Big Three" could afford to ignore the will of the people. By no means should Italy be made eligible to membership in the United Nations.

Shows Need For Governing Body

Chi., Ill.
Chicago Def.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Establishment of a world colonial commission was called for by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois at the Senate foreign relations committee here last week.

Testifying at the two-day hearing on the San Francisco charter, Dr. DuBois spoke in favor of adopting the charter but pointed out that it gave no recognition to the wishes of colonial peoples.

"The colonial system of government . . . is undemocratic, socially dangerous and a main cause of wars," DuBois said. "The United Nations, recognizing democracy as the only just way of life for all peoples, make it a first statute of international law that at the earliest practical moment no nation or group shall be deprived of effective voice in its own government."

"What was true of the United States in the past is true of world civilization today," he said, "we cannot exist half slave and half free." 7-21-45

Appearing on the first day of the hearings alloted to the opponents of the charter, Dr. DuBois, one of three Negro consultants who attended the United Nations Conference, pointed out that "human rights" were mentioned four times throughout the charter but was contradicted in a passage which stated:

Hits Contradiction

"Nothing contained in the present charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the members to submit such matters to settlement under the present charter.'

"Under these circumstances," DuBois declared, "the United States Senate . . . should make clear a new evaluation of the whole colonial system as practiced in the 19th and 20th century, and should declare that:

"The main groups of mankind, commonly called races, are essentially equal in capability of progress and deserve equality of treatment, opportunity and respect. In the eyes of both science and religion, all men are brothers, with rights of freedom of belief and expression, freedom of domicile and communication; justice before the courts and equal civil, economic, political and social rights.

"The first duty of civilization is to see to it that no human being is deprived of these rights because of poverty, disease or ignorance."

DuBois proposed that in addition to the Trustee Council, an international colonial commission on which colonial people would be represented "with power to investigate the facts concerning colonies and areas not under mandate, and shall implement this declaration under the authority of the Security Council."

"I believe that the proposed charter of the United Nations is . . . a far step toward peace and justice," DuBois told the committee, "and just because it is so fair an effort it is imperative that in ratifying this international treaty, the Senate of the United States should insist on certain reservations or projected amendments which it will at the earliest opportunity propose.

"These amendments or reservations have to do with colonies. We who were born and educated in the 19th century, have not only seen the colonial system keep parts of the world in continuous turmoil for 150 years, but in the 20th century, we have twice seen the very foundations of civilization imperilled by bitter rivalry and greed arising from the ownersihp and exploitation of human beings under colonial imperialism," he said.

DuBois proposed that the charter should "make clear and unequivocal," the "straightforward stand of the civilized world for race equality, and the universal application of the democratic way of life, not simply as philanthropy and justice, but to save human civilization from suicide."

DuBois sharply rapped the United States delegation for aligning "itself repeatedly with the great colonial powers rather than with China and Russia whose future does not depend upon colonial aggression."

New World Charter Is Forward Step—Dr. Bunche

Baltimore Md

Proclaims Trusteeship Plan for Dependencies as Definitely Better Than Mandate System

afro-American

WASHINGTON

"The establishment of permanent machinery for peace is vital both to individual and world progress," Dr. Ralph Bunche, State Department official, told the AFRO Thursday in discussing the highlights of the United Nations charter. Dr. Bunche, associate chief, Division of Dependent Area Affairs, Office of Special Political Affairs, was sent to the United Nations Conference as a technical expert.

Dr. Bunche

7-21-45

Commends Trusteeships

He said that the creation of trusteeships over the old League of Nations, the Mandate system, is a definite improvement, that it was broader in scope, and the objectives are more precisely defined.

Under the old system, the nation which held a mandate was not accountable to the same extent to the league for the welfare of minority groups.

Under the Trusteeship plan, the General Assembly and Trusteeship Council have power to accept petitions in any form and from any source, and representatives of the organization can make periodic visits to territories under Trusteeship.

Human Rights

The plan also provides that nations holding mandates are responsible for the promotion of political, educational and social advancements of the inhabitants.

Another important gain emphasized by Dr. Bunche, is the charter's provision for a new respect for human rights; fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion; and for recognition of the interdependence of all peoples.

"It is our assumption," explained Dr. Bunche, "that this will provide the mechanism to put the dependent territories on an international scale.

Report by Nations

"If carried out in good faith, it should lead to a vast improvement of the welfare of peoples who formerly lived without hope of advancement."

He stressed the fact that this is the first time in any international setup, that the administrating state would submit reports to the international organization on the conduct of their administrations.

Dr. Bunche pointed out that "one of the most important adjuncts to the World Charter is the establishing of international, economic, and social co-operation which promote:

Cites Other Benefits

"Higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development.

"Solutions of international economic, social, health and related problems, and international cultural and educational co-operation.

7-21-45

"And finally, universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion."

Co-operative Pledge

He explained that all members of the conference pledged to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in the charter.

The duty of the Economic and Social Council, said Dr. Bunche, is te set up commissions for the promotion of human rights, which he likened to the Constitution of the United States in that it sets forth a number of cardinal principles for conduct between nations.

V-J Day Presents Special Problems

Philadelphia Tribune (Pa.)

8-18-45

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

(By The Associated Negro Press)

WASHINGTON— Demobilization of a vast military establishment and the reconversion to peacetime pursuits of an industrial plant expanded beyond original belief are, in a broad spread destruction as it does today. And while America managed to escaped the physical devastation that had hit Europe and the Far East, it nevertheless felt the impact of these blows throughout its economic, political and social structure. No segment of its populace went untouched by the events of the war years.

8-18-45

Reconstruction

Like other Americans, Negroes must now go about the task of reconstruction—among themselves and in concert with other Americans. In same instances the problems will be identical; in others, peculiar. In either case they will involve the return of servicemen to civilian life, the development of an up-to-date agency to deal with their problems for years to come, the struggle for jobs by all, and finally, the release of war-incurred tension.

It is not the administration view that America was not ready for the sudden collapse of Japan, but privately the oninion is held that much more could have been done to facilitate the adjustments that must now be made than has been done.

Army of Occupation

A large army of occupation is going to be maintained both in Europe and in Japan, the war department has already disclosed. But as quickly as it can, the department intends to release men from the service and return them to their homes. This they expect to be able to do at the rate of 500,000 men a month, using present redeployment centers in addition to the separation centers now in operation.

8-18-45

The job of bringing men back from overseas will tax shipping but the job, the department says, will be done expeditiously. It is to be expected, however that service troops may be delayed a bit longer than others since they will probably be required to dismantle and load equipment that is to be brought back here. Of course, certain types of equipment will be usable abroad and so disposed of there.

Aid To Veterans

The Veterans administration, with Gen. Omar Bradley taking over direction this week, is shaping up into a model agency. The insistence of Negroes that a Negro special assistant be appointed is likely to meet with a warm reception. The idea has already been advanced in administration circles and is understood to be looked upon favorably.

The realization of this objective will give some assurance to Negro veterans that they will have some protection for their rights under the GI Bill of Rights. Apart from that Gen. Bradley is regarded as a "square-shooter", certainly superior to his predecessor Gen. Frank T. Hines who continually maintained that there is no problem.

The Job Problem

Growing like a spectre now is the prospect of unemployment. Even before President Truman transmitted the reply of the Allies to the Japanese government, the war department had announced a cutback in material requirements of some $4 billions. This was on Saturday.

Later in the day the department disclosed that procurement would be cutback some 80 percent for the army service forces and more than 90 percent for the army air force.

Then came the announcement of the Navy department that construction on 95 war ships, work valued at $1,200,000,000 had been ordered stopped, and that work on some 160 district craft would also cease. These cancellations, however, have been distributed along the three coast lines for various reasons one of which is to avoid too much displacement in any one area.

Reports of the labor department and from the FEPC all along have pointed out that the Negro's greatest gains have been in war industries—munitions and shipbuilding. A perusal of cutback announcements would easily show that the weight of these changes will fall heavily upon the war industries, thereby throwing millions of Negroes out of work in high-paying jobs.

8-18-45

The chances of reempoyment, either in their skills or at comparable wages in other pursuits, will be seriously impaired by the return of servicemen who also will be seeking jobs. The speed with which industry is able to reconvert will determine the intensity of the problem and the length of its duration.

Finally, attention is beginning to focus upon threats of outbreaks. Sociologists and other observers in recent years have been viewing with unguarded alarm the possibility that racial incidents will develop with increasing frequency when the war emergency is behind us. The Federal Bureau of Investigations has been and is on the alert for signs of domestic unrest, and steps are being taken to check any such incidents.

SITE OF UNO HOME MUST BE IN NORTH

Pittsburgh Courier

England Supports India's Demand That United Nation's Permanent Home Be in City Which Draws No Color Line

Pa.

LONDON—American delegates attending the meeting of the United Nations Preparatory Commission here were reminded of their country's jim-crow policy last week when Great Britain joined India in demanding that the United Nations select an American city which draws no color line as the site of the UNO's permanent home.

The question of racial discrimination was first raised by the Indian delegate, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar. His request was supported by a British delegate who read a paper, saying that it is "indispensable that the area be such that all members of the United Nations should be able to feel at home in it, whatever their racial origin or the character of their State."

12-29-45

NO COLOR LINE

Both the Indian and British delegates expressed concern in selecting an American city which draws no color line as the site of UNO headquarters.

Since that time the Commission voted to select an eastern U. S. city as the site for the permanent UNO.

The British warned the UNO to "go slow" in selecting an American site, but recommended that the distance of the capital from Washington be considered because "very close proximity to Washington might affect the character of the delegation to the UNO assembly."

12-29-45

LIBERIA AGAINST U.S.

Liberia and South Africa, along with twelve other countries, voted against the United States as a permanent site for the UNO.

Ethiopia was among the countries that did not vote.

RUSSIA JOINS PHILIPPINES

P. J. Noel-Naker, a British UNO delegate, objected to the United States being called the "host state" and Russia joined the Philippines to provide a precdure which recognizes the principle that dependent peoples should elect their spokesmen under UNO supervision. America voted against the measure.

British delegates said a better site than any yet offered might still be found and noted there are a number of beautiful small towns in the eastern United States, some with fine historical and cultural associations."

At a late hour the City of Boston appeared to be favored by the majority of the delegates as a site for a permanent UNO home.

Many GI's Plan to Study, Go in Business After War

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md. 1-6-45

WASHINGTON—Over 30,000 of the 700,000 colored troops now in the Army plan to return to full time school or college after the war, according to results of an Army survey, the war Department announced last week.

About one-third of all colored soldiers expressed definite interest in taking part-time school or college courses after leaving the service, but most of them have not made definite plans.

Others Plan Businesses

Based on the same survey, it is estimated that 7 per cent of all colored troops have definite plans to start a business of their own after the war, and 4 per cent plan to operate farms.

Highest interest among men planning to go into business for themselves is in retailing. services, is the largest single group with 18 per cent; service establishments, 17 per cent; food retailing, 7 per cent; and all other retail establishments, including eating places, 29 per cent.

Most of these men are planning to start small businesses—three out of five saying they plan to invest $2,000 or less.

Majority to Enter College

Of the men with definite plans for full-time school or college attendance, most are under 25 years old and single, and two out of three are qualified to enter college.

Although a large portion of the men in the army were not familiar with the details of the "GI Bill of Rights" at the time the survey was made, the response indicated a high degree of interest on the part of troops in taking advantage of the bill.

Under this bill, all tuition, and fees up to $500 are paid by the government, and the veteran receives $50 a month if single, $75 a month if he has one or more dependents.

The survey was made by the Research Branch Information and Education Division, Army Service Forces.

30,000 Negroes in Army Plan Return to School

Chicago Tribune 1-7-45

Washington, D. C., Jan. 7 (AP).—More than 30,000 of the 700,000 enlisted Negro soldiers in the army intend to return to full time school or college after the war. The war department, reporting the results of a survey today, said 7 per cent plan to start a business of their own after the war. Four per cent intend to operate farms.

College sets special vets curriculum

Los Angeles Tribune 4-16-45

HAMPTON, Va. — Veterans of World War II who enroll at Hampton Institute, one of the 32 private Negro colleges and universities banded together in the United Negro College Fund currently seeking $1,550,000, will enjoy the advantage of special curriculum and of counseling services that are especially adapted to their needs and interests, President Ralph P. Bridgman announced this week.

Designed to help returning service men and women speed their preparation for gainful employment in civilian life, and also complete their college education, the Hampton program for veterans will go into effect, step by step, beginning with this summer.

Those who come to Hampton may speed up their education by (1) short pre-employment sequences in various branches of agriculture, leading to certificates; (2) accelerated individual work in certain regular trade curricula, leading to diplomas; and (3) accelerated individual work in certain courses regularly required for degrees. 4-16-45

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Although graduation from an accredited high school is usually required for admission to Hampton Institute, a certain number of ex-service men and women, who present evidence of ability to pursue the course they desire, may be admitted to short sequences for certificates, whether or not they have completed high school.

The requirement of high school graduation may also be waiver in the case of applicants for admission on an accelerated basis who have the equivalent of a high school education through training and experience in military service. Each ex-service record will be evaluated in accordance with standards developed by the American Council of Education and a certain number of credits assigned respectively for length of military service, specialized training, and courses completed under the Armed Forces Institute.

No Comfort For Colored World

Pittsburgh Courier Pgh. Pa. 2-24-45

The first thing one notices in looking over the document released at Yalta, Crimea, over the signatures of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin, is that there is no mention whatever about the subject of colored peoples in Asia and Africa.

Great space is taken up with what is to be done to and with Germany when she is finally defeated; what is to be done about establishing law and order in liberated Europe and reintroducing democracy; what is to be done to and with Poland and Yugoslavia, and how peace is to be maintained and established.

But there is not one word in this historic document about the restoration of sovereignty to Burma, India, Java, Sumatra, Malaya, the islands of Oceania, and the numerous once-independent States of Africa.

So far as these hundreds of millions of poor people are concerned, the Crimea Conference might as well not have taken place.

We can be quite sure that if no mention was made of Allied intentions regarding these people, the intention is not to change their status in the post-war world.

This confirms the suspicions of those who did not take the Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter seriously, but simply looked upon them as propaganda documents to hold the allegiance of these enslaved peoples when their aid was desperately needed and victory seemed far off.

Perhaps it is just as well, however, that no flowery promises were made, such as those contained in Wilson's Fourteen Points and never realized.

Perhaps it is better that the dark peoples of the world understand that no Great White Santa Claus is going to give them their freedom on a silver platter, no matter what sacrifices they may have made for the preservation of the status quo.

COLONIAL ISSUE ON 'FRISCO AGENDA

Pittsburgh Courier 3-24-45 Pa.

Bulletin!

WASHINGTON — The recent appointment of Dr. Ralph Bunche as acting associate director of Dependent Areas Division of the State Department, has been interpreted in some circles as an indication of the United States' interest in the important colonial question. Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, director of special research for the NAACP, will be an observer at the United Nations Conference opening April 25.

By GEORGE PADMORE
London Correspondent

LONDON — The post-war status of dependent areas in Africa and Asia, largely occupied by black, brown and yellow peoples, is scheduled to become one of the most important and controversial issues with which delegates to the forthcoming San Francisco Conference of the United Nations will be forced to grapple. 3-24-45

Succinctly, the big, white colonial powers are going to have to invent a device which will enable them to use and exploit their colored brothers and at the same time permit these colored peoples to feel that they are "free and equal."

The Brtiish Commonwealth of Nations has already gone to work on the problem.

In order that the British Empire point of view might be concretized, representatives of the British Dominions and of India have been meeting for two weeks here under the auspices of the Royal Institute for International Affairs. Forty delegates have been present.

The British, as well as the other major powers, have recognized that the old mandates system, under which so-called backward areas were given over to the control of imperialist Nations, is no longer morally defensible. The mandates system will have to be replaced. 3-24-45

BRITISH WANT REGIONAL BODIES

As usual, the English statesmen don't mind giving up the shadow, but they are resolute in their determination to cling to the substance of colonial control.

As a first step, they propose to discard use of the word "imperialist" and replace it with the word "trustee." It is their hope that the use of the latter word will cause the world to feel differently about colonial powers and prove more persuasive with the natives of the colonies.

Further, the British are proposing a set-up of regional councils, composed of Nations with colonies, to jointly exploit and develop the dependent areas.

These regional councils would be required to issue annual reports on the colonies to the World Economic and Social Council to be set up within the framework of the world security organization.

SMUTS WILL SUPPORT BRITISH VIEWS

Jans Christian Smuts, South African statesman who once compared Negroes with mules, will accompany Clement Atlee and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden to San Francisco and has been assigned the task of selling Britain's idea of regionalism.

Smuts will be expected to oppost any attempt to liquidate Britain's sovereignty over any parts of her empire.

Churchill's famous statement that he did not become the King's first minister to preside over the liquidation of the Empire is still basic to British colonial policy.

It is stated on this side of the ocean that the British diplomats will attempt to enlist the support of America for the regional councils.

U. S. MAY OPPOSE IMPERIALIST VIEWS 3-24-45

However, reports which have leaked out of Yalta indicate that there was tentative agreement among the three powers for a council set up on an international rather than a regional basis. This plan is said to have the backing of the United States.

Indian delegates who participated in the conference here gallantly and persistently attacked the color bars against Indians and Africans in South Africa and Kenya. The South Africans weakly defended themselves by denying the charges of racial discrimination.

Despite the desire of Great Britain to invent a morally defensible empire colonial scheme, there are misgivings in some quarters because of the diverse points of views of the colonial powers.

It is feared that the United States might urge that the British and the French handle their colonies in Asia as America has handled the Philippines.

DUTCH VIEWS IMPORTANT 3-24-45

There is doubt that the British would want to prepare for the eventual return of Hong Kong to China and the independence of Burma, Malaya and India.

France wil probably reject any suggestion that she plan to give up Indo-China.

Of all these powers, only the Dutch seem likely, in some sense, to follow the United States example.

Another factor disturbing the planners is the future attitude o Russia.

Neither Great Britain nor th United States can be too sure wha card the Russians will play whe the chips are down for the bi stakes in Asia.

College Heads Differ On Matter Of Compulsory Army Training

Journal + Guide Norfolk Va.

3-10-45

DETROIT, Mich. — "Compulsory military training is not needed in a democracy. If it were needed the time of war is not the time to make such a decision," writes Dr. David D. Jones, president of Bennett College, in the exclusive HEADLINES Poll of Negro college presidents on the vital issue of peace-time conscription. 3-10-45

Dr. Jones also says, "I write as a father who has two sons in the armed forces. Therefore, I have strong convictions on the matter of compulsory military training. There are enough forces in American life which are tending toward totalitarianism in our nation . . . If in addition to the hobbles already existing, we add the control which would come through compulsory military service for youth, we make it too easy for an American Hitler to emerge." 3-10-45

DR. PATTERSON'S VIEWS

On the other side of the question is Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, who answers, "I am inclined to regard it no less than the patriotic responsibility of every American citizen to go along with this recommendation. That there are dangers to be faced in terms of regimentation, one cannot doubt. There are also certain assets, however, in terms of physical development and training, even in vocational and other non-military ways which greatly benefit Negro youth . . . ."

There are also complete and exclusive statements from Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, Dr. Rufus Clement, president of the Atlanta University system, and Dr. Felton G. Clark, president of Southern University presented in the March issue of HEADLNES. 3-10-45

Also in the March HEADLINES, will be Paul Pentagon's "That's Washington For You," the newsy sparkling round-up of capital doings. And there will be more pictures than ever before: a spread of Negroes in Cuba and how they live, and pictures of everyone in the news.

Pursuit Of Democracy

Pittsburgh Courier

Howard University Points The Way for Post-War Planning of Leisure Time

By MARJORIE McKENZIE 5-19-45

Pgh. Pa.

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

ONE of the skills that people will have to learn again in the post-war world is the effective use of leisure time. The pattern our war-time recreation offers no guide, for we have gone in for passive participation extravagant commercial entertainment that does little but dull over-tired nerves. The current progress of the war makes clear that soon we shall have a shortened work-week, release from pressure and anxiety, freedom from travel bans and other restrictions, all of which will leave us time and energy that we won't know how to use. It is not too early, in this period between V-E Day and V-J Day, to include programs for leisure and recreation in our post-war planning. 5-19-45

Miss McKenzie

Howard University has just demonstrated its conviction that the abundant life cannot be taken by storm, like a beachhead, but must be wooed gently and patiently. On May 3, it inaugurated a Festival of Fine Arts, an addition to its services to the community which the culturally bereft citizens of Washington will hope to see continued.

* * *

UNDER THE leadership of Warner Lawson, dean of the School of Music and director of the University Choir, the Festival Committee provided a three-day program of song, music, modern dancing, an exhibit of modern painting and seminars in related subjects. "Artists in embryo," said the committee in the introduction to its program, "pursue the even tenor of uninspiring and unprofitable ways . . . until they die unless . . . discovered." Moreover, "the power to understand, enjoy and interpret what other men have created lies dormant in countless folk. Thus, "art is not a thing apart, or for the few . . ." 5-19-45

Art appreciation has come a long way from its early upper-class consciousness. The critics may go on talking about it in trade language if they wish, but "countless folk" have cut through the verbiage and developed a simple standard of their own: the only questions to be asked are, do they LIKE it or not? How does it make them FEEL? It may be said of art, as of other human institutions, that it has gone democratic in the last decade or two. And, of course, the more fully it reaches down into the life of the people, the more authentic it becomes.

* * *

THE OPPORTUNITIES that people have for exposure to various art forms have been greatly limited during the war years. However, emphasis in the post-war world will be focused not exclusively on mere observation of the work of others, but upon active creation by the individual. The objective of such a procedure is the development of stronger, happier personalities. One of the important therapy techniques used with psychoneurotics by the Army has been to turn the patient loose with drawing or modeling materials and tell him to make whatever he feels like making. It does not matter whether great and enduring art results from this activity, but it is of great social significance that people, neurotic or normal, have a feeling for beauty and creative living. The Nazis have proven that the human heart and hands are as capable of destruction as of building what is good and fair.

It is characteristic of much of the leadership at Howard University that it should interpret properly the role of the university in directing and documenting cultural trends. Its contribution to the future is nowhere more significant than in making available to the people within its sphere of influence good music and good painting. Indeed, such a spirit is personified in Dean Lawson himself, who has foregone a career of certain success as a concert pianist in order to teach large groups of young people how to sing together to their own delight and that of everyone who is privileged to hear them respond to Dean Lawson's baton.

Report Negro Shut Out Of World Organization

Amsterdam News N.Y.C.

By EDGAR G. BROWN

The San Francisco conference of United Nations has come to a close, and I took opportunity of one of the closing sessions to ask Field Marshall Jan Christian Smuts, of notorious fame for making the African natives get off the sidewalks in their own country to let Englishmen pass by, if he considered black persons human beings in the definition of the United Nations Charter he had drafted as the chairman. 7-14-45

The answer, with a bit of a sneer, done with the propriety of a well trained American diplomat was a very loud, "No."

Something is "cooking" brethren and sisters in this new international kettle.

Now for another sidelight on the wind-up of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco.

There was no colored member of the armed services in the President's "GUARD OF HONOR" with every branch of the Army, Navy and Marines represented on the platform, when Mr. Truman addressed the final UNCIO session in San Francisco. It was strictly. "LILY-WHITE." 7-14-45

Also in Chapter I, Purposes and Principles of the San Francisco United Nations Charter, Article 1, No. 7, is this most disheartening paragraph:

"7. Nothing contained in the present charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the members to submit such matters to settlement under the present charter, but this princple shall not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter VII." (This chapter has only to do with elucidation of the broad military powers of the Security Council, the heart and sinew of the Charter.

This declaration must have warmed the cockles of old Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, the oppressor of the natives of the Union of South Africa. The United States chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Tom Connally of the LILYWHITE Democratic Primary of Texas, must have given this Englishman a bear-hug on this Ku Klux Klan masterpiece in world diplomacy. 7-14-45

Following the final UNCIO Steering Committee, Saturday, June 23, 1945 in the War Memorial Building here in San Francisco, we asked the Haytian, Liberian chairman and also Senator Connally their reactions at the moment to the United Nations Charter's final draft they had taken the last vote to approve. All in almost identical expressions praised their own handiwork as all but perfect. They were unanimous in enthusiastic indorsement,, though it was refreshing at the end for the Liberian spokesman to express the fervent wish that it would be implemented by more deeds than generalities and pretty language.

Psychologist Heads Army School In France

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON.—The only civilian selected by the War Department to aid in setting up schools for army educational counsellors in France is a Negro, it was revealed this week.

He is Roy Davenport, employed as assistant to the chief psychologist, classification and replacement branch of the adjutant general's office. 8-11-45

Davenport arrived in Paris this week where he will be responsible for controlling the number of vocational and educational counsellors needed, to be trained and distributed to the 750 schools in the European theatre.

No Color Line, Say Britain and India

Pm. 12-20-45

LONDON, Dec. 20 (UP).—Great Britain joined India yesterday in demanding that the United Nations select a U. S. city which draws no color lines as the site of its permanent home. New York

The United Kingdom delegation presented a paper saying it was "indispensable that the area be such that all members of the United Nations should be able to feel at home in it, whatever their racial origin or the character of their state."

The issue of racial discrimination first was raised by Indian delegate Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar in a speech before the Preparatory Commission.

Philippines Ask Race Equality

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

By P. BERNARD YOUNG JR.
Editor, Journal and Guide
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SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. —Spokesmen for eighty million Filipinos, loyal to America and the cause of the United Nations, have demanded of the World Security Conference here that a declaration on "the spirit of brotherhood and racial equality among nations" be inserted into the world charter. 5-12-45

In its official amendment-proposals the Philippines delegation supports the addition to the Dumbarton Oaks peace blueprint with the following comment:

"It must be obvious to any observer that at the bottom of the many differences which have brought hatred and even war among nations of different races in the past **is the racial discrimination and superiority complex** evinced by some.

HOW TO AVOID

"To avoid this in the future and to infuse sincerity to friendly relations among nations, the amendment proposed is believed essential."

Moreover, the Filipinos, whose spokesman is colorful and gallant Brig. General Carlos P. Romulo of Bataan fame, asked that the world charter specifically obligate its subscribing members "to act in accordance with the principles (Four Freedoms) declared in the Atlantic Charter."

Its amendment on this point is supported in the following language: 5-12-45

ATLANTIC CHARTER

"The Atlantic Charter is to the proposed United Nations Charter as the American Declaration of Independence has always been to the federal constitution (of the U. S.). Just as the American Declaration of 1776 supplied the spirit and the principles for the American constitution, so must the Atlantic Charter supply the life and the ideals for the World Charter.

"The only difference is that the Atlantic Charter is a world declaration, signed by the United Nations and conceived from the beginning **for all peoples.**

"Its principles were received in Asia, Europe, Africa, and in the Americas as the undisputed principles underlying the war. Whenever an Allied soldier fought, he knew that he was fighting for something greater than his country, and his people.

WHAT FIGHTING FOR

"He was fighting for the emancipation of the human spirit and for the **principles of self-government the world over . . .** They have died on the altar of principles of the Atlantic Charter, and of the Four Freedoms enunciated by President Roosevelt.

"In inserting the principles of the Atlantic Charter as part of the United Nations Charter, we are simply recognizing the plain facts of this war. We are simply reiterating what has already been agreed upon—and fought for—the principles and ideals of the new world order."

The amendments were thoroughly discussed and analyzed by the Filipino delegation during a press conference on Friday morning, May 4.

It urged amendments to "provide an equitable basis of choosing the proposed six- non-permanent members" of the all-powerful security council of the world organization. 5-12-45

It objected to the absolute veto now enjoyed by the Big Five, declaring that no one nation should "be allowed to place herself above the entire world." That would be to "sterilize and frustrate" the security council, its members pointed out.

Another important amendment to fill a gap in the Dumbarton Oaks proposals would specifically define what constituted an aggressor nation, and it called for small-nation representation on the security councils military staff committee.

In addition to the social and economic purposes of the world organization, Filipinos pleaded for inclusion of a cultural and education commission.

U. S. Offers Own Trustee Plan For Colonies

Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta World

5-8-45

Advancement Of Dependent Peoples Among Proposals

BY JOHN PITTMAN

SAN FRANCISCO —(ANP)— Uncle Sam has his own trusteeship plans for colonies, it was revealed last week during an off the record conference with a high authority. These plans have also been transmitted to the other big four prowers at this world security conference.

The American proposals have four aspects:

1. Security of the United States,
2. World security
3. The advancement of dependent peoples.
4. Resources of dependent areas. 5-8-45

No specific colonial territory was discussed or will be discussed at the conferences but all American governmental branches, including the Army, Navy, the Interior and State departments, are in accord with the trusteeship proposals, which are reported to be couched in a form that will not prejudice other questions to be dscussed later.

COVER THREE AREAS

The proposals cover three areas. First, all mandates; second, areas taken from enemy countries; third, other terrories voluntarily placed under trustee. The procedure would also include consultation with dependent peoples.

The proposals carry a recommendation for inspection powers of the trustee body, it was learned. Further revelation on the colonial proposals may come from Jan Christian Smuts, prime minister of British South Africa, and additional comment is expected from Walter White and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, NAACP representatives. 5-8-45

A colonial trusteeship committee has already been named and functions under the general assembly. The commision includes delegates from New Zealand and Luxemburg.

Liberia has been assigned to the committee to work out the framework of the general assembly and Ethiopian representatives are working on the judicial organization. Haiti is on the membership committee, which functioning under the comission on general provisions.

Washington Post

A Better World Betrayed

IT IS OBVIOUS by now that the talk of trusteeships for colonial or mandated territories means little or nothing. It is the kind of talk that is invariably used to cloak a determination to sit tight and preserve the old order.

CHILDS

Apparently, the big powers that have fought this war against fascism mean to try to put back the old colonial order. They may use somewhat more fancy language to give it a less old-fashioned, outmoded look. But it will be, essentially, colonial exploitation in the pattern of the past. 5-9-45

That is a betrayal. It is a betrayal of the ideals of the Atlantic Charter and it is a betrayal of one of the great hopes of Franklin D. Roosevelt, who, more than any other individual, summed up the yearning of millions everywhere for a better world.

This is perfectly clear now. We do not need the longer perspective of history to make it any more obvious.

Washington, D. C.

I HAVE BEFORE ME the notes of a conversation I had with the late President a year ago, in which he talked at some length of his ideal of a trusteeship that would enable colonial peoples to move toward political and economic independence within a fixed number of years.

The President began by talking about the position of the white man in the far Pacific. The white man, he pointed out, had come more and more into disfavor. The quick successes of the Japs had shaken white prestige that was already badly damaged.

"We are going to have to take some positive steps," the President said, "or find ourselves pushed out completely.

"Some time ago I worked out a form of trusteeship for French Indo-China. You know, that colony was governed very badly. For every dollar the French put in, they took $10 out. Those little people had a culture of their own, Cambodia and the Cambodian kings. But they were badly treated.

"Now my idea is for a trusteeship to administer Indo-China. I put this up to Chiang Kai-shek and he was strong for it. The idea is to have one Chinese trustee, one Philippine trustee, one French trustee, a British trustee and perhaps an American trustee." 5-9-45

Through a fixed term of years, as the President outlined it, the Indo-Chinese would work toward political and economic independence. The trustees would guide that process, with complete freedom as the final goal.

AT TEHERAN, Roosevelt said, he asked Stalin what he thought of the plan. Stalin thought it was "excellent."

Prime Minister Churchill, however, would have none of it, even after the late President reminded him that on this issue there were three votes against one. Churchill was thinking of Burma. He refused to consider such a plan for Burma.

Whether Roosevelt could have carried the United Nations Conference with him on this issue is a question. In the weeks preceding his death, he was tired and old and sick. Even so, he might have appealed to the conscience of the world. He, alone, possessed the moral force to challenge the rulers on an issue so vital.

Such an appeal could have been made against the background of our success in helping the Philippines to move toward independence. That is a record which has profoundly impressed the millions in Asia who are far more politically conscious than colonial overloards like to think.

THE BRITISH have just completed the reconquest of Burma, a grim and grisly operation in the green hell of the Burmese jungle that took careful planning, courage and persistence. In the accounts of that campaign, I saw nothing about the kind of native guerilla army that gave such invaluable help to the American forces in the Philippines. 5-9-45

The people of the Philippines had something to fight for. After final victory over Japan, the other brown and yellow peoples of Asia are going to want something to live for.

Russia's Peace Table Demands Will Include 'Equality' Clause

Pitts burgh Courier 1-27-45

By GEORGE PADMORE, Courier's London Correspondent

LONDON—(Censored)—When leaders of the Allied Nations gather around the peace Table, Russia will demand a clause pledging racial equality, not only for Jews, but for all the non-European races of Asia, Africa and other continents and countries inhabited by colored peoples. This emphatic statement was made here by a Soviet representative when asked to comment on remarks by Prof. Komarov, president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. The professor had given additional information to a recent order credited to Marshal Stalin, Georgian-born leader of the Soviet Union, in which he was quoted as instructing military commanders of the Russian armies to ruthlessly stamp out all forms of racial discrimination and jim-crow laws in countries occupied by the Soviet forces. 1-27-45

PUNISHED BY DEATH

Prof. Komarov declared Stalin's warning should be heeded by all malicious spreaders of racial hatred and racial practices and explained that according to the laws of the Soviet Union, active racists and anti-Semites are punished by death.

In 1931, Stalin had declared that "Anti-Semitism is the most dangerous survival of cannibalism."

"In the future," declared the professor, "we shall not turn our backs on racial practices until we have stamped them out, pulled them up by the roots and taken every measure against their recurrence. When any country gives shelter to the Hitlerites or their ideas in the form of discriminatory legislation, racist organizations or a racist press, it is no longer an internal affair of that country. 1-27-45

RACIST IDEAS DANGEROUS

"If your neighbor opens in his backyard a container of poison gas which threatens to spread over the town, you do not waste time by asking permission to enter his premises to prevent death of thousands of people. Racist ideas are more dangerous than any poison gas. It is our solemn duty to future generations, to civilization and to humanity, not only to put out the present bonfire of Nazi-Fascism in Europe, and elsewhere, but to discover and extinguish every one of its sparks and smoldering embers wherever they may be found."

It will be remembered that during the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, the Japanese delegation, headed by Baron Makino, proposed to the victorious powers the plan to adopt a race equality clause. The plan was supported by Haiti, but received strenuous opposition from the South African delegation, headed by General Smut, and certain members of the British delegation.

Courier's Adviser Pleads for Colonials

Post

WASHINGTON—When the "Big Three" meet soon President Roosevelt has been asked to give special consideration to the problem of dependent areas and colonial territories. The plea was addressed to the President by Dr. Rayford Logan in his capacity as adviser on foreign affairs for The Pittsburgh Courier, general president of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, chairman of the Committee to Focus Attention on Post-war Problems of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes, and member of the Social Service Committee of the National Baptist Convention.

Dr. Logan requested of President Roosevelt that "you help to expand and improve the system by which dependent peoples will be guided through an international agency to eventual autonomy or first class citizenship thereby removing one of the causes of war."

ARGENTINE ENVOY PLEDGES PEACE AID

New York Times

Ambassador Tells President Mission Is to Co-operate 'Without Reservation'

5-9-45

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 8—Senior Dr. Don Oscar Ibarar Garcia, newly appointed Ambassador from Argentina, presented his credentials to President Truman today and extended the good wishes of the Argentine people and Government "on this day of victory of the Allied arms."

The Ambassador also gave a pledge of Argentine cooperation in the building of the peace in which Argentina will participate at the San Francisco Security Conference as a result of the recently issued invitation to the conference which was extended after strong opposition from the Soviet Union.

On leaving the White House the Ambassador said he would go at once to San Francisco, and would be joined by the Argentine Ambassador to London and the other delegates. Argentina, he said, would be represented at the conference although that country had not yet signed the United Nations declaration.

"At this hour in which plans are being made for peace and the future well-being of humanity," he said to President Truman, "I have come with the special mission of conveying to you the resolution of my Government to cooperate without reservation in the attainment of such high purposes."

He paid special tribute to the life and ideals of President Roosevelt "for whom the heroic flag of the United States still flies at half mast." 5-9-45

President Truman thanked the Ambassador for his reference to President Roosevelt, and replied:

"In the great task that lies before us, as you have well said, it must be the common resolve of all peace-loving nations that ways and means shall be found to prevent the scourge of war and to settle international differences by a more rational recourse than that of force. In the consummation of this historic under taking for the future well-being of all mankind, I welcome the assurance of solidarity and cooperation which you have just given me in the name of your country."

Besides the Ambassadors to Washington and London, it is understood the Argentine delegation to the San Francisco Conference will include three members of the Argentine Embassy staff here.

Big Five Nations To Direct European Peace Settlement

The Atlanta Constitution Atlanta Georgia 9-10-45

By JOHN A. PARRIS.

LONDON, Sept. 9.—(AP)—The Big Five's foreign ministers converged on London tonight to begin drafting a peace settlement that will change much of the map of the world.

Foreign Ministers Wang Shih-Chien of China and Georges Bidault of France arrived by plane this afternoon. V. M. Molotov of Soviet Russia left Moscow Saturday. James F. Byrnes of the United States is due by sea tomorrow. These four will join Ernest Bevin of Great Britain for the first session Tuesday of the foreign ministers' council, set up at Potsdam.

Wang's associates said he expected to be here two weeks. The foreign ministers, aware of the pitfalls in the Paris peace conference of 1919, expect to hold many later meetings and make no effort to hurry unduly a settlement of the border and other problems posed by the end of World War II.

BIG FIVE DIRECTS

The Big Five are directing the negotiations. The smaller powers will be invited to attend only when matters directly concerning them are under discussion. Thus, the Big Five will be spared much of the lobbying and grumbling which harassed the principal statesmen at the Paris conference.

Italy is scheduled to be the first of the ex-enemy countries to secure peace with the United Nations. The foreign ministers will draft a peace treaty for Italy during their deliberations here. This document will deal with the future frontiers of Italy in Europe and with Italian colonial possessions.

WANG OPTIMISTIC

China's foreign minister arrived at Victoria station tonight from the Haunts airfield, where he landed after a flight from Chungking by way of India and Cairo. Wang spoke only briefly with reporters, who asked him if the National Government party of China had patched up its differences with the Communists. London newsmen asked Chiang Kai-shek's aide whether he would speak "for the whole of China" at the conference.

"I hope to be able to," responded the gray-haired diplomat.

"Yes, of course he's speaking for the whole of China," interrupted Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese ambassador to Britain.

Wang was accompanied by Hollington K. Tong, former Chinese vice minister of information; K. T. Hauh, new Chinese charge d'affaires in Rome; Dr. Y. C. Yang, director of Asiatic affairs of the foreign office and Dr. H. C. Wei, a sectional chief in the foreign office.

Bidault brought along Maurice Cove de Murville, former ambassador to Rome, who has been named policy director for foreign affairs, and Herve Alphand, chief of the foreign ministry's financial section. A fourth member of the delegation, Jacques Fouques-Duparc, was here already.

The peace treaties with Finland, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary may be postponed at this council meeting. America and Britain are insisting that they must have representative Democratic regimes before there can be any thought of concluding peace settlements with them.

Although the drafting of a peace treaty for Italy is expected to consume considerable time, there are many other complex problems which the foreign ministers must tackle in their job of shaping the future of postwar Europe and laying a foundation for peace. These include:

1. Disposition of Germany's Ruhr and Saar areas.

2. Possible Dutch and Belgian claims against German territory as part of war reparations.

3. An American proposal for creating an international commission to govern inland European waterways—the Rhine and Danube rivers, Germany's Kiel canal, the Bosphorus and Dardanelles.

4. A general airing of the entire Balkan question aimed at establishing more democratic regimes.

UNO in the South? Of Course Not!

Daily Worker

Here's a Christmas thought for you, America . . . do you know that there's a large part of this country which was ruled out as a site for the permanent quarters of the United Nations Organization?

That was the South . . . because delegates from other nations, who might happen to have a darker skin, would not come into the southern part of the USA for fear of being jim crowed.

Quite a thought, isn't it? Here we are supposedly the great "moral leader" of the world, and yet no one would vote to let the headquarters of the United Nations reside in our deep South, no, not even in Washington, DC, which may be good enough as the capitol of our own land but isn't good enough as capitol of the world!

12-25-45

Think about it, Americans. Your country is the shame of the world, because it is a country where racism is still tolerated. Isn't it a humiliating thought for Christmas Day?

Negro Sacrifice On Field Of Battle Merits Post-War Equality, Says Scott

Chicago Defender ILL

3-10-45

By EMMETT J. SCOTT

One of the great tragedies of this United States of ours is the color-caste system, recognized and practiced in practically all of the normal activities of the religious, secular, social, industrial, and political life of our nation, with particular reference to the largest racial minority group of our population.

DR. EMMETT J. SCOTT is one of the few Negroes in the nation with a supervisory position in a big shipyard. He is director of employment and personnel relations at the Sun Shipbuilding Co. in Chester, Pa. During the last war he was first assistant secretary of war under Newton D. Baker. Earlier he was secretary to Booker T. Washington and secretary-treasurer of Howard university.

It is a brazen, shoddy attempt, long and more or less successfully continued, to keep this group confined to a second-degree citizenship, with all the disadvantages and inhibitions, gross injustices, and crass inequalities that usually go along with the mistreatment of oppressed peoples.

These observations are pertinent in discussing Negro post-war prospects. Why, in the name of high heaven must there be discussion of such a theme? These 13,000,000 Colored-Americans are citizens of the republic. They have been ennobled by three great Civil War amendments by having conferred on them all of the liberties, equalities, and privileges of American citizenship.

In fact, our American ideal is that "No race or creed or culture has a monopoly of Americanism — except the human race, the creed of friendship and good will, and the culture of free speech and free opportunity." This group is a minority group only in the sense of color of their skins—as non-whites.

It is a black page in American history that they have been hedged about by bigotries and intolerances based on color, and have been prevented by vicious legislative enactments, and traditional practices, from fully enjoying that citizenship which is legally theirs—a citizenship equal to that of any other group in the United States.

I refuse to discuss these problems which perplex Colored Americans from the standpoint of a minority racial group. A minority as non-whites, as I have said, yes. But Americans just the same, just as much so as any racial group in this country of ours, clothed in all the proud habiliments and dignities of American citizenship. We cannot for one moment concede that we are one whit less in stature than any other group that claims the high and exalted privileges of full-rounded, American citizenship. 3-10-45

If America is, as has been said the fountain of human hopes and individual opportunity, we are entitled to share every one of these hopes and opportunities.

We have helped to make and to save this nation. Our story is an epic recital of our rise from servitude, of hard beginnings, of discouraged hopes, of modest achievements, of fruitful endeavors; sometimes, of more or less spectacular successes in education, in business, in the professions, and in the practices of that freedom and citizenship we have helped to win.

We helped to save this nation when the slave oligarchy sought to sever the bonds which held the states of the nation in indivisible union. 3-10-45

Whenever the safety of the nation has been threatened, brawny black men have shouldered muskets and have gone forth to fight and to die.

Across the front facade of that Supreme Court which stands in the nation's capital appear the words, "Equal Protection Under Law."

No citizen of the Republic has a right to expect more than this; no citizen of the Republic has a right to expect less than this.

In the effort to qualify for full rounded citizenship, the Negro has helped to clear our forests, to build our railroads, to raise giant masses of steel and stone in our American cities, has plowed our soil, and helped to raise our crops.

He has gallantly fought in every war of the republic. He has come to believe that democracy, in its widest application, should rest upon the "reign of law, based upon the consent of the governed, and sustained by the organized opinion of mankind." Any practices, anywhere, which do violence to the high sounding sentiment I have quoted threaten the institutions of our land.

Exhibit Courage

These statements establish the validity of our claims as citizens of the nation. The turmoil and strife attendant upon the effort to secure fair representation in the performance of war tasks—a right finally conceded only by the coercive necessities of the war-manpower situation, and not by a generous recognition of a fundamental right—was finally won.

When the opportunity came, Negro men and women were ready to prove their worth, and their ability to master the intricate craftmanship of shipbuilding, of airplane construction; also of guiding and operating Liberty ships, tankers and cargo vessels, of exhibiting Merchant Marine courage and stoutness of heart; in building precision instruments, and of qualifying for general service in the manifold activities of all-out production in industrial plants which, by tradition and practice, had resolutely been closed to them.

No longer can there be denial of the potential possibilities of Negroes in skilled occupations. In World War II, we have proved our case. 3-10-45

Need Change In Opinion

The Negro people must recognize the fact, however, that, taken as a whole, the darker peoples of America and the world are still outside the boundaries of the thinking and planning of the White World. We have sober responsibilities ahead of us. As great as are our war gains, they cannot be conserved until the legalistic, moralistic, and idealistic forces of public opinion undergo an almost complete metamorphosis.

We Colored Americans can measurably contribute to this change.

Our men and women who today enjoy economic opportunities and privileges far beyond any of the past, owe a duty and responsibility by excellence of performance of every duty, and the acceptance of every burden placed upon them to meet every exacting requirement.

By so doing, they will baffle our enemies and confirm the faith and trust of our friends.

They can employ their man- and woman-power, their technical skill, and the uses of all their resources, economic and otherwise, to strengthen our country as it is undergoing strains and perils never before faced by it.

International Problem

They can conserve whatever gains we have made by taking advantage of every opportunity to win the respect and confidence of their fellowmen and by helping to promote a more complete, normal and healthy economic life.

In these efforts of ours we shall have the support of Godly men and women. These friends must be bound to us by hooks of steel. We shall need them. They in turn will need us.

The present war has brought into full sunlight the world treatment of black and brown peoples. The question, the problem, is not a local one. It is a national problem. It is an international problem.

Throughout the world, long-silent black and brown peoples are awakening. They recognize the tortuous methods employed to lull them into a state of complacency, they no longer accept the age-old oppressions, and the teachings that so-called Master Races must dominate them, govern them, oppress them.

Too long the diabolic hostility of their enemies, and the turgid waters of confusion and frustration have swirled about their bloody but unbowed heads. They recall that Abraham Lincoln gave voice to the sentiment that no man is endowed with qualities which fit him to govern another man.

Negroes Press Their Case

The postwar perior is, we all hope, near at hand. Unhappily, it promises to be a troublesome period. Our men and women have poured and are pouring their all into winning this war as they have in every war of the republic.

They will be in no frame of mind to accept the segregations, the lynchings, the poll tax scandals, the exclusions from industry, the discriminations of labor unions, Jim-Crowism in all its ugly, vicious and cruel manifestations; unequal school facilities, political disfranchisement, government discriminations, along with federal departmental, army and navy practices with respect to treatment, promotions, and all the long list of meannesses to which we have been subjected. 3-10-45

A new world order is in the process of making. Our world society and economy are to be reconstituted after new patterns. Make no mistake about it, black and brown peoples are pressing their case in the forums of world public opinion. They are demanding equal opportunity to develop their native genius "not hampered, but aided by stronger and more advanced races," as Madame Chiang Kai-Shek expresses it.

As she also truly said more than a year and a half ago: "It is paradoxical but true that nations, like individuals, can only permanently enjoy privileges and rights if they are willing to share them with others . . . If they attempt to reserve them solely for themselves, they will altogether lose them."

Exploitations, imperialistic enterprise, and all of the other anachronisms of our present world system are on the way to being swept out of existence.

Job For Liberals

We seek to intertwine our progress with the well being and happiness of the whole American people; with the advancement of all other peoples of the world.

Eternal is the struggle of mankind for liberty and freedom. We are now engaged in that struggle.

Daniel Webster has left us a wise word: "God grants liberty to those who love it," he said, "and to those who are always ready to guard and defend it." 3-10-45

Finally: I have said that such war gains as have been achieved by us "cannot be conserved until the legalistic, the moralistic, and the idealistic forces of public opinion undergo an almost complete metamorphosis."

The liberal forces of America are bidden to gird on their armor, to go forth in the name of the Lord God of Hosts, and overwhelm the forces of evil that keep alive racial prejudices, traditional hatreds, bigotries, and reactionary practices in conflict with that idealism which calls for respect of human rights, regard for human dignity, and a sincere belief in human freedom.

Post-War Building Plan Includes Lincoln U.

1-13-45

Pittsburgh Courier - Pa.

ST. LOUIS — Lincoln university, located at Jefferson City, Mo., will share in a $40,509,735 post-war building program to be carried out at nine Missouri educational institutions, it was announced last week. The program, to be financed by a State bond issue, sets aside $2,948,264 for Lincoln university.

V-E-Day Will Bring Cut-Back

Post-War Training Programs For Negroes Urged By WMC

Pittsburgh Courier 3-3-45 Pgh. Pa.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Participation of all people, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin" must be guaranteed in all post-war programs "in order to maintain the right of all Americans to freedom from fear, persecution and intolerance."

This observation is set forth in an article by Lawrence A. Oxley, entitled "Negroes in the Post-War Period," appearing in the February issue of "Manpower Review," official organ of the War Manpower Commission. Mr. Oxley serves with the Bureau of Placement of the WMC.

CUT-BACKS ON V-E-DAY

3-3-45

Pointing out that V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) "will bring sharp cut-backs in many of the industries where the Negro has been accepted so widely," Oxley cites FEPC reports that show "an increase in the number of complaints of discrimination by firms who have employed Negroes in the past months, but who now appear to be attempting to 'purify' their hiring patterns.

"These factors make clear," the article states, "that unless safeguards are established, minority group workers may be faced with greater economic insecurity than majority groups, because of discriminatory lay-off or cut-back patterns."

TRAINING AND UPGRADING WITHHELD

Special attention is given the withholding of training and upgrading opportunities for Negroes. "During the entire employment history of the Negro worker," Oxley writes, "he has been restricted to menial, unskilled jobs, although some progress in placing Negroes in skilled jobs has been made during the war. This practice has increased his number in the total of marginal workers—a group always the first to be affected by the slightest change in the job structure.

3-3-45

"It is obvious that Negro workers must be trained before they can effectively break down the work barriers now raised against them. This indicates an imperative need for a thorough and adequate non-discriminatory training program to be made effective through the WMC, USES, Training Within Industry, Veterans Employment Service, and/or successor agencies. Negro applicants, as all other applicants, should be counseled according to their aptitude and previous training and work experience and not according to race, color or religion. Training opportunities should extend to all phases of post-war planning."

Invited To Parley In Frisco

Journal & Guide 3-17-45 Va.

Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti, To Sit In On United Nations Talks

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The San Francisco conference of the United Nations on April 25 will be attended by many countries populated by darker peoples, among whom will be Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, India, and the Philippines.

The inclusion of India and the Philippines, neither of which has yet become independent states, is viewed with surprise but pleasure by many observers. The invitation to India to attend has raised the question as to whether the problems of dependent areas will be included in the discussions of the conference.

3-17-45

It is recalled that at the World Labor Conference held in London during February, it was urged that an end be brought to the system of colonies, dependencies and subject countries as spheres of economic exploitation. This part of the declaration of the labor conference was sponsored by the CIO representatives from America.

PLANNED AT CRIMEA CONFERENCE

The San Francisco conference was planned at the recent meeting of Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin at Yalta, in the Crimea. It is sponsored by the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China. France, while indicating its intention of attending the conference, refused to join the other four countries as a sponsor.

3-17-45

The purpose of the meeting, according to the invitation sent to 39 nations, is to prepare a charter for a general international organization for the maintenance of international peace and security. The proposals worked out as a result of the Dumbarton Oaks conference will be used as a basis for the charter.

Each government has been invited to present views or comments concerning the proposals in advance of the conference.

Council States Nation Not Ready For Reconversion

Atlanta Daily World Georgia 8-12-45

Speedy Return To Job Bias Toward Minority Feared

WASHINGTON — (ANP) —The dropping of the atomic bomb on Japan and the entry of Russia into the war against the Nipponese has put the Fair Employment Practice Committee in danger of early termination, the National Council for a Permanent FEPC said Saturday.

These two events, said Secy. Ann Arnold Hedgeman, has raised "the fear in the hearts of minority Americans of an equally speedy return to job discrimination" with the end of the war.

In a prepared statement Mrs. Hedgeman declared that the country is not prepared for reconversion and the peace. "The present FEPC is a wartime agency," she pointed out. "This means that the necessity for immediate enactment of the permanent FEPC bill is tremendously heightened.

PEOPLE WANT FEPC

"The people want FEPC in peace time no less than in wartime," she said. "This was proven by the reaction received by this office to Senator Barkley's omission of the bill from the administration program for the fall. The people must see to it that FEPC is placed high on the agenda when congress returns."

8-12-45

Meanwhile on Friday Mrs Bell Douglass of New Orelans, southern field representative for the national council, told a press conference that she had just returned from a four-month trip through the area and had helped establish some 28 local councils in 11 states, many of which are interracial.

MONEY RAISER

Mrs. Douglas is a former school teacher. She came to the attention of the national council sometime ago when she founded an interracial local council in New Orleans and in less than two months had raised $5,000 for the work of the organization.

8-12-45

She declared that many people in the south are tired of having the areas described as the "number one economic problem of the nation." They see racial prejudice and discrimination as the main drawback and a drag to a change, and they want federal aid in coping with the matter, she said.

NAACP Opposes D.C. As World Capital

Chicago Defender

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—The darker races of the world whose countries are affiliated with the United Nations "could find little succor" here in the nation's capital should this city be selected as the capital and seat of the new world organization, the district branch of the NAACP said last week.

The idea was advanced last Tuesday following a survey among local civic and business groups that Washington would be a suitable location for the United Nations.

8-11-45

"To envision the Washington of today as the 'Capital of the World' in any sense is absurd," declared Alfred E. Smith, branch secretary "As a cultural capital it would be a burlesque of the very democracy for which our nation stands so bravely in song and speech.

"Discriminatory prejudice based on race is as deep in Washington as in almost any spot on earth," Smith continued. "Prejudice based on color is even deeper. The fact that it flourishes with what, in effect is tacit consent of the federal government, does nothing to lessen its viciousness."

560-1945

Post War and Peace Plans

VITAL FOR THE POST-WAR

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

By VIRGINIUS DABNEY 1-6-45
(In the Richmond, Va., TIMES DISPATCH)

It is generally agreed, we believe, that when the colored soldiers return to civil live in Virginia and the other Southern States, important problems will be created. Will they be able to get jobs, will they feel that they are welcomed back, will the opportunities offered them and their race be greater than when they went away? Or will they be forced to conclude that nothing has changed, and that although they have served their country in war they are to be granted no wider opportunities in peace than they had before?

The Pittsburgh Courier, one of the leading Negro newspapers, has received many letters on this subject from Negroes in the armed services. These letters reflect anxiety, and even bitterness, over the prospect that when the colored soldiers and sailors return to civil life they will find the same discriminations and injustices that plagued them before they went away. This is a deep and widespread feeling among the Negro troops, and it is something which we on the home-front must think about now. so that when the war ends we shall be reasonably prepared for the conditions which may be expected to present themselves at that time. 1-6-45

If the colored soldiers of Virginia come back to this State and find obvious and tangible evidences of change for the better it will be highly conducive to a more cordial interracial feeling. If colored policemen and firemen have been installed by that time on the forces of several Virginia cities, for instance, as has been done in many other parts of the South, with highly beneficial results; if steps have been taken, looking toward an all-Negro staff at the Piedmont Sanatorium for Negroes at Burkeville, such as several other Southern States have already; if segregation has been abolished on our urban street cars and buses; if the poll tax is definitely on the way out, or if only one or two of these things are a reality, the returning servicemen and women will have genuine grounds for encouragement.

With a view to finding what advances of this nature are in prospect for the South, The Pittsburgh Courier is sending one of its staff writers, John H. Young III, on a tour of the region. Mr. Young, who lives in Nashville, has visited Richmond, and he reports that he is much encouraged by what he has found here. He is genuinely hopeful, and on his visit to the Times-Dispatch gave the impression of desiring earnestly to write understandingly of the situation as it exists in this part of the country. His newspaper, which is believed to have the largest circulation of any Negro newspaper in America, will present a series by him on the subject. It is a subject which needs sympathetic and non-belligerent treatment, and he indicates that this is what he will provide. 1-6-45

There are few more important issues before us than this. If The Courier can create in the minds of the returning colored servicemen, numbering hundreds of thousands, the feeling that there are important and influential white Southerners who desire to help them, much friction can be avoided.

United Nations Parley To Study Colonial Plan

Pittsburgh Courier
3-17-45 Pa

By GEORGE PADMORE, Courier London Correspondent

LONDON (Censored)—Among the subjects to be discussed at the forthcoming United Nations' Conference at San Francisco April 25 will be the future of the Colonies. Well informed colonial experts, some of whom will accompany the British delegation to the Conference, indicate that as a result of the Crimea Conference decisions relating to the future political setup in the Middle East and North-East Africa, the ground has been prepared for a final solution of all outstanding colonial and territorial readjustments in Africa, the West Indies and the Pacific areas.

ITALIAN COLONIES

Accordingly, the future of the Italian colonies in Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean area will be brought before the Conference. It is generally believed that Eritrea and Italian Somaliland will be assigned to the British as a sort of mandate subject to international supervision of the proposed World Security organization to be set up on the basis of recommendations arrived at by the Dumbarton Oaks Conference.

A Regional Council will also be set up for the entire Middle East and Red Sea area under British control, but American interests will be represented. It is also intended to get representation to the Arab States as soon as the Pan-Arab Federation comes into existence. 3-17-45

And in view of Abyssinia's special interest in Eritrea and the Red Sea—her only outlet to the world—the Emperor will be granted a seat on the Regional Council. Political and diplomatic observers in London asserted that the general outlines of the new colonial setup in this part of the world was one of the matters which President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill discussed with Haile Selassie and Ibn Saud, the Arab ruler of Saudi Arabia, on their visit to Cairo during their homeward voyage from the Crimea Conference. 3-17-45

SMUTS' SCHEME

The case for the open annexation of Southwest Africa as a new province of the South African Union will be advocated by Field Marshal Smuts who has drawn up a new blue-print for colonial administration. 3-17-45

Under this scheme, regional councils will be set up in various parts of Asia, Africa, the Pacific and the West Indies, and the colonial possessions of the various European powers will be pooled and jointly administered by the powers concerned, subject to international supervision.

The regional councils will have among other duties the training of the colored inhabitants in self-government until such time as the imperial powers consider that they are fit enough to govern themselves.

One Third Of Soldiers Plan More Schooling

Atlanta World G2
1-11-45

Many Taking Interest In GI Rights Bill

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Over 30,000 enlisted men now in the Army plan to return to full-time school or college after the war, according to a cross-section survey which included a representative sample of the 700,000 Negro troops now in the Army, the War Department announced today.

In addition to those who have definite plans for full-time school or college, an even larger number say they may go back to school but also are considering other job plans. 1-11-45

MOST UNDER 25

About one-third of all Negro soldiers expressed definite interest in taking part-time school or college courses after leaving the service, but most of them have not selected specific courses or made definite plans.

The results of the survey indicate that a proportionately higher percentage of Negro soldiers plan to complete high school or trade school school courses on a full-time college attendance is proportionately smaller, a difference that is accounted for by previous educational experience before entering the Army.

Of the men with definite plans for full-time school or college attendance most are under 25 years old and single, and two out of three are qualified to enter college.

Although a large portion of the men in the Army were not familiar with the details of the "GI Bill of Rights" at the time the survey was made, the response indicated a high degree of interest on the part of troops in taking advantage of the bill.

TUITION PAID 1-11-45

Under this bill, all tuition and fees up to $500 are paid by the government, and the veteran receives $50 a month if single, $75 a month if he has one or more dependents.

The report, which is based on a survey made by the Research Branch Information and Education Division, Army Service Forces, pointed out that availability of jobs, wage levels and the length of the war would influence the final decision of many soldiers, as will increase knowledge of the details of the "GI Bill." Information on the opportunities under this legislation is constantly being furnished soldiers through a variety of media.

Based on the same survey it is estimated that seven per cent of all Negro troops have definite plans to start a business of their own after the war, and four per cent plan to operate farms.

WANT TO SELL

Highest interest among men planning to go into business for themselves is in retailing. Automotive, including repair services, is the largest single group with 18 per cent; service establishments, 17 per cent; food retailing, 7 per cent; and all other retail establishments, including eating places, 29 per cent.

Most of these men are planning to start small businesses — three out of five saying they plan to invest $2,000 or less.

U.S.-Britain Win Interest Zones: Syria, Arabia, Ethiopia--Security

Pittsburgh Courier 3-17-45

By GEORGE PADMORE, Courier London Correspondent

LONDON—(Censored)—In a dispatch written before the Crimea Conference I indicated that among the subjects to be discussed by the Big Three was the question of the future of Italian colonies in Africa. I am now in a position to reveal that when the question was raised Stalin showed no desire to be involved in the new "scramble for colonial territories in Africa" and forthwith colonies of Central Asia After leaving left the matter entirely in the hands of the President and Stalin pointed out that one of the Russian Revolution was the liquidation of the old Czarist Empire and the transformation of the

NEGRO TO CONTINUE

It is generally believed that Selassie will continue to be recognized as sovereign ruler of Abyssinia, but British and Americans will enjoy "spheres of interests" in the economic development of Abyssinia. The Emperor will also be called upon to make certain territorial adjustments affecting his country's frontiers adjoining British Somaliland and Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, which supplies water for irrigating the British cotton plantations on the Sudan. It is also believed, though it

Near East, well informed diplomatic circles in London hint at far-reaching political and territorial decisions.

It is pointed out that Haile Selassie and Ras Kassa, the most powerful man in Abyssinia after the Emperor, were invited to Cairo shows that the British reached American Governments concerning agreements their future relations, not only with the Arab States, but with the entire East African area, including Italian colonies of Eritrea and Somaliland. 3-17-45

STALIN "WASHES HANDS"

As a result of Stalin's washing his hands of the question as to become of the Italian colonies in East and North Africa, the decisions of President Roosevelt and Mr. these colored rulers concerning the future status of their countries and the Arab lands of the

cannot be officially confirmed, that the future of the conquered Italian colony of Lybia was among the subjects discussed by the President and Mr. Churchill with the King of Egypt.

All these hush-hush diplomatic talks coming at a time when the Arab Prime Ministers are in conference for the purpose of creating a Federation of Arab States, bring the whole question of the reshaping of the Middle East into the forefront of power politics.

FRANCE AFFECTED

As such a plan will affect the future rights of France in Syria and Lebanon, General de Gaule refused to meet Big Two because France was not represented at the Crimea Conference. Britain is backing the Syrians against the French and Mr. Churchill had talks with Al Sayed Shukri Al Kuwatly, president of the British sponsored Syrian Republic.

And to further complicate matters, it is believed that the British will divide up Palestine, based upon the recommendation of the Peel Plan announced by the British Colonial Office in 1936.

Under this plan the Jews will given the low-lying country along the shores of Palestine and would also acquire control of Negeb in that State, while the Arabs now living in mandated territory would get the highlands to be incorporated into the greater Syrian Republic. Jerusalem itself would be made a sort of international zone guaranteed by Britain and the United States.

PERUVIAN WOULD BAR PREJUDICED NATIONS

Pittsburgh Courier p2. 1-20-45

NEW YORK—A plea urging that membership to the Pan American Union be limited to nations which guarantee their inhabitants absolute equality before the law and freedom from any sort of discrimination, was put up to World powers last week.

These regulations were urged by Senor Pedro C. Beltran, Peruvian Ambassador to the United States. A member of the board of governors of the union, Senor Beltran made the recommendations at a luncheon at the Savoy-Plaza Hotel attended by British, American and Peruvian delegates to the World Jewish Congress.

SHOULD BE PART OF CONSTITUTION 1-20-45

He suggested that articles against discrimination be made a part of the constitution of the proposed world security organization.

He said no nation should be admitted to any kind of world security organization unless it is willing to offer equal opportunity to all without any sort of discrimination.

As for the World organization, Senor Beltran said it should guarantee the integrity of all countries, "however small and weak," and should be based upon the "cooperation of equal sovereign nations having as their common faith the respect of human rights throughout the world." 1-20-45

After he suggested that articles against discrimination be made a part of the constitution of the proposed world security organization, Senor Beltran was asked whether he thought the same rules should apply to the Pan American Union. 1-20-45

ENDORHED BY BRITISH

The diplomat replied: "Without question. That regulation should be written into the constitution of the Pan American Union. Evidently it wasn't thought of or considered necessary before, but it certainly is now."

Senor Beltran's anti-discirimination proposal was endorsed by S. Sidney Silverman, member of the House of Commons and chairman of the British section of the World Jewish Congress.

Feel Enforced Training Will Entrench Jim Crow

Pittsburgh Courier p2. 1-20-45

NEW YORK—Opposition to the proposed compulsory peace-time military conscription was voiced this week by the NAACP in a letter to President Roosevelt. The association cited the segregated Army system as the basis of the opposition. "The concern of Negro Americans," the letter said, "stems from concern and respect for his fellow the fact that our armed services human beings which must be the have a pattern of segregation cornerstone of any permanent which applies only to the Negro. peace for mankind." Americans of every other racial strain and religion are able to serve their country in uniform without the stigma of separation on the basis of race. We have Chinese, Japanese, Mexicans, Filipinos and other non-white soldiers fully integrated into armed units. Only the Negro is set apart.

"Our principal objection to the compulsory peace time conscription proposal is that it will perpetuate the separation and humiliation of Negro American youths solely on the basis of race and color. Thousands of Negro lads who have not been segregated from their fellows in civilian life will be embittered annually by their government's training program. Thousands of white lads in their formative and impressionable years will be taught by this example that the proper place of Negro Americans is in a segregated status. It is inevitable that this separate training program will carry over into civilian life so that segregation and its attendant evils, instead of decreasing and disappearing, will become firmly established as a policy. 1-20-45

"This Association submits that our government ought not to project into the world of the future a training program for its youth, the pattern of which will be borrowed from a past filled with inequalities, indignities, and violence. If we must have compulsory military conscription, every American youth must be inducted and trained in an integrated system with no separation on account of race, color, or religion, so that in addition to preparing himself for the duty of defending his country, he can also prepare himself to live in a democratic society, with that

DuBois Asks World Colonial Commission

Atlanta Daily World Pa. 7-15-45

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Establishment of an international colonial commission within the framework of the United Nations assembly was called for by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, special NAACP assistant, when he appeared before the senate foreign relations committee last Wednesday morning.

The committee is holding hearings on the San Francisco charter and in two days had listened to proponents of the charter. Dr. DuBois, while not opposed to the charter, appeared on the first day allotted to the opponents. He was one of the three consultants to the conference designated by the NAACP.

NO REPRESENTATION

In his statement to the committee he pointed out that the world security charter makes no provision for representation of colonial peoples.

"It gives as little recognition as possible to the wishes of the colonial peoples themselves," he declared.

He described the colonial system as being undemocratic and expressed regret that the United States was aligned with the great colonial powers rather than with China and Russia which, he said, do not depend upon imperialism.

STETTINIUS EXPLAINS

In his statement to the committee on Manday, fomer Secy. of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., explained in summary the eight provisions of the charter, including the subject of trusteeship. Considerable questioning in this an on phases of the human rights declarations had been anticipated but they never materialized.

"The objectives of the trusteeship system include the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the dependent peoples concerned and their development toward self-government or independent, together with encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms," Stettinius said. "These provisions constitute another long step forward from the league of nations mandate system." 7-14-45

Annual reports for each nonstrategic trust territory will be required by the general assembly on the basis of a questionnaire prepared by the trusteeship council, he explained. He credited both the war and navy departments for their participation in the framing of the trusteeship provisions of the charter.

Urge FDR To Name Negro As World Confab Delegate

Atlanta World 6-2

CHICAGO — (ANP) — The names of seven Negro leaders have been sent to President Roosevelt for a selection of a Negro delegate to the world security and peace conference in San Francisco on April 25.

That action was taken Sunday during a citizen's mass meeting at Liberty Baptist Church here when a resolution was adopted that urged the President to make the appointment following speeches by Edgar G. Brown of the National Negro council,, the Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., Woodlawn African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Rev. D. Z. Jackson and Dr. J. L. Horace, president of the Illinois Baptist convention. 3-8-45

The President was asked to name either Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Dr. Mordecai Johnson, Dr. Metz T. P. Lochard, A. Philip Randolph, Bishop John A Gregg, Bishop R. R. Wright or Bishop W. J. Walls.

Soviets To Demand Race Equality At Peace Table

Chicago Defender 1-20-45

Chicago, Ill.

LONDON ENVOY SAYS RUSS TO FIGHT RACISM

1-20-45

New Stalin Decree To Army Rips All Discrimination

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON—Russia will demand racial equality at the peace table, a Soviet representative in London revealed this week.

A clause pledging racial equality not only for Jews, but all the non-European races of Asia, Africa and other continents and countries inhabited by colored peoples will be sought by members of the Russian peace delegation, he said.

A significant New Year statement issued here this week, reveals that Marshal Stalin, Georgian-born leader of the Soviet Union, has instructed military commanders of the Red army to ruthlessly stamp out all forms of racial discrimination and jim crow laws in countries occupied by Soviet forces.

Cites Stalin's Warning

According to Professor Komarov, president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Stalin's warning should be heeded by all malicious spreaders of racial hatred and racial practices. The professor explained that according to the laws of the Soviet Union active fascists and anti-Semites are punished by death.

Now the Soviet Union will put that idea into practice in Poland, Rumania and Hungary, hotbeds of anti-Semitism long before Hitler became a menace to Europe.

"In the future," said Professor Komarov, "we shall not turn our backs on racial practices until we have stamped them out, pulled them up by the roots, and taken every measure against their recurrence.

1-20-45

"When any country gives shelter to the Hitlerites or their ideas in the form of discriminatory legislation, racist organizations or a racist press, it is no longer an internal affair of that country."

"If your neighbor opens in his backyard a container of poison gas which threatens to spread over the town," continued Professor Kamarov, "you do not waste time by asking permission to enter his premises to prevent the death of thousands of people.

"Racist ideas are more dangerous than any poison gas. It is our solemn duty to future generations, to civilization and humanity, not only to put out the present bonfire of Nazi-Fascism in Europe, and elsewhere, but to discover and extinguish every one of its sparks and smouldering embers, wherever they may be found."

British Guiana Trade Council Puts Forth Idea

Atlanta World

1-31-45

Atlanta, Ga.

Would Insert Racial Equal Clause In Pact

By REGINALD PIERREPOINTE

NEW YORK —(ANP)—"All governments that legalize racial discrimination should be barred from taking part in the world peace conferences unless they have taken steps to annul legislat

1-31-45

That was the resol recently passed by the British Guiana Trade council, according to Hubert Nathaniel Critchlow last week, who discussed world labor relations with a group of American and West Indian leaders here. Critchlow was en route to London to attend the World Confernce of Trade unions next month as a delegate of British Guiana.

LIST PROPOSALS 1-21-45

The conferences, attended by delegates from trade union organizations in allied and neutral countries, will discuss (a) the furtherance of the allied war effort; (b) the attitude of the trade unions towards the anticipated peace settlement; (c) representation of the trade unions at the peace conference and at the preparatory commission and conferences for relief, rehabilitation and post-war reconstruction; (d) problems of post-war reconstruction including the reconstruction of the international trade union movement.

Proposals on the resolution of furtherance of the allied war effort included:

1. "That all soldiers and camp followers under the banners of the allied nations be given similar and the same treatment in every respect."

2. That government which legalize discrimination be barred from taking part in the world peace conference unless they have taken steps to annul such legislation." 1-31-45

CALL ON UNIONS

3. "That the influence of the trade unions be used in their respective countries to combat and discourage the practice of racial discrimination by organizations and private citizens."

Other resolutions adopted by the Guiana Trade Council were "representation of trade unions at the peace conference; post-war reconstruction; nationalization of public utility services in the Caribbean area and "that the educational policy of the British Labor party be made applicable to the colonies of the Caribbean area."

DECREES RACIAL, POLITICAL FREEDOM FOR ALL GERMANS

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

READ: "PURSUIT OF DEMOCRACY," PAGE 7

WASHINGTON—The Big Three, Russia, Great Britain and the United States, in the tripartite Potsdam conference have decreed that racial discrimination in laws, in education and in the courts must and shall end . . . in Germany.

President Truman, Prime Minister Attlee, and Generalissimo Stalin have affixed their signatures to the historic document establishing democracy for conquered Germany.

On the question of Italy's African colonies, the conference was not specific, and left the entire question to the September Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

LIST THREE RULES 8-11-45

Under the section of political principles for the conquered nation, the tripartite agreements list three rules:

"All Nazi laws which provided the basis of the Hitler regime or established discrimination on grounds of race, creed or political opinion shall be abolished. No such discriminations, whether legal, administrative or otherwise, shall be tolerated.

"German education shall be so controlled as completely to eliminate Nazi and militarist doctrines and to make possible the successful development of democratic ideas.

"The judicial system will be reorganized in accordance with the principles of democracy, or of justice under law, and of equal rights for all citizens, without distinction of race, nationality or religion."

The matter of territorial questions was left undecided by the conference. It is expected that the newly organized Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs will place this matter on their September agenda. Of particular interest is the matter of Italy's former African colonies.

Russia is reported to have stirred the conference with a proposal calling for international trusteeships for Italian colonies, but the final report merely states "the disposition of any former Italian territories was one to be decided in connection with the preparation of a peace treaty for Italy..."

No mention was made of Ethiopia's claim to portions of Italian-occupied,

Parley On Post-War Prospects Of Negro Proposed By Dunjee

Chicago Defender Ill.

1-20-45

By ROSCOE DUNJEE

Chicago, Ill. (Fourth of a Series)

Discussion of post-war riots and strained race relations that may develop following the war are in my judgment detrimental to the objective and constructive thinking Negroes should participate in at the present time.

Current Negro leadership is today almost completely dominated in the kingdom of fear. Instead of patterning programs that will provide means by which darker people may be beneficiaries of whatever happens, there seems just at this time a hesitant note in black life the world over, not helpful to submerged groups. 1-20-45

Ernest E. Johnson, chief of the Washington Bureau of the Associated Negro Press, very aptly illustrates and portrays the international picture as it relates to dark people, in his recent article in the November Crisis. Mr. Johnson declares there is today no liaison or understanding between Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti or American Negro leadership. Each group shelters itself behind an individual defense technique, having to do with the expediency of the moment. The year 1944 finds black people short of spirit and the emotional enthusiasm necessary at this time to add anything to the moral and economic regeneration of the world.

ROSCOE DUNJEE is considered one of the foremost Negro leaders in the nation today, not only because of his position as president of the National Negro Business League but because of his fearless, crusading efforts in journalism and politics. He is publisher of the Oklahoma Black Dispatch and was one of the first Negroes to join in the ranks of the CIO Political Action Committee.

No Unity of Thought

Right here at home, in America, we find the Negro approaching the post-war era without any definite coordination of thought among Negro newspaper publishers, writers and thinkers. I was shocked almost out of my senses some time ago during a post-war discussion in my office, when a young Negro attorney proceeded to say that stiff imigration laws should be enacted immediately following the war.

I seriously wonder whether or not Negroes desire to join the ranks of those who would stymie freedom of movement, and I wonder whether or not this young leader realized he was discussing a subject that fundamentally has in its vitals, segregation, as we know it in Dixie, pass laws as they are administered in South Africa, and the whole tissue and technique by which black people have been held provincial slaves. 1-20-45

In a meeting at Hot Springs, Ark., last spring, I was again amazed to see an important Negro political leader stand on his feet, and make an impassioned plea for the poll tax. Anyone who believes in the poll tax structure applauds taxation without representation, and does not fundamentally believe in democratic society. How much of this sentiment dominates southern Negro leadership is yet to be determined.

Fear of Socialized Medicine

On another occasion in the city of Washington, an NYA conference was almost wrecked by three Negro doctors when the question of socialized medicine was being discussed. All were agreed that social diseases were running rampant within the black group. Stark naked figures were presented to show that the physical frame of the blacks here in America is being ravished and destroyed.

These Negro doctors had only one argument and that related to the fear that their private practice might be damaged by new innovations. In such a discussion, one wonders, does Materia Medica rightfully belong to the few or the many of our time.

In still another conference, where I sat with outstanding leaders of the nation, I suggested that the organization take a stand for the inclusion of outside workers, agriculturists and domestics within the brackets of social security. All social security, wage and hour laws leaves this group economically shipwrecked. 1-20-45

I met stiff opposition to this suggestion and opposition which at that time could not be overcome.

Future of Negro Business

Today, the Negro merchant is segregated, and will never be released from this thralldom until the Negro masses has sufficient purchasing power to give strength to the segregated Negro businessman. In 1944, Negro leadership apparently does not realize that we shall rise in proportion as we raise the standard of the common masses. Around 80 per cent of all Negroes gainfully employed, are classified as outside workers, agriculturists or domestics. Relief must come to this group before adequate and substantial growth can come to current Negro business.

Recently, the governors of southern states met in Biloxi, Miss., and announced that there would be formulated immediately a program in the South giving equal educational opportunity to all. But are Negro educators and other units of Negro life ready to be called in on this subject? 1-20-45

The best proof we are not ready to discuss this subject is evidenced by the fact that not a single college operated solely by Negroes is equipped with an industrial and agricultural establishment. Eighty years after Lincoln's freedom we pay no attention to the warning of C. C. Spaulding that the only two efforts that may be successfully started from the top are ditches and graves.

Need For Conference

I recently proposed in Chicago, at the Publishers' Association, and I suggest now that a national post-war planning conference be called at which time all of the questions respecting education, housing, health, labor, rural life, taxation, and the general structure of basic economies be properly aired and discussed. 1-20-45

Take the question of taxation. Large business interests violently oppose the present system of taxation. There is danger that middle class Negroes in business will follow this trend if attention is not called to the fact that the folk who oppose present forms of taxation are also opposed to the trends of employment that give Negro workers more opportunity to labor, resulting in larger profits for Negro business.

Negro business men are making larger profits today than ever before, and we should keep in mind that when taxes are subtracted from what we now acquire, we are left with more than we had under the old system. In other words, the new order redistributes wealth so that it reaches you in a moderate way. 1-20-45

There is no more important subject than taxation that should engage the attention of Negroes. Some day, when we enter the brackets of the very rich, we may afford to oppose taxation in its present form. Just now, we should find much interest in graduate and inheritance taxes. These also are methods by which wealth is decentralized. We have never been in a Negro gathering where either of these subjects were discussed.

South's Opportunity

One of the important tasks for Negro leadership while southern thinking is in a state of flux, is to convince the South that the Negro, instead of being the white man's burden, is the South's economic opportunity number 1. Already, the purchasing power of Negroes is greater than America's foreign trade with any single foreign nation. 1-20-45

It's up to Negro leadership just at this time to provide the information that if the more than eight millions of blacks who reside in the South are supplied purchasing power, in the form of wages, the South will immediately become one of the most prosperous sections of the nation.

Another task for Negro leadership is to actually harness the spending power and the capital gains of the group. Out of a total of two billion dollars spent annually by Negroes for food, clothing and shelter, government figures show Negro merchants have a turnover of not exceeding $110,000,000.

We can see how inconsequental this is when it is remembered that the small handful of Chinese merchants in the U. S. have an annual turnover in their business structure of $89,000,000, which almost equals the business turnover of 13,000,000 Negroes. The Negro must learn how to organize and consolidate his collective economic strength if he is to measure arms with other people in the post-war period.

Negro Migration

An alert Negro leadership should develop an awareness respecting current migration. Already, almost half-million Negroes have moved into the West and Northwest. Thousands of them will not return.

We should keep in mind also, that this is but the beginning of a general population upheaval, such as this nation has never known before. I predict that the exodus from the South, which in twenty years shifted 2,000,000 Negroes above the Mason and Dixon line, following the first world war, will be insignificant as compared to what will happen when demobilization begins.

The boys who came back home twenty years ago, did not have the clarity of vision the boys will have who will soon return. They were more illiterate, and unlike the youths of today, did not visit every corner of the earth. We do not believe the South visualizes its actual problem. There will in all likelihood be racial difficulties in attempts to prevent the blacks from leaving the South.

If our prediction is realized there will be a replacement in labor that must come from other sections. Will it be native white labor from the North, or will it be foreign labor from the Eastern seaboard?

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING

Washington Herald

To the editor: Which means that "the only way against attack is a trained citizen army." President Truman suggests, the health of our young men for military training. We must prepare to defend ourselves as best we can. But at all times it must be blindly plain to us that any amount of preparation of manpower will be of little value in the event of a swift and sudden enemy attack. Dr. Robert Oppenheimer who direct d our atomic research at Los Alamos, N. M., said so. Only that atomic raid on congested U. S. cities could very well kill 40 million Americans, or more than one of every four of us. Hanson Baldwin, writing in the New York Times, points out that "There can only be a limited and partly effective defense against a rocket travelling at well over 1,000 M. P. H., carrying an atomic warhead." Which means that "the only way to save human lives and material resources" is not as Truman suggests, to train our young men for war, but to construct a society of nations in which war is no longer an expedient way of settling political difficulties.

We are disturbed therefore that in his full-dress message to Congress on Military Training, an occasion which offered a unique chance for full exposition of our defence policy. That the President should have so cashed in his reference to the efforts being made for world co-operation. It is on the basis of that the "best insurance of world peace" which Truman points out that we do only insurance of world peace is not "plays to the gallery." Peace has been made at a cost that the world, he is convinced, will never arrive.

When Peace Comes...What?

Big Business Leader Sees Bright Post-War Future For Negroes

Chicago Defender 2-3-45 JHL.

By IRA MOSHER

(SIXTH OF SERIES)

2-3-45

The war has given the Negro a new and firmer foundation upon which to build his postwar future and the colored leaders of this country undoubtedly realize the heavy responsibility they now face in guiding the 13,000,000 members of their race to new heights of accomplishment.

American fighting men and American working men have had the benefit of closer association with the Negro since this war started, and as far as I can learn they have a greater respect for these fellow citizens than ever before. Discriminatory barriers have been leveled at unprecedented speed during the last three years.

I am sure that the Negro's full potential usefulness in this war has not yet been reached either on the battlefield or on the production front, and much educational work is still needed—on both sides—to conquer the prejudices which hinder his maximum use.

Industrial management is not playing ostrich and ignoring the Negro in its postwar planning. The colored worker will emerge from this war with impressive footholds in skilled and semi-skilled production jobs. He has proved that there is little justification for classifying a job according to race.

2-3-45

We have come a long way since the National Association of Manufacturers went up and down the country in 1941 in a series of regional meetings preaching to its members that there should be no arbitrary prejudices in employment. The NAM's official position on this question upholds the principle that there shall be no arbitrary discrimination in **employment, retention, promotion or dismissal** because of age, race, sex, membership or non-membership in any organization.

IRA MOSHER as president of the National Association of Manufacturers heads the biggest and most influential organization of employers in the nation. He is president of the Russell-Harrington Cutlery Co. in Southbridge, Mass., and was elected NAM head at its recent New York convention.

Top industrial management has taken a more tolerant and constructive attitude toward the employment of the Negro than almost any other segment of society.

Actually, today's bars to the hiring and upgrading of the Negro in industry in the past has been due largely to the discriminatory attitude of other employes and the labor unions rather than by arbitrary management policy. Management has been more or less in the middle—threatened with strikes and boycotts for attempting to bring Negroes into the factory, and charged with discrimination for not doing it.

Discrimination is not a matter of geography nor group. Discrimination of any kind is an inherited tradition and education is the only means of combating the habit.

As an association, NAM intends to pursue its policy of anti-discrimination education in industry.

Education Only Solution

The Negro himself is discriminating. He considers certain people his inferiors. He protested being forced to live adjacent to the Mexicans in a Denver Defense Housing project. The same arguments against discrimination against the Negro are just as vaild in the case of intra-race discrimination—the caste system—which every race practices to a degree.

Well, what are we going to do about all this? We are approaching a period in national development and in international progress where basic issues must be faced. How are we going to reach necessary understandings? How rapidly can we overcome prejudices inherited and passed down from generation to generation? Legislation will not make it so and wishful thinking will not make it so.

2-3-45

Only **education** can provide a mutual meeting ground. Again, I want to emphasize this problem of education—on both sides of the question. It is no more the Negro's problem than the white man's and they will have to solve it together. What is done must not be a gift from a privileged class to an under-privileged class. I am a firm believer in that old saying "that the only thing you can GIVE a man is opportunity."

Lauds Spirit of Negro Workers

I know that a great percentage of industrial management is enlightened on this question, and is willing to cooperate fully in helping the Negro achieve economic opportunity through a program of self-improvement. It is most difficult to imagine war being good for anybody or anything, but this war has clearly demonstrated that employee prejudices against bringing in Negro workers can be broken down by association and mutual understanding—and that the Negro as an individual can take his part in production on the basis of efficiency.

Urges Restraint And Tolerance

The efficient producer who is let out because of lack of seniority is not going to like it whether he is colored or not, and I hope that all men who suffer temporary job dislocation due to reconversion and other transition problems will show the good sense to practice restraint and tolerance during this troublesome period. We have good reason to believe that very little time will be lost in getting back into the full swing of peacetime production.

Although manufacturers provide normally only about 25 per cent of the jobs in this country, they know that the other 75 per cent are affected in a major way by what happens to industry. Manufacturers are planning ahead, and in their planning there is promise for a higher level of employment than this country has ever reached—and a minimum of displacement and unemployment during the reconversion period.

Reconversion from war production to peace production has been put on the sidelines temporarily because of new materiel demands, but it is a subject of unquestioned importance that must be answered largely in the coming year. The National Association of Manufacturers has some of the answers as a result of its recent reconversion survey, and therein is contained some heartening news for war workers.

This poll of more than 2,000 companies in the last few weeks points to post-war employment in manufacturing industry 30 per cent higher than in pre-war years. If other segments of our economy match this increase, estimates of 55,000,000 post-war jobs certainly are attainable.

No Threat of Mass Unemployment

The bugaboo of a long reconversion period also has been dissipated. Survey figures show that 49 per cent of industry can swing into full peacetime production the day it gets the "green light." Sixty-one per cent can start peacetime production that same day. And an additional 27 per cent will be able to resume civilian production within four weeks of the "go-ahead." Over-all totals indicate that 95 per cent of all industry can complete reconversion within eight weeks with 76 per cent of it reaching peak production in that period.

These figures contain no threat of mass unemployment; here is factual evidence that management is planning ahead to provide maximum employment at good wages; here is reassurance to workers that postwar jobs are in the making and that they do not need to abandon present war jobs for fear of the future.

Let me conclude by pointing out the particular significance of these figures to the Negro. In times of mass unemployment, the Negro is often among those who are first and hardest hit. These figures show that the Negro's opportunity to maintain his newly won place in industry will be greatly enhanced.

Despite what the critics say, this country is still a land of tremendous opportunity, and if we apply all our resources to the job of growing and producing, we can embark on a post-war era of peace and plenty such as no nation ever dreamed—and that will be good for all Americans.

TO RAISE UP NEW LEADERS

New York Ag 5-26-45

Of the one million American Negro service men and women who will, before very long, be coming back to civilian life an estimated 30,000 are qualified for college training. Uncle Sam will pay their tuition, fees and expenses. But the Negro colleges need a lift in meeting their new responsibilities. Teaching staffs must be strengthened and physical plants enlarged and better equipped. To this end 32 of these institutions have established the United Negro College Fund, Inc., which is conducting a national campaign for $1,550,000. Its national headquarters are at 38 East Fifty-seventh street New York City, N.Y. Obviously this is a timely undertaking. To help raise up new leaders who can aid in improving the lot of the Negro people is one way of bettering race relations in America.

—The Christian Science Monitor

Negroes First Victims Of Postwar Unemployment

Daily Worker 6-25-45 N.Y.

By Federated Press

Although Negro employment in industry was higher in 1944 than ever before, Negro workers may be the first victims of postwar unemployment. This is the conclusion reached in a survey by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. 6-25-45

After relating the gains made by Negro industrial workers from 1940 to 1944, the survey quotes Lawrence A. Oxley, senior technician of the WMC's minority groups service bureau of placement, as saying a new anti- Negro discrimination has already started.

Asserting that there is an increasing percentage of Negroes looking for jobs at the U. S. Employment Service "even in acute labor shortage areas," Oxley says the FEPC reports an increasing number of complaints of discrimination.

UNIONS FIGHT BIAS

The role of unions in the anti-discriminaton fight is mentioned in the survey. It quotes the May Monthly Labor Review to the effect that all new unions organized by the AFL "explicitly bar racial discrimination." The CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination has helped in the establishment of state anti-discrimination committees in 15 states and 35 county and city industrial councils, the survey states. The United Auto Workers (CIO) has appointed a Negro to its war policy board and its education department. It has encouraged the formation of committes on anti-discrimination and minorities in each local.

The customary employer prediction of a riot in the event of Negroes being hired does not pan out when management really makes up its mind to hire Negroes, the survey finds. 6-25-45

"While there have been strikes in a number of places over the introduction of Negroes," it says, "in many parts of the country it has been found that once the plant management definitely decided to employ Negro workers and made this clear as a whole, the anticipated racial difficulties did not materialize."

More than seven percent of the total labor force in war plants at the end of 1944 were Negroes as compared with three percent in January, 1942, th survey reports. The number of Negroes in skilled work is still small, though much larger than before the war, it points out.

The National Urban League's questionnaire to 300 war plants, which employed few if any Negroes before the war, is mentioned in the survey. Of these 269 located in 25 states replied they employ 100,184 Negro workers. "Only eight of the 269 plants indicated that both work rooms and comfort facilities were segregated; 20 reported separate comfort arrangements," the survey says. "In the rest there was apparently no segregation." 6-25-45

John Robert Badger World View

Chicago Defender Chi., Ill. 7-28-45

No Negroes at Peace Table

THE DEFENDER'S symposium some months ago revealed a concensus that Negroes should sit at the peace table. But the first phase of the peace conference of World War II, which began last Sunday near Berlin, was marked by a conspicuous absence of representatives of the darker brethren—except several members of the Soviet entourage from the Mongoloid peoples of the Republics in Asia. Absent were spokesmen for Africans whose labor power and resources contributed so much to allied victory. Absent were representatives of the millions of India who paid so dear a price in hunger and blood for the preservation of British "democracy."

Absent were members of the Negro-Americans who helped open the second front on V-day and served so valiantly amongst those who finally brought the Nazi tyranny to its end in Western Europe. But this does not mean that the long-term interests of Negro Americans and the Colonial peoples were not defended at the peace conference. Behind the scenes, forming a backdrop for the historic drama enacted there, were certain world forces moving in the direction of national liberation for all peoples, forces which were not present a generation ago at Versailles, the peace conference of World War I.

Chief among these forces was the new and enormous political and military power of the Soviet Union. Backed by the world most powerful army, an industrial potential second only to that of the United States, and a moral and political prestige based on the genuine affection of most of the world's peoples and a record of performance of promises, Stalin symbolized the aspirations of all submerged, so-called dependent peoples, irrespective of race or nationality.

Stalin Held Ace

HE CAME TO THE peace conference with a new ace in his hand. The ace dealt when Molotov alone at the San Francisco security conference championed the freedom of colonial peoples, when the Soviet delegation alone demanded self-determination for the colonies and a provision for the world trade union congress to consult with and advise the new United Nations organization.

Moreover, Stalin came to the conference with a decisive influence in Asia, coupled with the power to help destroy Japanese fascism; with the ability to decide the outcome of any major political development in that sphere. And most important from our viewpoint, he came with a record of the successful implementation of a policy of racial and national equality, a record doubly embellished by the victories of the multinational and multi-racial red armies.

It was to be expected therefore, that Soviet policy at the peace conference of World War II —a factor lacking at the parley which ended World War I, would coincide with the interests of Colonial peoples and subject racial minorities. What specific influence they exerted will be found in the records of the conference and its end results, about which more later.

British Swing to Left

A SECOND FACTOR acting in our interest was the leftward swing of the British people, which was foreshadowed by their growing opposition to Churchill's foreign policies before the election, scotched the ambitious plans of certain people for an Anglo-American entente, separate from and ultimately to be directed against the Soviet Union.

Churchill attended the conference with the authority only of a "caretaker." He could not, therefore, enter into any binding commitments with the representatives of American imperialism. Thus weakened, British toryism was able to play a less influential role in deciding the fate of Europe. Moreover, although the colonial peoples cannot hope for automatic liberation under a labor government or a government even heavily influenced by labor, the new British government will be much less able to maneuver against the colonies than if Churchill had received a blank check, or if the test of strength had been postponed. 7-28-45

Another attempt to settle the crisis in India is immediately imperative. And the rising tide of rebellion in Nigeria and the West Indies, not to mention some of the British Asiatic territories, will have to be countered with force or concessions. With their moral prestige already weakened by the persistent hypocrisy of Churchill, there is reason to believe it will be a policy of concessions.

Cushion Against Post-War Cutback Seen Crucial Need For Negro People

DEFENDER — Chicago — Ill.

When Peace Comes...What?

By F. D. PATTERSON

No group in America has greater reason than the Negro to view with concern the dire possibilities of the post-war era.

4-28-45

This group has enjoyed for the first time in nearly two decades anything like full employment and has attained to a degree entirely without precedent job classifications in the skilled and professional brackets.

Few will predict that either the full employment or the job levels will withstand the pressures of reconversion. The all too grudging extension of opportunity in the present crisis makes certain that employment retrenchment will fall heaviest on the Negro. Some of the gains made will be held. There is too much at stake to be hopeful that this will be true of more than a small percentage of the advances made.

The Negro people must be prepared for setbacks. More than this they must marshall with all haste an effective program of action that will cushion the shock of readjustment as far as possible.

Such a plan to be effective will recognize a number of factors as significant. These factors emphasize the point that the welfare of the Negro in the post-war is tied up with conditions which will determine the ease of severity of the shock of reconversion to the nation as a whole.

On the favorable side some of the factors which will help the Negro to hold many of the gains of the war-time employment are as follows:

4-28-45

1. An increasing sentiment in the nation is committed to a full employment policy as the only means of insuring prosperity and adequate national strength. Vice President Wallace says that "Jobs for all" will be the slogan of peoples everywhere for the next 20 years.

4-28-45

2. It is generally conceded that full employment or anything near it will now be possible unless there is well coordinated interaction between the federal government and private industry. To this end plans are being conceived and blue printed for numerous public works projects.

3. The Negro has made a commendable record as a soldier and war worker. Because of this there is too much evidence of patriotism and competence to ignore the just petitioning of the Negro for his share of employment opportunity. It will not be as easy as formerly to find excuses other than the real one of race to justify the withdrawal of the privilege of gainful employment.

4. The Negro having gained new ground during the war period will resist unfair and discrimination where his right to earn a living is concerned with the vigor and assurance that his new won confidence in himself has given.

5. The labor movement, particularly the CIO, seems more interested in securing for the Negro worker his employment rights and will also feel constrained to protect those rights as a guarantee to its own well being. It is evident that failure to offer this protection will force the Negro into competition with organized labor as a scab worker.

6. The Negro is increasingly vote conscious and will use the ballot with improved effectiveness to protect his economic status.

Post War Handicaps

These several points will have much influence in helping the Negro to hold his own in employment There are formidable handicaps to be encountered, however. A few such handicaps are suggested as follows:

1. The period of reconversion, which will last from six months to 18 months, will be one of tension and confusion not calculated to improve race relations.

2. National unemployment will probably reach at least the ten million figure during the height of the post-war slump that will accompany reconversion. It is estimated that after reconversion he unemployment load will level off at five million.

The great increase in productive efficiency will aggravate the employment problem and may force sweeping changes in the national economy.

4. After World War I, two millions shifted from the cities and industry to the farms and rural communities. After World War II, few, if any, will be absorbed in this manner.

The foregoing indicate clearly that the Negro worker may expect to be stepped down in his level of employment and frequently pushed out of jobs. This will apply particularly to jobs gained through the war effort.

Unusual Hardship Inevitable

These factors, favorable and unfavorable, spell at best a period of uncertainty and confusion which will begin with the end of the war in Europe and continue for an indefinite period. The length of this period will be determined largely by the extent to which national economic and political forces accept the doctrine of full employment as a national policy and employ full federal aid to take up where private capital leaves off in projects of public significance.

It remains to be seen if society is willing to apply the solution required to eliminate the giant evil of unemployment in peace time. War has shown that full employment is possible. If a serious effort is made to reach the goal of employment in peace time it can only be done by the supplanting of private industry with whatever degree of public works is required.

The extent to which such an effort is made will prove doubly helpful to the Negro worker, for the nearer the nation comes to full employment the greater will be the Negro's chance for a job. More than this public works will, according to the recent record of the past more than nearly insure an equitable distribution of jobs to population groups. It is also highly probable that the Negro group will benefit proportionately from the "use value" of public facilties such as libraries, hospitals, schools, etc. In the South where Negroes yet reside in largest numbers the need for these and other facilities such as public parks and playgrounds is most acute.

Special Needs

A heavy expenditure of federal monies as a post war employment measure will not be insensitive to the national need to equalize opportunity for good health, sound education, and recreation. The South stands, therefore, to gain strongly as a geographic section. The club areas of cities over the nation at large should also prove the locale of large expenditure, especially for housing. The Negro, because of his southern concentration and low economic status, would stand to gain in either situation.

It is evident that the Negro can and must play an important role in the post war period. The identity of his needs with those of the general welfare and in behalf of the American masses requires that a constant vigil be exercised and a vigorous program be formulated that will seek to strengthen those forces working for full employment.

There must also be a concerted effort to combat those forces which will single out the Negro for special hardship and abuse because of race when jobs are scarce.

Action Program

Some of the elements which such a program might wisely contain are the following:

1. Enlightenment of the general public on the contribution of the Negro people to the war effort both in industry and the armed forces, combined with an appeal to the spirit of fair play as an concept fundamental to the American way of life.

2. The establishment of a permanent FEPC. The good derived from this will not be confined to the all too few cases that are equitably adjusted but also from the repeated emphasis which will be given to importance of just employment practices.

3. The institution as soon as possible of a federal works program which will reduce unemployment during reconversion. There should be rigid insistence that Negroes be given their proportionate share of this work. Proportionate in this instance should refer to their percentage of the idle in an area of community rather than a population ratio.

4. Negro flyers should be given the privilege of remaining in the army on active status because (a) the number will be small, (b) the adjustment to private or commercial flying will be more difficult.

5. Negroes should be aided in every reasonable way to secure the ballot in the South. With the privilege and responsibility of choosing public officials Negroes will expect and receive more consideration in all measures intended to benefit all citizens without regard to race.

6. The appointment of adequate Negro personnel by the Veterans Bureau to see that returning Negro soldiers are sought out and advised as to the full provisions of the G.I. Bill for their further education or the establishment in business or on farms with government loans.

7 The appointment of adequate Negro personnel in the several federal bureaus to insure that adequate consideration is given to the problems and needs of their group. Important among these are: (a) Financing agencies whose funds are available to private individuals. Example RFC and Farm Credit; (b) Action agencies that work directly with low income groups such as Farm Security and Agricultural Extension.

8. Extension of Social Security provisions to domestic workers. There should be adequate machinery with Negro personnel included to see that old age pensions and other provisions for the infirm research Negro eligibles.

9. The passage of national health measures to insure hospitalization and medical care to the indigent sick, along with adequate provisions for reaching needy Negro people. In the proposed plan to utilize surplus hospital material and the construction of small community and district hospital units in rural areas, it is hoped that adequate safeguards are set up to see that service to low income and indigent Negroes is available on an equitable basis and that Negro physicians and nurses are used in units established for Negroes.

10. Insist upon the establishment of full educational opportunity throughout the nation.

11. Insist that Negro youth remain in school and that those with the necessary training and ability prepare themselves in those technical fields which are related to the basic industry in the sections or regions in which they reside.

12. That the stress which has been placed upon vocational efficiency and other attributes of the successful worker or employee be continued, organized, emphasized, and extended.

13. Seek the use of federal funds and other capital for the development of private enterprise. The Negro should accept an increasing responsibility through his own initiative and resourcefulness to improve the unemployment situation.

14. Diligent efforts should be made to increase the number of Negroes in organized labor and to improve the quality of their participation.

These suggestions are not intended to be inclusive but suggestive only of the type of quality of activity which may well be adopted if the Negro is to play more than a static role in helping to see the nation through the inevitable post war slump and into the development of a reasonable peace.

Fortunately, these efforts are consistent with the national trend toward a form of government which is aware of and concerned about the needs of the total citizenry. Few will deny that the greatest possible strength for the United States in the difficult years of international relations ahead is a must of first importance. Few will also deny that to secure this strength the nation cannot afford the ignorance and disease which has exacted such a major toll in the present war effort. Full insistence upon every and all steps, therefore, that will bring the Negro people to the position of being a full and functioning asset to the general welfare is both patriotic and sound

The Negro people should gird themselves to wage an organized and aggressive effort in the full American tradition for every responsibility and privilege described as the inalienable right of citizens of the United States of America.

DR. FREDERICK D. PATTERSON is president of Tuskegee Institute and considered one of the foremost educators in the country.

The Charter and the Colonial Countries

Daily Worker N.Y.

by Alphaeus Hunton

THE weaknesses in the World Charter drafted at San Francisco, especially with reference to colonial trusteeship, deplorable though they are, should not be permitted to weaken the Negro's support for the Charter as a whole. We must keep the larger perspective clear. The San Francisco Charter is not the end but **merely the beginning** of United Nations' planning for world security and peace. As such a beginning, a foundation stone of international cooperation on which to build, the Charter is an important and essential document.

Every means must now be utilized, therefore, to secure the Senate's speedy ratification of the Charter so that it may be implemented and clothed with substance and meaning as quickly as possible. Realizing they can't win with a frontal attack on the Charter, the Wheelers and Vandenbergs will resort to the more subtle technique of time-consuming delays and amendments. it is especially important for those who realize the shortcomings of the Charter to be on their guard against the latter strategy: attempts in the Senate to "improve" the Charter, though on the surface appearing laudable, can only have the effect of **killing** it. 7-7-45

The strengthening of the United Nations postwar program on colonies or any other problem cannot be accomplished by each of the fifty nations tinkering with the Charter prior to ratification. Rather it is through further decisions yet to be made by the major powers and through the actual application of the Charter to specific probelms that the means must be found for filling in the loop-holes and strengthening the weak sections of the Charter.

This applies especially to action on the colonies. It yet remains to be seen whether the old mandated territories and new ones resulting from this war will be brought under the trusteeship plan or will be in effect annexed by individual powers. It also remains to be seen what concrete guarantees and conditions will be required of those powers which place their territories under world organization supervision. Progressive public opinion, if adequately organized and effectively expressed in the United States, Great Britain, France, and other countries, can have a great deal to do in getting the correct determination of these and other still-to-be-settled questions. 7-7-45

The key test will be right here in the United States. As was made manifest in San Francisco, this country holds the decisive power for making the United Nations Organization either a weak and inneffectual instrument (and consequently a dangerous one, such as the League was) or a strong agency for general progress.

To get down to specifics, consider the demand for unilateral control of "strategic" areas in the Pacific (other areas throughout the world are also claimed) as though the U. S. alone had the job of maintaining world peace. It was this demand which was responsible for the extremely limited and dubious character of the American proposals on trusteeship. Far more attention and organized opposition to this thinly disguised program of imperialist expansion must be evinced by organized labor and other progressive forces in the United States.

The European powers will take their cue as to their colonial policies from the United States. It therefore rests with the most alert progressive elements in this country to recognize and live up to their responsibility for mobilizing public opinion so that our government will throw its influence on the side of self determination and independence for all colonial peoples, as demanded by the Soviet Union and other anti-imperialist states. A serious and vigorous people's campaign toward this goal will counteract and negate the nationalist-imperialist currents which are finding too frequent expression today not only in Hearst and other such papers, but in the very halls of our Congress. This campaign must be undertaken simultaneously with the campaign for Senate approval of the World Charter, so that, once ratified, it will be properly implemented.

Postwar Military Training

Daily Worker N.Y.

FOR months Americans have been discussing the pros and cons of universal postwar military training. Opinions have differed widely, in most cases flowing from attitudes toward the broader issue of America's postwar role in the world. 7-7-45

Those who are genuinely behind the United Nations charter drawn at San Francisco cannot but agree with one aspect of the report of the House Postwar Military Policy Committee, namely that some form of military preparedness will be necessary if America is to discharge her responsibilities under the charter. We must also agree with the report that a large standing army is not the American or democratic way to do the job.

In principle, then, we agree that there will have to be some method of military training after the war that did not exist before the war so that we can supply force against an aggressor, by decision of the United Nations Security Council, and so that we can supply occupation forces as per agreement of the Big Three.

There is, however, no need to rush the issue, as is proposed in the House Committee report. We now have a more than ample sized Army and Navy, and our youth already have received training in a highly effective fashion. The millions of Americans now on the battlefronts and in the Armed Forces must be assured a full voice in determining the postwar military policy. Final decision on the form of postwar military training must wait the end of the war and their return. 7-7-45

This is emphasized by the fact that among those who are pushing for quick action are people who want to make our nation follow a predatory, rapacious imperialist course. They hope to see the trainees used against the Soviet Union, against the colonial peoples of the Far East and against the liberated peoples of Europe. They would like to have them for use against labor and other popular movements at home.

It is for that reason that labor and many others backers of our nation's foreign policy have expressed serious misgivings about any move to push compulsory military training legislation through now.

On the other hand, some of those who would like to wreck the United Nations Organization, like Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio and Norman Thomas, are agitating against any form of military preparedness.

But while some form and measure of military training is necessary, the form it takes is very important and necessitates further examination. We think the House Committee report is correct in stressing that the training program must be divorced from military service. We would go further and insist that it must be undertaken under democratic civilian control, with labor represented in its administration.

It must certainly be planned in such a way as to advance the health of our youth and to advance, rather than retard, adjustment to a democratic civilian life. That means it should supplement the education of the youth.

Of utmost importance it must be based on full equality of status and treatment of Negroes. Every trace of Jimcrow or other form of discrimination must be excluded.

Finally, it must take into account the nation's requirements under the United Nations charter. It must be geared to a democratic foreign policy.

These are some of the considerations that, in our opinion, will have to shape postwar military training legislation.

Toward Freedom

Daily Worker N.Y.

MOST of our great trade unions cannot possibly avoid the problem of the Negro's continued right to work after the war in thousands of plants where that right has but recently been won. History will thrust the problem upon them—indeed, it is already doing so. And developments of the next few months could easily bring our unions face-to-face with a serious situation which they are not prepared to handle.

There is no escaping the fact that there must be enormously more trade union discussion and planning to meet the threat which reconversion cutbacks will bring—are now bringing!—to the employment rights of hundreds of thousands of Negro workers. And I know of nothing that would contribute more to this end than for thousands of white and Negro trade unionists to read the National Negro Congress' new pamphlet on **Negro Workers After the War.**

In a simple and effective style, this 23-page pamphlet recounts the changes the war has made in the composition of the American working class, and the unprecedented entrance and general acceptance of Negro workers in industry. It also reports the results of

by Doxey A. Wilkerson

NNC-union-management investigations, which reveal that if reconversion layoffs follow traditional seniority practices, most of these Negro workers will be the "first fired," and in many plants and departments they will be wiped out entirely. 5-9-45

* * *

ALL of which poses the question: **"Will the unions, which have made such magnificent advances in tearing down the color barrier, allow unmodified and unadjusted seniority rules to become an instrument whereby pre-war discriminations may be frozen into postwar industry, the unions disrupted, the Negro and white workers alike weakened in organizational power?"**

The NNC pamphlet, with full appreciation of the absolute necessity of holding the **policy** of seniority intact, suggests that the procedural **application** of this policy now calls for modification. "Seniority rules that were adequate three years ago may no longer reflect the actual situation. With a shifting scene, they may stand in need of adjustment, like scientific instruments whose headings require correction because of varying temperatures, atmospheric pressures, and the like. The instrument is not rejected: it is adjusted."

The Negro Worker After the War

The pamphlet expresses no surprise or alarm over the fact that this "most hotly contested" proposal for seniority adjustment has not brought "instantly unanimous" opinion in the trade union movement. "This problem has no precedent. It is new to history." Nor does the pamphlet propose "detailed plans for seniority adjustment. That is the job of the unions. It is they who must take the initiative."

5-9-45

WHAT **The Negro Worker After the War** does do is to pose the problem of postwar Negro layoffs on the basis of objective facts, to suggest seniority adjustments as **one** way of meeting it, and then to examine and evaluate the main arguments for and against that proposal. It also expresses confidence **"that the unions, whose white and Negro brothers and sisters have fought so splendidly for the Negro people, will take whatever measures are needed to maintain the gains of wartime."**

I share that confidence. But I should like to see the unions step up their now laggard consideration of the problem by the mass distribution of **The Negro Worker After the War.** The pamphlet costs only five cents, is available at most progressive bookshops, and can be ordered from the National Negro Congress, 307 Lenox Ave., New York 27, N. Y.

Senator Wants Italian Peace Terms Announced

Afro-American Md.

3-3-45 WASHINGTON

Public announcement of the terms of the Italian Armistice, whose political clauses require abolition of all Fascist influence, including racial laws, was demanded of the State Department on February 19 by Sen. Styles Bridges (Rep., N.H.). 3-3-45

After a brief discussion with Sen. Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, majority leader, Bridges obtained permission to insert in the Congressional Record an article printed in the International Law Review, at Geneva, purporting to outline the terms.

According to the article, under the military clauses of the armistice, Italy is required to recognize the independence of Ethiopia. Italy also would be bound to whatever disposition of her colonies—Eritrea, Italian Somaliland and Italian Libya—may be made at the peace table.

SOVIETS INVITE 99TH PILOTS TO POSTWAR JOBS

Chicago Defender

Chicago Ill.

3-10-45

No Color Line In USSR, Says Unionist At London Parley

By HENRY LEE MOON
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

LONDON — Faced with probable job discrimination by commercial airlines at home, U. S. army-trained Negro pilots and other technicians may have an opportunity to utilize their skills after the war in Soviet Russia.

Vasili V. Kusnetsov, head of the Russian delegation to the World Trade Union Conference and chairman of the powerful All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR, this week told the Defender:

"Our vast reconstruction and rehabilitation program will require tremendous raw material, machinery and manpower. We will not be satisfied merely to rebuild the devastated areas on a par with their pre-war level. We're going to improve and expand our industries, transport and communications and our agriculture. Naturally, we will welcome those technicians whose skills can make a contribution to our reconstruction program."

Kusnetsov, who remained in London to participate in deliberations of the Continuing committee which has drawn up proposals for a new permanent world federation of trade unions, speaks fluent English and is well acquainted with the American scene, having spent several years working in aircraft and automobile plants in Chicago and Detroit.

No Discrimination

While no plan for the recruitment of manpower from Allied countries had been formulated, Kusnetsov pointed out that his country's need was great and that in meeting that need, there "would, of course, be no discrimination on account of race, color or creed. We do not tolerate such discrimination in the Soviet Union. We intend to enlarge both our aircraft production and our air transit. We do not anticipate any unemployment. We expect an expansion of all our industries."

The USSR will probably not embark upon the same kind of recruitment program the country used in the late twenties and early thirties, the Soviet delegate said. At that time there were very few Soviet engineers and technicians. It was necessary to depend upon foreign assistance. Engineers, technicians and skilled workers were brought in from the United States, Britain, Germany, France, Italy, Scandanavia and other countries. Promising young Soviet workers, among them Kusnetsov, were sent abroad to learn by doing, that is, to work on production lines in foreign plants.

Today, the picture has changed somewhat, Kusnetsov said. "While the program before us is gigantic," he added, "we may not need as much outside assistance as we did in those days. We now have trained men and women who can not only produce, but who can also train others. Nevertheless, there will doubtlessly be opportunities for the full use of highly skilled personnel."

In its final sessions the demands of the colonial delegates to the World Trade Union Conference were endorsed by the continuing committee. The group called for "an end to the system of colonies, dependencies and subject countries" in the manifesto issued by the committee at its closing session, Thursday, Feb. 22.

Delegates from British colonies in Africa and America had formulated a series of demands for approval by the conference. They demanded:

1. The abolition of the color bar and all racial discrimination in all public and private employment.
2. The abolition of forced labor, child labor, peonage and all forms of slavery.
3. Abolition of pass law legislation and the establishment of the right to free assembly, free speech, free press and free movement.
4. Equal pay for equal work, irrespective of race, color, creed or sex.
5. Abolition of racial discrimination against the admittance of African and colored workers into existing white trade unions.
6. Modernization of labor and social legislation in the colonies.

Negro Consultants Ask Equality For All Races

Birmingham News 4-26-45

SAN FRANCISCO —(AP)— Two Negro consultants asked the United States delegation Thursday to demand an "equality for all races" declaration in the world organization charter before the United Nations Conference.

Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois and Walter White, executive of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, asked that these three provisions be written into the Dumbarton Oaks proposals:

1. Equality for all races.
2. A bill of rights for all the people of the world.
3. Abolition of the colonial system in favor of an international agency to which the colonial powers would report.

4-26-45

HINTS MILITARY MAY DROP JIM CROW IN PEACE

Chicago Defender 2-3-45

President Replies To NAACP Protest On Conscription

(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK — President Roosevelt admitted this week that "mistakes have been made" by the Army during the war in its racial policies and hinted that peacetime military conscription may bar Jim Crow.

In a cagey letter to the NAACP, the President did not make any promises that segregation will be wiped out in post-war compulsory military training, but wrote that plans for a peacetime army are still being studied and are open to change from the wartime pattern.

2-3-45

"It would not be contended by the Army or anyone speaking in its behalf that no mistakes have been made during the period of this war," Mr. Roosevelt said in response to a NAACP protest against extension of the present segregated Army policy into peacetime conscription.

Correct Unfair Situations

"Steps have been taken by the Army from time to time to correct unfair racial situations. Most assuredly this process will be repeated in the future, he continued.

"The views you expressed," the President told the NAACP, "are predicated upon the assumption that all policies have been finally determined with regard to the composition of the Army during peacetime and that they will be discriminatory in their application to Negroes. This is contrary to the facts. Final plans have not been crystallized.

"Obviously those responsible for the development of War Department policies will utilize all of their experiences of the past four years," the letter said.

2-3-45

Study Records

Mr. Roosevelt revealed that the Army is studying the records of Negro troops in training and combat and asserted that the future utilization of Negroes in the Army "will depend upon an evaluation of this material which will be conducted in a fair manner and with due regard for all available facts."

The President admitted that the peacetime military training program "affects not only our military policy, but also the social, economic and educational aspects of our way of life." He expressed confidence "that the statutes which may finally be enacted will provide maximum protection of these aspects, and yet also accomplish the prime objective, the military security of the nation. 2-3-45

"I appreciate the views you have sent me and have transmitted them to the War Department for such consideration as might be given them here."

AMENDMENT GUARANTEES CIVIL RIGHTS TO MANKIND

Pittsburgh Courier 4-12-1945

By P. L. PRATTIS
(Executive Editor)

SAN FRANCISCO — Specific amendments dealing with the equal rights of peoples and distinctions based on race, language, religion or sex have been made to the Dumbarton Oaks proposals by the Big Four governments — the United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union and China. 4-12-45

If approved by the United Nations Conference these amendments will become a part of the charter of the organization to be set up here. The amendments are made in paragraphs dealing with the purposes of the organization and with the functions and powers of the general assembly:

1. To develop friendly relations among nations (based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples) and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace.

2. To achieve international cooperation in the solution of international economic, social, cultural and other humanitarian problems and promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, language, religion or sex. 8-12-45

3. The general assembly should initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of promoting international cooperation in political, economic, social and cultural fields to assist in the realization of human rights and basic freedoms for all without distinction as to race, language, religion or sex.

Announcement of the agreement of the four big powers on the amendments was made Friday just prior to the deadline for submission of amendments.

U.S. MAY CHANGE HER 'FRIENDSHIP' POLICY

The Daily Mail

From GEORGE MOORAD

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday.

AN atmosphere of long-suppressed realism, if not gloom, is falling upon the San Francisco Conference with the departure of Secretary of State Edward Stettinius for a conference with President Harry Truman.

Taken in connection with arbitrary Soviet actions throughout Eastern Europe, it is predicted here that America stands on the threshold of a radical change in the high-priced friendship policy cultivated so grimly during the European war years.

For the first time Conservative American newspapers — until now preserving silence because of the Security Conference hopes —are openly charging that the Russian display of force has perhaps fatally undermined efforts at world agreement.

In a front page editorial, the *San Francisco News* declares that Stettinius' departure is bad news —it means that the post-war situation is very much out of hand.

5-25-45

☆

THE paper says: Though there are many cross currents in the Frisco Conference and in the complicated European situation, one nation dominates both. That is Russia. At the Golden Gate her attitude has been that she must have her way on all major issues—or else.

In Europe she has been getting her way by force or threat directly and through her multiplying puppets.

The editorial says that since Yalta Stalin has not been carrying out his Big Three agreements. Meanwhile, Russia is taking military control of all Eastern and most of Central Europe.

"Much evil now being done cannot be undone unless Russia soon reverses her defiant policy," says the paper. "This is a terrible tragedy.

☆

"RUSSIA cannot realise what trouble she is storing up for herself and the world. We hope she wakes up before it is too late."

As a recent Moscow observer, it is fascinating to see the rapid understanding both by public and official Americans of views which, on my arrival a month ago were considered unreasonably hostile. This counter-swing may be too rapid and too violent, because notwithstanding the examples of Poland and Trieste, there is much more to be revealed.

I think from my conversations both here and in Washington that President Truman is prepared to make any or all disclosures of fact. He is beginning with a clean slate without obligations, secret or otherwise, to the Soviet Government.

One possibility that bears watching is the acceptance by the Security Conference of the principle that Soviet Republics are genuinely sovereign independent States. It was generally thought that Russia wanted an additional two votes for the Ukraine and White Russia because of domestic pressure or, perhaps, to bolster support against an Anglo-American bloc.

5-25-45

IN my opinion, it is something far more devious and effective. It will be noticed that since the abrogation of the Soviet-Turkish Friendship Pact there has been no move to renew it, but many speculations from Moscow and elsewhere that the Dardanelles may come under revision.

Russia has indicated that the Montreux Treaty, like the Turkish Friendship Pact, "does not conform to the present situation." More, she may ask for a change, naturally under "democratic processes." This means voting.

Now, the Montreux signatories included Turkey, Russia, Britain, France, Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, Greece, and Yugoslavia. At best, this means five votes to four against the Russian bloc

But Russia can then bring in the independent and sovereign republics of Moldavia and the Ukraine.

Hastie Appears Against Draft In Peacetime

Memphis World 6-15-45

Notes Signs Of More Distrust In Relations

BY ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Noting "signs of increasing distrust" in American-Soviet relations, and pointing to the present policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces, William Hastie appeared for the NAACP last week before the Postwar Military Policy committee in opposition to ending legislation which would authorize peacetime military conscription.

Premising his early objections upon the international phase of the question, Hastie rejected the theory that "we must be a greater military power than our neighbors" in order to take independent military action, and saw this as an inconsistency in what is being attempted at the United Nations conference in San Francisco. 6-15-45

SPECIAL PROBLEMS

Getting to his main thesis, Hastie devoted the remaining time to "consideration of problems of special importance" to Negroes. The bill gives a "blank check" to the army and navy, he said, and Negroes oppose such a "blanket authority uncontrolled by legislative safeguards against abuse."

"We have no reason to belive that the navy contemplates the use of Negroes in any capacity other than messmen when it returns to a peacetime basis," he asserted. He then cited restrictions in the army against the use or limitation of Negroes to infantry, cavalry and quartermaster corps, and in "the types of training and service open to Negroes within a particular arm of the service."

So long as congress leaves the military with "unfetted discretion" to discrimination as it may please in training and service, he continued, the type and extent of discrimination will depend upon the will of the officers who are administering or supervising particular programs. This, he added, congress should not permit.

PUERTO RICO BIAS

"One of the most ridiculous and extreme manifestations of this practice (of segregation)," Hastie stated, "is to be found in Puerto where the army has introduced a system of separate colored and white Puerto Rican units. I do not know what test of racial identity is applied or can be applied, but the more matter of practical difficulty does not deter those who make a fetish of racial segregation."

6-16-45

He concluded by stating that it is "the responsibility of congress to require unequivocal language that in the army and the navy the selection of individuals for training the determinaiton of units both for training and for service shall be accomplished without regard to or distinction on account of race."

Charter Will Not Prevent Wars

An Analysis Shows United Nations' Charter Weaker Than League's Covenant In Many Respects; Little Peoples of World Must Remove Basic Causes of War

Pgh. Pa.

EDITOR'S NOTE—The Courier promised to bring to its readers a detailed comparison between the United Nations Charter and the Covenant of the League of Nations. It herewith presents this comparison by its Adviser on Foreign Affairs, Dr. Rayford W. Logan.

By Dr. RAYFORD W. LOGAN, Courier Foreign Adviser

The Covenant of the League of Nations, the expression of the high hopes of mankind after a war that killed ten million men, wounded twenty-two million and cost 287 billion dollars, failed to prevent a second world war. This second war has already killed twenty-five millions, wounded perhaps a proportionately larger number and cost a trillion dollars. One could certainly expect that civilized mankind would have learned enough from the past to draft international machinery that would offer a real guaranty that a just and lasting peace would be established. This writer cannot convince himself, however, that the Charter shows enough improvement over the Covenant to give any assurance that it will succeed where the latter failed.

In at least one respect the architects of world peace in 1919 did a better job than did those in 1945. The language of the Covenant was clearer and more concise than that of the Charter. It had twenty-six articles instead of one hundred and eleven. Even if we omit the chapters dealing with the Economic and Social Council and with Regional Arrangements, we will find the new Charter verbose by contrast with the succint language of the Covenant. As a consequence, a great many more people today will have to accept the Charter as an act of faith, than in 1919. It would be interesting to know how many Americans have read the Charter and sincerely believe that they understand it. If the proportion is small, as it probably is, in this highly literate country, one can surmise that the great majority of the peoples of the world may never read the entire Charter and that only a relatively small percentage of them will understand it.

7-14-45

PEOPLE WERE NOT REPRESENTED

This "act of faith" starts off with what is at best a half-truth. Under the Covenant, nations proclaimed their intention to achieve and maintain peace and security. The Charter is hailed as being an improvement in this respect because in it "We the peoples of the United Nations" announce our determination to prevent future wars. But the preamble then declares that "our respective governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco . . . have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations." The preamble, let it be noted, does not say "our representatives," which would mean the representatives of the peoples of the world. But, it may be argued, the representatives were those of "our respective governments," which amounts to the same thing. It does not, unless the governments truly represent the peoples.

Not many of the governments represented at San Francisco met this test. Ironically, one of the arguments for admitting Argentina was the assertion that the Fascist-Farrell-Peron government did not truly represent the democratic people. The governments of some of the other Latin-American nations are dictatorships in which there have been no elections nor mock elections during many years. To what extent were the great masses of Indians, especially of Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador, represented at San Francisco? Not many persons in the United States will believe that Chiang Kai-shek's government speaks for the great masses of people of that unhappy country.

INDIA DELEGATION WAS DENOUNCED

The Indian delegation was denounced by most of the Indians in San Francisco because it was selected by the British Government which itself has remained in power for ten years without an election. The Arab governments of the Near and Middle East can hardly be described as chosen by a democratic process. The Liberian government represents the few thousand Americo-Liberians and not the million or more native Africans. Abyssinia is just beginning to emerge from a feudal monarchy. The peoples of the liberated nations of Europe were represented by their pre-war governments.

In the United States the poll tax and the white primary effectively prevent several millions of voters from expressing their choice for their representatives. Despite the clear language of the Constitution, those States are not correspondingly reduced in their representation in the House of Representatives nor in the electoral college. The government of the Union of South Africa represents the two million Britons and Boers and not the nine millions of native African, colored and Asiatic peoples.

HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION WEAK

7-14-45

Above all, the more than two hundred millions of people living in the colonies, protectorates and mandated areas were not represented at San Francisco. France has had one deputy from Senegal and a few senators and deputies from Martinique and Gaudeloupe, but even those have been criticized as representing the few planters rather than the large mass of workers. The dependent peoples of Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, and the United States had absolutely no voice in the election of the representatives of their imperial masters.

The Charter is also being praised because the Chapter on Purposes and Principles contains a statement about human rights that was not included in the preamble of the Covenant. The Charter proclaims its intention of "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for the fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion." This is, of course, only a statement of purpose, for no certain means of implementation is anywhere provided. Since practically all the governments represented at San Francisco violate these very principles, one is naturally led to remember the Declaration of Independence in which slave-holders asserted that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." But just as the violations of the creed of the Declaration of Independence constitute America's dilemma, just as the violations of the creed of the United Nations Charter will furnish an almost unanswerable basis for attacks by those who believe truly in the fundamental freedoms for all mankind.

SOVEREIGNTY NOT SURRENDERED

In the essential aspects as far is the maintenance of peace is concerned, the Charter bears a close resemblance to the Covenant. First of all, that "old debbil," national sovereignty, is clearly recognized. For many years teachers and students of international relations had constantly repeated that any effective international machinery for the maintenance of peace required a reduction of sovereignty. Wendell Willkie had only recently declared that sovereignty must be used and not hoarded. But this gospel was almost entirely forgotten at San Francisco. It is true that all except the so-called Big Five surrendered enough of their sovereignty to the latter so that the real enforcement powers were entrusted to them. But, as will be developed later, the unanimity rule in the Council of the League which was especially criticized, is maintained for these five powers whose special duty it is to prevent the outbreak of war. The Washington Post a few weeks ago, arguing in favor of ratification by the Senate, pointedly stated: "Not one iota of sovereignty has been surrendered."

We see this hoarding rather than the reduction of sovereignty by all the United Nations in the most critical danger points. Chapter 1, paragraph 7, prevents any intervention in "matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State." The Covenant used the word "solely" instead of "essentially" (Article 15), but, be it carefully noted, authorized the Council to determine whether the question was solely within the jurisdiction of the State. The Charter allows each State to determine this for itself and gives each State greater latitude in its determination for "essentially" is a less inclusive word than is "solely." As a consequence, a new Hitler could prosecute Protestants, Jews, Catholics and abolish trade unions, thereby threatening the peace and security of the world, without intervention by the United Nations.

COURT PROVISION VERY WEAK

7-14-45

The same paragraph of the Charter stipulates that no State shall be required to submit such matters to settlement by the Security Council or by the international court. Second only to the general principle of reduction of sovereignty, the lack of compulsory jurisdiction by the international court was perhaps the principal weakness of the Covenant in the arguments of those who advocated a stronger League. Nor has any progress been made in determining the type of dispute that nations would be expected to submit for peaceful settlement. As Senator Connally recognized in his statement to the Senate, June 28, 1945: "Whereas the Security Council is primarily designated to handle political disputes, the court will be called upon to adjust differences of a legal or justiciable nature."

The language of article 36, paragraph 3, simply uses the words "legal disputes," but the long discussions between 1919 and 1939 probably made the Senator inevitably join "legal" and "justiciable." Thus, the same difficulty still exists as to the kind of disputes that nations will voluntarily submit to the international court—there was no agreement as to what were justiciable and non-justiciable disputes and there will probably be none as to legal and non-legal disputes. In brief, any nation is given the right to prevent either the Security Council or the court from intervening in any question which it considers "essentially" domestic, and any nation can say that any international dispute is not a legal one and therefore not adjudicable by the court.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CAN ONLY DISCUSS

Further, any one of the Big Five can prevent even referral, investigation or recommendation on a non-legal dispute by the Security Council unless it is a party to the dispute. (Articles 27 and 36.) And in the case of a decision with respect to a non-legal dispute, any one of the Big Five retains its veto even though it be a party to the dispute.

The general impotence of the new General Assembly and its specific exclusion from the machinery for the maintenance of peace may be an improvement over the Covenant, but they practically nullify the power of such truly democratic forces as may arise in the nations that are not permanent members of the Security Council. The Covenant authorized the Council to refer a dispute to the Assembly which in that case had the same power of settlement that the Council had (Article 15). But articles 10 to 17 of the United Nations Charter give the Assembly no voice at all in the settlement of disputes. In fact, other than electing new members upon the recommendation of the Security Council, approving the budget and the trustees for other than non-strategic areas, and certain nominal powers in administering the other trust areas, the General Assembly can only discuss, consider and recommend.

The General Assembly cannot even make a recommendation with respect to any dispute or situation already before the Security Council unless the latter so requests. (Articles 4, 10-17.) There was no such limitation on the right of the League Assembly to "deal . . . with any matter within the sphere of action of the League or affecting the peace of the world" (Article 3). Thus, the generally impotent United Nations Assembly may not even be the much-vaunted "sounding board of world public opinion" at the most crucial moment, namely, when a dispute is likely to threaten world peace, unless the Security Council so permits. Military power rather than world public opinion will be the decisive factor in maintaining future peace.

NO GUARANTEE IN SANCTIONS

Fervent supporters of the Charter may reluctantly admit that the foregoing criticisms are not to be denied. The real superiority of the Charter over the Covenant, they would say, lies in its enforcement machinery. The first step against a nation that refuses to accept a pacific settlement of an international dispute is the application of sanctions. On paper the Charter does indeed provide more effective machinery than did the Covenant. Under the latter the large General Assembly was empowered to vote sanctions (Article 16) as it did in November, 1935, at the time of the Italian aggression against Ethiopia. Only the compact Security Council of the Charter has this right (Articles 41 and 42). But here again let us not forget that any one of the Big Five can prevent the application of sanctions even against itself. Article 16 of the Covenant gave no such power to any State that resorted to war in disregard of its obligations under Articles 12, 13, or 15. On the contrary, such a nation was deemed **ipso facto** "to have committed an act of war

against all the members of the League."

But there is an even more serious question than the enforcement machinery of the Covenant and of the Charter. Is there any more likelihood that sanctions would succeed in 1955 than they did in 1935? In 1935 no sanction on oil was imposed, although oil was Italy's greatest need and although many persons believed, rightly or wrongly, that if Italy had been deprived of oil, she could not have overrun Ethiopia. 7-14-45

OIL CAN START WAR

We have had only recently another example of what Edward Mead Earle once aptly described as "oleaginous diplomacy." Shortly after Argentina was admitted to the San Francisco Conference, alert newspaper men filed two interesting reports. Arnaldo Cortesi, the New York Times correspondent in Beunos Aires, got news to his paper that he had witnessed in Argentina things that exceeded any he had seen during seventeen years in Fascist Italy. And then a few days later we were informed that the United States had permitted the sale of 500,000 tons of oil to Argentina. Those of us who remember the one dramatic plenary session in San Francisco when Molotov made his vain plea that a few days be allowed to ascertain whether Argentina had really become democratic, must wonder whether oil is still so slimy that it can ooze through the barriers ostensibly erected against Fascism and aggression.

Unless human nature shall have changed so that great corporations will refuse to permit their profits to be endangered by any such nonsense as maintaining peace or promoting human happiness, oil and other cartels may again make a mockery of sanctions. The next step is war.

CHARTER PROVIDES SECURITY FORCE

The Charter seems to provide a more effective means of preventing war than did the Covenant. The latter rather vaguely stated that in case a nation resorted to war in violation of its pledges under the Covenant, the Council should "recommend to the several governments concerned what effective military, naval or air force the members of the League shall severally contribute to the armed forces to be used to protect the Covenants of the League" (Article 16). Moreover, the Council could only "advise" under Article 10 what action should be taken by the members "to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing polical independence of all members of the League." And, as President Wilson said repeatedly on his September, 1919, tour of the country, "advise" meant exactly that, to advise.

Now, under the Charter there will presumably be already in existence armed forces ready to strike instantly and effectively against an aggressor. Moreover, again presumably, special agreements will already have been signed making these forces available to the Security Council. This, however, is the big "if" of the Charter. This writer ventures the guess that the United States will sign such an agreement only if the American delegate to the Security Council is required to obtain the prior approval from some organ of the Government. He has just sent to the press a book, "The Senate and the Versailles Mandate System," which contains frequent quotations from Senators who voiced their adamant opposition to sending American boys to die in all parts of the world and to our becoming what Wilson had frequently called "the savior of the world."

U. S. INSISTED ON VETO POWER 7-14-45

When we shall have finished the war with Japan, there will probably be the same attitude in both the Senate and the House against permitting the American delegate to the Security Council to commit the United States without ratification by some of the elected representatives of the American people. The Constitution still gives Congress alone the power to declare war. Either the Constitution will remain as it is, or it will have to be amended before the American delegate could commit the American people to war. It may be doubted very much that the necessary amendment has a chance of ratification.

And let us not forget that any one of the Big Five can veto use of these armed forces, just as it can veto the application of sanctions, even against itself. Senator Connally made perfectly clear in his address to the Senate of June 28 that the United States since Yalta had consistently stood for the right of veto. There would be no chance of ratification by the United States unless this prohibitive power were assured. Incidentally, the attempt to place all blame upon Russia for this insistence is now another legend. In brief, there is no guaranty that either sanctions will be invoked or that the United Nations will go to war against any nation.

ETHIOPIA DELEGATE POINTED OUT FAULTS

The Charter pays respectful lip service to the basic causes of war, but provides no machinery for their removal. Let us note first of all that the Covenant was not entirely unmindful of some of these factors as is evident in Article 23 and Part XIII of the Versailles Treaty which provided for the establishment of the I. L. O. Although Articles 55-72 dealing with the Economic and Social Council cover a wider range of human activities, this Council has no power to carry out its recommendations. It can do just about what the General Assembly can do, consider, discuss, study and recommend. Those who have faith in these two bodies as "sounding boards for public opinion" would do well to ponder the warning of the Ethiopian delegate at a plenary session in San Francisco who reminded [illegible] that "public opinion of the peoples of the world, however enlightened and insistent, cannot of itself suffice to remedy the faults of a defective organization." For his country had such public opinion on its side, but we know only too well what happened.

The Ethiopian delegate also pointed out that the Regional Arrangements (Articles 52-54) permit opportunities for delay similar to those which under the League permitted Italy to carry out her aggression against his country.

TRUSTEESHIP IS A DISAPPOINTMENT

The new trusteeship system (Articles 73-91) is one of the greatest disappointments of the Charter. Fundamentally it has the same weakness as did the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League which failed utterly to advance the inhabitants of the mandated areas toward self-government and which did not materially improve the conditions of the inhabitants. In Southwest Africa, for example, the native people outnumber the Europeans eight to one, but eight times as much was spent on the education of the European children as on that of the natives. We criticize Mississippi for spending six times as much per capita for the education of one group of children as for another. The Union of South Africa spends sixty-four times as much.

In order to make more effective the old Permanent Mandates Commission it was proposed in 1927 that it be empowered to draw up a questionnaire as the basis for the annual reports by the mandatories, to hear oral petitions, and to make its own investigations. None of these powers was granted. The least important of these, the questionnaire, is allowed in the new Charter. But if the writer understands the English language, especially in the light of history, the Charter does not grant the trusteeship council the right to hear oral petitions.

The American draft of May 4 stated that it should "be empowered . . . to accept petitions." Some of us at San Francisco implored Commander Stassen and the technical experts to specify that these petitions included oral. Not only was this not done, but the final wording states that the council "may," not is empowered to, "accept petitions and examine them in consultation with the administering authority." When we wish to speak of oral petitions, we invariably use the words "to hear petitions." But whether this interpretation is right or wrong, and only time perhaps will tell, note the circumstances under which the petitions will be accepted—"in consultation with the administering authorities." Where are the petitioners? They are 3,000 or 5,000 miles away, with no one of their own people to represent them. 7-14-45

NATIVES IGNORED

The American draft of May 4 empowered the trusteeship council to "institute investigations." The final wording of the Charter states that the council "may," not is empowered to, "provide for periodic visits to the respective territories at times agreed upon with the administering authority." The word "investigations" connotes something wrong; the words "periodic visits" are perfectly innocuous. Moreover, any butcher can get his scales in order if he fixes the date when the inspector comes by. Some of us at San Francisco implored Commander Stassen and the technical experts to specify that the reports be published. We failed completely just as we failed in our effort to gain effective or indeed any kind of representation of the native peoples on the trusteeship council.

In fact, while the Permanent Mandates Commission had a larger number of members from the non-mandatory States, the new trusteeship council will have an equal number of administering and non-administering States. Further, the administering States will be able to raise volunteer forces in the trust areas, thus utilizing more so-called "savages" in fighting civilized man's wars. But the biggest joker of all lies in the fact that there is absolutely no guaranty that any area will be placed under trusteeship since it is left entirely to each nation to decide whether it will do so.

Educators who have worked for more than two years to have created an International Organization of Education and Cultural Development failed as completely as did the advocates of a truly effective trusteeship plan.

LITTLE HOPE IN CHARTER 7-14-45

Many persons undoubtedly feel that the writer has been unduly harsh in his criticisms of the Charter. But it would seem that our own Government has hardly any more fath in it than I have. What would be the need for compulsory military training if the new machinery afforded real hope for maintaining peace? Nor does the man in the street seem to place much confidence in it. The Gallup Poll shows a majority of the persons polled in favor of the Charter. But if they are like the persons with whom this writer has talked, they favor it because they believe it is the best they can get, not that they have any faith that it will prevent war.

He shares this fatalism not only because of the weaknesses of the machinery, but also because of those of the engineers and the laborers. Smuts, the only head of a delegation in San Francisco who played any important role in the Versailles Treaty declared recently to the Parliament of his country: "A fixed policy to maintain white supremacy is agreed on by all parties in South Africa except those **quite mad.**" (As quoted in the New Republic, April 23, 1945.) The Senate of the United States permits a shameful filibuster to prevent passage of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Bill. Senators have already promised to prevent passage of a bill abolishing the poll tax in national elections by the same means. Even if the Labor Party should gain control in England, its attitude toward the British dependent areas is essentially the same as Churchill's.

WORLD LABOR MAY PREVENT WARS 7-14-45

If the machinery is bad, if the Anglo-Saxon leaders are blind, then the laborers, the little people, the common man, must help to create a world that will make possible a just and lasting peace for all mankind. But first of all, these laborers must not be lulled to sleep by the faith that intellectuals seem to have in the Charter. For that reason there must be Senate hearings and debates of sufficient length and scope to make the little people realize what a weak reed the Charter is. Let us not be silenced by sarcastic reference to us as "perfectionists." We were called "perfectionists" because we were not satisfied with the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals. The Charter is slightly better than were the Proposals. Let us in the same way make clear our dissatisfaction with the United Nations Charter so that amendments will be made in time to prevent another war and so that the basic causes of war will be removed in fact. 7-14-45

Let us therefore support all movements in all parts of the world that seek to remove these causes. It may well be that the World Trades Union Congress, scheduled to convene in Paris on September 25, will mean more than the Charter in the establishment of permanent peace that all decent people want. But if this is to eventuate, then the American working man must take a sympathetic and intelligent interest in the working man in all parts of the world. It is not sufficient to condemn governments and powerful corporations and cartels for exploiting the worker. So long as workers in advanced nations exploit the peons of Mexico, the cholos of Chile, the peasants of the Caribbean, the coolies of China, the fellaheen of Egypt, the economic serfs of the Balkans, or the Untouchables of India, there can be no just and lasting peace and there should be none.

560-1945

United Nations' Charter

INSIDE STUFF

by ZIK

SAN FRANCISCO & FUTURE OF COLONIES (2)

West African Pilot

The fate of the colonial empire was decided at San Francisco where it was arranged to set up a trusteeship council.

Was any provision made in this council for representatives of the colonial peoples themselves?

Find out in this instalment, which concludes the excerpts of the United Nations Charter from our issue of Saturday:

8-20-45

ARTICLE 77

1. The trusteeship system shall apply to such territories in the following categories as may be placed thereunder by means of trusteeship agreements:

(a) Territories now held under mandate;

(b) Territories which may be detached from enemy states as a result of World War II and (c) Territories voluntarily placed under the system by states responsible for their administration.

2. It will be a matter for subsequent agreement as to which territories in the foregoing categories will be brought under the Trusteeship System and upon what terms.

ARTICLE 78

The trusteeship system shall not apply to territories which have become members of the United Nations, relationship among them which shall be based on respect for the principle of sovereign equality.

ARTICLE 79

The terms of trusteeship for each territory to be placed under the trusteeship system, including any alteration or amendment, shall be agreed upon by the states directly concerned, including the mandatory power in the case of territories held under mandate by a member of the United Nations, and shall be approved as provided for in Articles 83 and 85.

ARTICLE 80

1. Except as may be agreed upon in individual trusteeship agreements, made under Articles 77, 79 and 81, placing each territory under the trusteeship system, and until such agreements have been concluded, nothing in this chapter shall be construed in or of itself to alter in any manner the rights whatsoever of any state or any peoples or terms of existing international instruments to which members may respectively be parties. 8-20-45

2. Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be interpreted as giving grounds for delay or postponement of the negotiation and conclusion of agreements for placing mandated and other territories under the trusteeship system as provided for in Article 77.

ARTICLE 81

The trusteeship agreement shall in each case include the terms under which the trust territory will be administered and designate the authority which will exercise the administration of the trust territory.

Such authority, hereinafter called the administering authority, may be one or more states or the organization itself.

ARTICLE 82.

There may be designated, in any trusteeship agreement, a strategic area or areas which may include part or all the territory to which the agreement applies, without prejudice to any special agreement or agreements made under Article 43.

ARTICLE 83

1. All functions of the United Nations relating to strategic areas, including the approval of the terms of the trusteeship agreements and of their alteration or amendment, shall be exercised by the security council.

2 The basic objectives set forth in Article 76 shall be applicable to the people of each strategic area.

3 The security council shall subject to the provisions of the trusteeship agreements and without prejudice to security considerations, avail itself of the assistance of the trusteeship council to perform those functions of the United Nations under the trusteeship system relating to political, economic, social, and educational matters in the strategic areas. 8-20-45

ARTICLE 84

It shall be the duty of the administering authority to ensure that the trust territory shall play its part in the maintenance of international peace and security.

To this end the administering authority may make use of volunteer forces, facilities, and assistance from the trust territory in carrying out the obligation towards the security council undertaken in this regard by the administering authority, as well as for local defence and the maintenance of law and order within the trust territory.

2. The trusteeship council Article 86 says that "The by the general assembly as operating under the authority of the general assembly, Trusteeship Council shall consist of the following members: may be necessary to ensure that the total number of members of the trusteeship

(a) Those members administering trust territories;

(b) Such of those members United Nations which administer trust territories and those which do not.

2 Each member of the trusteeship council shall designate one specially qualified

ARTICLE 85

1. The functions of the United Nations with regard to trusteeship agreements for all areas designated as strategic, including the approval of the terms of the trusteeship agreements and their alteration or amendment, shall be exercised by the general assembly.

2. The trusteeship council shall assist the general assembly in carrying out these functions.

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Chapter XIII of the covenant deals with the composition of the trusteeship council as mentioned by name in Article 23 as stering authority, those members of the United Nations which administer trust territories and those which do not.

(a) As many other members elected for three-year terms to ensure a balance between those members administering trust territories and those which do not.

(b) Each member of the United Nations which administers trust territories shall designate one specially qualified representative of the colonial people.

(c) As many other members elected for three-year terms to ensure a balance between those members administering trust territories and those which do not.

(d) Each member of the United Nations which administers trust territories shall designate one specially qualified representative of the people themselves.

person to represent it therein.

FUNCTIONS & POWERS

Article 87 describes the functions and powers of the council as follows:

1 The general assembly and, under its authority, the trusteeship council, in carrying out its function, may:

(a) Consider reports submitted by the administering authority; 8-20-45

(b) Accept petitions and examine them in consultation with the administering authority;

(c) Provide for periodic visits to the respective trust territories at times agreed upon with the administering authority; and,

(d) Take these and other actions in conformity with the terms of the trusteeship agreements.

ARTICLE 88

1 The trusteeship council shall formulate a questionnaire on the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of each trust territory, and the administering authority for each trust territory within the competence of the general assembly shall make an annual report to the general assembly upon the basis of such a questionnaire.

2 The general assembly may, when it deems necessary, itself exercise any of these functions and powers.

VOTING RIGHTS

Article 89 deals with the question of voting.

It says:

1. Each member of the trusteeship council shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the trusteeship council shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

METHOD OF PROCEDURE

The last articles of the covenant dealing with the future administration of Colonies refer to method of procedure

For example, Article 90 says:

1. The trusteeship council shall adopt its own rules procedure, including the method of selecting its president. 8-20-45

2. The trusteeship council shall meet as required in accordance with its rules, which shall include provision for the convening of meetings on the request of a majority of its members.

ARTICLE 91

The trusteeship council shall when appropriate, avail itself of the assistance of the economic and social council and of the specialised agencies in regard to matters with which they are respectively concerned.

THE END.

56-o-1945

Universal Military Training

VOICE of the PEOPLE

The Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Opposes Universal Military Training

Editor, Journal and Guide: Our nation is being threatened with peacetime universal military training. We should help make and keep America a true democracy by defeating all peacetime conscription measures. 11-10-45

Congress has been asked by the President and the Army to extend the present draft for the 18 and 25 year group. Before Congress acts, I believe it should be called to the attention of the public. Congressmen are not convinced by the President that they shall continue the teen-age draft. All of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force.

Before committing our nation to future wars, at least let us attempt to get a lasting peace and to eliminate peacetime military training in the United States and throughout the world. We should advocate such ways of dealing with offenders against society as to transform the wrong-doer rather than inflict retributive punishment; a policy that prepares for war will get war. To have a just and lasting peace we must work to abolish war. We should strive to remove from the United States and all nations that maintain hate, prejudice, poverty, intolerance, etc., and foster good will among nations, races, and classes. 11-10-45

I am hoping you will oppose peacetime universal military training for the survival of all mankind here and abroad.

—SYDNEY MOORE

Philadelphia, Pa.

The Potsdam Agreement

STAR OF ZION
CARLISLE, PA.

Our first impression of the Potsdam Agreement is one of immense satisfaction. For while many things were left undecided, the decisions in the main were as much as could be expected and the plans for the future of Germany are calculated to remove the danger that the German people will be a threat to the peace of the world for many years to come. If there were any doubt that Germany has been decisively beaten and must humbly submit to a rule dictated by other nations, not unduly harsh, such doubt has been entirely removed.

The decision to fashion a peace for Italy, which will enable that nation to become a member of the United Nations, is one that will meet with general approval, for the Italians' early capitulation proved their willingness to throw off Fascist domination and to establish a government helpful to the people and not inimical to the peace of the world.

Best of all, probably, is the apparently satisfactory settlement of the troublesome Polish question. While Russia's claims to eastern Polish territory were recognized, as we felt they would be, Poland has been given sufficient German territory to greatly mollify the losses in the East. Certainly Russia will insist upon a Polish government not inimical to her best interest, and Russianization of other Eastern European countries was to be expected in the very nature of the case and of the Soviet position among the great powers.

8-9-45

Marshal Stalin, the only remaining member of the original Big Three, admittedly played his hand well, but President Truman and Prime Minister Atlee, the latter succeeding Churchill even in the midst of deliberations, proved themselves quite capable successors to the great chieftains whom they succeeded.

N.C.

The fact that the conference was concluded within such a comparatively short time is sufficient evidence that there were no serious and bitter differences. American and world confidence in the ability of President Truman has been greatly strentghened and the American president looms larger and larger as a statesman and a clear-headed diplomat.

560-1945

peace Plans- San Francisco Conference

John Robert Badger World View

Chicago Defender Ill.

The San Francisco Parley

THE WORLD will come to San Francisco April 25 to design and blueprint the machinery for keeping the peace. It is a great opportunity for the whole of America, and especially for Negro-America. 2-24-45

This was only one of the concrete results of the Big Three conference on the shores of the Black Sea. It is in keeping with other decisions made there, all of which — as World View forecast (January 27, 1945)—dealt "with many a vital concern of Negro-America."

For instance, the decisions to crush the German Fascists and eradicate them from German life, to punish war criminals, and to dispose of German industry so as to prevent an attempt at rearmament by the great cartels a few years later—these decisions ensure us against having to send our youth to battle German imperialism again in the next decade or so. Moreover, it will mean a virtual blackout of the "master race" theory, and will certainly put those who advocate it in our own country at an ideological disadvantage. 2-24-45

So, too, the decisions to aid and guarantee the establishment of free, democratic governments in Europe will mean, first, a precedent in implementation of the principle of self-determination which cannot long be denied the peoples of Asia and Africa; and, second, the prospect of prospering European nations, able and willing to buy American products, and thus to help keep millions of Negroes employed during the peace years.

There are other implications of the Big Three decisions. But, for the time being, what is the significance of the selection of San Francisco as the site of the peace conference.

America's Decisive Role 2-24-45

FIRST, it can be taken for granted that the entire world realizes that the main obstacle to a workable peace organization lies inside of the United States. The nations have not forgotten the experience of the League of Nations, and Woodrow Wilson's unhappy fate. They know that the so-called "isolationists" in the United States, through their influence in the Congress, can balk any genuine U. S. participation in the enforcement of peace. 2-24-45

It follows, therefore, that through their political power and their alliance with the progressive forces in the country, Negro-Americans will be able to exercise a determining influence on the peace. Together with other progressive forces in the nation, they can defeat the isolationists and compel congressional ratification of the Dumbarton Oaks and Bretton Woods agreements, thus guaranteeing U. S. participation in world peace organization.

Second, the selection of San Francisco underscores the importance of the Pacific theater of war and the problems of the peoples of Asia, once German fascism has been crushed. As we know, the problems of Asia are primarily the problems of colonial areas. The San Francisco conference, therefore, will address itself to the solution of these problems, a thing that bodes nothing but good for the future of Africa and the West Indies and all other colonial areas of the world. 2-24-45

Great Opportunity For Us

I SHOULD NOT be surprised to see a great deal of attention paid to the old Mandate System of the League of Nations. And I think all of us should now acquaint ourselves with the experience of the League, and be prepared to participate in the discussions that are bound to spread over the nation during the conference.

Finally, there is some talk that the Soviet Union, China, and perhaps several of the Latin American representatives may insist on writing the principle of racial equality into the program. I have no definite evidence that this is so. But there is every reason to expect such problems to come up on the agenda.

San Francisco will be an important place in the weeks and months to come. The eyes of the world will be upon it. And the eyes of the world will also be upon us, for we now have a great opportunity to influence the history of the world for many years to come.

Resolution Sent To Stettinius By Nat'l NAACP

Atlanta World 3-23-45

NEW YORK— (SNS)— A resolution on Colonial issues and policy adopted by the NAACP Board of Directors and transmitted March 15 to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, for consideration at the San Francisco Conference to be held April 26, called for " a declaration of racial equaliy of the great groups of mankind in international law." and provision against economic and governmental exploitation of colonies.

The resolution written by Dr. DuBois demanded that these steps be taken to "make war at once unlikely and unprofitable."

GIVE COLONIALS VOICE

3-23-45

In regard to the control and ownership of colonies, the statement urged "it be the sense of the United Nations that the ownership and control of colonies and dependencies be recognized in international law only on the following terms: "(a) That the dominating country solemnly engage to give the peoples of such areas immediately a voice in their own government. (b) That is solemnly declare its intention that by a given date these peoples shall either be integrated into the policy of the mother country with full rights of citizenship; or shall be allowed to become independent and autonomous countries as the peoples themselves shall decide. (c) That the natural resources of these countries including mines, forest, land and its materials shall be owned by the colonies and used primarily for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area; that the organization of industry, the control of labor and investment of capital shall be ordered for the benefit of the people in the area and not simply for profit of invested capital or primarily for the welfare of peopel outside the colony. (d) That an international Mandates Commission be established and implemented under the supreme authority of the United Nations with the right to supervise the government of territory mandated after the First World War ano any such enemy territory acquired in the present war to investigate, report and recommend action in the case of countries who do not keep their commitments in colonies or will not make such commitments; and that in such cases the conduct and administration of these colonies be placed under control of the Mandates Commission, backed by the authority of the United Nations." 3-23-45

DEMAND SACRIFICE

Warning that no action less than indicated in the foregoing paragraphs could be depended upon "to rescue this world from continued war and the persistent exploitation of a large portion of mankind, if not indeed the majority of human beings," the statement pointed out "that every demand on colonial powers here made has at some time or other been declared by these powers as an integral part of their policy. Peace and civilization, humanity and religion today demand this sacrifice of independence on the part of the world's great powers for social progress and democracy.

Colored Nations List Delegates For Frisco

Journal & Guide 4-21-45

Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) Delegations which shall represent Ethiopia and the republics of Liberia and Haiti at the San Francisco conference have been listed formerly with the State Department, it is announced. Already they are participating in preliminary talks.

At the same time, the department has asked that members of the American delegation begin meeting regularly until the conference opens in order that they may become thoroughly familiar with the position this government will take on the various matters to come up. These sessions began on Monday.

Sen. Arthur Vandenberg (R) of Michigan has been suggested as the chief American delegate on the assembly commission for the proposed united nations organization. It is under the assembly that the suggested economic and security council, dealing as it will with humanitarian and social problems, will fall. 4-21-45

(From Paris it is learned that the French cabinet has named Paul Emilo Naggiar, a delegate to the Golden Gate conference, to represent his government in pre-San Francisco talks on international trusteeship.

The week-end announcement by the State Department said that Ethiopia, Liberia and Haiti had indicated their intention to be represented at the meeting of the committee of jurists which opened Monday.

ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION

Prime Minister Bitwedded Makennen Endalkacheeu will head the Ethiopian delegation which will include Atk Aklilou Hapte Wold, vice minister for foreign affairs; Ato Abi Weld-Mariam, vice minister of justice; Blatta Ephrem Tewelde Medhen, minister to the United States; Ate Emanuel Abraham, director general education; Ate Gotahoun Tesemma, first secretary, Ethiopian legation, Washington; Ate Menasse Lema, director general, ministry of finance; Advisor; John Spencer, advisor to ministry for foreign affairs; Secretary; Ate Petros Sahlu, employe, ministry for foreign affairs.

HAITIAN DELEGATION

The Haitian delegation will include the follow: Gerard Lescot, minister for foreign affairs; Vely Thebaud, minister for the interior; Gen. Nemours, president of the Senate; Andre Liautaud, ambassador in Washington; assistant delegates; Pierre Chauvot, under secretary of state for commerce; Maj. Antonio Levolt, director of the military school; Antonio Borvin, Haitian charge d'affaires at Havana; technical advisors; Louis Moravia; Joseph Nadal; secretary; Louis Gardoro. 4-21-45

Vice President C. L. Simpson will be chairman of the Liberian delegation. Other members include secretary of state Gabriel Donnis, advisor; J. L. Gibson, chairman, senate foreign relations committee; Richard A. Henrios, chairman of house foreign relations committee; Coleman Moses Grant, officer commanding frontier force, military aide; Nathan Barnes, secretary of commission; and George Padmore, secretary to the advisor.

LEADERS OF COLORED PEOPLE URGE FREEDOM FOR ALL NATIONS

Kansas City Times 5-4-45

By Mason Roberson

San Francisco. (ANP)—What Observers and students with whom I've talked believe that it is almost certain to be included in the United Nations Charter. 5-4-45

Certainly the principle of equality will come before the delegates backed by more powerful protagonists than ever before in all history.

Japs Lone Backer

For example, at the end of the last war only one major voice—and feared equality, especially of salary. The British colonies and China were similarly engaged, and are the chances that the principle of racial equality will be incorporated in the poswar agreements And an examination of the background and forces involved concerning the demand for equal rights for popular reasons.

Japan's demand was denied on the grounds that it would conflict of the united nations conference? Such a belief.

Allies were interested in darker races at the peace meetings. Support for

with the exclusion laws of the United States and the British empire, a not very obscure reason and not, of course, the real reason.

There were unofficial attempts to marshal forces for presenting the demands at Versailles in 1919. Under the sponsorship of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, a Pan-African congress was called in Paris. It failed, of course, to influence the final shape of the peace.

Contrast that with the situation today at the San Francisco conference. 5-4-45

Changed Situation

Last month, Sir Zafrullah Khan, leader of the Indian delegation to the British Commonwealth conference, told the delegates it was essential that there should be no further racial discrimination in any shape or form.

At the Dumbarton Oaks meeting, the Chinese delegation requested that the principle of race equality be formally included in the agreement. No action was taken, but the Chinese are certain to raise the issue again here in San Francisco.

Stalin Wants Stand

Premier Joseph Stalin declared "the abolition of racial exclusiveness" to be one of the Soviet Union's basic peace aims. This intention has been repeated over and over again by key Russian spokesmen. A recent issue of the Information Bulletin issued by the Soviet embassy in Washington declared: "When any country gives shelter to the Hitlerites or their ideas in the form of discriminatory legislation, in the form of racist organizations or a racist press, it is no longer an internal affair of that country." 5-4-45

This from a country which shares with the United States the greatest power on earth! And, of course their official declarations of policy is confirmed by the well-known fact that the Soviet Union is the one place on earth where discrimination and prejudice of all kinds has been wiped out by rigidly enforced laws making such practices a major felony.

France to Give Citizenship

According to Rene Pleven, colonial minister, France plans to make full citizens of her colonial peoples, with all the rights of the white Frenchmen in the mainland, and to fight with all its strength any importation of racial prejudice.

The Netherlands government has announced its plan to rebuild its colonies as a commonwealth with no discrimination of any kind between races.

The position of both Britain and America on issue of equality are so much in public discussion that they need little examination here. Certainly we are all aware of the social, economic, historic factors involved. 5-4-45

Jim Crow Retreats

And certainly, no Negro will deny that since Versailles, the men and the interests supporting jim crow in America have been in constant retreat—that they have been undercut and circumscribed by such factors as the FEPC, the supreme court ruling on the vote, the army's order outlawing jim crow, the abolition of the poll tax in Georgia, and a host of other laws and actions by officials and by civic church and labor organizations all of which have brought nearer the realization of the constitution and the bill of rights as applicable to all Americans. Certainly the official position of the United States government as voiced by nearly all its leading spokesmen over the past several years, would make it extremely difficult for them to come out in active opposition to the principle of racial equality at the conference.

Friends in England

Within the British empire the forces pressing for equality are far from the disorganized and voiceless multitude of 1918. In India, in Africa, in the Far East, British colonials have organization and spokesmen. In Britain itself these people have powerful support among large powerful organizations.

Certainly we can say that neither Britain nor America will be able to bring anything like a united group in support of a policy of inequality. 5-4-45

Thus we see that China, France, the Soviet Union are definitely for the principle of race equality. And they represent a majority of the "big five." In the whole united nations assembly an even larger proportion of the delegates will be in favor of such a principle, for the simple reason that a majority of the populations of smaller nations are non-whites. In the world, whites represent a rough third of the total population.

One third of the world cannot keep two thirds of the world in a subordinate position in any international organization which is more than a mere symbol of democracy.

Fisk Youth Heads Interracial Group

Afro-American 4-28-45

100 Colored and White Students Meet in N.C.

SOUTH TAKES LEAD

Meharry Sergeant to Go to San Francisco

Balt. Md.

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.—A colored student was elected president and another named one of two delegates to the forthcoming United Nations' Conference during a meeting of students of nearly fifty colored and white colleges here April 15.

The approximately 100 delegates who elected Charles Proctor of Fisk University to head the group, expressed hope that the conference will become a permanent interracial organization of college students working in the interest of democracy, justice and peace.

During the meeting at the University of North Carolina, Sgt. Maurice Clifford of the Meharry Medical College ASTU, and Douglass Hunt of the University of North Carolina, executive secretary, were named delegates to the April 25 conference. 4-28-45

Called by Students

Called by students of the University of North Carolina and dedicated to the principles of democracy and world peace upheld by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the meeting was devoted to the consideration of world peace organization plans.

Particular emphasis was placed on problems facing the San Francisco conference and developing a plan for studying on their respective campuses the Bretton Woods, Dumbarton Oaks and other similar plans.

The delegates elected to go to San Francisco will wire reports of the United Nations' Conference to the University of North Carolina, where a local committee will disseminate the information to the various participating colleges.

Second Conference Planned

An executive committee, composed of students from each of the States represented, will also start making plans for a second annual meeting of the conference, to be held at the University of North Carolina next year.

The participating colleges will be asked to contribute funds to finance the organization, which the students hope will eventually become national and international in membership. 4-28-45

Southern Youth Takes Lead

Terming the conference a challenge to youth, Dr. Frank P. Graham, university president, in the opening meeting paid tribute to President Roosevelt and urged the delegates to spread the message that Southern youth is on the march toward freedom and peace.

The remaining meetings were devoted to discussions and reports by a resolutions committee of students, resulting in the election of delegates to attend the San Francisco parley and in the proposed formation of the conference as a permanent organization.

The conference, it was agreed, marks a new epoch in the South because:

1. Colored and white students met, not to discuss local racial issues, but fundamental questions of international significance.

Racial Issue Not Stressed

2. The two delegates as well as the president were not chosen because of their race or in order to represent special interests, but because of their wide knowledge and facility in discussing the problems and issues of world peace.

Dynamic and influential figures during the session, both Hunt and Clifford, it was said ,revealed their ability to think quickly in debate and to legislate in a manner that satisfied an overwhelming majority of the delegates.

3. The conference was not the work of "leftist" faculty members, but a conference conceived by students, called by students, and run by students. The only non-student speaker at the regular sessions was President Graham, who delivered his address at the students' express request.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

Pittsburgh Courier 5-12-45

Pa.

Colored Delegates Ignore American Negroes

By P. L. PRATTIS

SAN FRANCISCO — So far as American Negroes are concerned, Ethiopia, Haiti and Liberia are like beautiful women that men fall in love with whether the girls care anything about them or not. The only difference is that the three above-named countries are not so beautiful, as women go.

American Negroes who have a yearning for freedom and would seek to use their political influence in behalf of their handicapped brothers eslewhere, all over the globe, might do well to consider whether they are wasting their energy. 5-12-45

NEGROES PROTESTED

When Mussolini built up a war on Ethiopia and sprayed the patriots of that empire with poison gas, a mighty protest rose from the lips of black men and women the United States. Hundreds of American Negroes wanted to volunteer to fight in the Ethiopian army. Some did manage to get over and give Uncle Haile a lift.

When Firestone went into Liberia and sneak-punched a huge land grab over on the Liberian politicians, American Negroes scorched Mr. Harvey and let on as how it was a shame for him to take advantage of the Liberians.

In every instance where it has seemed that the American Government, or any government, was not disposed to treat Liberia as a fully adult nation, American Negroes have screeched. 5-12-45

When American Marines chose Haiti for their play spot and made sport of the elite Haitians, American Negroes grabbed their pistols, knives and machetes and waved them menacingly at Uncle Sam. for years they cried to high heaven about the injustices being inflicted upon our brothers in the Caribbean.

COLORED VISITORS IGNORE U. S. NEGROES

Yet, when these same Ethiopians, Liberians and Haitians come to this country, to the place where our hearts have been bleeding for them, they hardly speak to us.

This is very, very evident at this United Nations Conference.

If Negro correspondents want to get anything out of these visiting black dignitaries, they had better catch them on the high fly. This is true, unless you happen to have personal friends on the delegation, such as Dr. Logan has among the Haitians.

It is a lot easier to get close to Stettinius, Eden, Molotov or one of the other big shots than it is to get a line on Medhen of Ethiopia, Simpson of Liberia, or Lescot of Haiti. 5-12-45

As soon as the British delegation arrived, they called all the correspondents into a conference. There have been British press conferences, French press conferences, American, New Zealand, Chinese, Egyptian, Indian. Almost everybody has been having press conferences.

Almost everybody but Ethiopia, Liberia and Haiti. They don't even seem to want to talk to the Negro press. When you call their hotels, they take advantage of diplomatic immunity—and won't answer. When you catch them on the street, they stare at you.

Howard Thurman, the preacher, is having the visiting correspondents to dinner next Friday.

But Ethiopia, Liberia and Haiti won't even give them a respectable interview.

Three days ago the Haitian foreign delegate spoke at the plenary session. Not a single correspondent has been able to get a copy of the speech, so far as this writer knows.

Brothers, we had better think about accentuating the positive, our own problems here at home, and let our negative brothers take care of themselves.

560-1945

San Francisco Conference

MOLOTOV'S POSITION CHALLENGES U. S. ON TRUSTEESHIPS

Pittsburgh Courier Pa.

5-19-45

By P. L. PRATTIS, Executive Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—If teeth and meaning are to be fastened into the words and phrases being used at the United Nations Conference about equality and trusteeships, the Russians and the Chinese, possibly, among the Big Four, are the mechanics expected to do such an inlay job.

In the beginning, or purpose section of the proposed world charter, the Big Four, including the British and the Americans, have agreed to wording which recognizes the principle of equality among races and nations.

The American proposals on the trusteeship system, not agreed to by the British, are almost all right as far as they go.

GRAVE DOUBT IN SOME MINDS 5-19-45

But there is grave doubt in the minds of many observers here that the words concerning equality or the provisions for handling dependent areas will mean anything without consistent prodding by the Russians.

That is the reason the latest moves by the Russians and the Chinese are significant.

Just before he returned to Russia, Foreign Commissar Molotov held a press conference. He directed attention to the fact that the Big Four had been meeting and its members had agreed on certain amendments. Molotov then told reporters that he wished to stress the amendments to which the Soviet delegation attached "the greatest importance."

RUSSIA FOR EQUALITY

At the head of the list of the five amendments which the Soviet chief delegate alluded to was the one bearing on race equality. Number three of the list was trusteeship. 5-19-45

The Americans and British have been playing around with such expressions as "welfare of the people" and "self-development of dependent areas."

The Russian language is much more direct. It says that it should be the aim of the new world organization to make all peoples independent and that a trusteeship council should be organized which should have the job of preparing dependent peoples for independence. The last word is underlined in Soviet thinking.

U. S., BRITAIN QUIET

After the Molotov conference, Senator Vandenberg of the American delegation, and Anthony Eden, British foreign minister, were both questioned as to what they thought of the Russian position as revealed by Molotov. Vandenberg and Eden refrained from comment on the ground that such proposals by the Soviets had not been made in written form.

However, by Thursday night the Russians had taken their pens in hand and written what they wanted. Their proposals called for basic alteration of the American amendments.

In respect to dependent areas, the Russians want an international agency which will work for "self-determination with active participation of the peoples of these territories, having the aim to expedite the achievement by them of full national independence."

It is clear that the Russians don't propose to permit any imperial power to kid anybody about prospective trusteeships.

CHINESE FALL IN LINE

The Chinese, after having played passive and evasive roles at the conference, have fallen in behind the Russians.

The United States' objective in its proposals is to promote "the political, economic and social advancement of the trust territories and their inhabitants and their progressive development toward self-government. The Chinese add:

1. That "independence" should be included in this objective as well as "self-government."

2. That such independence or self-government should be gradually developed in such a way" as may be appropriate for the particular circumstances of each territory and its people."

3. That the people of each trust territory "should be accorded civil liberty and the right to representation in the local deliberative or legislative assemblies" wherever such assemblies exist.

4. That "any violation of trusteeship arrangements should be regarded as a matter of international concern" "and as such could be brought to the attention of the Security Council or the General Assembly of the proposed international organization by the United Nations.

5. That even in strategic areas, when there are no security reasons to the contrary, the promotion of native independence should be considered on a basis of the stage of local political development, geographic position, economic conditions and other relevant circumstances.

6. That when matters relating to a given trust territory are being considered by the proposed trusteeship council, representatives of the people of that territory should be allowed to sit in on council meetings.

Coloured Leaders Demand Independence For The Colonies In Frisco Manifesto

West African Pilot

By GEORGE PADMORE, Our London Correspondent

LONDON.—While the United Nations' delegates at San Francisco were discussing the future of the coloured races living under the sovereignty of various European imperial powers, representatives of colonial organisations in this country issued a draft manifesto calling upon the darker races of the world to unite and demand the right of self-determination. 2-30-45

Plans are being made to convene a special United Front Conference in London early in June, 1945, for the purpose of adopting the draft declaration as United Colonial Charter.

The declaration was prepared by a special drafting committee composed of delegates representing the Federation of Indian organisations in Great Britain, the Pan African Federation made up of the following organisations of Africans and peoples of African descent:

The Kukuyu Association of East Africa. Lagos

The International African Service Bureau.

Negro Association of Great Britain.

The Negro Welfare and Cultural Centre of Liverpool.

The Coloured Men's Institute of East London.

The United Coloured and Colonial Seamen's Association of Cardiff.

The West African Students Union, and several other progressive organisations.

This move to bring about world-wide unity among the coloured communities had also been endorsed by the Burmese Students Union, the Ceylonese Association, the Malaya and East Indies League, West Indian Federation Committee and a number of colonial trade unions in Africa and the Caribbean.

Exclusive of this attempt to promote united action among the diverse coloured races making up the far-flung British Empire, African groups in Britain are also planning another conference in September.

This conference is being organised in co operation with the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People in New York and other Afro-American organisations.

I hope to be able to give more details about the September conference in a later dispatch.

All I can say about it at the present moment is, that one of the projects that will be discussed at the September conference is the calling of a World Pan-African Conference to be held somewhere in Africa after the end of hostilities in the Far East.

The manifesto reads in part:

"We feel it is our duty to warn the people of the United Nations and their statesmen that the subject peoples will not accept any plans which are made without their consent and consultation.

"It is imperative that the Atlantic Charter should be consistently applied to all colonial peoples, regardless of their race, colour or degree of social development.

"To this end, and as an earnest of their sincerity, it is essential that the United Nations should immediately set free all political prisoners in the colonies, and invite democratically elected representatives of the subject peoples to participate in the Peace Conference on terms of absolute equality with other delegates.

"We further suggest that at the Peace Conference there should be set up effective machinery in the form of a World Colonial Council.

"This would consist of representatives, not of imperialist powers, but of colonial countries themselves and it would be entrusted with the following tasks:

"(1) To formulate a policy and programme for the unconditional ending of all colonial systems within a definite and stipulated period.

"(2) To supervise the establishment of representative and responsible constitutions based upon universal adult suffrage in the colonies, such constitutions to provide full statutory safeguards for minority rights.

"(3) To ensure that none of the territories at present under Japanese control (Burma, Malaya, Indo-China Dutch East Indies, Korea, etc) are permitted to revert to a dependent colonial status after their liberation and that the ex Italian colonies in Africa are given full right of self-determination.

"(4) To bring about the immediate abrogation of all racial and discriminatory laws such as at present deprive Negroes in America, Asiatics and Africans in Africa, and subject peoples generally of full democratic rights of citizenship."

The manifesto concludes:

"We are convinced that fulfilment of this democratic programme will have far reaching consequences.

"On the one hand, by creating conditions favourable to the free development of subject nations, it will give an impetus to world trade and prosperity.

"On the other, by removing all inter-imperialist rivalries which are the root cause of wars; it will provide solid foundations for the building of a confraternity of free and equal nations, thus ensuring world peace which all humanity so ardently desire."

Major Wright Notices Similarities In San Francisco-Versailles Confabs

Major R. R. Wright, president of the Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Co., covered the United Nations Conference in San Francisco as the special representative of the Philadelphia Tribune. In the article below, Major Wright, who has had an outstanding career as educator, soldier, author and business man tells what he thinks the United Nations Charter means to the darker races of the world.—Edi Pa. Not

Philadelphia Tribune

On May 4, 1945, carrying the banner of the Philadelphia Tribune, the oldest secular Negro newspaper in America, I boarded a transcontinental airplane of the TWA at New York City for a coast to coast trop of 3,453 miles to attend the Second World War Conference at San Francisco, California. I had previously obtained at Washington, D. C., all necessary priorities for the trip and had engaged Dr. W. H. Wright as my physician and Professor Joseph R. Rugett as my secretary.

Thus prepared, I made the journey in twenty-three hours and was met at the airport and photographed by my distinguished friend, Mr. P. L. Prattis, executive editor of the Pittsburgh Courier.

Thence, I hastened to my hotel (The Roosevelt) and was, thereafter, ready to perform my commission for the Philadelphia Tribune.

8-4-45

Perhaps it may not be improper to remark that it was rather singular that I should have had the opportunity to have visited, during their sessions, the seat of both the Versailles Conference and the San Francisco Conference. Each of these conferences had for its objective the same purpose. Another singular incident is the fact that the person who, at the suggestion of President Wilson's secretary, gave me my passport in 1919, was again in the State Department and facilitated my attendance to the San Francisco Conference. This person was The Honorable William Phillips, the former Ambassador to Italy, in her palm days, and also the Special Ambassador of President Roosevelt.

My experience during the Versailles Conference was very suggestive. On that visit, I secured for my album of World War I, the signatures of Ambassador White, members of the Peace Conference, Edward M. House, Hon. Robert Lansing, who was our Secretary of State. Secretary of War Baker gave me a letter of introduction to Mr. Edward M. House and Hon. Robt. Special Ambassador.

At his Paris, France headquarters, I talked long with General John J. Pershing, the General of the army of invasion. M. Diagne, the Negro member of the French Cabinet, was also very gracious and helpful to me. As commissioner General, M. Diagne had raised an army of 250,000 Senegalese to aid France in her war.

In the First World War, colored and Negro people all over the world aided the white allies to win the war for Democracy. The League of Nations was adopted January 28, 1919, in the Hall des Glaces (Hall of Mirrors), Versailles, France. A few days after the League Agreement, I walked through the great halls of the Versailles Palace near Paris, accompanied by a guide who explained as we walked. Earlier, I had sat in the Hall of Hotel Crillon, near Place de la Concord, where I obtained the autographs of some of the prominent members of the conference and heard something of the story of the great effort of our President, Woodrow Wilson, for universal peace, and my heart beat with hope for the peace of the world. Later, for more than half an hour I talked with General Pershing on the subject of World Peace. Peace, why can we not have peace? Why should the wonderful artistic and literary achievements of the ages be destroyed merely to gratify prejudice or vicious ambitions of designing men or nations?

8-4-45

Just one question from the first World War haunts me: Did the colored and Negro people profit in their economic, social and cultural condition by their contribution for definitely, for never before in the history of a peace conference have so many nations been brought together under one roof to study a plan for the cessation of wars and for the perpetuation of peace and security."

To his credit, I think President Roosevelt had the welfare of the smaller nations more in mind than was developed subsequently. His Good Neighbor policy, as well as the Atlantic Charter, pointed toward this fact. It may be noted that England and France opposed granting independence to any colony, regardless of its strength, if it belonged to either of them. Hence, the trusteeship system provoked bitter controversy. It appeared to the colonies and even to the smaller nations that the "Big Three"—England, United States and Russia, proposed to form almost a super-government, which seems to ignore the so-called Atlantic Charter. Yet, the Conference, in its Charter, established the principle that any nation administering territory whose people are not "wholly independent" and are "not members of the United Nations," should make reports to an INTERNATIONAL AGENCY on the conditions and progress of those so-called dependent peoples. While this may appear to be a new wonderful achievement, what hope for independence does it give, not only to the "not wholly independent" countries, but to those who may not be independent, but mandated or owned outright by powerful or less powerful nations? For example, Nigeria or other African Colonies, or Palestine, Lebanon, India or other Asiatic dependents; what's their hope for independence?

The "Big Three's" veto power constituted another sore spot, and for days the nations were milling about and grumbling because of what they thought was undue "power politics" to be used by the "Big Three" who pledged themselves to prevent the small nations from going to war, but reserved for themselves the right to veto any attempt at using force against either of them. However, we must admit that the big powers have the power to crush or help. The peace of the world may depend on the peaceful prosperity of the smaller nations, but the big nations rule the world.

Let us consider the plan for world peace adopted by the conference, which begins as follows: "We the peoples of the United Nations, determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind," etc. It also declares: "1. The Organization is based on the principle of the SOVEREIGN EQUALITY OF ALL ITS MEMBERS." Then follows the plan.

(1) A GENERAL ASSEMBLY of all peace loving nations which will make recommendations for the maintenance of peace and the security for the world.

2) A SECURITY COUNCIL of eleven members to have full responsibility for determining and taking action in maintaining peace through pacific, economic and military means. The permanent members will be the United States, Great Britain, Russia, China, France and the General Assembly may elect six non-permanent members consisting of eighteen members,

(3) AN ECONOMICAL AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, operating under the Assembly to deal with the humanitarian aspects of the international relations. This may prove to be helpful in that it has the right and duty to investigate and report on international, economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters. This is the people's chance.

(4) IN INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE TO HANDLE justifiable disputes.

(5) INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM.

With the adoption of these principles, we conclude that this Charter, if adhered to by the nations which adopted it, and if the Charter nations find their HOME statesmen willing to concur and practice their resolutions, and if their constituents are willing to adopt and practice among themselves and among other nations the spirit of cooperation and peace, this will go far towards maintaining peace and security as much for the small nations as for the large nations. But how long will the greedy big nations agree among themselves?

Unless the Charter Nations, therefore, practice what they preach, the Charter will be only a scrap of paper and will meet the fate of the League of Nations which was sabotaged by England and France for the pleasure of Italy to delight itself in shooting down defenseless Ethiopians. Unless these United Nations are true to their agreement, there can be no peace and no rehabilitation of the defeated nations. This disagreement and failure among the conquerors will bring war and disruption in the next quarter of the century.

For peace cannot be obtained by mere resolutions and charters, but must be a matter of individual and national practice of goodwill and neighborliness and genuine cooperation.

Pa.

Naturally, I was particularly interested in the smaller nations of Haiti, Ethiopia and Liberia. I talked with their delegates and especially to those from Ethiopia and Liberia which are surrounded by colonies mandated or trusteed by the bigger nations. These small nations represented in the conference, were on the anxious bench, as were also Syria, Palestine, etc. Yet, what could these nations do to defend themselves against such great powers as Russia and the United States or England, France, Belgium and Holland? Perhaps, I should not mention the people of the strategic islands won by th U. S. A. from Japan.

Again, it must be admitted that by exploiting their weaker nations to increase their own economic, industrial and social status, the small nations become satellites to the bigger nations and must be subject to the authority of the bigger nations.

8-4-45

In conclusion, may add several observations.

I was a little surprised to find so little social co-mingling between the nations represented at the San Francisco Conference. Each nation had is own social gathering and only once did I hear of a social gathering of two nations. I refer to that of Ethiopia and China. It seemed to me that the San Francisco Conference was just the place to begin the cultivation of the freindly international spirit and the good neighbor policy.

I listened to a bitter harangue of a representative of India against England. And one, almost as bitter, from a Nigerian representative, also against England. From what little I could hear from the minor satellites, England was the "bete noir" of all the so-called "backward nations" who desire independence. The fact is that England and France and poor Belgium and Holland have appeared to thrive upon the misfortunes of the less powerful nations. Economic gains and pelf seem to be their object rather than the moral and intellectual improvement of the smaller nations under their control.

Let us hope that the San Francisco Conference and all its tributaries may be able to focus its whole power upon the organization, not only to perpetuate peace and security, but to aid and warrant the freedoms marked in the Atlantic Charter which may bring peace, cultural, Economic and political welfare and progress to all people.

Garment Rally to Reply To ILG Heads on Frisco

Daily Worker 4-24-45

The garment center's noon rally tomorrow (Wednesday) in support of the San Francisco Conference will answer the attacks made by the leadership of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union on the Crimea decisions.

The attacks, made through the ILG publication, Justice, which opened its April pages to "democratic" discussion on Yalta, were voiced in a letter by Israel Feinberg, vice-president of the Joint Cloak Board. 4-24-45

The meeting will be held at 36th St. between Seventh and Eighth Aves. Speakers at the rally will be Rep. A. Clayton Powell, Corliss Lamont of the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, Councilman Stanley Isaacs, Charles Collins of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, and Margo, stage and screen star. Arnold Ames, executive secretary of the American Labor Party Ladies Garment Center, which sponsors the rally, will be chairman.

Two rallies tonight (Tuesday), eve of the Frisco Conference, are:

- Tremont Citizens Committee rally, 8 p. m., P.S. 67, Mohegan Ave. and E 179 St., Bronx. Speakers: Assemblyman Louis Bennett, State Senators Isidore Dollinger and Lazarus Joseph; Charles Rubenstein, Max Perlow, Rabbis L. Predmesky and J. M. Charlop.
- East Bronx Committee for World Unity rally, 8 p. m., Hunt's Point Palace, Southern Blvd. and 163 St., Bronx. Speakers include Murray Weinstein, chairman, Bronx ALP; Harold S. Lowy, commander, Charles Crames Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars; State Senator Paul A. Fino; Isidore Begun, CPA; Assemblymen Julius J. Gans and Arthur Wachtel. 4-24-45

Other rallies scheduled for tomorrow (Wednesday) include:

- Americans United rally, 8 p. m., Erasmus Hall High School, Flatbush and Church Ave., Bklyn. Speakers: Rep. John M. Coffee, Dorothy Bellanca, Fannie Hurst, Rev. Herald Swezy and Rabbi A. Heller.
- Americans United rally, 8 p. m., Morris High School, Boston Road and 166 St., Bronx. Speakers: Roderick Stephens, chairman, Bronx Interracial Council; Councilman Michael J. Quill, Rev. Harold Green Johnson.
- Tribute to Franklin Delano Roosevelt by the Local Joint Executive Board, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, 2:30 p. m., Manhattan Center, 311 W. 34 St., Manhattan. Newbold Morris, president City Council, speaker.

An East Midtown Committee for World Unity rally Friday at the International Center of the YWCA, 341 E. 17 St., Manhattan. On Sunday at 2:30 p. m., the Trade Union Committee for Jewish Unity is cooperating with the American Jewish Conference and the American Zionist Emergency Council at a Lewisohn Stadium rally.

Maritime Union Hails Prestes on Release

The National Maritime Union yesterday cabled congratulations to Luiz Carlos Prestes, Brazil's Communist leader, on his release as a political prisoner.

PRESTES

"All believers in democracy throughout the world hail your release as a momentous development in the struggle against reaction," Ferdinand C. Smith, the union's national secretary, said. "Members of the NMU, who have at all times been identified in the struggle against fascism, see in this an encouraging sign for the extension of progressive democratic processes in Brazil and the Latin Americas. Salud!"

San Francisco Conference

Thousands Attend Peace Dedication

Washington Post 4-23-45 D.C.

Government and military officials, men and women from the uniformde ranks, school children, Federal workers and thousands of private citizens dedicated themselves to a lasting peace plan in memory of President Roosevelt yesterday at the Sylvan Theater.

The gathering on the sloping turf of the Monument Grounds was one of hundreds scheduled throughout the country this week in support of the United Nations Security Conference, opening in San Francisco on Wednesday.

Thousands joined in the pledge given by Marine Sergt. Maurice Pion, who lost an arm at Guadalcanal, to President Truman: "As one of the millions of American citizens who joined with Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the resolve to create an enduring peace, and because I believe it is through expressing ourselves that the millions like myself can make effective our high purpose, I do hereby pledge to the President and the Congress my wholehearted support of a world organization empowered to keep the peace."

Justice Douglas Speaks

Beforehand, they had heard from Senator Harold H. Burton, (R., Ohio), Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, the chief speaker, and Miss Cornelia Otis Skinner, the distinguished actress, who read the appeal with which Franklin Delano Roosevelt concluded the text of his undelivered Jefferson Day speech. 4-23-45

Justice Douglas, in his appeal for a lasting peace, declared that in a physical sense this war has not been hard on the ones who stayed at home. One of our bastions — Pearl Harbor — was bombed. The Japanese conquered the Philippines. "And its people who are our brothers and friends, as well as our allies," he continued, "know from cruel experience what enemy rule is like.

"Next time," he added, "we may all know what it is like. If the world is stupid and selfish and blind enought to let war come once again, it will not spare the United States. It will be our cities here at home that are turned into rubble, and our children who before they can talk learn to cringe at the sound of an airplane. And this great, rich, proud country—America—may even know what starvation means." 4-23-45

The Supreme Court Justice concluded: "A conference can draw up plans, and Prime Ministers and Presidents can sign treaties. What Franklin Roosevelt knew, what he fought for all the days of his life, was a peace that would be stronger than an empty treaty; a peace that would not be a scrap of paper, a peace made out of tough hearts and the aspiring souls and the devotion of men. His death has brought hame to us with dramatic emphasis the tremendous, united effort we must make today and tomorrow and throughout the years if victory in peace is really won."

Reads Roosevelt Plea

Miss Skinner, with a spray of gardenias pinned to the coat of her blue tailored suit, stepped up to the microphone and in a clear voice read excerpts from the late President's speech, which was to be broadcast the day following his untimely death. In it, Mr. Roosevelt said: . . . "Let me assure you that my hand is the steadier for the work that is to be done, that I move more firmly knowing that you, millions and millions of you, are joined with me in the resolve to make this work endure. The work, my friends, is peace. More than an end to this war, an end to the beginnings of all wars. Yes, an end forever, to this inhuman, mipractical brutal settlement of the differences between governments by the mass killing of peoples. 4-23-45

"Today, as we move against the terrible scourge of war, as we go onward towards the greatest contribution that any generation of human beings can make in this world—the contribution of lasting peace, I ask you to keep up your faith. And to you and all Americans who dedicate themselves with us to the making of an abiding peace I say 'the only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith'."

Burton Asks Unity

Senator Burton in his remarks, asserted that the best memorial to any one of the present generation will be the recognition of his part in establishing a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations. This was, he said, the prayer of President Truman in his message to our armed forces last week. "This has been the prayer of President Roosevelt for three years," he continued. "This was the prayer of President Lincoln eighty years ago. In such a memorial there is room for all who share in building it.

He concluded: "Let us join hands with Lincoln, with Roosevelt, with Truman and build the greatest of all memorials—the road to a just and lasting peace dedicated to the brotherhood of Man." 4-23-45

The Rev. Paul McNally, S. J., vice president of Georgetown University was chairman and introduced the sepakers. Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld of the Washington Hebrew Congregation gave the invocation and Dr. Frederick Reissig of the Washington Federation of Churches pronounced the benediction. Miss Dorothy Maynor, Negro concert singer, sang a traditional spiritual and The Battle Hymn of the Republic.

A color guard of Fort Myer ceremonial troops opened the proceedings, marching down the middle aisle and coming to parade rest behind the speakers. The Marine Band gave a preliminary concert 15 minutes before the ceremonies began and closed the session with the National Anthem.

Africans and San Francisco

Bantu World

Dr. A. B. Xuma, President-General of the African National Congress says: Many people have written me and others have asked me personally what part the African National Congress is taking to bring to the attention of Allied Nations and outside world the back-breaking and hope-destroying restrictions and disabilities of the Africans. Many are just now desperately catching at every straw that something must be done. There is a scramble for all sorts of makeshift activities for celebrating V day. It has just dawned upon them that the order to cease fire in Europe has been given.

6-19-45

The African National Congress, your leaders, who believe in method and planning instead of patchwork grabbing at every straw have long anticipated all these events. They have not been caught napping. As far back as December 1943 they prepared and submitted a document, **"The African Claims"** which was adopted at the national conference.

This document was delivered to the Prime Minister, General Smuts whom we know to be the Constitutional leader of the South African delegation to any Peace Conference as things are at present. It was made clear to him in a covering letter that these were the claims of the African people and that they were an essential and honest basis for any just and permanent peace.

These "African Claims" deal with Land, Labour, Education, Political Status and other problems of the status of the African.

In order to know the truth and be intelligent about the Congress demands on behalf of our people, order the booklet **"African Claims"** 1s. 3d. post free.

Some dishonest and unthinking people may endeavour to mislead you that this document was drawn up by your leaders without the masses. Tell them in every part of the world the leaders and representatives of the people, not the mob, think and plan for them. General Smuts alone will commit the whole of South Africa, Black and White, in San Francisco. Dr. Soong will speak for the 400 millions Chinese, Mr. Anthony Eden for Great Britain and the Empire, Mr. Edward Stettinius for 130 millions in America while Mr. Molotov stands for nearly 200 million Russians.

Johannesburg S. Africa

Consequently in ordered world and interracial affairs Africans must depend and place their full confidence upon their true leaders to champion their cause and protect their interests. In order to further allay your anxiety I wish to state that besides handing over the African Claims to the Prime Minister we have sent that document and another entitled **"San Francisco and the Africans"** which appeared in the **Democrat** 5th May, 1945 to our overseas connections, England, America and other countries. Still further, we want you to realise that the San Francisco Conference is not the last word. It is one of the necessary and important steps toward the final Peace Conference. In other words, there is still opportunity to continue pressing your claims for full freedom as human beings.

Demonstrations on Victory Day may be merely a stage in this fight for freedom. The struggle must be continued, intensified until the peace is won including full and human benefits for the African soldiers, ex-soldiers and their families.

The battle for the full freedom for the winning of the peace calls for every African man, woman and child to join the ranks of the African National Congress and take part in this noble cause.

San Francisco Conference

World Watches U.S. Handling Of Negro As Key To Future

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

5-5-45

When Peace Comes...What?

By ROBERT REDFIELD

ROBERT REDFIELD is a professor of social sciences at the University of Chicago and author of a number of books.

Robert E. Park used to say that the American Negro became successively a population, a folk, and a race.

Imported from Africa with native traditions interrupted, the Negro arrived here as so many human beings, as so many laborers. Without common language or customs, these men and women were at first a mere population. 5-5-

Thereupon, in the relative isolation of the plantations but with the raw materials of living provided by white men and with whatever vestiges of African life remained, the Negro developed the only important American folk life.

Later, as education and sophistication gave him awareness of his position and the will to change it, he became conscious of the cause for which he would, and must, struggle. And so he became a race, not in the anthropological sense, but in the sociological sense of an ethnic group conscious of its distinct nature and common interests.

This remark was probably first made by Park more than a score of years ago. When he first made it, the problem of the American Negro was thought of as a problem of the United States. It was recognized as the outstanding social problem of this country.

The important change that has occurred since that time is the conversion of this local and national problem into an international, a world-wide problem. 5-5-45

So perhaps now it may be said that the American Negro has undergone yet another change. Perhaps it may now be said that the Negro has become an international responsibility. He is a responsibility to all men of all racial origins who want a peaceful and a just world. And he is a new responsibility to himself. For his conduct, and the solutions reached as to his problem, now stand, as a symbol, for all men who are denied justice and equality, in all parts of the world.

We might also say that whereas a generation ago the Negro has become, in the sense explained, a race, he will be, after this war, the race. He will be, at least, the most critical and symbolically significant case of a people denied full participation in human civil and political rights because of race.

Two Plans of Living

In this world, two plans of human living contend, as never before, for supremacy. One plan denies human rights, adopts expediency as its rule, and makes the individual a mere means to the strength of the state or an imagined dominant "race." The other plan extols human rights, adopts moral principle as its rule, and places the human individual above state or imagined "race."

The end of the war will not see the end of the struggle between these two ways of living. It will rather bring about a re-definition of the struggle between them.

During the war the totalitarian states fight for the first plan, and the United Nations, on the whole, represent the other plan. But everybody knows that within the United Nations there is internal struggle between these two plans of living. The end of the war will remove the immediate and obvious adversary of the democratic and liberal way of life.

As another result, it will make plain to view the internal struggle. The struggle between the two plans for living will be seen for what, more lastingly, it is: a struggle that goes on within every nation, every community, every heart. It will be seen to be both local and international, both personal and global.

Symbol of Conflict

The American Negro will lie across the battleground between these two plans for human living. No other group anywhere in the world presents so sharp a conflict between the ideal of democracy, the proposition that all men are created equal, and the great qualifying fact of injustice and prejudice. 5-5-45

This country, great in power and paramount in democratic leadership, is the same country that cannot solve the problems of its own persisting racially directed injustices.

The American Negro will receive the anxious gaze of struggling minorities in every land, and the American white man will have upon his conscience a wrong that works against not only himself but against his fellow men who stand, in other communities, for the democratic and liberal way of life. As Paul Robeson said, the cause of the American Negro has become part of the struggle against fascism.

Interests Clash

It will not be seen to be so by most men, white or Negro. As the white man will seek to preserve social arrangements which are easy and comfortable and convenient to him, so the Negro will seek to change them, not in the interests of all men, white and Negro, but in order to get some immediate advantage for himself.

The Negro too will see the short-run interests, will cry out with the immediate pain. He will follow the political leader who promises him a better job even if the leader be corrupt. He will see the white returned soldier take the job which he, the Negro, held during the war, and he will nurse his natural anger or vent it in mere expressions of bitterness.

So, too, the white man will seek to restore the Negro to the positions of social and economic subordination which he occupied in the local communities before the war. "The laws of biology will reassert themselves after the war," writes a southern editor.

The conflict will be felt, on the whole, as many local struggles, as so many little unconnected attempts of a subjected minority to wrest an increment of material security from a dominating group. It will be in part blind, in part clouded with fear or resentment. In part it will go on as it has always gone on.

And yet, in ever increasing part, it will be understood by those of both races who are thoughtful, and who read and reflect, that this is no longer a matter of who gets what somebody else has and hasn't enough of himself. It will be more and more seen to be a conflict, not between white and Negro, but between free and slave, between men of good will, of all races, and men of power, of all races. 5-5-45

It will be recognized as a part of the great effort toward a decision as to whether the world will be ruled by expediency or by principles of justice, by what serves me, or by what serves all men. Insofar as Americans, Negroes and whites, see the problem of the American Negro in these terms, we shall go forward toward the right.

NAACP Sets Equality As Parley Goal

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-28-45

NEW YORK—A world Bill of Rights "which will include unequivocal affirmation of equality of all peoples and races" will be a primary goal of Walter White and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the World Security Conference in San Francisco.

In a statement issued before boarding a special train in New York, Mr. White said:

HOPES U. S. WILL NOT SUPPORT EMPIRES

"It is our hope as consultants to the American delegation, to induce the San Francisco conference to face what is one of the most serious problems of the twentieth century—the question of race and color. We are particularly concerned with what is done about colonial empires and the well-being of colonial peoples around the world. Most of these colonial peoples are colored. What happens to even the most exploited of these has direct bearing upon the future of Negroes in the United States.

"It is to be hoped that the United States is not going into the conference with any willingness to perpetuate colonial empires.

"Equally important is the adoption by the conference of a world bill of rights which will include unequivocal affirmation of the equality of all peoples and races."

Color Line Absent At Frisco, DuBois Finds

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

By W. E. B. DuBOIS

(Official Consultant, American Delegation to United Nations Conference)

SAN FRANCISCO — I attended the opening plenary session of the United Nations Conference on International Organization. We sat in a great opera house, built as a memorial to the soldiers who, as the Mayor of San Francisco said, "died in vain" in the first world war. 5-5-45

Before us rose four golden columns against a cerulian blue background with three festoons drooping between, and the massed brilliance of the flags of 46 nations.

Down below as the blue-green podium, with green garlands, and above and at the sides leered the golden masks of tragedy and comedy. On the mezzanine floor was massed the press with its machines, eyes and ears of the world, snapping and grinding. Its engineers ran crouching to and fro, up and down the aisles. In the seats under blazing lights were all types of mankind, all languages and shades of co[illegible] Arabia and China, India and Africa were conspicuous, Latin-America and all Europe and America.

Franklin Roo[illegible] was curiously absent. God lacks a sense of drama, otherwise he would have let the dead President make here his last speech and appearance. There, too, was an absence of music. A military band screeched intermittently, but no one listened. It may have been playing national anthems, but I could not hear. A great music of organs and trumpets ought to have sounded, but there was severe simplicity, perhaps even a little over done. Only one fine note, and that was the minute of silent meditation. 5-5-45

The ceremonies were rather conspicuously American, English; no other tongue was heard, no allusion to their cultures. There came in first 17 young folk in military dress: soldiers, sailors, WACs, WAVES and SPARS. 5-5-45

I was sorry there was no colored face among them. It would have been a world-wide gesture of significance, if [illegible] some one had thought of that, but there were a number of things here unthought of. Four men sat on the platform, and a voice. The young white-haired Edward Stettinius presided.

Where Are Colonies?

The President of the United States spoke from Washington in flat mid-western voice; clear, not altogether logical in sequence, but pressing on the whole what needed to be stressed. We represent the overwhelming majority of mankind — do we? Where are the colonies? The Governor of California, that astute politician, made a conventional speech, the best speech of the day in thought and diction was that of the Mayor of San Francisco.

Then Stettinius welcomed the United conference, and said two words: "Always the West has meant Future." "We meet on the ocean named Peace."

Naturally I looked for color. It was there, and one the whole conspicuous. To my consternation I came near being photographed with the Indian delegation. Three hand-picked stooges of Great Britain: but I escaped.

World Security Conference Sidelights

AFRO AMERICAN
Balt., Md.

By RALPH MATTHEWS

5-19-45

SAN FRANCISCO — There are six times as many newspaper reporters, radio commentators and observers at the World Security Conference as there are delegates.

Not only is it difficult for the diplomats to arrive at any secret agreements, but they find it difficult to eat or take a bath without somebody snooping around.

Most of the delegates and many of the reporters as well have at least two rooms — one in which they sleep and one maintained as an office. 5-19-45

The number of the office phone is on file at conference headquarters, while that of the one in the bedroom is kept secret or given only to a few private friends.

Haitians Elusive

The most elusive delegates in Frisco are the Haitians. It is even difficult to obtain their public speeches because they speak French, one of the diplomatic languages of the conference, and their remarks are not translated unless requested by the speaker. The Haitians seldom make this request.

San Francisco weather is capricious. Although the calendar says May, weather runs the gamut from June to November, all in one day. 5-19-45

Women Bus Drivers

Riding the cable cars here is like being on a scenic railway. Strangers ride up and down the mountainsides with their hearts in their mouths.

But more exciting than a cable car ride is a ride on a bus operated mostly by girls. The person who called women the weaker sex never saw a San Francisco bus driver.

The most secretive person at the conference is the Courier's P. L. Pratttis, while the busiest man here is Edgar G. Brown, president of the National Negro Council, who has already staged several mass meetings.

Leaders Embarrassed

At one of these meetings held at the University High School in Berkeley, Sunday, Edgar invited all the visiting dignitaries who graced the platform.

Withtout telling them his purpose, he opened a verbal tirade on Walter White and all other leadrs of the race who, Edgar declared, were selling the people out.

According to Edgar's speech everybody but himself was a crook, a traitor and a charlatan. He was the only one the common man could trust.

As they were all new faces to the people of San Francisco, the leaders on the platform looked pretty sheepish when Edgar finally got around to introducing them. 5-19-45

Later, Edgar cleared the air by explaining that those on the platform were O.K. and that they had banded together to throw out all the rascals.

The Free India delegation has elaborate headquarters two blocks away from the seat of the conference. I have been there two or three times a day for five days and always found it locked.. . . .

Elk Delegation

The "Free-the-Elks" delegation is housed in the Scaggs Hotel and includes Grand Exalted Ruler J. Finley Wilson, Grand Legal Advisor Perry W. Howard, Grand Treasurer Kelly, Grand Commissioner town joined with the Elks at the of Civil Liberties Hobson Reynolds.

All of the other organizations in Third Baptist Church and called themselves the Federated Organization for Civil Rights of Colored Peoples of the World.

The name had been changed three times in three days, and the group was about to adopt the name, "The League of Races," when the members discovered they only had one race present.

I have been here one week and can count all the colored people I have seen on two hands, and most of them are from the East.

Exalted Ruler Leaves

In his address to the conference, J. Finley Wilson said:

"We are here to stay as long as the conference lasts, as long as there is one delegate left to hear our plea. We would feel that we were disloyal to our trust, had broken faith with the millions of our race who look to us for results, if we went home without accomplishing our purpose. I am in this fight to the bitter end."

The day after V-E Day some of the Elk leaders on the East Coast called Finley long distance and told him the curfew law was lifted, racing had been restored and it appeared that they might be able to have their convention.

Finley left on the first train out. 5-19-45

Mysterious Ladies

The two stylishly dressed and mysterious ladies seen at most of the major press conferences are Mrs. Crystal Bird Fausett of Philadelphia and Mrs. Yarnall Jacobs millionaire patron of the Philadelphia Symphony, who are joint advisors to the Inter-Cultural Committee of the United Nations Council. 5-19-45

They have some very beady schemes about making the peoples of the world love each other better through music and culture, an dthey hope to make the City of Brotherly Love the permanent seat of the conference.

If they could bring together the heads of all the great powers and let them listen to a good symphony concert, there just couldn't possibly be any more wars. (This last is my own deduction.)

Anti-Prejudice Society

The busy gentleman seen around the conference who might be mistaken for a race track fixer is the Rev. C. Townsend Tucker of Los Angeles, president, founder and chief member of the Anti-Prejudice Society.

The Rev. Mr. Tucker, who operates an exclusive club for bachelors, sells real estate and preaches on occasion, called the press together for an important handout. It was a prayer for the success of the conference.

This Is San Francisco

Although there are more Chinese in Frisco than in all of the Eastern cities combined, one seldem, if ever, sees a Chinese laundry. 5-19-45

I did find one, but there was a sign on the counter reading "Sorry, we take no laundry today. Got all we can do."

Don't be surprised if all the colored war workers pack up and go home as fast as possible after the war. Most of them are worse off here than when they drew low wages in the South.

Being colored costs plenty. Rents are exorbitant and food is out of reach in colored sections. A haircut costs a dollar and a shoe shine 25 cents plus an ugly look if you don't tip.

One honky-tonk in which the average Easterner wouldn't enter socks you 75 cents to sit at a table and a buck for a drink, and one must drink often and fast or clear out.

Intruder

Steve Wright, Washington photographer, who supervises the State Department picture output with a crew of cameramen and technicians under him, was not permitted to shoot any pictures of the Haitian, Liberian or Ethiopian delegations. White photographers were assigned because the State Department feared that if a colored photographer was assigned to these delegations they would think they were being segregated or discriminated against.

Steve was aroused from his sleep in the Chancellor Hotel the other night when a strange man crawled into his room off the fire escape. 5-19-45

The intruder, very much inebriated, had gotten out on the fire escape while attending a party in one of the rooms and crawled into Steve's room by mistake. After being guided to his proper destination, he insisted that Steve get dressed and join the party.

Gandhi Urges Justice For Colored Peoples

DEFENDER — Chicago, Ill
4-28-45

Indian Leader Lashes Imperialist Rule Over Colonies

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON. — Mahatma Gandhi, venerable spokesman for India's teeming millions, this week demanded freedom, justice and equality for colored races the world over in a statement addressed to delegates to the United Nations' San Francisco conference.

"India must have complete freedom from foreign control," declared the leader of 400 millions of the world's colored peoples. "Germany and Japan must not be humiliated and the fruits of peace must be equally shared," he warned.

"I reiterate my conviction," asserted Gandhi, "there will be no peace for the Allies or the world unless they shed belief in the efficacy of war and its accompanying terrible deceptions and fraud, and are determined to hammer out a real peace based on universal freedom and equality of colored races and nations." 4-28-45

Free India "Indispensible"

Voicing the aspirations of the darker races, Gandhi declared:

"Imperialistic exploitation and domination by Europeans and Americans over Asia and Africa can have no place in a postwar world striving for lasting peace."

Complete freedom for India is an indespensible preliminary to peace, Gandhi emphasized. Immediate freedom for India, he stated, would "demonstrate to the Africans and other colored races that their freedom is approaching."

Denouncing the Indian delegates to San Francisco, handpicked by Britain, Gandhi said, "This camouflage of Indian representation through Indians nominated by British imperialism should be dropped." 4-28-45

Such stooge representation by Indian nationalists, Gandhi charged, was "worse than no representation at all." "India should either be represented by elected representatives enjoying the confidence of the masses or be unrepresented," he added.

SAN FRANCISCO PREVIEW

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

Race Problem To Confront United Nations Parley

(First article of a series discussing major problems of the World Security Conference opening in San Francisco this month. Clip and use as background material.) 4-14-45

By
JOHN ROBERT BADGER
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO — Negro Americans, together with the rest of humanity, are centering their attention in coming weeks on San Francisco, where the representatives of some forty odd nations will combine their intelligence in the effort to organize the peace of the world for generations to come.

It is a grandiose project, inspired by the noblest of aims and the most elementary of needs. For a world without war, in which men can give their energies to the mastery of nature and the peaceful "pursuit of life, liberty and happiness," is the immemorial dream of all mankind.

Yet, within the memory of millions now living is the failure of other conferences with similar aims. Plain, simple men of every land and clime know the dream of peace has proved but a dream. Especially Negro Americans and other people victimized by forms of political oppression, with their conditioned mistrust of idealistic formulas, ask to know the premises for the undertaking at San Francisco. Specifically—

1. **Is there any more substantial basis for assurance today that an enduring peace is possible than existed previously? Can there be a stable peace in the world of tomorrow?**

2. **What kind of world organization is required to keep the peace? And is the world ready today to establish such an organization?** 4-14-45

3. **What about the interests of racial and national minorities and of the colonial peoples? In addition to the simple machinery of peace organization, will the representatives of the United Nations deal with such problems as these, which are related to the causes of war and may, if not resolved, lead to World War III?**

Presumably, when the United Nations representatives begin deliberations in San Francisco on the twenty-fifth of this month, they will start work with the conviction that world security can be organized. Any other belief would be self-defeatist. And if it is assumed that the representatives are men and women of intelligence, it must also be assumed that they are aware of the present movement and direction of objective world realities.

Key to this is the process of destroying fascism, the major threat to world security.

Indeed, the daily newspapers disclose how rapid is proceeding one phase of this prospect, namely, the physical destruction of the striking forces of the Axis. By the time, or soon after, the security conference begins, Germany may be out of the war and the decision against Japan well on the way.

Another phase of the process, that of enforcing peace on the defeated Axis countries and preventing their future aggression, has already been charted at the Moscow, Cairo and Crimea conferences, and the chart is being adhered to in parts of the Axis countries now occupied by United Nations' forces. 4-14-45

A third phase of the process, that of eliminating Fascist survivals and forces in the liberated countries and stifling the Fascist regimes of such Axis-satellites as Spain, Portugal and the Argentine, is also in motion, though admittedly—as was shown in Greece, Belgium and in the case of Spain—at a much slower rate of development and with more reversals and zigzags than other phases. Nevertheless, despite defeats, retreats, compromises and interruptions, the eradication of the main threat to world security is already far advanced, and spots of its infection elsewhere are already being quarantined.

All important is the process of peaceful collaboration among the majority of the world's nations.

At the heart of this process is the peaceful collaboration of the "Big Five"—the world's five mightiest powers, Great Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union, China and France. This is the development which determines and conditions all other aspects of the process, and which distinguishes the favorable world "environment" of the San Francisco undertaking from that of any preceding attempt to organize peace. It is a new and potent development, growing out of the wartime need of mutual survival, and accelerated by the emerging postwar needs of political democracy and economic security.

Another potent aspect of this whole process is the growing unity of the labor movements of the United Nations. In this is to be seen a substantiation of the statement of the governments of Britain, the U. S., and the U.S.S.R., at Teheran, that the policies of collaboration formulated there and subsequently are not merely agreements between the officials of states, but reflect and express the desires and needs of the peoples of the United Nations themselves. It is obvious that a global "PAC" (political action committee) can be an effective instrument in enforcing the peace.

The forms of peaceful collaboration are already charted, as, for instance, the Crimea conference blueprint for the occupation and control of enemy territory, the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, the Bretton Woods proposals for an international bank and stabilization fund, the combined Shipping Adjustment Board, the food and agriculture organization of the United Nations, the old International Labor Organization of the League of Nations and the new World Labor Congress to meet in Paris in August, and numerous other agencies which are already concerning themselves with postwar economic collaboration and in some instances have begun piecemeal operations.

These are the conditions which form the gigantic world setting for the drama that will unfold at San Francisco. In all history, there have been more durable foundations upon which to build a peace organization. They are real world forces, partly engendered by the collective intelligence and effort of men. Can the architects of tomorrow's future design a security organization as sound as the foundations warrant? 4-14-45

Plan of Organization

From the foregoing it should be clear that the architects will not start "from scratch." Both the general and specific outlines of their blueprint have already been prepared. Indeed, if we understand by "general outlines" those broad principles of policy formulated at Teheran, Cairo, and Yalta, then the representatives to the San Francisco conference have a limited and special function.

They are not delegated to reverse or even alter those essential agreements upon which they very prospect of postwar peace is based. They are not delegated, as Senator Arthur Vandenberg and certain other isolationist spokesmen in America would wish, even to review the decisions of the Teheran, Cairo and Crimean conferences. They have a more concrete, less critical task, namely, to work out the form and functions of an organization which will implement the spirit and letter of the Teheran, Cairo and Crimean agreements.

On this task also, the preliminary work has been done. At Dumbarton Oaks, Va., last summer representatives of the "Big Three" worked out an initial plan for the world security organization. The skeleton has thus been completed and the delegates to the San Francisco meeting have but to mount it with flesh.

New Vitality

In appearance, this skeletal organization resembles the form of the League of Nations. But it is necessary to remember that here the resemblance ends: the content is altogether different. It is the new content which, even beginning in old forms, will give these forms a new function and new vitality that may be expected to change them. 4-14-45

Thus, the Dumbarton Oaks principles provide for the establishment of an assembly, comprising a representative of each member nation; a council, comprised of the Big Five as permanent members and six others chosen by the assembly on a rotating basis; a world court, for the settlement of justifiable disputes; a secretariat, the administrative arm of the assembly; and an economic and social council for coordinating the various social and economic agencies now effective within the United Nations' program. Attached to the assembly will also be various committees; while the executive arm of the council is to be a military staff, comprising the chiefs of staff of the permanent members of the council with their military and technical advisers.

Beneath this facade of the new "league's" structure lie the new characteristics and its essential differences from the old League of Nations. The difference of content, for instance, includes the new and distinctive character of the composition of the organization. The Britain of today is not the same Britain of David Lloyd George and Versailles. The world environment, as already indicated, is not the same. And in addition, within the organization blueprint itself are essential differences. 4-14-45

Use of Force

The restraining, coercive power of the League of Nations was limited to reliance on "world public opinion" and the threat of economic sanctions. But because of the disunity among the old League's members, even these mild measures were never fully mobilized and applied. According to the Dumbarton Oaks charter, the security council of the new world organization will have the power to employ military force against an aggressor, and to employ it instantly and in adequate quantity and kind to destroy the threat of aggression.

Also, the functions of the economic and social agencies of the old League corresponded to the tasks which the dominating powers of the old League considered to be the major problems of the period. Needless to say, the major problem of that time was regarded as the maintenance of the status quo of Versailles. Hence, the functions of these agencies were extremely limited, and in many cases genuinely reactionary.

The function of the old Mandates Commission, for instance, is a case in point. But the problems of the postwar world will set new tasks for the economic and social agencies of the new world organization. The new agencies will be required to exercise extreme flexibility on the basis of broad, progressive policies.

These, then, are the main characteristics of the new world organization as outlined at Dumbarton Oaks. I have purposely omitted discussion of such questions as the voting principle, about which so many parliamentary "prima donnas" have sounded discordant and confusing views. Such "criticism" is not germane to an understanding of the skeletal outline of the new organization; on the contrary, it largely stems from a fundamental disagreement with the policies of collaboration which underlie the whole perspective of postwar security. 4-14-45

Voting Issue

Briefly explained by U. S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius, the question of voting by the security council is as follows: Since the permanent members of the council (the Big Five) bear the principal responsibility for action to enforce the peace, concurrence of all the permanent members will be required before such action can be taken. Each members of the council has one vote. Decisions by the council on procedural matters require only an affirmative vote of any majority, that is, of any seven members. But all other decisions require that the five permanent members be among the affirmative seven.

Upon such general foundations, the delegates at San Francisco will erect a superstructure which, it is hoped, will be able to deal with the many nuances and shadings of matters affecting the peace, as well as with the plain problems of aggression. That is to say, a principal task of the new world organization will be to act as a preventative of war as much as to deal with threats of war once these have arisen. This is in keeping with the lessons learned from the failure of the old League, in keeping with the new realistic approach to problems of international relations which are dictated by the necessities of the future. 4-14-45

Racial, Colonial Questions

War-preventative measures, therefore, require of the delegates a consideration of problems relating to racial, minority and colonial questions. And there are already many signs that these questions will be raised at San Francisco. The need for a new agency to undertake functions relating to the development of colonial countries is plainly indicated in the Dumbarton Oaks charter. (This question is the subject of the next article in this series.) In addition, the issue of racial equality has already been broached.

Last month in London, Sir Zaffrullah Khan, leader of the Indian delegation to the British Common-

wealth Conference, declared that the "racial problem" had been "clearly, emphatically, and vigorously" put to the conference. Earlier, in October of 1944, the Chinese delegate at the Dumbarton Oaks meeting asked that the principle of race equality be formally included in postwar international agreements. It seems fairly definite that the Chinese will present their request again at San Francisco.

It should be recalled, and the lesson is no doubt remembered, that militarism and fascism in Japan found a ready instrument for their aims in the fact that twenty-five years ago, at the conclusion of World War I, the United States and Britain rejected Japan's plea for inclusion of the racial equality principle in the League of Nations Covenant.

Moreover, the statements of policy of the major United Nations have inspired subject peoples of the non-Caucasian world to demand an end to discrimination and exploitation based on race and color. The Atlantic Charter proclaimed "the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live." And this principle was reaffirmed in the Teheran, Cairo and Moscow agreements. Then, too, three of the members of the "Big Five" stand committed to policies which negate racial exclusiveness.

Soviet Policy

The policy of the Soviet Union is well known in this regard. Recently, this policy has been reaffirmed emphatically. Premier Stalin on November 6, 1942, declared that the abolition of racial discrimination was one of the USSR's basic peace aims. And official Soviet publications, in the past six months, have declared in numerous articles that the permanent crushing of fascism is possible only by the general acceptance of the principle of racial equality. The Soviet Embassy bulletin, issued in Washington, said last November that "when any country gives shelter to the Hitlerites or their ideas in the form of discriminatory legislation, in the form of racist organizations or a racist press, it is no longer an internal affair of that country." 4-14-45

France's colonial minister, Rene Pleven, has declared that his government expects to begin a "colonial New Deal" in French overseas territories, which will include the grant of full French citizenship to all colonials. Pleven also added that French policy is adamant against any importation of racial prejudice.

The new China, as already indicated, cannot tolerate the affront of continued racial discrimination to its status of a fully sovereign, potentially great power.

Added to these three powers and their influence at San Francisco will be the voice of many smaller nations, such as the Latin American countries, Liberia, Ethiopia, Syria, the Lebanon, Egypt and the Philippines.

This is not to say that the principle of racial equality will be easily incorporated in the new charter of the peace. On the contrary, its introduction is certain to meet vigorous opposition, both direct and screened behind "reservations" and distinctions. But it is reasonable to believe that the collective intelligence of mankind, as represented by the delegates to San Francisco, will see in the subjection of two-thirds of the world's people by so-called white nations a potent threat to the prospect of international security. Consequently, the principle of racial equality and the principle of international responsibility for colonial peoples may be expected to have staunch champions at the security conference.

DELEGATES TO WORK FIVE DAYS A WEEK

N.Y. Times

Conference Hours Will Be From 9 A. M. to 5:30 P. M.—Night Sessions May Be Called

4-20-45

SAN FRANCISCO, April 19 (U.P.)—Delegates to the United Nations Conference on International Organization opening here Wednesday will work "a good long day" five days a week, and nights when necessary, the working program showed ttoday.

Delegates, State Department officials and reporters were gathering here in ever-increasing numbers. A large number of Latin Americans are expected tomorrow. The influx will reach its peak Monday and Tuesday when five special trains will arrive with delegates and newspapermen.

General structure of the conference was outlined by John C. Ross, secretary general. The Dumbarton Oaks proposals will form the conference agenda. The working plan, approved by the sponsoring group, is subject to approval by the conference. 4-20-45

A steering committee composed of all delegation heads will be the conference's principal group. An executive committee of a smaller number of delegation heads will assist the presiding officer.

Delegates will work from 9 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Night session will be held when necessary to speed up handling of proposals.

The conference will be opened to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. A total of 15,000 persons will be accommodated during an estimated ten plenary sessions in the Opera House. There will be 10,000 public admittances to business meetings in the Veteras Building.

Arrivals today included a South African group headed by H. T. Andrews, for three years head of the South African supply mission in Washington, and H. N. Erenel of the Turkish Foreign Office.

The National Negro Council today proposed a group of recommendations for incorporation in the league charter. The council asked for representation of the 13,000,00 Negroes in this country in the American delegation in the permanent assembly.

The Council's program asks for a moral code to renounce war, provides for honor and justice as the basis of relations between nations, peoples an draces and urges the outlawing of the color bar.

A "bill of rights" asks protection for minorities and underprivileged people, prohibtions against involuntary servitude, safeguards from execution or imprisonment without fair trial, and inviolability of freedom of the press and religion.

Negro Nations List Delegates For Peace Meet

Atlanta World 4-12-45

Representatives Take Part In Preliminaries

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Delegations which shall represent Ethiopia and the republics of Liberia and Haiti at the San Francisco conference have been listed formally with the state department, it is announced. Already they are participating in preliminary talks.

At the same time, the department has asked that members of the American delegation begin meeting regularly until the conference opens in order that they may become thoroughly familiar with the position this government will take on the various matters to come up. These sessions began on Monday.

Sen. Arthur Vandenberg (R) of Michigan has been suggested as the chief American delegate on the assembly commission for the proposed united nations organizations. It is under the assembly that the suggested economic and security council, dealing as it will with humanitarian and social problems, will fall.

NAGGIAR COMING

From Paris it is learned that the French cabinet has named Paul Emilo Naggiar, a delegate to the Golden Gate conference to represent his government in pre-San Francisco talks on international trusteeships.) 4-12-45

The week-end announcement by the state department said that Ethiopia, Liberia and Haiti had indicated their intention to be represented at the meeting of the committee of jurists which opened Monday.

Prime Minister Bitwedded Makennen Endalkacheeu will head the Ethiopian delegation which will include Atk Akilou Hapte Weld, vice minister for foreign affairs; Ate A'bai Weld-Marian, vice minister of justice; Blatta Ephrem Tewelde Medhen, minister to the United States; Ate Emanuel Abraham, director general of education; Ate Getahoun Tesemma, first secretary, Ethiopian legation, Washington; Ate Menasse Lema, director general ministry of finance; Adviser; John Spencer, adviser to ministry for foreign affairs; Secretary; Ate Petres Sahlu, employe, ministry for foreign affairs. 4-12-45

LESCOT FOR HAITI

The Haitian delegation will include the following: Gerard Lescot, minister for foreign affairs; Voly Thebaud, minister for the interior; Gen. Nemours, president of the senate; Andre Liataud, ambassador in Washington; assistant delegates; Pierre Chauvet, under secretary of state for commerce; Major Antoino Levelt, director of the military school; Antoino Bervin, Haitian charge d'affaires at Havana; technical advisors; Louis Moravia; Joseph Nadal; secretary, Louis Gardere.

Vice President C. L. Simpson will be chairman of the Liberian delegation. Other members include secretary of state Gabriel Dennis, adviser; J. L. Gibson, chairman, senate foreign relations committee; R. A. Henries, chairman of house foreign committee; Coleman Moses Grant, officer commanding frontier force military aide; Nathan Barnes secretary of commission; and George Padmore, secretary to the adviser.

Negroes Ask End of Colonial System

N.Y.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.—Pressing for democratic administration of the colonies, mandated territories, and possessions of the world a seven-point program was presented to the United Nations Conference by William L. Sherrill of Detroit, official observer at the Conference for the Universal Negro Improvement Association. P.M.

Highlighting the document, which bore the signatures of all high ranking officials of the international Negro group, was Point No. 6, calling for complete reorganization of the world colonial system, which stated: P.M.

"We submit that the colonial system, as has been known up to the present time, be completely set aside and the concept of colonialism as a means of exploitation of other peoples and their land on the pretext of political protection and taking their so-called backwardness as an excuse for their domination, be supplanted by a system which establishes a relationship of guardian and ward, with the more powerful nation as a trustee and the future of the subordinate nation as its trust. 5-1-45

"To this end, we submit that for every ounce or pound of produce extracted from the land or any services rendered by the people, these people in return should be paid equitably in terms of education, cultural advancement and preparation for free and independent life."

Other cited facts and recommendations in the memorial were:

¶ That human rights must be the order of the day at the peace conference, that these rights should form the basis of any social, political or economic determinations made by the conference and that any action contrary to these rights will only form the basis for future wars.

¶ That all nations of the world should be entitled to representation and participation in the conference with equal rights and equal voting power for all nations regardless of size or international status.

¶ That the markets of raw materials of the world be made available to all nations that have to depend on those raw materials for their existence and that free and easy access, without competition, strain or disadvantage, be given to all nations in order that all may live and that one of the main causes of war be removed. 5-1-45

560-1945

San Fransisco Conference

Smaller Nations Demand

RACE PLANK AT 'FRISCO

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By P. L. PRATTIS and DR. RAYFORD W. LOGAN

SAN FRANCISCO—Regardless of the final contents of the charter to be drawn up at this United Nations Conference for International Organization, it must be recognized that, at this point, the insistently intoned plea and demand of all of the smaller nations whose representatives have spoken are for full and complete racial, political and human equality.

It is recognized that the spirit and the contents of the final charter of the new world organization will largely be determined behind closed doors by representatives of the so-called great powers—the United States, Russia, Great Britain, China, possibly France.

OPPOSED EQUALITY CLAUSE IN 1919

At Paris, in 1919, the Japanese delegate, Baron Makino, asked for the recognition of the principle of racial equality. He was turned down by a combination of Great Britain, the British Dominions and the United States. These same states will wield great influence in the present conference.

But if the plea for equality is rejected here, it will have to be done in the face of an equally potent combination of nations, large and small, which seek its recognition.

Among the large powers expected to support the principle of equality are the Union of Soviet Republics, China and France.

STETTINIUS MAY SUPPORT CLAUSE 5-5-45

But even the chairman of the United States delegation, Secretary of State Stettinius, in one of his early public statements at the conference, played on the note of establishing a new world order without regard to race, color or creed.

So far as the British Dominions are concerned, a dent in their solid front was perceived in the recommendations made on behalf of the Australian delegation by Francis M. Forde, deputy prime minister. Mr. Forde stated at the second plenary session of the conference: "We believe that the principle of trusteeship, which in modern times, powers have frequently recognized in relation to their colonial possessions by positive unilateral declarations, can not in principle be confined to undeveloped territories formerly belonging to our enemies in World War I or World War II.

TERRITORIES FOR NATIVES' BENEFIT

"We, therefore, wish to see provision in the charter for the continuance of the mandate system; the establishment of new mandates; the recognition of the principle that the purpose of the administration of dependent territories is the welfare and advancement of the peoples of such territories.

"It is generally agreed that the position taken by the Australian delegation is sound if it is backed up by provisions for inspection and report by the international authority supervising the mandates, and by the right of oral appeal for the peoples of such dependent areas to the international authority."

However, the first sustained note for equality was struck, ironically enough, by the British-picked leader of the Indian delegation, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, who, with T. V. Soong of China in the chair, lifted the conference to the highest moral level it had attained.

IMPASSIONED PLEA FOR EQUALITY

The swarthy Indian, the target of attack from Indian Nationalists because he has been favored by the British, was the first head of a delegation to choose to speak without manuscript. With an eloquence which charmed because of its grace and fluency, he clearly and incisively defined what the world had a right to expect from the new organization to be set up here. After treating the physical and technical aspects of the organization, he moved to a discussion of the moral aspects, the relations of nations, races, colors, of human beings. 5-5-45

The audience sat spellbound as he uttered an almost prayerful plea that, in order to avert another war, the sanctity of the human personality, however clothed, be respected by the nations of the world.

When Sir Ramaswami concluded the audience rose and cheered in tribute.

PHILIPPINES BACK EQUALITY PLEA

The same ethical note was struck at the afternoon session by the head of the Philippines delegation, Brigadier General Carlos Romulo. He again made a fervent plea for equality although he lacked the depth and breadth of the Indian's speech.

Romulo was followed by Jose Serrato, chairman of the delegation from Uruguay, who urged the "repudiation of doctrines of racial prejudice and discrimination."

It is significant that the speakers who have not mentioned race or color, have emphasized the responsibility of the conference to do what it can to lift the economic and social status of all people everywhere. In his opening speech of the conference, President Truman asserted:

"We must work and live to guarantee justice for all."

Haiti, Ethiopia and Liberia have not spoken yet. Nevertheless, those men who have spoken have let the major powers know that the small nations and peoples of the world are demanding their place in the sun. The removal of the boot and the heel from their necks and their recognition as human beings.

Mrs. Bethune, Walter White Feuding

Unofficial Observers Plead For Equality

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

5-5-45

SAN FRANCISCO—Negro groups rushing to this city to make their voices heard at the United Nations Conference were fusing into one grand organization last Friday morning, at a meeting held in the Third Baptist Church. Spearheaded by a delegation of seven national leaders of the Elks, led by J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler, the new organization came into being as the National Negro Organizations of America for World Security and Equality.

CHICAGOAN HEADS GROUP

Officers are: the Rev. J. L. Horace, Chicago, representing the Fraternal Council of Churches, president; Magistrate Hobson R. Reynolds, Philadelphia, vice president; the Rev. G. Cooper Faultleroy, Oakland, secretary, and J. Finley Wilson, treasurer.

Perry W. Howard, grand legal adviser of the Elks, was chosen as chairman of a steering committee, which includes J. Finley Wilson, Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council; Dr. J. C. Austin, of the Natiqnal Baptist Convention; Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard University; Dr. T. L. Boone, Detroit; Dr. E. I. Robinson, Los Angeles; the Rev. Charles Waters, of the AME Zion Church; Joseph Oliver, Potentate of the Mystic Shrine, and Harold D. Summers, of the International Honor Bright Society.

This organization, which is composed of the unofficial observers at the conference, has already pledged itself to work, through the group of three consultants chosen by the State Department, to represent American Negroes.

HITS DISCRIMINATION

These consultants, designated by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, are Walter White, consultant; Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, associate consultant, and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, associate consultant. 5-5-45

One resolution already drawn up by the combined group and turned over to the consultants reads:

"That the new world organization will look with disfavor upon any nation which discriminates by law, practice or custom against any segment of its citizens in the matter of civic rights, on account of race, creed or color."

It can be easily discerned that the Elk group intends to make its weight felt here. Those in the city are the Grand Exalted Ruler, J. Finley Wilson; James E. Kelly, grand secretary; Mrs. Buena Kelly Berry, grand secretary of the temples; Magistrate Hobson R. Reynolds, grand director of civil liberties; Mrs. Theresa L. Robinson, grand directress of civil liberties; Atty. C. Henri Lewis Jr., director of post-war planning; Eugene Sortell, grand esquire, and Perry W. Howard, legal adviser. 5-5-45

MRS. BETHUNE IGNORED BY CONSULTANTS

The Elks threw themselves into the breach Friday to try to prevent a break among the consultants. Mrs. Bethune had freely criticized her collaegues for failing to call her into consultation. She asserted that she came on the same train with Mr. White and Dr. DuBois, but never saw them after boarding the train.

Further, she charged, they did not call her into consultation prior to the opening of the conference.

She was therefore somewhat nettled when a statement was issued to the daily press which she had not had a chance to read or approve. This statement was published the day before the conference opened. Substantially, in the name of Walter White and Dr. DuBois of the NAACP, it read:

"That the American delegation be urged to support the incorporation of clauses recognizing racial equality, and international bill of rights and the abolition of colonialism."

Mrs. Bethune spoke at the Third Baptist Church meeting and expressed the conviction that she was being ignored. 5-5-45

WHITE DENIES CHARGES

"I may not know a whole lot about international affairs," she chided, "but I have common sense."

Mr. White took the position, in spite of the statement given to the press, that the consultants had had nothing to consult about. He pointed to the fact that the consultants themselves were not called into consultation by Archibald MacLeish, Assistant Secretary of State until Wednesday, and that they had not had a clear knowledge of their exact function until then.

Furthermore, he claimed that Mrs. Bethune, because of her closeness to Mrs. Roosevelt, was designated by the NAACP, but she had attempted to register in the name of the National Council of Negro Women. This, he said, would have upset the entire scheme of things, inasmuch as only forty-two organizations were invited to send consultants.

Still further, there was a question of who was paying for what.

This is the type of situation the Elks moved into and tried to correct. They thought they had the breach repaired at Friday's meeting.

FEUDING GOES ON

However, late Friday evening, notices appeared on the bulletin boards of hotels where members of the press are staying, inviting them to a press conference to be held by Mrs. Bethune at the Palace Hotel, Monday morning. 5-5-45

This press conference for the consultants is being sponsored by a Chicago newspaper, which is also presenting Atty. James B. Cashin, Chicago Civil Service commissioner, who spent a short time with the Roosevelt-sponsored commission to West Africa last year.

Mrs. Bethune contends that her Bethune, associate consultant of UGGCP, and James D. Cashin, member of the commission sent to Africa recently by the National Negro Publishers Association. The conference was arranged for Mrs. Bethune and Cashin to release special statements concerning the Negro. 5-5-45

After Mrs. Bethune had read a prepared statement describing what Negroes hoped to read as a result

NEGRO MIGRANTS

Pittsburgh Courier

SAN FRANCISCO — Only eight of the 1,500 newspaper and radio representatives here for the United Nations Conference attended the Monday morning press conference sponsored by a Chicago newspaper for Mrs. Mary McLeod

BETHUNE DEFENDS

Newsmen Scarce

of the San Francisco Conference, she defended Negroes who have taken up residence in California since the war began. Reporters who questioned Mrs. Bethune pointed out that whites and pioneer Negro residents of the State resented the fact that hundreds of colored persons are now pouring into California.

WHITE, DuBOIS ABSENT

John Noble of the Oakland Tribune was of the opinion that riots may break out as a result of this sudden migration. 5-5-45

Walter White and Dr. DuBois, both of the NAACP, were absent from the press conference.

Bernard Young Jr., editor of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, who was a member of the African Commission, sat as a reporter during the press conference.

The 'Little Man' Just Isn't Here

Courier, Pittsbur Pa

By DR. RAYFORD W. LOGAN

SAN FRANCISCO — Two-thirds of the people represented at this conference are the darker peoples of the world. But nine-tenths of the delegates here are white.

One-half of the peoples represented at this conference are women. But there are hardly a dozen women among the several hundred delegates.

Most of the peoples of the world are workers. But there isn't a pair of overalls among the delegates.

The "Little Man" just isn't here. 5-5-45

The "People's Peace" will be white, male and middle-class if the other conferences at the end of this war are similarly constituted.

Britain Stands Pat On Refusal To Quit Colonies

Chicago Defender

5-12-45

Chicago, Ill.

By RICHARD DURHAM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO.—The battle to crack the world's color line burst into the open at the giant World Security conference here this week.

Great Britain's plan to freeze 450,000,000 Negro and non-white colonial peoples as permanent dependents touched off an uproar as the historic conference, termed "the most important gathering since the Last Supper," swept to a climax.

Contending that "what's mine's mine," and demanding a strict hands-off policy by the United Nations in the affairs of colonial powers, England's draft for the new World Charter was substantially the same proposal proffered to the old League of Nations.

Same Old Story

As the deadline for amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks proposals ended last week, the four sponsoring nations—China, the United States, Russia and England—had been locked in more debates on the burning trusteeship issue than even those caused by the explosive Polish and Argentine question. 5-12-45

Lord Cranborne, suave-mannered head of England's House of Lords, admitted to the Chicago Defender that the only substantial difference between England's new chapter on colonialism and that submitted to the old League of Nations is in the method of allowing for the defense of mandated territories.

England's plan, reported opposed by Russia, China and the United States, but supported by France, Belgium and the Netherlands, if accepted, would provide that:

1. Colonies cannot be placed under the guardianship of the United Nations without the consent of the nation holding the colony.

2. Inspection of colonies or mandated territories to see that they are administered in accordance with the new World Charter cannot take place unless requested by the nation holding the colony.

3. No time limit is to be set on the period people in an area can remain "dependent" or economically or educationally "backwards." 5-12-45

4. Colonial peoples will have no representation on any of the United Nations' colonial commissions or to determine in any way not acceptable to the colonial power who shall govern them.

5. No colonial power is answerable to the United Nations for the administration of its colonies.

Africa Snubbed

Lord Cranborne explained that England's proposal would divide colonial territories into three categories—A, B and C. Inhabitants of all territories falling into Category C are excluded from the non-discriminatory clause now almost certain to be included in the World Charter.

Most of England's African colonies and all of her Asiatic and Pacific holdings fall within the C category. A and B categories are those territories which were formerly League of Nations mandates and those re-conquered from the Axis.

"There's no difference between the United States' proposal and our proposal," Lord Cranborne said, "the only difference is in method—not in objective."

However, U.S. Naval Commander Harold E. Stassen, former governor of Minnesota and member of the American delegation, revealed that the American proposal on the trusteeship question not only seeks the eventual establishment of an international civil rights police force but also the inclusion of an "equal racial rights" clause in the new charter. 5-12-45

Dependency "Technical"

Asked when, under British plan, would a dependent colony cease to be dependent, His Lordship answered that this was a "technical" question and had not been considered at the conference.

He emphasized that the British proposal would not give the United Nations the right to decide which colony was ready for independence, nor does the proposal give the inhabitants of the colony that right.

Cranborne admitted that provisions to include native representatives, or representatives from the mandated peoples on the colonial commission, had not even been discussed by his delegation. He said, however, that he thought this might be "a good point to consider." 5-12-45

Anti-Negro Smuts Drafts Parley Equal Rights Plan

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

By RICHARD DURHAM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO — Drafting of England's most liberal proposal this week was done by the world's bitterest Negro hater.

Premier Jan Christian Smuts, participant in the old League of Nations conference and head of the delegation from the Union of South Africa here, wrote the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations which Great Britain is seeking to have adopted by the World Security Conference. 5-12-45

Smuts, whose South African government has enabled its two million white folk to hold eight million natives in slavery and subordination unmatched even by Hitler at his peak, drew up the following preamble on the purposes of the San Francisco Conference which gave as its goals:

"To reestablish faith in fundamental human rights in the sanctity and ultimate value of human personality, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small. 5-12-45

"To promote social progress and better standards of life, to enlarge freedom, and for these ends to practice tolerance and to live together in peace with one another as good neighbors."

A bill to force South Africans to wear identification tags around their necks rating them in various discriminating categories was recently introduced into the South African legislature. 5-12-45

Negroes in Smut's South Africa are not allowed to join trade unions, receive education above an elementary grade, or move from one area to another without the permission of white officials.

Contacted by the Chicago Defender to ask if the new preamble would apply to South Africa an official in the South African press department snapped: "I am sure Mr. Smuts meant it for the entire world."

Black Dispatch Covers Conference

Black Dispatch

5-5-45

Okla. City, Okla.

(Editor's Note: Two of the nation's outstanding newspapermen are covering the San Francisco conference for this newspaper thru the Associated Negro Press. They are Mason Roberson and John Pittman.

(Mason Roberson is a native of San Francisco, attended school in the Philippines, has been reporter and columnist for the San Francisco Spokesman; editor, Spokesman, 1935; city editor, Cleveland Eagle, 1937; reporter and desk man, New York Amsterdam News, 1938; free lance and radio writing, 1939-42; publicity, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee committee, trade unions and labor press in San Francisco, 1943. 5-5-45

(John Pittman, Atlanta born, graduated from Morehouse college A.B., 1926; University of California, M.A. 1929; postgraduate work there, 1929-31; editor, San Francisco Spokesman, 1931-34; postgraduate work, California University, 1935-38; foreign editor, Daily Peoples World, a Pacific coast labor daily, 1938-43; managing editor, Daily Peoples World, 1943. Mr. Pittman also founded and edited the Marron Tiger while a student at Morehouse).

Consultants Didn't Make Trip In Vain

Pittsburgh Courier Pg. 6-2-45

SAN FRANCISCO—During the first ten days of the United Nations Conference the distance between the American delegation and the American consultants was so enormous that there was natural wonder as to why the State Department had asked some forty-two national organizations to send these official consultants to this city.

Since that time, however, business has picked up and the State Department has arranged for close liaison between it, the American delegation and the consultants who survived their initial disgust and remained on the scene.

CONSULTANTS PROVE USEFUL

It is only fair, therefore, to note that the picture has changed and that the consultants are directly responsible for some of the most significant language that will find its way into the new world charter.

There can be no question but the language used and the positions taken by the consultants of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, percolated not only through the thinking, acting and writing of many of the other American consultants, but also through the thinking and final wording of the American delegation. 6-2-45

PRAISE FOR LOGAN, BUNCHE

In this respect, credit should also be given to Dr. Rayford Logan, my colleague in covering this enterprise, and Dr. Ralph Bunche, associate director of the Division of Dependent Areas in the State Department. Dr. Bunche served as an able, willing and friendly intermediary, and Dr. Logan, because of his exact and profound knowledge of the subjects vital to Negroes, was a source of help to the consultants themselves.

One of the big little jobs done by the American consultants was to force the use of the word "educational" into the functions of the Economic and Social Council. Opposition to the use of the word education persisted for days, there being great fear among some delegates of other nations that education might connote propaganda or interference with domestic policy. Finally, the consultants prevailed, and the word "education" found its way into the charter.

ACCENTUATING THE POSITIVE 6-2-45

There was the same fight in respect to the use of the term "full employment." It was finally adopted, but only after the minutes of the committee handling the subject were made to show exactly what was and was not meant by full employment.

In a word, the consultants have been helping the American delegation to "accentuate the positive."

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

San Francisco
May 17, 1945

Dear Mr. Holloway,

I have just seen your cartoon, "There Can Be No World Peace With HIM Outside!", which appeared in the May 5th issue of the Pittsburgh Courier.

I wonder if you would be good enough to send me the original of this drawing which I shall prize highly.

With best wishes,

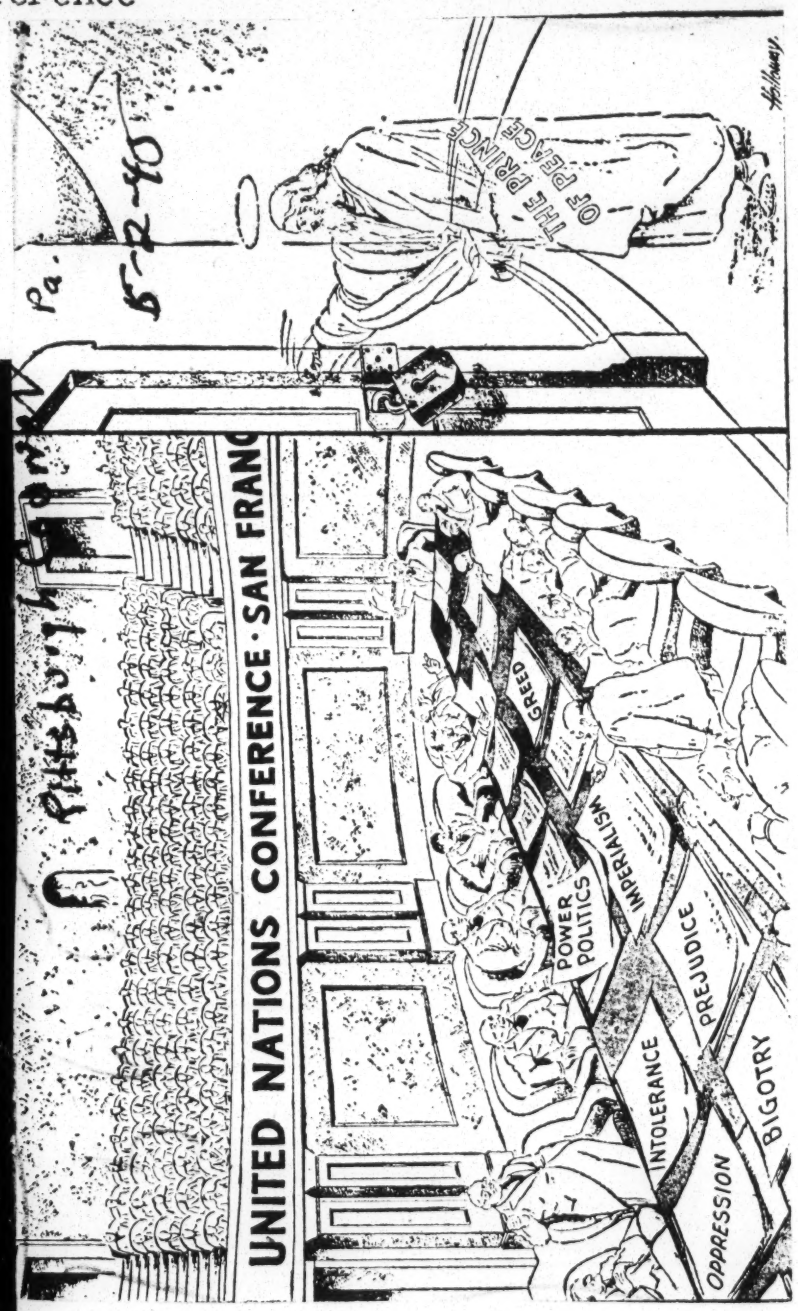
Sincerely yours,

E. R. Stettinius, Jr.

Mr. Wilbert L. Holloway
Cartoonist
Pittsburgh Courier
2628 Center Avenue
Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh Courier

Here is a reproduction of Art Editor Wilbur Holloway's Unit Nations Conference illustration which so impressed Secretary of St e Edward R. Stettinius that he has written to the artist and asked for e original drawing. Mr. Stettinius' letter was sent from San Francisco n May 17.



AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE LEADS FIGHT FOR COLONIAL RIGHTS, SUPPORTS NAACP'S POSITION

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

San Francisco, May 2.—The colonial issue, close to the hearts of every American Negro, had its first direct presentation to the delegates to the United Nations' Conference here Friday when F. M. Forde, chief delegate for Australia, told a plenary session of the conference that his country wants the charter to include the policy that "the purpose of administration of dependent or undeveloped territories is the welfare and advancement of the peoples of those territories."

5-5-45

Forde was one of five delegate spokesmen who addressed the plenary session Friday. Each set forth their country's position on the proposed world organization. They were, besides Forde, Foreign Minister Paul Henry Spaak, for Belgium; Ambassador Victor Andrade, for Bolivia; Dr. Pedro Leao Vellose, for Brazil, and Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King, for Canada.

In this, the Australian leader is demanding exactly the program put forward by the Council of African Affairs and the NAACP, that the United Nations be given stewardship over all the colonies in the world.

5-5-45

The United Nations would be given the power to investigate any colony and, if it were found that the nation governing a colony were not following the principles laid down by the United Nations, the nation at fault could be brought to trial by the world powers. The United Nations body would be also obligated to see that the administration of all colonies was for the welfare and advancement of the colonials.

U. S., GREAT BRITAIN ALMOST BOUND TO SUPPORT NATIONS' PRINCIPLE OF RACE EQUALITY

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

(By Mason Roberson

San Francisco, May 3.—Wha are the chances that the principle of racial equality will be incorporated in the post-war agreements of the united nations conference?

5-5-45

Observers and students with whom I've talked believe that it is almost certain to be included. And an examination of the background and forces involved convince me of the correctness of such a belief.

Certainly the principle of equality will come before the delegates backed by more powerful protagonists than ever before in all history.

Last month, Sir Zaffrullah Khan, leader of the Indian delegation to the British Commonweath conference, told the delegates it was essential that there should be no further racial discrimination in any shape or form.

At the Dumbarton Oaks meeting, the Chinese delegation requested that the principle of race equality be formally included in the agreement. No action was taken, but the Chinese are certain to raise the issue again here in San Francisco.

Stalin Wants Stand

5-5-45

Premier Joseph Stalin declared "the abolition of racial exclusiveness" to be one of the Soviet Union's basic peace aims. This intention has been repeated over and over again by key Russian spokesmen. A recent issue of the Information Bulletin issued by the Soviet embassy in Washington declared: "When any country gives shelter to the Hitlerites or their ideas in the form of discriminatory legislation, in the form of racist organizations or a racist press, it is no longer an internal affair of that country."

This from a country which shares with the United States the greatest power on earth! And, of course their official declarations of policy is confirmed by the well known fact that the Soviet Union is the one place on earth where discrimination and prejudice of all kinds have been wiped out by rigidly enforced laws making such practices a major felony.

France To Give Citizenship

According to Rene Pleven, colonial minister, France plans to make full citizens of all her colonial peoples, with all the rights of white Frenchmen in the mainland, and to fight "with all its strength" any importation of racial prejudice.

The Netherlands government has announced its plan to rebuild its colonies as a commonwealth with no discrimination of any kind between races.

The position of both Britain and America on issue of equality are so much in public discussion that they need little examination here. Certainly we are all aware of the social, economic, historic factors involved.

5-5-45

Jim Crow Retreats

And certainly, no Negro will deny that since Versailles, the men and the interests supporting jim crow in America have been in constant retreat—that they have been undercut and circumscribed by such factors as the FEPC, the supreme court ruling on the vote, the army's order outlawing jim crow, the abolition of the poll tax in Georgia, and a host of other laws and actions by officials and by civic, church and labor organizations all of which have brought nearer the realization of the constitution and the bill of rights as applicable to all Americans. Certainly the official position of the United States government as voiced by nearly all its leading spokesmen over the past several years, would make it extremely difficult for them to come out in active opposition to the principle of racial equality at the conference.

5-5-45

Friends In England

Within the British empire the forces pressing for equality are far from the disorganized and voiceless multitude of 1918. In India, in Africa, in the Far East, British colonials have organization and spokesmen. In Britain it self these people have powerful support among large powerful organizations.

Certainly we can say that neither Britain nor America will be able to bring anything like a united group in support of a policy of inequality.

Thus we see that China, France, the Soviet Union are definitely for the principle of race equality. And they represent a majority of the "big five". In the whole united nations assembly an even larger proportion of the delegates will be in favor of such a principle, for the simple reason that a majority of the populations of smaller nations are non-whites. In the world, whites represent a rough third of the total population.

One third of the world cannot keep two-thirds of the world in a subordinate position in any international organization which is more than a more symbol of democracy.

560-1945

Negro Recognition Asked At Frisco

Courier-Journal 5-12-45 Ky.

Denver, April 11 (AP)—President Roosevelt today was asked by the National Negro Council to name Dr. Metz T. P. Lochard, Chicago, Negro Rhodes scholar and editor, as an adviser to Secretary of State Stettinius at the United Nations conference in San Francisco.

World Equality Clause Demanded

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

SAN FRANCISCO—The United States delegation to the World Security Conference here was asked on April 26, immediately after the close of opening formalities, to demand that a racial equality clause be included in the proposed world organization charter.

The request was made by Walter White and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, NAACP consultants, who asked that the clause, together with two other proposals, be written into the Dumbarton Oaks agreement. 5-5-45

The other two requests were that a bill of rights for all peoples be adopted and that the colonial system be abolished in favor of an international agency to which the colonial powers would report. 5-5-

Colonial Commission Sought at 'Frisco

People's Voice N.Y. 5-21-45

The Council on African Affairs, headed by Paul Robeson, this week submitted a memorandum to the delegates of the United States and other members of the United Nations to the San Francisco Conference calling for the establishment of an International Colonial Commission within the proposed world organization in order to promote a higher standard of living, self-government and self-determination for all colonial peoples as an essential part of the post-war task of maintaining world security and peace.

The memorandum includes specific recommendations for the exercise of international responsibility through a proposed Colonial Commission in the case of colonies taken from enemy powers in this war, colonial territories where military bases have been or may be established, mandated colonies from World War I, all other dependent territories, and regional commissions embracing colonies.

Among other things, it is recommended that: 5-21-45 —

- the international Colonial Commission would have final authority over the above-mentioned dependencies and should be responsible to the General Assembly of the World Organization, and be composed of representatives of all permanent members of the Security Council, with additional representatives elected by the Assembly;
- the commission would establish social, economic and political standards of colonial administration; insure adherence to these standards by all colonial administrators: set a definite time for the people of each dependent territory to achieve political self-determination; promote international cooperation in securing the economic, industrial, and social advancement of all colonial peoples; and guarantee equal access to trade and commerce. 5-21-45

AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

In addition to the powers vested in the League of Nations Mandates Commission, the new instrument would have the right to make direct, on-the-spot investigations in all dependencies, to receive direct petitions, both oral and written, from the dependent peoples, and to propose action by the General Assembly "in any case in which a mandatory or trustee power is in disagreement with the Colonial Commission or has been found habitually delinquent" in adherence to any standards of administration.

Direct international administration is recommended for colonies taken from enemies in this war, and all military bases on colonial territories are to be under the direction of the Military Staff Committee under the Security Council of the International Organization. 5-21-45

Annexation of any mandated territory would be prohibited, and "no state which practices legally sanctioned discrimination against any body of its inhabitants or the inhabitants of a mandated territory because of race, creed, or color, should be regarded as qualified to serve as a mandatory power."

NEGRO LEADERS UNITE IN PARLEY EFFORTS

St. Louis Argus Mo. 5-4-45

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., May 1—(Special to the St. Louis Argus) — On yesterday, April 27th Negro leaders at the World Conference, made history when all elements got together and settled their differences.

There are at this League of Nations Conference, representatives from all leading organizations in the world, spearheaded by the National Baptist Convention and the I. B. P. O. E. of W. These are listed as unofficial observers.

There are three consultants on American Negroes to the League of Nations. 5-4-45

The unofficial observers and consultants were at war with each other. But at the said conference on yesterday, the whole matter was threshed out and a solid front will be presented by the American Negroes to the League of Nations.

Also, the combined line up was able to agree on a plank to go into the Charter of the League of Nations, which was presented to this unified body by Perry W. Howard, Legal Adviser to the united body. The plank is as follows:

That the League of Nations will look with disfavor upon any Nation which discriminates by law, practice or custom against any segment of its citizens in the matter of civic rights on account of race, creed or color.

An organization of the consolidated group was perfect with Rev. J. L. Horace of the National Baptist Convention as chairman, Rev. C. Cooper Fauntelroy as secretary, Dr. J. Finley Wilson as treasurer, Judge Hobson R. Reynolds as vice chairman.

A steering and drafting committee was appointed, consisting of Perry W. Howard, legal adviser of the Elks, as chairman, Dr. J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks, Mr. Edgar G. Brown, director National Negro Council, Washington, D. C., Dr. J. C. Austin, National Baptist Convention, Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, Dr. T. L. Boone, Detroit, Mich., Dr. L. I. Robinson of Los Angeles, president National Medical Association, Rev. Waters of the A. M. E. Zion Church, Mr. Joseph Oliver, Potentate of the Mystic Shrine and Mr. Harold D. Summers, International Honor Bright Society. 5-4-45

Most favorable comment is made upon showing of major organizations in representation at this the world's greatest conclave, such as the I. B. P. O. E. of W. led by the Grand Exalted Ruler, Dr. J. Finley Wilson, and his delegation of 7 members. Mr. James E. Kelley, Grand Secretary, Mrs. Beuna Kelley, Grand Secretary of the Templars, Judge Hobson R. Reynolds, Grand Director of Civil Liberties, Mrs. Theresa L. Robinson, Directress of Civil Liberties, Attorney C. Lewis, Jr., Director of Post War Planning, Mr. Jean Sorrell, Grand Esquire, Mr. Perry W. Howard, Grand Legal Adviser.

Negro Countries Get Executive Posts At Frisco

Houston, Texas The Informer

By P. BERNARD YOUNG, Jr.
(Published Jointly by Informer and Journal)
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5-12-45

SAN FRANCISCO. — Of eleven executive posts on the four Major Commissions set up Tuesday by the United Nations conference, Negro countries, Liberia and Ethiopia, got two while the third one represented here, Haiti, was named rapporteur (secretary-general) for membership on the general provisions and membership committee under commission one.

Liberia and Ethiopia were assigned the assistant secretary general posts respectively on the commissions to work out the security charter provisions for the proposed general assembly and for judicial world (court) organization.

5-12-45

There are four major commissions, general provisions, general assembly, security council and judicial organization. Each has a president, rapporteur and assistant secretary general. Under the commissions are a total of twelve vital committees each with chairmen and rapporteurs. The committee on which Haiti is represented has two rapporteurs with Saudi Arabia assigned the general provisions assignment.

The commission and committee assignment conference, Co-Chairman Edward Stettinius Jr., told a press conference Tuesday afternoon were approved by the executive committee and the steering committee of the conference and would formally go before the plenary session of delegates later in the way. Final acceptance was regarded as a formality as the steering committee is composed of the 46 heads of participating delegations.

"Nations such as those from Latin America, Liberia and Ethiopia," Stettinius said in reply to a question, "May name experts or advisers to the official posts of commissions and committees since they would not have enough delegates to go around."

Each country is entitled to one spokesman-member on each of the committees and commissions. The same person may serve on more than one.

To date it was officially revealed Tuesday proposed amendments to Dumbarton Oaks proposals total seven hundred pages. Any nation or organization may submit comments of proposals to the conference through its secretary general. The deadline is Friday night.

"The commissions will get to work Wednesday on Preliminary details," Stettinius said, "and by Monday should be really at grips with our task here."

It was authentically stated that Foreign Minister Molotov may return to Russia soon because of war developments. He is expected to remain here until the key Commissions are functioning well.

The conference is proceeding very satisfactorily. The Big Four leaders met harmoniously last Monday night. "I plan to see the conference through to a successful conclusion," Stettinius told a press conference. The reporters applauded.

NEGRO LEADER DISAPPOINTED IN FRISCO PARLEY

Chicago Defender 5-26-45

Dr. W. E. B. Dubois, Negro author and educator, yesterday told an audience of 3,000 at Pilgrim Baptist church, 33d st. and Indiana av., that the San Francisco conference holds small hope for minority groups under its present setup.

Dr. Dubois returned recently from San Francisco, where he was the accredited consultant for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Consultants, he told his listeners, carried little weight.

"A consultant," he said, "is of no importance unless he is consulted. We were not. We would ask a few questions, but seldom received a satisfactory answer."

The speaker said that many persons misunderstood the functions of the conference and emphasized that it has no power to enforce any mandale. 6-5-45

Dr. Dubois is the author of numerous books, including "The Soul of Black Folk," "Dark Waters," "Black Reconstruction," and "Color and Democracy."

Smuts Plans To Extend Jim Crow!

Chicago Defender 5-19-45

Hope For World Agreement Fades

DuBois Says Many At Parley Don't Know What It's About

5-19-45

By W. E. B. DuBOIS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO—Among the difficulties and misconceptions which face us at San Francisco are the numbers of people who have flocked here with utterly erroneous ideas of what this meeting is about.

Some regard it as a sort of international circus, and are disgusted that admission to see the elephants is so difficult to obtain. Why hold a circus, they seem to say, if the public is excluded? To which the answer is, even assuming that this is a circus, the big tent seats only 3,000 and today 60,000 people are clamoring for admission. If people suggest a larger tent, the answer is that this is not a circus. This is an international conference in which 48 different nations with at least 500 million inhabitants are listening in. The conference then, as a conference, is a comparatively small body and must go on despite those present who want to see and hear, outside the delegates. 5-19-45

And then there are well-meaning American Negroes who seem to think this conference is called to settle the Negro problem in the United States. One woman, for instance, sent to the Secretary of State a request that Harriet Tubman's home be bought and put under her supervision. Quite outside the question as to whether supervision of this lady would be proper for Harriet Tubman's home, is the basic fact that the San Francisco conference is not considering questions of this sort. 5-19-45

This means, too, that ordinary pressure tactics cannot be used here by groups or individuals. There is no chance for conventional publicity, stunts; for mass-meetings and resolutions. And the opportunities for collecting money are not what some people seem to think.

It happens that the N.A.A.C.P. is the only organization that has the recognized right to have consultants present at the meetings of the conference, and to be called into consultation with the American delegation. This is a privilege; but it carries no great power and is a recognition simply that American Negroes are one of 42 interests represented by consultants which ought to be recognized by the American delegation. Moreover, the N.A.A.C.P. is not speaking simply for itself. When it was first known that we would have the right to send consultants we immediately communicated with other organizations.

As a result, we have been authorized to speak for the March on Washington Movement, the National Urban League, the Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, the National Association of Deans and Advisers of Men in Negro Educational Institutions, the conference on Adult Education and the Negro, the National Medical Association, the National Bar Association, the National Association of Ministers' Wives, the National Dental Association, the Independent Order of St. Luke, the Independent Order of Good Samaritans, National Council of Negro Women, the National Negro Insurance Association, and a number of other national organizations. All of these have sent us special resolutions and points of view which we have taken into consideration. 5-19-45

But, after all, we represent only one nation. There are other nations here. Nations powerful in their possibilities, jealous in their sovereignty. They are trying the very difficult task of agreeing upon an international organization and giving that organization some power. The first power which it must have is the power to stop aggression which will lead to war. The second power which it must not forget is the power to reduce the causes of war; and what we three consultants of the N.A.A.C.P. are trying to impress upon the American delegation and others, is that human rights among the great nations and especially among colonies must be respected. Their flagrant disregard has caused war among the great nations. But even more than that, their contined disregard toward colonial peoples has caused two wars in our day and will cause other wars in the future.

We have done everything we can to emphasize this point of view. We have sent petitions and have had interviews with American delegates. We have had interviews with a half dozen foreign delegates. We have written articles in the many newspapers and we have delivered lectures. Our total effort may accomplish little but we have tried.

South African Plot Aims At Grabbing More Colonies

5-19-45

By RICHARD DURHAM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO—South Africa's super jim-crow state notified the United Nations conference this week that she wants another slice of West Africa. 5-19-45

Headed by its ancient premier, Jan Christians Smuts, the South African delegation formally proposed that the huge area of South West Africa be permanently incorporated into the lily-white Union of South Africa.

Listing 14 reasons why South West Africa, a territory more than half the sige of the Union itself, should be given wholly to the Union The South African delegation made the first grab for colonies heard at the conference.

South West Africa, whic has an estimated three million Negro natives, has been under the jim-crow rule of the Union since December 17, 1920, by an agreement with the old League of Nations.

The premature proposal for extending its rule over Africa was made by the Union immediately upon announcement of the American and British proposal on trusteeships which recommended that former mandated areas revert to the original nation in control.

Saying that, "its dependent native peoples spring from the same ethnological stem as the great mass of the native peoples of the Union," the South African delegation contended that, "there is no prospect of the territory ever existing as a separate state, and the ultimate objective of the mandatory principle is there impossible of achievement." 5-19-45

The "ultimate objective" of the mandatory principle had been eventual independence of the territory held in trust.

Meanwhile China and Russia this week demanded independence and self-government for now-dependent peoples.

Upsetting the British and American proposals which looked forward to freezing some 750,000,000 non-white colonial peoples in a status quo, the Chinese and Russian demands carried the bitter battle for trusteeship into its second week here.

China's plunge into the fight for a new deal for dependent peoples came after its delegation had ignored the earlier drive to include proposals in the new chapter to outlaw race discrimination.

Russia, although blocked in its attempt to include in the new world charter "right to work" and "right to education" clauses covering all peoples, regardless of color, race or sex, served notice before departure of Foreign Commissar Molotov that it intends to take a strong and active part in the allocation and supervision of colonial areas. 5-19-45

Ask Non-Whites' Freedom

Both the Russian and Chinese proposals favored America's detailed trusteeship plan over that of Britain but inserted wordings to the effect that "independence" and "self-government" must be the object of the administration of colonials. Neither Britain nor America had a word to say about eventual independence of the non-white colonies. Neither provided for representation of colonial peoples in the management of their own affairs. 5-19-45

Throwing the full weight of America's 13,000,000 Negroes behind the fight for future independence of colonial peoples, the NAACP sent a hot protest to Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., chairman of the American delegation.

Walter White, W. E. B. DuBois and Mary McLeod Bethune, the only Negro consultants, pointed out the lack of native representation in the American and British proposals and stated: "This failure to include natives in the growing council does not carry out the stated objectives of the proposal to train the natives for progressive development toward self-government 5-19-45

"We believe that a declaration should lay down the principle and course to be followed so as to provide for the transition of all colonial peoples from colonial status to such autonomy as they desire. The eventual disapperance of the colonial system is the best insurance of peace. This democratic principle, the international organization has not recognized."

Southern Students Work for Peace

N.Y. Times 4-22-45

A conference to "defend the ideals of human justice, freedom and democratic action" was formed by students from fifty colleges and universities in thirteen Southern States at a conference held last week at the University of North Carolina.

Members of the group pledged themselves to disseminate information, inspire action and serve as an organ of expression for the students of all the Southern colleges and universities who subscribe to the principles of Bretton Woods, Dumbarton Oaks and the World Security Conference at San Francisco.

The student conference adopted resolutions asserting that agreements drawn up at the San Francisco meeting should include provision for the reexamination and revision of the machinery for international cooperation within five years of the date of establishment of the security organization. It also proposed that provisions be considered to amend the agreements made at San Francisco by less than unanimous consent, and that power to function in all matters be given to the General Assembly. 4-22-45

Proposed Bill of Rights

The resolutions urged that the conference at San Francisco state that no nation should set itself above the moral and international law and constitute itself a judge in its own cause. The students favored including in the agreement an international "bill of rights" of all peoples regardless of color, race or creed.

In a message to the conference, President Frank P. Graham of the University of North Carolina challenged the youth of the South to be on the march toward freedom, democracy and peace. Commenting upon the grave loss to the United States and the world in the death of President Roosevelt, Dr. Graham told the students that "your commitment to the great spirit of our late lamented leader and to the new Commander in Chief is to see to it that the Roosevelt policies will go forward."

Greatest Opportunity

This country faces its greatest opportunity to see that peace shall be organized among all the nations of the world, Dr. Graham told the delegates. He urged them to work for one great world neighborhood of human freedom. President Roosevelt's hopes for making a peace that will prevent other wars is a call to young people representing every State in the South to take up this torch, the university head declared. 4-22-45

The delegates agreed to raise a minimum of $50 from their schools to pay the expenses of two representatives to the San Francisco meeting. Douglas Hunt, University of North Carolina student, was elected delegate to represent the new organization at the conference. He will serve as observer and reporter. Charles D. Parker of Fisk University was elected president.

The action of the Southern students is indicative of nation-wide interest of students in American colleges and universities in the San Francisco Conference. The students are weighing the problems of world peace, and discussing the various proposals in the classroom.

Lauds Molotov's Frankness In 'World Equality' Speech

Chicago Defender 5-26-45

By W. E. B. DuBOIS
(Official Consultant, U. S. Delegation, United Nations Conference)

SAN FRANCISCO — The greatest thing that has happened at San Francisco so far has either been unnoticed or deliberately played down by the newspapers. I saw one Negro correspondent who heard the words and did not understand them just as Galahad failed to read the message of the Grail. 5-26-45

What I have in mind was the splendid frank straightforward statement Molotov made to the world in the presence of 2,000 press representatives. He said frankly the chapter of the proposed charter of the International Organization "expressly provides now for the observance of the principles of justice and international law. It also contains a reference to the necessity of respecting the principles of equality and self-determination of nations to which the Soviet Union has always attached first-rate importance. The principles of justice and self-determination of nations proclaimed by the international security organization will draw particular attention of the population of colonies and mandated territories; this will help realize the sooner these great principles which is so vital."

Besides, he continued, this chapter "now provides for the encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, language, creed or sex. Such a program is incompatible with the membership of Fascist countries in the organization of international security. 5-26-45

Right To Work Vital

He said further that the Soviet delegation had proposed another declaration on the right to work and the right to education as two of the most important human rights. They were not pressing that because his colleagues had thought it inadvisable to mention any specific rights, but, he continued: "Is it not clear that the right to say, work, is of vital importance to working men and women in the transitional period from war to peace when the danger of mass unemployment will be particularly grave . . ."

And finally, with regard to trusteeship he said: "The Soviet delegation realizes that from the viewpoint of the interests of international security we must first of all see to it that dependent countries are enabled as soon as possible to take the path of national independence."

This, as I have said, is the most straightforward declaration made at the San Francisco Conference It will not be followed because the British are sitting tight on Churchill's determination. Marquis W. Childs declares that this refusal of Churchill at Yalta to let the question of colonial peoples be taken up at San Francisco was a sore disappointment to Franklin Roosevelt.

FDR Deeply Interested

Mr. Childs emphasizes the deep interest that President Roosevelt had in colonies. He said that the white man would find himself "pushed out completely" from Asia unless something was done. His exact words were:

"Sometime ago I worked out a form of trusteeship from French Indo China You know, that colony was governed very badly. For every dollar the French put in, they took ten dollars out. Those little people had a culture of their own, Cambodia and the Cambodian kings. But they were badly treated.

"Now my idea is for a trusteeship to administer Indo China. I put this up to Chiang Kai-shek and he was strong for it. The idea is to have one Chinese trustee, one Philippine trustee, one French trustee, a British trustee and perhaps an American trustee."

Stalin thought the plan excellent but Churchill refused to consider the matter at all. It is possible that if Roosevelt had lived he might have influenced the conference at San Francisco. As it is the chances are now that the colonial question will not really be touched, despite all of the talk about trusteeships.

U. S. Seeks Recognition Of Human Rights, Justice Within World Charter for Peace

Richmond Times Va. 5-4-45

SAN FRANCISCO, May 3—(AP)—America made its bid today to strengthen a world charter for peace through specific recognition of the cardinal principles of justice, international law, human rights and the Atlantic Charter's four freedoms. 5-4-45

And, beyond these, the United States delegation to the United Nations Conference further recommended:

Future review of a projected international constitution "in the light of experience and the developing world situation after the war is over."

Provision for "peaceful change of conditions in the world so that the world is not frozen."

The American suggestions fell into nine major categories. A spokesman for the delegation, Commander Harold E. Stasser, outlined them to reporters and said they had been approved unanimously. 5-4-45

Even as he went down the list, foreign ministers of the four nations sponsoring the conference—Stettinius, of the United States; Soong, of China; Molotov, of Russia, and Eden, of Britain—were going over them.

The Big Four, in fact, were surveying the whole future of the conference in an effort to anticipate issues and insure a quick, smooth run toward its goal after Molotov and Eden leave the Golden Gate. 5-4-45

Four conference commissions which will cull over all amendments and try to fit the most meritorious into the scheme of a world organization met at conference headquarters to begin their taks. The American-endorsed changes had been submitted to Britain, Russia and China in advance. Their announcement at this time was interpreted by many delegates as indicating there are no major spheres of disagreement on them.

What Americans Want

This is what the Americans want:

(1) An international organization functioning "in keeping with the principles of justice."

(2) Clarification of the Dumbarton Oaks blueprint, worked out last fall by the four sponsoring nations as the agenda for this conference, to say that the world organization shall function within international law and assist in perfecting it. 5-4-45

(3) The development and safeguarding of human rights.

(4) Provision for peaceful change of world conditions.

(5) A definite system of trusteeships for weak or strategic territories.

(6) A system to facilitate amending the charter to meet postwar conditions.

(7) A modernized world court.

(8) Incorporation into the charter of specific provisions of the Atlantic Charter, including assurances of freedom from want and fear, freedom of speech and worship.

(9) A declaration of cultural objectives similar to those already proposed by China.

Other Problems Remain

China asked that the economic and social council of the world organization promote "education and other forms of cultural cooperation." 5-4-45

Adoption of the American recommendations would dissolve some, but not all, of the dissatisfaction of small powers with Dumbarton Oaks as it now stands.

They make no concession to little power demands for a bigger voice in a security council, which would be the real instrumentality for keeping peace because it would be empowered to bring armed force into play.

Nor do they settle small-country claims that regional security systems, such as the Pan-American arrangement, should be allowed to settle local or regional disputes on their own.

These may become the next big local point of conflict within the conference.

And even within the Big Four there still remain some differences of views. The Brtish and Americans, for instance, both believe some form of international trusteeships must be established. But they are in disagreement on important details.

Byrd Arrives to Advise

The first formal meeting of representatives of the Big Five powers—the Big Four plus France—was scheduled tonight to consider the trusteeship problem. And members of a Senate naval subcommittee, Byrd (D-Va.), Eastland (D-Miss.) and Tobey (R-N. H.), came to town to advise the American representatives.

Sentiment has crystalized among the United States delegation for retaining control of strategic Pacific bases seized from Japan.

Altogether some 70 or 80 specific amendments have been submitted by all countries for inclusion in an international charter.

They fall mainly into four categories. 5-4-45

Most small and middle powers want to change the security council to reduce big-power control.

Several middle powers, like Canada, Australia, New Zealand and The Netherlands, say countries which actually have fought in the war, and presumably would contribute military strength to be put at the council's disposal, should have council seats.

Numerous amendments are intended to strengthen a council designed to help eliminate social and economic conditions which might lead to wars in the future as they have in the past.

Full Independence Opposed By Parley

Chicago Defender

China, Russia Line Up For Colonial Liberty But Lose Fight

5-26-45

By RICHARD DURHAM
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

SAN FRANCISCO. — A Dixie-conscious United States delegation this week struck against independence for now-dependent peoples at the United Nations Conference.

America joined hands with Britain and France to maintain the status quo for some 750 million non-white peoples.

Snubbing liberal proposals projected by China and Russia which called for specific plans for freeing and eventual self-government of colonial peoples, the American delegation dealt the heaviest blow against colonial independence made here thus far.

After a bitter closed session of the "trusteeship" committee, during which Britain's Lord Cranborne stated that dependent peoples did not aspire to independence, even if they could achieve it, Commander Harold Stassen announced that America would back the British and French proposals.

"Independence" Is the Word

The proposal around which the battle rages, and which is now opposed only by China and Russia, does not mention "independence" but states that dependent territories should be given "self-government in forms appropriate to the varying circumstances of each territory."

China, which has set forth the most advanced plan for liberation of dependent areas strongly protested the British proposals and insisted, through Dr. Wellington Koo, its vice chairman, that the word "independence" be added to or substituted for "self-government."

A. A. Rostchin, of Russia, vigorously supported Koo, pointed out that Russia's original draft on trusteeships set forth "full national independence" as one of the system's goals.

5-26-45

Russia Hits Compromise

The principle of "equal rights and self-determination of peoples" was asserted in one of the Big Five's proposed amendments to the Dumbarton Oakes chapter on purposes of the projected world organization. Rostchin demanded that it be restated with regard to trusteeships.

While no vote has yet been taken on the raging question, the alliance of the U. S. with Britain against the liberal, democratic Chinese-Russian proposals drew sharp criticism from the 42 American consultants and from some of the American delegation.

This position contrasted sharply with the lead taken by Edward R. Stettinius, head of the U. S. delegation when he proposed that the American sponsor an international bill of rights recently.

"It is a far-reaching step because it would pledge the members of the World Organization to cooperate effectively in promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all individuals and peoples, regardless of race, language, religion or sex," Stettinius said when introducing the proposals, regarded as the most advanced step made in the conference.

Stettinius Proposal

"These provisions are essential if we are to build peace on the basis of justice and freedom for all . . ." he continued. ". . . Racial tensions have been built up since the rise of Nazism and fascism by systematic campaigns of hatred and prejudice. . .

"The people of the world will not be satisfied simply to return to an order which offers them only worn-out answers to their hopes. They rightly demand the active defense and promotion of basic human rights and fundamental freedom. It is a matter of elementary justice that this demand be answered affirmatively."

While the responsibility for carrying out the proposed ban against racial discrimination would "rest with the member government" without interference from the Security organization, it was felt here that the fight for independence of now-dependent peoples is of far more significance to future racial equality than the proposed "Bill of Rights."

This is what makes the American opposition to the freeing of dependent peoples even more paradoxical.

"Equality" Is Biggest Little Word at World Conference

AFRO-American 5-26-45

5-26-45

By RALPH MATTHEWS
(AFRO Correspondent at World Security Conference)

Balt., Md.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Perhaps no word is more overworked here today than the word "equality" which is being applied to everything by everybody.

It was pushed at every turn by colored consultants and observers of the British Military Administration. Without exception all the 12 members of the Council desired reunion to Ethiopia. Miss Pankhurst revealed for the first time that when the British were trying to capture Eritrea they appealed to the patriots to rise-up and help throw the Italians out. Leaflets were dropped by Royal Air Force planes telling the Eritreans that once the Italians were expelled they would be allowed to rejoin Abyssinia, but now they were being double-crossed. The people had expected the immediate fulfilment of the pledge.

Since the British haven't enough officials of their own, they are employing Italian administrators, judges and police officers who were brought into Africa by Mussolini and taken prisoners when the Blackshirts surrendered.

Miss Pankhurst said that these former Fascist leaders committed many unpunished crimes against the natives. When the native peasants tried to graze their cattle on Italian occupied lands they had been driven off by machine guns.

The Eritreans, therefore, marched at the conference prodding the American delegation, and was also given a good hand by the Ethiopian, Liberian and Haitian delegations .

Russia put in a few powerful blows which left the Big Three Groggy. But the word meant many things to many people, aside from the mere question of race.

Equal Voice Sought

The smaller nations used the term in pressing for equality beside the big powers, and their whole fight on the relative strength of the General Assembly was an attempt to give each an equal voice in keeping the peace.

The question of equality was injected into the controversial formula for trusteeships when certain powers urged representation of native peoples on the trustee commission, giving them an equal voice with their rulers in the administration of native affairs.

Equality for Women

Equality for women came to the fore when Russia called for a clause in the charter giving women a voice equal to men.

The revolutionary import of the Russian proposal is highlighted by the fact that, in many countires, women have little or no voice at all.

5-26-45

The abject state of native womanhood in India is a classic example. Chinese, Japanese and German women, and millions more who are chained to the Islamic code, are but slaves of the state, and their husbands.

Labor vs. Capital

The state of womanhood is also deplorable in many Latin-American and West Indies areas.

The new world labor organization in session in Oakland—formed in London prior to the World Security Conference—has petitioned (with Russia's blessing) for an equal voice in the conference with capital, and so share in making economic decisions of world importance.

5-26-45

This struggle for "equality" with capital, by labor, is important because we already know how financial monopolies and vested interests, through international exchange, cartels and other devices built a super state transcending the power of any government, and bringing the world close to ruin.

International labor organizations with a voice in a world security organization, can do much to arrest the manipulations of financial dictators, and help keep the peace for the masses who must work and die when war comes.

And so, equality is, in many ways, the biggest little word heard at this conference because, on its achievement hangs the peace of the world.

Frisco Air Cleared For Full Discussion Of Trusteeship

5-26-45

By METZ T. P. LOCHARD
(Editor-in-Chief, Chicago Defender)

The final agreement by the Big Five at San Francisco on the much contested Regional Security Plan, has cleared the air for a definitive, forthright declaration on trusteeship.

With the notable exception of the Chinese and Russian delegates who want to see eventual independence guaranteed to dependent colonials, the countries which control the destiny of 750,000,000 subject peoples are far from being genuinely concerned about them.

Britain, France, Belgium and even America insist that the best formula for solving this issue is a promise of self-government, if and when the colonies are ready for it. But who is to determine when the colonies are ready for self-government? To be sure the native population of dependent areas will not be given the right to make such a decision. In arrogating unto themselves the right to establish the future status of subject peoples, the colonial powers are forging another link in the chain of oppression.

Polite Wrangle For Booty

All the proposals and plans which have been debated and argued upon, were meant to deceive those who were naive enough to believe that the ethical forces of the world were sufficiently developed to guarantee universal human rights. What has really been going on here under the grandiose and attractive idea of trusteeship, says one commentator, is a polite but unmistakable wrangle over strategic bases and the territorial booty which will be left over after the Axis is finally defeated.

5-26-45

Public opinion is neither strong nor insistent enough to force the American delegation to change its position on the question. Thus it appears, so far this world security conference is concerned, that the vast concourse of human beings forcibly placed under the yoke of colonialism are doomed to everlasting serfdom.

The policies of the powers towards colonial peoples are governed by the idea of trusteeship. The legal interpretation of this idea was first applied to public affairs by John Marshall, chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. He ruled in 1831 that the Federal government must regard itself as trustee for the lands of Cherokees.

We Have A Stake

Negroes have a definite stake in the success of the World Security Conference now in session in San Francisco. Despite the many experiences showing one that decisions affecting the people generally have not always related to the Negro as well, the fact remains that the future of colored Americans is bound up with America's future. America's future is bound up with the world's future. Hence Negroes who explain their casual interest in the conference by saying that they will make the decisions and we will abide by them whether we like them or not, are being shortsighted, and unduly cynical.

That little word *all* which appears in so many of America's often-quoted political documents, but which excludes the interest of the Negro so often, will see increasingly more literal interpretation if the conferees agree to make a collective effort to raise the living standards of the common man throughout the world.

Colored Groups Represented

Among the Negroes whose presence at the conference is in interest of a literal interpretation of the word *all* are NAACP's Walter White, fresh from doing a reportorial job in the Pacific theatre, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois of the Council of African Affairs and the very vigilant Mary McLeod Bethune. The Council on African Affairs adopted among other resolutions, one calling upon the conference to provide for the adherence of all participating governments to the principle of granting the same economic, social, cultural, legal and political rights and benefits to all persons, regardless of race, creed or color. They also passed a resolution asking the conference to establish machinery to bring about the industrial and economic advancement for non-self-governing peoples with a view toward making them self-governing. The presence of these Negro consuitants is reassuring. Even if they are not consulted, they have registered their opinions.

Liberia, the Dominician Republic, Haiti and Ethiopia have direct representation at the conference. The resolving of any issues affecting the welfare of these people, or of any of the colored peoples, is of importance to Negro Americans. The extension of legal, economic and political justice to even the smallest body of any racial minority invariably affects the welfare of all minorities. The attitude that the conferees take on the exploitation of Liberian workers, for instance, will have more than a subtle effect upon how Americans feel about the exploitation of Negro labor.

Conferees Know Price Of Peace

It has been made clear that the conference is not a peace parley, as such. It will, however, have on its agenda many of the issues which affect strongly the quality of the peace that we will have after the war. Many of the delegates to the conference are keenly aware of the fact that there can be no lasting peace as long as one group attempts to hold another in subjugation. Those of us who have long been subjects of subjugation, exploitation and discrimination should be interested in knowing how matters involving these practices are resolved by the conferees.

We have a stake in the conference— a stake that is important enough for us to be informed about its deliberations and to be concerned about its disposal of problems affecting the welfare of minority groups.

Walter White and DuBois Consultants to Americans At San Francisco Parley

New York—A world Bill of Rights "which will include unequivocal affirmation of equality of all peoples and races" will be a primary goal of Walter White and Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the World Security Conference in San Francisco opening April 25.

Dr. DuBois and Mr. White will be consultants to the American delegation at San Francisco, officially designated as such by the State Department. The NAACP is one of 42 organizations, and the only Negro organization, invited by the State Department.

In a statement issued before boarding a special train in New York April 19, Mr. White said:

"It is our hope as consultants to the American delegation, to induce the San Francisco conference to face what is one of the most serious problems of the twentieth century—the question of race and color. We are particularly concerned with what is done about colonial empires and the well-being of colonial peoples around the world. Most of these colonial peoples are colored. What happens to even the most exploited of these has direct bearing upon the future of Negroes in the United States.

'Disturbing to Read'

"It is disturbing to read on the eve of the conference the statement by Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., that the position of the United States government on the question of assignment of trusteeships for Pacific islands and former mandated territories has not been determined upon. The Army, the Navy and other forces, including the Hearst press, are waging a determined campaign against the Ameriacn delegation approving any formula for former mandates and island possessions which would interfere with the United States retaining as military bases certain Pacific islands which have been wrested from the Japanese. It is reported that powerful forces in the United States are willing to permit colonial powers like the British, Dutch and French, to do whatever they choose in colonies they held before the war if in return the United States is permitted to hold on to the islands it wishes.

"It is to be hoped that the United States is not going into the conference with any willingness to perpetuate colonial empires.

World Bill of Rights

"Equally important is the adoption by the conference of a world bill of rights which will include unequivocal affirmation of the equality of all peoples and races. Such a resolution was introduced at Dumbarton Oaks by the Chinese but was quietly smothered. It is our hope that there will be no repetition of such suppression at San Francisco, since that would be merely an affirmation of determination to perpetuate 'white supremacy.'

"We realize that the task we face is not an easy one. Our voices will be heard only if a sustained and enlightened public opinion backs the efforts to induce the San Francisco conference to support such reasonable and necessary principles."

At the last moment Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, was added to the NAACP delegation with the permission of the State Department, but she will not be recognized as representing her organization. She is one of the vice presidents of the NAACP.

Negro Republics To Attend United Nations Parley

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The San Francisco conference of the United Nations on April 25 will be attended by many countries populated by darker peoples, among whom will be Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, India and the Philippines.

The inclusion of India and the Philippines, neither of which yet have become independent states, is viewed with surprise and pleasure by many observers.

Text of world race equality demand on S. F. confab given

SAN FRANCISCO—A formal statement that "the main groups of mankind, commonly called races, are essentially equal in capability of progress and deserve equality of treatment" was presented to the American delegation at the World Security Conference by the NAACP consultants Walter White, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois.

The statement was presented not only to the American delegation but to all other consultants present here by 42 organizations designated by the State Department.

Branding the colonial system of government as "undemocratic, socially dangerous and a main cause of wars", the statement called upon the United Nations to see that at the "earliest practical moment no nation or group shall be deprived of effective voice in its own government".

The statement, however deeply rooted in history and custom, is today undemocratic, socially dangerous and a main cause of wars. The United Nations, recognizing democracy as the only just way of life for all peoples, should make it a first statute of international law that at the earliest practical moment no nation or group shall be deprived of effective voice in its own government.

"An international colonial commission on which colonial peoples shall have representation should have power to investigate the facts and implement this declaration under the security council."

Mrs. Bethune and the two NAACP officials are consulting with various foreign delegations, the enlisting whenever possible their support of a strong racial equality provision, for an international bill of rights with machinery to implement it, and for the abolition of colonialism.

The first duty of civilization is to see to it that no human being is deprived of these rights because of poverty, disease or ignorance. The colonial system

W. E. B. DuBois

The Winds Of Time

Chicago Defender

Recognition at Frisco

AFTER CONSIDERABLE agitation and negotiation, the American Negro has won not indeed a seat at the peace table in San Francisco but official recognition as a consultant of the American delegation. This is considerable. The consultants have been appointed for forty-two labor, business, professional, religious and other organizations. These consultants will have no direct power; they may or may not be called into consultation; but at any rate it has been established that among the vast and varied interests of this nation in commerce, trade, law, labor, war veterans, farmers, women, Jews, Catholics, Protestants, education and various other general interests, the interest of thirteen million American Negroes must at least be recognized.

This is more than has ever happened before to American Negroes since the Civil war. It came to pass through temperate but insistent agitation on the part of the Negro press and organizations like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In addition to this, there are certain over-all organizations fighting for the Dumbarton Oaks and Bretton Woods plans. The most important of these is perhaps the American Association for the United Nations which is a union of a dozen or more national peace organizations. This federation has appointed a core committee of thirteen and one member of this committee is an American Negro.

Colonies Seen Key to Parley

WE MUST also remember that directly represented at the peace table will be Liberia, Ethiopia, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Finally, there will be numbers of interested observers from the Council on African Affairs, the West Indies National Council and probably from some of the great church organizations and especially reporters representing the Negro press.

From all these persons one thing will most certainly be accomplished: whatever is discussed and decided, the situation of the Negro race in Africa, in the West Indies and in America cannot and will not be neglected. It will become part and parcel of the whole problem of colonies; and the problem of colonies either in San Francisco or soon after will become the central problem of world democracy and world peace.

At a small colonial conference held recently in New York the one central agreement was that the colonial system must go; and that plans for transition of colonials from subordination to empires to autonomy must be put on foot. I am not sure how soon the world is going to realize this. Opposition to the plan is of course centered in the British Empire and there it is strong. On the other hand, there are elements in England who sympathize with this program and believe in the danger of colonialism.

Economic Background

OF COURSE the central problem behind all change is economic. Mere political freedom means nothing if people cannot earn a living and support with their income the education of their children and the protection of their health. This economic program is fundamental and the great hope of the world that its basic importance will not be ignored is the growing strength of Russia. Russia has based its growth upon the Marxian proposition that economic development is basic to all human progress. There is no gainsaying this foundation of truth.

The difficulty with all of the small and so-called independent countries is that imperial commerce is so organized today as to make their self-support impossible. Not only are the colonies wretchedly poor, ignorant and diseased but the little nations resemble them. The mass of the people of the Balkans are poverty stricken. The central problem of Ethiopia, Haiti and Liberia is the tremendous difficulty of earning decent returns for their work and materials.

If after this war tariff walls are maintained and rebuilt; if trade is manipulated in favor of the great empires; if the currencies are at the mercy of vast banking monopolies; then we cannot attack poverty. We will have no money for education. We will have continued disease; all this primarily in colonies and small countries, but also as a corollary among the depressed classes of the leading countries of the world.

Mrs. Bethune Added To Frisco Advisors

Chicago Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, has been named by the State Department as the only Negro woman who will attend the San Francisco conference as an official consultant. Mrs. Bethune is one of the three official appointees who will represent the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, one of 42 national organizations granted official representation at the historic meeting which aims to lay the foundation for achieving world security. The other N.A.A.C.P. consultants to the conference are Walter White, secretary and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois.

Mrs. Bethune is vice president of the association.

Fully cognizant of the responsibility which the appointment carries, Mrs. Bethune said, "I consider it a privilege. I shall do my utmost to help bring about a world in which a larger measure of justice, equality of opportunity, economic security and brotherhood may be attained for all peoples."

Mrs. Bethune added, "Negro women like all other women must take a part in building this world, and must therefore keep informed on all world-shaping events."

6 Consultants to Frisco Conference

AFRO-AMERICAN

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Three representatives of the united colored church and three ther persons representing tthe NAACP have been certified by the State Department to serve as consultants to the American delegation at the United Nations Conference.

Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, and the Revs. J. L. Horace of the Illinois Baptist State Convention, and H. T. Medford of the AMEZ foreign mission board will represent the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches.

Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois and Walter White, executive secretary who has just returned from a tour as a war correspondent in the Pacific theatre of war, will represent the NAACP.

Mrs. Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, left here last week for San Francisco after she had been notified that she had been named one of three consultants accredited to the NAACP, at first invited to send only one representative.

Jernagin Spearheads Fight

Request that a representative of the colored church be certified as consultant to the conference was made by Dr. W. H. Jernagin, director of the council's Washington bureau, who contended that it was not represented by any of the groups accredited.

Dr. Jernagin and a committee of churchmen appeared before State department officials and stated that there was no purely colored organization among those mentioned in the entire setup—the NAACP (interracial) being the only colored group given such status.

The group pointed out that some interracial organizations were included in the accredited list, but none that represented the sovereign will of the colored people as a whole.

Called Only Mouthpiece

The colored church, they pointed out, is the only such representative body in America owned and controlled by colored Americans—represents a cross section of their life and is free to express the unhampered will of a disadvantaged people.

The council was notified April 13 by the State Department that provisions would be made whereby the council could have its views presented to the American delegation and credentials were later issued to the three religious leaders.

A brief containing the views of the church on securing a lasting peace will be presented to the American delegation, Dr. Jernagin declared this week.

Ralph Bunche Gets New Post

Pittsburgh Courier

SAN FRANCISCO—Dr. Ralph Bunche, technical adviser to the American delegation to the United Nations Conference, has been named Associate Chief of the Division of Dependent Areas in the State Department.

Dr. Bunche served as an American adviser at Dumbarton Oaks. He has served here as a member of the subcommittee of the United States delegation which has drawn up and presented the American program in respect to trusteeship.

Other members of the subcommittee are: Comdr. Harold E. Stassen, chairman; John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War; Artemus Gates, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Abe Fortas, Under-Secretary of the Interior, and Benjamin Gerig, chief of the Division of Dependent Affairs.

560-1945

Plan to Frisco

4-21-45

NEW YORK — An international colonial commission within the proposed World Security organization was recommended last week by the Council on African Affairs, Paul Robeson, chairman, to U.S. delegates and United Nations representatives to the San Francisco conference.

The memorandum urged such a commission, to promote a higher standard of living, self-government and self-determination for all colonial peoples, as an essential part of the post-war task of maintaining world security and peace.

The council endorsed the maintenance of international unity and co-operation, central objective of the San Francisco conference, as fundamental to the solution of the colonial problem and other world issues.

Liberal Colonial Rule

It emphasized that, with a far more genuine basis of agreement existing among the allied nations today than existed after the first World War, it is possible to develop a much more effective international instrument for colonial advancement than the weak mandates system. 4-21-45

Specific recommendations for the exercise of international responsibility through the proposed colonial commission were:

That the commission, which would have final authority over dependent colonies, should be responsible to the General Assembly of the world organization, and be composed of representatives of all permanent members of the Security Council.

Also additional representatives elected by the General Assembly, and members who "represent directly the several broad groups of colonial peoples."

The commission would establish social, economic, and political standards of colonial administration; insure adherence to these standards by all colonial administrators; set a definite time for peoples of dependent territories to achieve political self-determination; 4-21-45

Bars Bias State

Promote international co-operation in securing the economic, industrial and social advancement of all colonial peoples; and guarantee equal access to trade and commerce.

Direct international administration is recommended for colonies taken from enemies; a military committee to direct bases on colonial territories; annexation of mandated territory would be prohibited; and no state practising discrimination can qualify as a mandatory power.

NAACP, African Affairs Body Represented

Atlanta World 4-26-45

Yergan, White And Others To Counsel With Delegates

BY MASON ROBERSON

(Editor's Note: Two of the nation's outstanding newspapermen are covering the San Francisco conference for this newspaper thru the Associated Negro Press. They are Mason Roberson, a native of San Francisco and John Pittman, a native of Atlanta, Georgia.)

4-26-45

SAN FRANCISCO (ANP) — For the first time in the history of such meetings as that of the United Nations Conference for International Organization, the desires of Negro America in the matter of the advancement of colonial peoples will have proper hearing and weight in the deliberations of the conference.

This is assured in the presence here of representatives of the N. A. A. C. P. and of the Council on African Affairs

The NAACP has been made an accredited consultative body to the U. S. delegation to the conference which means that it will be consulted by the delegates on matters within its sphere on interest.

YERGAN OPENS OFFICES

Dr. Max Yergan, executive director of the Council on African Affairs, has opened offices in San Francisco and will be on hand during the conference to lend his immense influence and prestige as a world authority on the subject to influence the conference to formalize into law its declared intent to achieve "international cooperation in the solution of international economic, social and other humanitarian problems" as projected at Dumbarton Oaks. 4-26-45

It is already established that the idea of international trusteeship over the world's billion or more colonial peoples will be discussed by a committee of the conference. When the United States delgation declared itself as a sponsor of the idea, it added great weight to an already formidable array of major powers whose support of the idea had either been formally declared or can be taken for granted. These include, among others, China, the Soviet Union, France and the Netherlands. Along with these can be added the votes of a good two-thirds of the smaller of the United Nations which have a direct interest in bettering international colonial policy.

Hardly any of the suggestions advanced by these two organizations are new. Nearly all of them are already the declared policy of the major trustee nations of the world. There should be little difficulty in establishing responsibility over colonies.

The real battle will probably revolve around attempts by some of the empires to avoid having the principles of equality and controls applied to all the colonies—especially theirs. 4-26-45

In this relation the intelligence of the Negro bodies in using their influence with the U. S. delegation to advance demands in support of the fundamental issues involved rather than any immediate and selfish gains reflects great credit on the maturity of thinking among their leaders.

Such a program of recommendations indicates clearly that our leaders are thinking beyond race, that they realize that the Negro cannot march forward except together with all men of all races and nationalities.

Mordecai Johnson To San Francisco

In former Pittsburgh Courier 4-28-45

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(NNPA)—Three representatives of the United Negro church, Dr. Mordecai Johnson of Howard university; Rev. J. L. Horace of the Baptist State Convention of Illinois, and Rev. H. T. Medford of the AME Zion Foreign Mission, have been accredited to the San Francisco Conference, according to announcement of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches.

White Warns Against Colonial Policy in East

AFRO-AMERICAN 4-21-45

Says Restoration of Pre-War System Will Lead to Third World War

NEW YORK — Declaring that colonial policy must be discussed at the San Francisco world security conference, Walter White warned last week that a restoration of pre-war colonial systems would only lead to another world war. B24, Md.

This statement was made Monday in a report by Mr. White to the NAACP board of directors on his return from a four-month 36,000-mile tour of the Pacific theatre of war. 4-21-45

Says Americans Must Wake Up

He pointed out that thousands of Americans had died and billions of dollars had been spent to oust the Japanese, "apparently only to restore the islands to European powers that exploited them before the war."

Mr. White warned that Americans must "wake up" and "make it clear to allies and enemies alike that we are not fighting this war to restore colonial systems which inevitably will breed another war."

Will Aid Japs

He said that failure to act on colonial policy now will aid Japanese propaganda that "the sole purpose of the so-called 'white nations' is to enslave colored peoples throughout the world."

"It was disheartening to find everywhere calm acceptance of the fact that no other course is even thought of except to re-establish colonial empire," the NAACP executive secretary stated.

"The rights of native peoples to share in the benefits of raw materials and their own labor are completely unthought of, except by the natives themselves.

"Their poverty, physical condition and educational disadvantages are a terrible indictment of their British, Dutch and French exploiters. They are bewildered and dismayed that winning a war for 'freedom' means no change in their status."

Mr. White also stated that an anti-American feeling was created by attempts of some American whites to spread race hatred in the Pacific.

"This was contributed to greatly," he declared, "by the confinement of colored troops almost exclusively to service instead of combat duty. 4-21-45

"But in conferences with Admiral Chester Nimitz and Gen. Douglas MacArthur, assurance was given that in future phases of the war in the Pacific, more opportunity would be given to colored combat units."

Mr. White arrived in San Francisco April 5 after a 38½-hour flight from Australia in a B-24 plane.

THE CALL's Managing Editor To San Francisco Conference

Kansas City Call Mo. 4-20-45

THE CALL, and through it the people of the Midwest, Missouri and Kansas City will be represented at the United Nations conference which opens in San Francisco next Wednesday, April 25.

Because of the far-reaching effect that this conference will have upon the peoples of the world and the interest that dark-skinned peoples have in the shaping of the peace, this newspaper is sending its managing editor, Miss Lucile H. Bluford, to San Francisco to cover the conference proceedings for its readers.

Official delegations will be there from Ethiopia, Liberia, Haiti and other little countries of the earth with whom Negroes feel a certain kinship. Miss Bluford will be there to record their hopes, their expectations from the conference and from the peace. 4-20-45

The stand that the world delegates take on the issue of racial equality will be watched with deep interest and reported to the readers of The Call.

Miss Bluford is scheduled to fly to San Francisco Monday morning.

Three Colored Countries List Frisco Delegations

AFRO-AMERICAN
4-21-45 Balt., Md.

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Delegations which will represent Ethiopia and the republics of Liberia and Haiti at the San Francisco World Security Conference have been listed formally with the State Department, and are participating in preliminary talks.

Members of the American delegation began regular preliminary discussions last week to become thoroughly familiar with the position this government will take on vital issues.

Sen. Arthur Vandenberg (Rep., Mich.) has been suggested as chief American delegate on the Assembly Commission for the proposed United Nations organization.

Big Ethiopian Delegation

Prime Minister Bitwodded M. Endalkachoou will head the Ethiopian delegation which includes Atk Aklilou Hapte Wold, vice-minister for foreign affairs; Ate A, bai Wold-Mariam, vice-minister of justice; Blatta Ephrom Toweldemedhen, minister to the United States; 4-21-45

Ato Emanuel Abraham, director general of education; Ate Getahoun Tosomma, first secretary, Ethiopian Legation, Washington; Ate Menasse Lema, director general, ministry of finance; advisor; John Spencer, advisor, ministry for foreign affairs, secretary; Ate Portes Sahlu, ministry for foreign affairs.

Members of the Haitian delegation are: Gerald Lescot, minister, ofreign affairs; Vely Thebaud, interior minister; Gen. Nemours, senate president; Andre Liautaud, ambassador, Washington; Pierre Chauvot, under secretary for commerce; Maj. Antoine Levelt, director, military school; Antoine Borvin, Cuban charge d'affaires; Louis Moravia; Louis Nadal, secretary; Louis Gardero. 4-21-45

Liberian delegates are Vice-President C. L. Simpson, chairman; Gabriel Dennis, secretary of state; J. L. Gibson and Richard A. Henries, chairman, Senate and House foreign relations committee; Coleman M. Grant, military; Nathan Barnes, secretary; and George Padmere, secretary to the advisor.

President Truman's Speech

Birmingham News

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Text of President Truman's speech to delegates at the United Nations Conference at San Francisco: 4-26-45

The world has experienced a revival of an old faith in the everlasting moral force of justice. At no time in history has there been a more important conference, nor a more necessary meeting, than this one in San Francisco, which you are opening today.

On behalf of the American people, I extend to you a most hearty welcome. 4-26-45

President Roosevelt appointed an able delegation to represent the United States. I have complete confidence in its chairman, Secretary of State Stettinius, and in his distinguished colleagues, former Secretary Cordell Hull, Sen. Connally, Sen. Vandenberg, Rep. Bloom and Rep. Eaton, Gov. Stassen and Dean Gildersleeve.

They have my confidence. They have my support.

In the name of a great humanitarian—one who surely is with us today in spirit—I earnestly appeal to each and every one of you to rise above personal interests, and adhere to those lofty principles, which benefit all mankind.

Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his life while trying to perpetuate these high ideals. This conference owes its existence, in a large part, to the vision and foresight and determination of Franklin Roosevelt.

Justice Must Be Guaranteed

Each of you can remember other courageous champions, who also made the supreme sacrifice, serving under your flag. They gave their lives, so that others might live in security. They died to insure justice. We must work and live to guarantee justice—for all.

You members of this conference are to be the architects of the better world. In your hands rests our future. By your labors at this conference we shall know if suffering humanity is to achieve a just and lasting peace. 4-26-45

Let us labor to achieve a peace which is really worthy of their great sacrifice. We must make certain, by your work here, that another war will be impossible.

We, who have lived through the torture and the tragedy of two world conflicts, must realize the magnitude of the problem before us. We do not need far-sighted vision to understand the trend in recent history. Its significance is all too clear.

Two Courses Offered

With ever increasing brutality and destruction, modern warfare, if unchecked, would ultimately crush all civilization. We still have a choice between the alternatives: The continuation of international chaos—or the establishment of a world organization for the enforcement of peace.

It is not the purpose of this conference to draft a treaty of peace in the old sense of that term. It is not our assignment to settle specific questions of territories, boundaries, citizenship and reparations.

This conference will devote its energies and its labor exclusively to the single problem of setting up the essential organization to keep the peace. You are to write the fundamental charter.

Our sole objective, at this decisive gathering, is to create the structure. We must provide the machinery, which will make future peace, not only possible, but certain. 4-26-45

The construction of this delicate machine is far more complicated than drawing boundary lines on a map, or estimating fair reparations, or placing reasonable limits upon armaments. Your task must be completed first.

We represent the overwhelming majority of all mankind. We speak for people who have endured the most savage and devastating war ever inflicted upon innocent men, women and children.

Powerful Mandate Held

We hold a powerful mandate from our people. They believe we will fulfill this obligation. We must prevent, if human mind, heart and hope can prevent it, the repetition of the disaster from which the entire world will suffer for years to come.

If we should pay merely lip service to inspiring ideals, and later do violence to simple justice, we would draw down upon us the bitter wrath of generations yet unborn. 4-26-45

We must not continue to sacrifice the flower of our youth merely to check madmen, those who in every age plan world domination. The sacrifices of our youth today must lead, through your efforts, to the building for tomorrow of a mighty combination of nations founded upon justice for peace.

Justice remains the greatest power on earth.

To that tremendous power alone will we submit.

Nine days ago, I told the Congress of the United States, and I now repeat it to you:

Cooperation Is Essential

"Nothing is more essential to the future peace of the world, than continued cooperation of the nations, which had to muster the force necessary to defeat the conspiracy of the Axis powers to dominate the world.

"While these great states have a special responsibility to enforce the peace, their responsibility is based upon the obligations resting upon all states, large and small, not to use force in international relations, except in the defense of law. The responsibility of the great states is to serve, and not dominate the peoples of the world."

None of us doubt that, with Divine guidance, friendly cooperation, and hard work, we shall find an adequate answer to the problem history has put before us.

Realizing the scope of our task and the imperative need for success, we proceed with humility and determination.

By harmonious cooperation, the United Nations repelled the onslaught of the greatest aggregation of military force that was ever assembled in the long history of aggression. Every nation now fighting for freedom is giving according to its ability and opportunity. 4-26-45

We fully realize today that victory in war requires a mighty united effort. Certainly, victory in peace calls for, and must receive, an equal effort.

Isolation Is Opposed

Man has learned long ago, that it is impossible to live unto himself. This same basic principle applies today to nations. We were not isolated during the war. We dare not become isolated in peace.

All will concede that in order to have good neighbors we must also be good neighbors. That applies in every field of human endeavor.

For lasting security, men of good will must unite and organize. Moreover, if our friendly policies should ever be considered by belligerent leaders as merely evidence of weakness, the organization we establish must be adequately prepared to meet any challenge.

Differences between men, and between nations, will always remain. In fact, if held within reasonable limits, such disagreements are actually wholesome. All progress begins with differences of opinion and moves onward as the differences are adjusted through reason and mutual understanding.

In recent years, our enemies have clearly demonstrated the disaster which follows when freedom of thought is no longer tolerated. Honest minds cannot long be regimented without protest.

The essence of our problem here is to provide sensible machinery for the settlement of disputes among nations. Without this, peace cannot exist. We can no longer permit any nation, or group of nations, to attempt to settle their arguments with bombs and bayonets.

Words Not Enough

If we continue to abide by such decisions, we will be forced to accept the fundamental philosophy of our enemies, namely, that "might makes right." To deny this premise, and we most certainly do, we are obliged to provide the necessary means to refute it. Words are not enough.

We must, once and for all, reverse the order, and prove by our acts conclusively, that right has might.

If we do not want to die together in war, we must learn to live together in peace.

With firm faith in our hearts, to sustain us along the hard road to victory, we will find our way to a secure peace, for the ultimate benefit of all humanity.

We must build a new world—a far better world—one in which the eternal dignity of man is respected.

As we are about to undertake our heavy duties, we beseech Almighty God to guide us in building a permanent monument to those who gave their lives that this moment might come.

May He lead our steps in His own righteous path of peace.

Delegate to Geneva at S. F. meet

Los Angeles Tribune
6-14-45
CALIF.

SAN FRANCISCO—Delegate of Marcus Garvey's Universal Negro Improvement Association to the League of Nations at Geneva, William L. Sherrill, of Detroit, is here in watchful attendance on the United Nations world security conference, sent by his organization which still functions despite Mr. Garvey's death.

At the Geneva meet, Mr. Sherrill sat next to the late Ignace Paderewski, famed Polish pianist-statesman. Then, as now, his organization's main interest was in petitioning the assembled nations for fair and generous consideration of subjected colonies.

Mr. Sherrill has already submitted his petition to the delegates, in the form of a memorial, asking complete reorganization of the world colonial system.

A system of trusteeship, setting aside "the concept of colonialism as a means of exploitation of other peoples and their land," is asked in the memorial, which continues. 5-14-45

"To this end, we submit that for every ounce or pound of produce extracted from the land or any services rendered by the people, these people in return should be paid equitably in terms of education, cultural advancement and preparation for free and independent life."